

NURSING

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

Spring 2009



**Dedicated
Education Unit:
Innovative Model,
New Clinical
Partnership**

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Dean's Message



Today's dire economic news may have you thinking that not much is going on at UTHSC and the College of Nursing, but you couldn't be more wrong!

As I read the galley for this edition of Nursing magazine I came away more impressed than ever with all the accomplishments of our students, staff, and faculty, as well as with all the activity going on across our campus. Sometimes a challenge brings out the best in us, and we certainly see that in the recognition bestowed on the CON University Health Services; Dr. Margaret Newman, our distinguished alumna and American Academy of Nursing Living Legend; the five faculty members who received statewide recognition for their work; the historical accomplishment of Dr. Mayola Rowser, another of our alumna; and of course our 2009 Alumni Award Winners.

As the nation seeks to address the challenges we face, "change" seems to have become the by-word of the day, and that holds true at UTHSC. There are a lot of new faces around the College of Nursing and the university that are highlighted inside the pages of this magazine along with some pictures of our changing landscape. Perhaps the most exciting change at the CON this past year was the implementation of the region's first Dedicated Education Unit (DEU).

This new innovative model for clinical education has formed a practice-academic partnership that is transforming the education of nursing students. The strength of this practice-academic partnership is unparalleled and is evidenced by the unprecedented nomination of the entire first cohort of DEU clinical teachers for the Outstanding Undergraduate Clinical Preceptor Award.

Challenge and change can be a recipe for turmoil, uncertainty and stress; it can also provide a foundation for creativity and innovation. We have chosen to make it the latter. As we plan for the future, we do so with the knowledge that we will be stronger and more vital than ever.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Hathaway". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Donna Hathaway, Dean
The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
College of Nursing

Cover, left to right: Delores Marshall, vice president of patient services and chief nursing officer at Methodist University Hospital, and UTHSC College of Nursing Dean Donna Hathaway, PhD, unveil the Dedicated Education Unit sign, symbolizing the opening of the Mid-South's first DEU.



Be More.

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
College of Nursing

Nursing Magazine Editorial Team

Sheila Champlin
Karin Eggert
Rebecca Ennis
Susan Jacob
Ramona Pierce
Thurman Hobson

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From the Chancellor



Hershel P. Wall, MD

Dear friends and colleagues,

As we prepare to begin a new fiscal year on July 1, it is appropriate that we reflect on last year's successes and challenges, and consider the challenges and opportunities for the future.

If I may, I would like to put on my Chancellor's hat and share with you briefly the "State of the Health Science Center," especially its challenges and opportunities for the future.

This past year we have all been personally and institutionally confronted with the most demanding economic conditions in my memory. The coming year will continue to present significant problems for all publicly funded higher education campuses in Tennessee and across the country. Our friends in private institutions are also facing significant problems as well. But with these challenges come opportunities for us to create the changes necessary to continue the institution's viability and productivity consistent with our missions of education, research, patient care and public service.

Because of the state's severe economic downturn, we will continue to operate with significantly reduced state funding. The extent of these reductions for this coming fiscal year is not certain at this time, but will be in the range of \$20-plus million, in addition to the \$12 million reduction we experienced during the present fiscal year. While the UT system is expected to receive about \$90 million in federal funds through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, at this writing, the Health Science Center portion is yet to be determined. It is important to bear in mind that stimulus funds are one-time dollars that disappear in two years. Thus, two years from now, we expect the UT system to be facing the same 66 million dollar reduction in its base budget that we had planned for this coming July (FY 2009-2010). The stimulus funding may allow our Health Science Center a short breathing period but we must still prepare for a major budget cut in 24 months.

As a result, we are committed to moving forward with our workforce reduction, keeping it to the lowest possible level. It is our intent to maintain the integrity of all colleges as we work closely and thoughtfully with them to effectively reduce programs not critical to the institution's mission while becoming more efficient in the process.

Because our physical infrastructure has not been given the attention needed over many years, it is critical that we urgently pursue self-funding — from bonds, private donors, foundations and grants — for new clinical practice and research facilities. Given the state's economic situation, it will most likely be several years before we can expect capital funding to restore aging buildings, some 80 years old, and construct new critically needed facilities.

Once the state reaches its financial recovery and can restore institutional funding for higher education, our first priority — appropriately — will be to attend to the needs of our faculty, staff and mission-critical educational programs. It would be a tremendous advantage if we could count on a sustainable, reliable source of future funding.

In the meanwhile, we, as a Health Science Center, must keep the faith that this challenging time will soon pass. We have valuable partners here in this community as well as across the state, which we are actively cultivating, and who will advocate for us as we aggressively move forward together. Our valued alumni are becoming cognizant of our dilemma and, no doubt, will be strongly supporting us.

We have made significant connections this past year with our colleagues in positions of leadership in Nashville, e.g., constitutional officers, chairs of the two finance committees, and the chair of the senate education committee among others. We firmly believe these legislators will remember us when times are better.

Most importantly, we must be supportive of one another in our statewide institutional family as we face the future.

Finally, we at the Health Science Center wish all of you the best for 2009. Please keep us in your thoughts as we face very challenging times ahead. We believe we can count on you and would welcome your insights and comments.

Pat Wall, MD
Chancellor, UT Health Science Center
Vice President for Health Affairs
hwall@utmeme.edu

New Faces in the College of Nursing

Faculty



Belinda Fleming
Assistant Professor



Cynthia Griffiths
Instructor



Edward Phelps
Instructor



Jill Swartz
Instructor



Lorena Thompson
Instructor

New Assistant Dean of Faculty Practice Named

Diane Todd Pace, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, is the new assistant dean of faculty practice in the College of Nursing.

As a nurse practitioner and nurse scientist, Dr. Pace has a 37-year history of contributions to the nursing profession. She holds bachelor's degrees in health care administration and nursing, master's degrees in education and nursing and additional nurse practitioner certifications. She earned a diploma in nursing in 1971 from the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Memphis and completed the PhD in nursing from UTHSC in 1998.

Certified as a Family Nurse Practitioner, Dr. Pace maintains an active clinical practice, primarily in women's health. For the past 15 years, she was employed as a FNP and a nurse scientist with community-based clinics in the Health Loop, which is affiliated with the Regional Medical Center of Memphis. At the Health Loop, Dr. Pace also served as the project manager for the development and implementation of the organization's electronic health record.

Dr. Pace has been inducted as one of fewer than 200 advanced practice nurses across the nation as a Fellow in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. Dr. Pace has received funding and conducted research in women's health and health care informatics. She has published several manuscripts and has presented results of her research or clinical expertise in the United States, Canada, Virgin Islands and Italy.



Diane Todd Pace, PhD

Staff



Justin Casey
Coordinator



Samantha Miles
Training Administrator

McKeon Steps in as Interim Assistant Dean

Leslie McKeon, PhD, RN, has been asked and answered the call to step in and serve as the interim assistant dean for student affairs. Filling the position that was left vacant when former assistant dean Ron Patterson took another position at the UT Health Science Center, Dr. McKeon oversees the student services, admissions and recruitment for the College of Nursing.



Leslie McKeon, PhD, RN

Dr. McKeon has more than 25 years of nursing administrative experience. In 2004, she joined the faculty at UTHSC as an assistant professor and coordinator of the nursing administration option. Dr. McKeon received her BSN at West Chester State College, her master's degree from the University of Arizona and her PhD from UTHSC.

NEW
FACES

President Petersen Steps Down, Simek Named Interim

On Feb. 27, the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees accepted John Petersen's resignation as president and appointed Jan Simek as acting president.

In his farewell address to the board, Dr. Petersen looked back at the challenges facing him when he was hired in 2004, thanked his staff and offered encouragement as the university faces serious budget reductions.

"We've got the spirit. We've got the vision. We've got the plan. We've got the opportunity even though these are tough times," Petersen said.

Dr. Simek will be acting president March 1 through June 30 while Dr. Petersen is on administrative leave with pay. Dr. Simek will become interim president on



John Petersen, PhD

July 1 and will serve a term not to exceed two years.

Board Vice Chair Jim Murphy commended Dr. Petersen for accomplishing the tasks set before him when he was hired: restoring confidence with the governor, legislators, alumni and donors; filling leadership vacancies; maximizing UT's relationship with Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and increasing fundraising.

"He succeeded in all priorities we set. Now he has decided to take another course," Murphy said. "We thank him for his devotion to the university."

Dr. Simek, a distinguished professor of anthropology, has been at UT Knoxville since 1984. Previously, he was interim chancellor in Knoxville.



Jan Simek, PhD

Connolly Named Interim Dean of Allied Health Sciences

Though she is not a new face to the UT Health Science Center, Barbara H. Connolly, EdD, DPT, has taken on a new role as interim dean for the College of Allied Health Sciences. The appointment, which was made by UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, became effective in December when Dean William R. Frey, PhD, retired.

"Barbara has been a member of our Health Science Center family for more than 35 years," said Chancellor Wall. "We know she will work in close collaboration with the leaders of all the Allied Health units to keep the college moving forward until a permanent dean is named."

The UT College of Allied Health Sciences includes the departments of audiology and speech pathology, cytotechnology, dental hygiene, health informatics and information management, medical technology, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. Dr. Connolly is a professor of physical therapy and has been chair of the Department of Physical Therapy for 21 years. She will continue in these roles while serving as interim dean.



*Barbara H. Connolly,
EdD, DPT*



*Timothy L. Hottel, DDS,
MS, MBA*

UTHSC's New Dentistry Dean on Campus

Timothy L. Hottel, DDS, MS, MBA, arrived on campus in January to assume the responsibility of dean for the UT College of Dentistry.

"We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Hottel to our Health Science Center community," stated Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, who announced the appointment of Dr. Hottel in September. "Through his 35-year academic career, he has developed the wide variety of skills required to succeed as our dentistry dean. Dr. Hottel's experience collaborating with administration, faculty and staff, as well as his background with financial and student issues, will be of tremendous

benefit both to his college and to our institution as a whole." Dr. Hottel was appointed after a seven-month national search.

Previously, Dr. Hottel held several senior-level positions, including executive associate dean and chief financial officer, at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) in Fort Lauderdale-Davie, Fla., where he had been since 1998.

He earned a bachelor's in chemistry from Cleveland State University, plus a DDS and a master's in biomedical engineering both from Case Western Reserve University. He holds an MBA from California Coast University in Santa Ana, Calif., and is currently involved in graduate studies leading to a PhD. Dr. Hottel and his wife Linda have four children and two grandchildren.

PHN Students Improve Skills, Community Agencies



DNP students in Public Health Nursing help agencies of the United Way of the Mid-South increase capacity by teaching representatives how to use the Logic Model.

DNP students in the Public Health Nursing (PHN) option have been busy this past semester preparing for board certification by helping community agencies strengthen their impact.

In January and February, PHN students connected with the United Way of the Mid-South to build capacity in nine agencies that serve vulnerable populations. Senior students partnered with beginning PHN DNP students (thus improving their mentoring skill set) and taught agency representatives how to use the Logic Model, a process that promotes structure in community organizations.

“The Logic Model skill set helps identify resources available to the organization, internal and external activities that must occur to meet their goals, and more importantly, the Logic Model identifies reportable outputs, outcomes and agency impact for existing and future funders,” explained Patricia M. Speck, DNSc, assistant professor and PHN option coordinator. “Agencies were surprised to learn that the Logic Model can help them identify gaps in services!”

Students study the Logic Model and all its permutations before contacting the assigned agency. They also research their agency’s particular vision and mission and meet with agency representatives.

After a presentation to explain the process, the students partner with agency representatives to identify agency resources, activities, and short- and long-term outputs and outcomes. This process encourages the participating agency to measure its impact and congruency with the vision and mission. The relationship with the student teams continues throughout the term.

The benefit to the agency is known immediately. Plus, the hands-on experience helps students set personal goals that build toward proficiency of the PHN competencies.

University Health Services Offers Accredited Care

UTHSC’s University Health Services has received a three-year term of accreditation from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc., (AAAHC) and in so doing set a precedent for college health centers across the state. University Health Services is the only college health center to receive accreditation in Tennessee.

Under the leadership of Judith Ammons, FNP, UHS has been working on this voluntary process for several years. “We are proud of the effort of each employee who contributed to the successful process,” said Peggy I. Veaser, EdD, director of UHS.

The accreditation process is voluntary through which an ambulatory health care organization is able to measure the quality of services and performance against nationally recognized standards. Granting accreditation reflects confidence, based on evidence from surveys and on-site visits, that UHS demonstrates the high AAAHC standards.



UHS staff assisted in earning accreditation, the only college health center in Tennessee to do so.

University Health Services has been a key component of the College of Nursing and its everyday operation since 1987. The goal of UHS is to create and sustain a healthy campus community, supporting the importance of a healthy social and learning environment. UHS provides patient-centered primary care to UTHSC students, faculty and staff and also cares for Baptist College of Health Sciences students.

The Most Unselfish Gift

“The most unselfish and unique gift one can give higher education is to donate your body to medical science,” said Randall J. Nelson, PhD, professor and director of the Anatomy Bequest Program at the UT Health Science Center.

Dr. Nelson, who has taught gross anatomy to first-year medical and physical therapy students and now teaches dental students, explained, “The human body can’t really be replicated in plastic or even on the computer.” Part of what students learn in the process of dissecting a human body is that each has very subtle, some not-so-subtle differences. “Realizing that the actual human body does not necessarily fit the textbook description is the best educational experience for treating real-world patients,” Dr. Nelson added.

Todd Smith, DDS, alumnus and former instructor in the Department of Restorative Dentistry of the College of Dentistry, had this to say about his experience as a dental student in gross anatomy: “It’s of paramount importance to get hands-on experience. Books can only do so much and the fact is, not all are textbook bodies. For example everybody’s nerves don’t run in the same places.”

“The gross anatomy class is one of the first chances students have to be clinicians,” noted Dr. Nelson. “This class sets students apart from every other discipline.”

People who have ever considered donating their body to science might also consider that it is one gift that does, quite literally, keep on giving. “Each student can play a role in saving lives. If each saves just 10 lives in his or her career or trains 10 students, they have parlayed one donation into impacting hundreds of lives,” Dr. Nelson conjectured.

“The wonder in students is incredible,” added Dr. Nelson, pointing out that students of the health care professions have been learning directly from the human body for more than 100 years.

“The students’ relationship with the cadaver is

an intimate one,” recalled Dr. Smith. “We’re with the body every day, and we learn from day one to respect the person who gave their body so we can learn.”

“Most students refer to the cadavers as ‘patients,’” said Dr. Nelson. “In the past, some students have given their patient a memorial service and are very sad to finish the course.”

In the fall approximately 155 medical students are in the gross anatomy class. Spring semester finds 80 dental students, as well as 55 to 70 physical therapy, occupational therapy and nursing students in the labs. In total, six gross anatomy labs can accommodate eight cadavers each.

With the growing need for health care professionals, larger classes in most of the UT Health Science Center colleges are planned. “We would like to be able to offer more students in

more disciplines the experience of the gross anatomy lab today,” noted Dr. Nelson. “The greater challenge will be in the future.”

All of the literature on donating one’s body for medical teaching and research encourages the donor to give the idea a great deal of thought. Discussion with family members, clergy, the family physician and an attorney is encouraged.

The UT Health Science Center operates within the framework of Tennessee laws, which provide for and clarify the rights of those who wish to donate all or parts of their bodies after death to medical science. The administrator of the anatomical bequest program is a licensed funeral director and embalmer. An anatomical diener maintains the lab in appropriate order.

Persons wishing to find out more about donating their bodies to the UT Health Science Center can contact: Anatomy Bequest Program, Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology, 855 Monroe Avenue, Memphis, TN 38163, or call (901) 448-5978 before 5 p.m. or after 5 p.m., page a Bequest Program representative at (901) 448-2640. Information is online at: <http://www.utmem.edu/anatomy-neurobiology/index.php?doc=ABP.htm>.

“The most unselfish and unique gift one can give higher education is to donate your body to medical science.”

*Randall J. Nelson, PhD
UTHSC Anatomy Bequest Program*

CON's Newman Named a Living Legend



Margaret Newman, PhD, FAAN, CON professor and alumna, accepts the honor as a Living Legend presented by the American Academy of Nursing.

An American Academy of Nursing 2008 Living Legend is one of UTHSC College of Nursing's very own — Margaret Newman, PhD, FAAN, professor and 1962 graduate of the college.

Best known for her development of nursing theory, Dr. Newman is a professor emeritus at the University of Minnesota, as well as a valued friend of the College of Nursing.

In the 1970s, Dr. Newman led development of doctoral and post-doctoral courses on nursing theory at New York University, and later helped to initiate a post-doctoral nursing theory think tank at Pennsylvania State University.

In her publication, *Theory Development in Nursing* (1979), considered by some educators to be the early primer on nursing theory, she analyzed this process and introduced readers to her theory of health as expanding consciousness.

The AAN Living Legends awards are presented to those fellows who epitomize nursing's proud history and serve as role models. The award recognizes individuals for their contributions to the nursing profession and society and for the continued impact of their efforts.

Dr. Newman was recognized, along with four other recipients, at the 35th Annual Meeting in November 2008 in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Forensic Nurses Address Sexual Assault Exams

Participants at the Fifth Annual Forensic Nursing Conference, held in December 2008, learned how to better manage sexual assault examinations.

Held on campus, this year's conference, "Sexual Assault Forensic Examination: Promising Practices in Evaluation and Treatment," offered a number of take-aways for students, faculty and other professionals who attended. The conference addressed:

- evaluating the factors that contribute to and result from sexual assault,
- culturally competent methods of care that reduce disparities, which currently exist in the evaluation,
- new steps to apply nationally recognized protocols of care.

Speakers included, Drs. Susan Patton and Patricia Speck, UTHSC; Deputy District Attorney General Scot Bearup, Shelby County District Attorney's Office; Officer Michael Spearman, Memphis Police Department; and Ms. Claire Prince, forensic interviewer with the Child Advocacy Center.

Nurses Journey Through Research on Depressed Mothers

The Beverly H. Bowns Distinguished Visiting Professorship lecture, which was held in January, allowed psychiatric mental health nurses and others to begin "Journeying Through a Program of Research with Depressed Mothers and Their Infants."

June Horowitz, PhD, RN, CNS-BC, FAAN, professor at Boston College, was the guest lecturer who led the discussion on her research on postpartum depression and family mental health.

Hosted by the CON and the Comprehensive Advanced Education Psychiatric Nursing Program, the conference brought about 80 health care professionals to campus. CON Assistant Professor Kathleen McCoy, DNSc, invited the guest lecturer, and Tammy Vaughn, CON continuing education coordinator, helped plan the event.

Faculty and students across all specialties, along with local professionals, participated in the program.

Because effective screening and treatment strategies for depressed pregnant and postnatal women have profound benefits on women and their children, this conference helped participants to understand:

- how depression in pregnant and postnatal women affects families and communities,
- the availability of screening tools,
- how stigmas of identification and treatment continue to affect acceptance of care,
- the availability of innovative research and effective programs to screen and treat pregnant and postnatal depression, especially those programs which include regular contact with professional nurses,
- that relational care is more easily accepted than medical intervention by this group.

With this gained knowledge, providers can address depression in mothers through adequate screening and treatment options to optimize family and community health.



From left: UTHSC's Kathleen McCoy, DNSc, poses with June Horowitz, the speaker at the Beverly H. Bowns DVP lecture, and UTHSC CON Dean Donna Hathaway, PhD.

CON Names Outstanding Preceptors

Outstanding Preceptor Awards offer the ultimate tribute — recognition from the students they mentor.

Outstanding Undergraduate Clinical Preceptors

This year students selected six undergraduate preceptors for the award. All of these practicing nurses currently work on 9 Tower Neurosurgical Unit at Methodist University Hospital, which is the home of UTHSC and Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare's new Dedicated Education Unit.

The winners are as follows:



Amber Chiddick, BSN, RN

Amber Chiddick, BSN, RN, graduated from the University of Memphis, Loewenberg School of Nursing in December 2006 with a BS in nursing. She is currently attending the U of M working on her MSN degree. Amber has a current certification from the National Stroke Association NIH Stroke Scale Certification. She has worked on 9 Tower Neurosurgical Unit since January 2007.



Chantel Graham, RN

Chantel Graham, RN, graduated from Methodist Hospital School of Nursing with a diploma in August 2005. She has worked on 9 Tower Neurosurgical Unit since August 2005.



Regina Johnson, RN

Regina Johnson, RN, graduated from Baptist School of Nursing in 1992. A member of the American Association of Neuroscience Nursing Mid-South Chapter, Regina has received the award for Excellence in Nursing (2001) and the Power of One award (2003) from Methodist Healthcare. She worked at Baptist Memorial Hospital as a RN and clinical resource nurse from 1992 to 2002. Regina has worked on 9 Tower Neurosurgical Unit since 2002.



Marilyn Newsom, BSN, RN

Marilyn Newsom, BSN, RN, graduated in 1997 from the University of Memphis with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and graduated from Union University with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing in 2005. She has a current certification from the National Stroke Association NIH Stroke Scale Certification. Marilyn is a member of the American Association of Neuroscience Nurses Mid-South Chapter.

She has worked on 9 Tower Neurosurgical Unit since December 2005.



Amber Plass, BSN, RN

Amber Plass, BSN, RN, graduated from Auburn University with a BSN. She has a current certification from the National Stroke Association NIH Stroke Scale Certification. Amber is involved in her church, serving as a youth nurse on trips. She has worked on 9 Tower Neurosurgical Unit since July 2006.



Umeko Williams, BSN, RN

Umeko Williams, BSN, RN, graduated from Jackson State University in 2003 with a BS in biology and from Union University in 2005 with a BSN. She is a member of the American Association of Neuroscience Nursing Mid-South Chapter. She has worked on 9 Tower Neurosurgical Unit since 2006.

Outstanding Graduate Clinical Preceptor

The outstanding graduate clinical preceptor is **Stacey McClain**, a board certified family nurse practitioner who works for a federally funded Community Health Center that provides care to an underserved population in Northern Mississippi.



Stacey McClain, BSN, MSN

Stacey received her Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in nursing from UTHSC. She also holds a BS in biology from Mississippi University for Women.

Stacey is valued as an exemplar for nurse practitioner students. Her students said of her:

- "She shares her patients freely with students in a collaborative learning cooperative. Her practice is based in clinical research, and she challenges the students to use new and innovative patient-teaching strategies. She role models advanced practice and helps her students transition from the RN to the APRN role in a positive and supportive environment."

- "She provides the highest standard of care for those that sometimes suffer health disparities: minorities, uninsured, unemployed and the disabled. She treats each patient with compassion, respect and professionalism. She has an amazing knowledge of how to access treatments and services that her patients would not otherwise have been able to afford and is an advocate for her patients' access to care. We will be better practitioners because of the time we were allowed to be under her wing. Thank you Stacey! We love you as much as your patients do."

Faculty Honored by TNA

A number of College of Nursing faculty have received awards from the Tennessee Nurses Association (TNA) at the annual TNA Awards Luncheon held in Nashville last October.



E. Dianne Greenhill, EdD, RN

E. Dianne Greenhill, EdD, RN, professor emeritus, received the TNA Special Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Greenhill along with Louise Browning, former executive director of the Tennessee Nurses Association, also received the 2008 TNA Friend of Nursing Award for their contributions to nursing and to the Tennessee Nurses Association. Dr. Greenhill and Louise Browning are co-authors of the book "A 100 Year History of the Tennessee Nurses Association."

Donna Herrin, MSH, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE, senior advisor, for Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis and adjunct professor at UTHSC College of Nursing, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence.



Donna Herrin, MSH, RN

Carol Thompson, PhD, RN, ACNP, FNP, FCCM, FAANP, professor and coordinator of the Acute and Critical Care Advanced Practice Option at UTHSC, received the TNA Award for Nursing Excellence in Nursing Education.



Carol Thompson, PhD, RN

During the meeting, **Tommie Norris, DNS, RN**, director of the BSN (Entry into Practice) Program at UTHSC, was elected vice president of TNA.

*Alumna Jane Owen also received a TNA award; please see details on Page 25.



Tommie Norris, DNS, RN

Achievement



Susan B. Patton, DNSc

Susan B. Patton, DNSc, APRN, BC, associate professor in the College of Nursing and the DNP Forensic Nursing Option Coordinator, was honored recently by the Arkansas Nurses Association with the Distinguished Service Award.

All-Country Summit Addresses Tennessee Nursing Shortage

A number of Tennessee nurses attended an all-country summit in Baltimore, Md., in February to discuss solutions to the nursing shortage problem.

Important facts:

- Six percent of RN positions in Tennessee remain unfilled.
- More than 46 percent of Tennessee schools of nursing report unfilled faculty positions and about 40 percent report having insufficient faculty to conduct their program.
- Some 2,243 qualified students were turned away from Tennessee nursing schools in 2007 because of lack of funds to hire enough faculty.

To help combat the problem, the Center to Champion Nursing in America, a joint initiative of AARP, the AARP Foundation, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration and the U.S. Department of Labor hosted the 2009 Nursing Education Capacity Summit, bringing together multi-stakeholder teams from across the U.S. including Tennessee to create solutions to the nursing shortage.

For more information, visit www.championnursing.org.

2009 National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference

Transforming Care Through Education & Scholarly Practice

September 30 - October 3, 2009

Fairmont Turnberry Isle Resort & Club, Miami, Fla.

For more information:

<https://doctorsofnursingpractice.fmgateway.com/>

Dedicated Education Unit: Innovative Model, New Clinical Partnership

“Example is not the main thing in influencing others, it is the only thing.”

Nobel Peace Prize winning theologian, musician, philosopher, and physician Albert Schweitzer made that powerful observation decades ago. Still, his now-famous adage is being proved every day in the Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) at Methodist University Hospital (MUH). At the DEU, experienced nurses serve as clinical teachers (CTs) who lead by example, providing UTHSC students with a richer, more intensive, real-world clinical experience.

Working in partnership with the UTHSC College of Nursing (CON), the hospital established the new model of clinical nursing education through the collaboration of nurses, faculty and management. Six clinical teachers, who are staff nurses on the patient unit, will train 12 students in adult nursing practice during an average 10-week rotation. This two to one ratio will provide the personalized instruction needed to create an optimal learning environment for the students, and a College of Nursing faculty member will work closely with the clinical teachers to mentor, coach, and support them in this new role.

Collaborating to Develop the DEU

“Our DEU was developed with our Methodist practice partners to provide exemplary educational opportunities for students who will quickly become strong clinicians ready to assume the critical responsibilities of registered nurses immediately upon graduation,” said Donna Hathaway, PhD, FAAN, dean of the UT College of Nursing. Dean Hathaway learned about DEUs from Terry Misner, PhD, who was dean at the University of Portland. Dr. Misner had imported the idea of DEUs from Australia, implementing the first one in the United States.



Clinical Teacher Regina Johnson, RN, stands next to the sign that represents the Mid-South's first Dedicated Education Unit, located at Methodist University Hospital 9 Tower Neuroscience In-patient Unit. Here experienced nurses serve as clinical teachers who lead by example.

In July 2007, Dean Hathaway visited the University of Portland and stated that she, "...was impressed by the enthusiasm with which the students, clinical teachers, and even nurse managers described the way education, patient care, clinical outcomes, and even costs associated with care delivery and orientation were positively affected by implementing a DEU. What they described was a truly transformational model of integrated nursing education and patient care."

On returning to Memphis, Dean Hathaway immediately introduced the concept to the Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare Governing Council. In March 2008, the Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)/DEU Task Force began planning for the DEU. Members included Dean Hathaway and nursing faculty members: Susan Jacob, PhD, professor and executive associate dean; Cheryl Stegbauer, PhD, professor and associate dean of Academic Programs; Veronica Engle, PhD, professor; Tommie Norris, DNS, director of the Professional Entry Program; Leslie McKeon, PhD, assistant professor; and Sherry Webb, DNSc, assistant professor.

Learning by Example, Selecting Players

In April 2008, the Task Force conducted a literature review of DEUs. The next step in the process entailed learning from a successful example. In June, the team consulted closely with Susan Moscato,

EdD, associate professor, at the University of Portland. “Dr. Moscato and her team opened their first DEUs in 2003 and now have six DEUs in three hospitals in Portland, Oregon. The insight that she provided regarding the new model of clinical education and the outcomes that were achieved was invaluable,” said Webb. “Dr. Moscato provided support and direction regarding how to operationalize the model as well as the lessons learned throughout the process.”

In July, Marie Gill, MSN, MS, RN-BC, clinical development coordinator, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare, joined the CNL/DEU Task Force to represent the hospital. Over the next few months the planning accelerated. The College of Nursing team hosted a DEU teleconference for Methodist leadership, working in tandem to organize the roster of team members who would work and teach in the DEU. The group discussed, in detail, the roles and responsibilities of clinical teachers, patient care coordinators (PCCs), the clinical director, unit educator and UTHSC faculty.

By the end of August, the DEU location, 9 Tower at MUH, was selected and all key staff members were in place including: Lewis Perkins, administrative director; Dana Avant, clinical director; and Keisha Sheppard, PCC. Over the next two months, through a series of collaborative meetings with the new DEU leadership, the six CTs for the unit were selected and the final details of the implementation were solidified.

“The clinical teachers were selected by their clinical director because they are strong clinicians who love to teach and work with students,” Webb explained. “Educational preparation of the CTs and their desire to teach students were equally important factors.” The clinical teachers on unit 9 are: Amber Chiddick, BSN, RN; Chantel Graham, RN; Regina Johnson, RN; Marilyn Newsom, BSN, RN; Amber Plass, BSN, RN; and Umeko Williams, BSN, RN.

Willing to Share What They Know

CTs Regina Johnson and Umeko Williams are seasoned professionals with 17 years and three years of nursing, respectively, to their credit. They are equally



In the UTHSC-MLH Dedicated Education Unit, College of Nursing BSN students like Nathan Border (left) work and learn side by side nurse professionals, such as Umeko Williams, BSN, RN (right).

passionate about serving others and sharing what they know with student nurses, facilitating their transition into the profession.

“My experience working with students in the DEU has been a rewarding one,” said Williams. “It gives me an opportunity to give back to others what so many have given to me.

“In addition, the students have the opportunity to visualize

the comprehensive role of a nurse in the workforce. They see first-hand the interaction and collaboration among disciplinary teams, such as physicians, nurses, case managers, social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech therapists, to meet the needs of our patients.”

Williams observed, “With the implementation of the DEU, students are challenged more by being allowed to participate in patient care more frequently, which provides a great learning opportunity for each individual student.”

“I love teaching,” Regina Johnson enthused. “I believe if students have a good experience in the beginning, they will become good nurses who are competent as well as compassionate.

“The relationship that I have formed with my students through our [DEU] partnership bridges the gap between academia and practice. I actually know my students’ names and their strengths. They have become an integral part of our unit. I will be sad when their rotation ends. Hopefully some of our students will come and work with us when they graduate,” she mused.

“For 17 years, I have wanted to go back to school and my experience with the students has sparked my desire to further my education,” Johnson added.

Taking an Active Role to Get It Open

Before the end of October, Gill and Webb had also conducted a “Be More Monday” forum for UTHSC faculty, a special informational presentation about the DEU, and a presentation to MUH staff at the 9 Tower unit council meeting. In addition, the College

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DEU

Continued from Page 13

of Nursing hosted a DEU teleconference with the University of Portland for the Methodist leadership and College of Nursing faculty.

"These informative sessions provided an exhilarating opportunity to showcase the innovative educational aspects of the DEU and advance the partnership between the academia and nursing practice communities," Gill noted.

By the close of 2008, the CTs had completed a MUH preceptor course. Two-day workshops were presented by the College of Nursing faculty, which provided information about the DEU model, adult learning styles, clinical teaching strategies, and simulation lab orientation. The two-day workshops included CTs, PCCs, the clinical director, the unit educator and faculty. The dedication ceremony for the DEU was held on January 6 with leadership from MUH and UTHSC taking active, supporting roles. The MUH DEU is believed to be one of the first in the southeastern United States. The UTHSC College of Nursing will have a year-round presence in and exclusive use of the DEU for clinical rotations for students.

Students in the professional nursing entry program will have the opportunity to rotate to the DEU in the following courses: Introduction to Professional Practice, Adult Health Acute care, and Leadership Internship. In addition, the DEU will serve as a primary site for the 300-hour CNL Clinical Immersion. Plans are under way to develop additional DEUs, which will provide more opportunity for students to learn nursing practice in an exemplary clinical environment. A total of 48 students are expected to rotate through the current MUH DEU each year.

Gaining a Realistic Understanding in a Win-Win Situation

"Use of DEUs for student experiences is a win-win-win for everyone involved," Dean Hathaway said.

"Students win because they experience unparalleled educational experiences; they can do more and learn more. Nurses win because students working with them are now part of the care team and because their knowledge and skills are well known by the staff. Consequently, the students can contribute to the work of the unit in a more meaningful manner. The patients win because care on DEUs is known to be of the highest quality with improved patient outcomes. And finally, the hospital wins because DEU-experienced students are

able to transition through orientation and to practice much more quickly."

The first students to be educated in the DEU were randomly selected second-degree students who began their rotation in January. BSN candidate LaShanda Ivy, RRT, BS, reported, "My experience in the DEU has been wonderful! I wouldn't trade this opportunity for anything else in the world."

Ivy elaborated, "My rotation in the DEU has definitely served as an advantage to my adult health clinical rotation.

Through the DEU, I work closely with a highly skilled and educated practicing RN. This close collaboration allows me to have more opportunities to observe and practice the clinical skills I am required to learn throughout this semester.

"Additionally, because I have an opportunity to work with all of the patients assigned to my clinical teacher, I am gaining a more 'realistic' understanding of what my daily responsibilities will be like once I become an RN." She added, "My clinical instructor and clinical teacher work hard to ensure that I am exposed to a variety of nursing skills, so I am undoubtedly receiving the best clinical experience a student nurse could ask for!"

"I feel very fortunate to be working on the DEU floor and definitely believe the experience has allowed me to learn and develop my skills in a more realistic environment, as compared to the traditional model," stated BSN candidate Nathan Border.

As a second-degree student with a BA in telecommunications, Border observed, "I have no prior experience in health care and working side by side with



UTHSC adult health nursing students and DEU clinical teachers gather to celebrate the opening of the Dedicated Education Unit. From left to right: Carey Wright, Heather Perry (students), Regina Johnson (CT), Lisa Davenport (student), Chantel Graham (CT), Danielle Howard, Michelle Lammel, and Cillora Hicks (students) gather around Amber Plass (CT), who is in the center wearing pink.

an RN has taught me a great deal about what being an RN is all about. In working closely with my RN instructor, I have come to understand how the flow of patient care, information, time management and collaboration fit into the picture of being a RN.

“In the DEU, we have been challenged to think on our feet more and to adapt and accomplish evolving tasks and responsibilities similar to an actual RN. All of this has really helped me grow in technical, organizational, and communication skills. My DEU experience has been one of teamwork and far superior to my previous clinical experiences,” he stated emphatically, adding, “I hope the DEU takes off and is adopted for nursing clinical rotations. It has really been a big improvement and a very positive learning and professional experience for me.”

Becoming a Real Member of the Unit

“The ‘village approach’ to learning on the DEU results in many advantages for the students because everyone on the unit has a vested interest in the students’ success,” Webb stated. “In addition, relationships have formed between the CTs and their students to the extent that students ‘feel like a real member of the unit and not a visitor.’ ” Each CT works with two students each week on the same two days. This means the CTs will really know the strengths and developmental needs of each student, and can guide their clinical learning.

“In collaboration with the clinical faculty coordinator (CFC), the CT is able to arrange learning experiences for her students within her group of patients correlating the nursing theory with practice each week.

Webb explained that even though students are assigned one or two patients to care for, they actually help their CT support a cohort of patients that ranges from four to five people daily. This experience provides students with a more realistic perspective and understanding of the role of the professional nurse and how he/she provides,

manages and coordinates the care of patients with the health care team.

“The students’ learning in the past six weeks has been exponential through the relationships that they have formed with their CTs and the unit staff,” observed Webb. “The partnership between leadership, staff, faculty and students is creating an amazingly supportive learning environment.”

She added, “News is traveling about the success of the DEU. I have met with nursing leadership at Le Bonheur who are interested in partnering with us to develop a DEU for two of their units.”

For more information about the DEU, contact Sherry Webb, UTHSC College of



Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare administrators, along with UT Health Science Center leaders, gather for the unveiling of the sign to symbolize the opening of the Mid-South's first Dedicated Education Unit.







Nursing assistant professor of acute and chronic care, at (901) 448-4148 or Dolores Marshall, Methodist University Hospital chief nursing officer, at (901) 516-8275.



In the DEU, Methodist nurse Marilyn Newsom, BSN, RN, (left), who works in a patient unit, becomes a clinical teacher, providing the personalized instruction needed to create the optimal learning environment for UTHSC BSN students like Lashanda Ivy (right).

DEU Task Force

Those That Helped Make It Happen

Team Member	Title	Organization	Role	
	Donna Herrin	Senior Advisor Methodist Healthcare	MLH	Instrumental in developing the conceptual framework of the DEU initiative and practice at MLH
	Delores Marshall	Vice President Patient Services Chief Nursing Officer Methodist University Hospital	MLH	Instrumental in the selection of the DEU nursing unit and providing administrative support to the implementation of the DEU
	Lewis Perkins	Administrative Director Inpatient Services Methodist University Hospital	MLH	Instrumental in the ongoing support and progress of the DEU trial unit and providing administrative support for future directives
	Dana Avant	Clinical Director of 9 Tower DEU	MLH	Instrumental in providing front-line administrative support for implementation and daily operation of the DEU
	Keisha Sheppard	Patient Care Coordinator for 9 Tower DEU	MLH	Instrumental in providing front-line support to staff, faculty, and students in daily operations of the DEU
	Marie Gill	Clinical Development Coordinator	MLH	Active member of the CNL/ DEU Task Force; provided insight in the planning process and practice liaison

	Team Member	Title	Organization	Role
	Donna Hathaway	Dean & Professor	UTHSC	Instrumental in leading the process through the UTHSC MLH Governing Council & the CNL/DEU Task Force
	Susan Jacob	Executive Associate Dean & Professor	UTHSC	Active member of the CNL/DEU Task Force; provided insight in the planning process
	Cheryl Stegbauer	Professor & Associate Dean of Academic Programs	UTHSC	Active member of the CNL/DEU Task Force; provided insight in the planning process
	Veronica Engle	Professor	UTHSC	Active member of the CNL/DEU Task Force; contributed research expertise; submitted HRSA grant with Dr. McKeon for the DEU; Submitted letter of intent to Medline for a pressure ulcer study on the DEU
	Tommie Norris	Director of Professional Entry Program	UTHSC	Active member of the CNL/DEU Task Force; submitted grant for providing PDAs to the CTs
	Leslie McKeon	Assistant Professor	UTHSC	Active member of the CNL/DEU Task Force; submitted HRSA grant with Dr. Engle for DEU
	Sherry Webb	Assistant Professor	UTHSC	Active member of the CNL/DEU Task Force; coordinated implementation of the DEU with Marie Gill at MLH; acting as clinical faculty coordinator for the DEU in the Adult Health course

Construction Continues on RBL, Pharmacy Buildings



Regional Biocontainment Laboratory

Hamilton Eye Institute Receives Final Touches

In August, the UT Health Science Center celebrated the unveiling of the completed Hamilton Eye Institute.

After a three-phase project starting in 2004, the Hamilton Eye Institute unveiled the signage of its 60,000-square-foot facility located at 930 Madison Avenue. Later that same month a hand-crafted bronze bust of the two HEI benefactors — Ralph S. Hamilton, MD, and his wife Barbara Howell Hamilton — was revealed. The unveilings marked the final touches to the Hamilton Eye Institute and was a celebration honoring the Hamiltons for their lifelong work and dedication in the field of ophthalmology.



The HEI sign unveiling marks the completion of the facility.

The detailed likeness of the donors was commissioned by the World Cataract Foundation, and approximately 75 special guests gathered to honor the couple.

“Much of the success of Hamilton Eye Institute is because of the vision and support of Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Hamilton,” stated UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD. “Thanks to Dr. Jerre Freeman, a commemorative bust will now grace the atrium of the Hamilton Eye Institute as a reminder of the generosity of the Hamilton family.”

Jerre M. Freeman, MD, a lifelong Memphian and UTHSC College of Medicine graduate, founded the World Cataract Foundation in 1978 (It was initially called the World Lens Project). “For the last 30 years, our foundation has partnered with UT to provide eye surgery to the most disadvantaged people around the world that you could possibly imagine,” noted Dr. Freeman. “It is through the generous gifts of the Hamiltons that both the World Cataract Foundation and the Hamilton Eye Institute have been able to perform this work for so many.



Guests marveled at the realistic quality of the bust once Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Hamilton unveiled and stood adjacent to their image.

“Hamilton Eye Institute is evidence of Ralph and Barbara’s crowning gift,” Dr. Freeman said. “That’s why we chose to place this bust here.”

The HEI space includes the Hyde Glaucoma Center, a surgery center, a general adult eye care clinic, subspecialty care clinics, a pediatric eye clinic, a wet lab for surgical instruction, a distance learning suite, and an ambulatory surgery center. Medical libraries and resource centers for physicians and patients are also housed in the building. The third floor contains an educational facility with a 99-seat auditorium.



Pharmacy Building Construction

Work on the Regional Biocontainment Laboratory (RBL) and the Pharmacy Building continues. The RBL nears completion and is expected to open mid-summer. The RBL will be the first finished building on the UT-Baptist Research Park with the Pharmacy Building following close behind. That six-story 192,000-square-foot building is targeted for completion in the spring of 2010.

Little 'Le Builders' Assist in New Le Bonheur Building

On February 14, 2008, the theme for Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center's groundbreaking was Valentine's Day red. The crowd watched as children — current and former patients — shoveled a heart-shaped mound with small, red, heart-shaped shovels. A larger red heart of Le Bonheur employees encircled the audience. Guests wearing red commemorative scarves adorned with the words "Le Builder" joined with choirs from local schools to sing rousing versions of "You Raise Me Up" and "We are the World."

The large turnout included local commissioners and Mayor Willie W. Herenton. The crowd also enjoyed video greetings from Tennessee senators Lamar Alexander and Bob Corker, as well as words from UT Health Science Center Chancellor Hershel "Pat" Wall, MD. The chancellor expressed his appreciation to Le Bonheur as a valued partner as the practice site for many of UTHSC's faculty and residents. In addition, Dr. Wall said, "How fitting on Valentine's Day, a day to honor the great hearts who lovingly devoted their lives and careers to this institution over the past 55 years. With this new planned edifice and its superb leadership, Le Bonheur will move, not from good to great but from great to greater."



UTHSC Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, helps a child turn the soil at Le Bonheur's groundbreaking.

In closing, everyone joined musician Eddie Harrison in a moving chorus of "Oh Happy Day."

The 610,000-square-foot, 12-story hospital will be the result of the largest public campaign in Memphis ever, as well as the largest investment by a nonprofit organization in a free-standing facility in Shelby County. To date more than \$87.1 million has been raised toward the \$100 million fundraising goal.

The \$327 million hospital has been designed around needs of children and their families. When it opens in 2010, the new Le Bonheur will double its current space for patient care, research and teaching.



Above: Le Bonheur employees formed a huge heart to encircle guests at the groundbreaking ceremony.

Right: An artist's rendition shows the Le Bonheur Medical Center when construction is complete in 2010.



2008 Graduates and Undergraduates

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center
College of Nursing - Class of 2008

Doctor of Philosophy, Nursing

Elizabeth Ann Chismark
Heather Roberts Hall

Elizabeth Katy Garth
Mayola Rowser

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Ksandra Jane Nolen

Sylvia Deloris Watt

Master of Science, Nursing

Adult Critical Care Nurse Practitioner

Sheila Espritu Ayers
Enja Oneika Holland
Pamela Ann Warkins

Lindsey Nicole Beatty
Robbie Shontel Jones

Cynthia Grace Griffiths
Jeri Lynn Striplin

Family Nurse Practitioner

Kathleen Herrod Behnke
Erika Branco Carroll
Emily Key Cross
Artangela Demetria Henry
Lisa Dawn Miles
Casey William Sasser

Latrina Novella Blakemore
Jade Alexa Childers
Latasha Roshelle Dees
Emily Meredith Jaynes
Claudette Elizabeth Morrison
Ginger Lynn Thompson

Mary Angel Brady
Melanie Prince Chipman
Tammy Faye Faulkner
Vickie Denise Long
Kristie Neichall Peggins
Mary Kathryn Vescovo

Nurse Anesthesia

Joyelle Mayet Beeby
Vaughn Paul Jones
Benjamin Robert Parker
Jameka Ritrece Taylor

Brian John Currie
Aaron Ray Ketcher
Andrew Kelly Reiner
Kelly Ragon Weaver

David Wade Derrick
Steven Charles Lane
Corey Benton Smith
Brooke Alyson Wood

Bachelor of Science, Nursing

Megan Lee Alexander
Danielle Yvette Bell
Lisa Renee Carney
Kendall Robin Clark
Jasmine Dalana Dorsey
Ashley Fotheringham
Megan Ruth Goodrich
Katheryn Elaine Hubbard
Elysia Beatrice Marie Hymon
Chelsea Kellow-Hedge
Audrey Ruth Lipsky
Jada Jonan Love
Katy Klein Meinbresse
Teresa Michelle Nichols
Krystal Maureen Protz
Megan Marie Searce
Tina Lazandra Smith
Michelle Marie Takir

German Tadesse Ayele
Melissa Rose Bennetts
Rebecca Kay Carroll
Mary Travis Cook
Michael Jerrod Dudding
Jessica Marie Gardner
Sarah Lynne Guenther
Jena Marie Hurst
Dorries Jean Jamerson
Sherry Ann Lachney
Julia Katherine Logue
April Elizabeth Mancini
Audrey Taneka Milliner
Maryjo Ogechi Osuigwe
Deliah Nanette Quinney
Amy Marie Sheridan
Christen Elizabeth Spencer
William Brock Turner

Kristina Jane Bailey
Jennifer Lauren Brandon
Hoi Sing Chung
Kelly Reed Davis
Marcia Elaine Enggano
Carolina Clements Goodman
Ashlee Latoia Haynes
Sean Anthony Hutchison
Russell Don Jones
Courtney Brooke Langston
Leslie Jean Long
Amber Diane Mason
Cara Melissa Morgan
Nicholas Morrell Pierce
Therese Marie Rapski
Melissa Stephanie Sisko
Christle Chenille Stanton
Jamila Unice' Walker

STUDENTS



Graduation December 2008



Mayola Rowser Makes History

The UTHSC College of Nursing is a nationally recognized change agent in nursing education, and sometimes it's one student at a time that helps to build this strong reputation. Dr. Mayola Rowser, who received her PhD at the December 2008 graduation, is an example of such a student.

Prior to earning her PhD, Dr. Rowser received her DNP in 2005, making her the first known nurse in the world to complete a Doctorate of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) and a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP).

"Dr. Mayola Rowser has amazed us all; she has become exactly what she intended; a fully developed integrative APRN, teacher, leader, grant writer, researcher, advocate for the underserved, and policy influencer," described Kathleen McCoy, DNSc, an assistant professor in the CON.

While enrolled in the DNP program, Dr. Rowser achieved dual preparation as a family nurse practitioner and a psychiatric family nurse practitioner. "Her blend of expertise opens doors to areas of care in very special ways; this is what her DNP gained," Dr. McCoy stated. "Her PhD furthered her skill set to apply nursing process and scientific reasoning, obtain the support for research and program development while affecting politics. She can work in any setting with any set of patients and optimize their health regardless because of her clinical and intellectual mastery. The faculty and students of UTHSC CON are proud to claim her as our own."

Dr. Rowser is already beginning to reap the benefits of her advanced degrees and to make an



Mayola Rowser, DNP, PhD, celebrates her history-making accomplishment with family, friends and faculty members.

impact at the University of Southern Indiana School of Nursing and Health Professions. Here she worked as a clinical instructor and was then promoted to assistant professor after completion of her DNP. After her PhD she earned the position of director of the graduate nursing program. With

a 28-year nursing career, Dr. Rowser's primary focus is in psychiatric/mental health nursing.

"Mayola recognized that her educational and clinical preparation was not enough to meet the complex needs of the underserved, which is Mayola's passion," remembers Patricia Cunningham, DNSc, APRN, BC, associate professor in the CON. "Mayola's DNP capstone project highlighted for her the need to pursue the research doctorate, too."

Dr. Rowser agrees, "...Basically I understood the advantage that having both degrees would afford me as a practitioner and a researcher. As I progressed through the DNP program, I realized that I had an interest in research as well."

The proud mother of two sons, Dr. Rowser received her BSN and MSN degrees from the University of Southern Indiana and began her doctoral studies at UTHSC in 2002, carefully balancing work, school and family life. Successfully defending her dissertation last year, Dr. Rowser studied the "Predictors of Depressive Symptoms and Obesity in African-American Women Transitioning from Welfare to Work."

Ten CON Students Earn RWJF Scholarships

Ten UTHSC College of Nursing students each earned a \$10,000 scholarship from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to help them get through the pipeline of education and into the workplace.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) offered the financial aid through the RWJF New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program, which aims to strengthen the nursing workforce by assisting students enrolled in fast-track nursing degree programs. Scholarships of \$10,000 each were awarded to a total of 706 nursing students in accelerated programs during the 2008-2009 academic year.

This translates into 58 schools of nursing in 31 states awarded \$7 million for scholarships to address the shortage of nurses and nurse faculty.

"This scholarship program is designed to ease the shortage of nurses and nurse faculty — an urgent national problem that potentially jeopardizes the health of all Americans," said John Lumpkin, MD, MPH, senior vice president and director for the Health Care Group at RWJF. "Fewer students will be turned away by schools of nursing, because of the availability of this support for accelerated nursing degree programs."

Here at the UT Health Science Center, the following individuals were awarded scholarships:

Christopher Adcock
Matthew Bishop
Nathan Border
Mary Grace C. Collado
Anissa Evans
Lashanda Denise Ivy
Ballina Haney
LaTonya Hardy
Felisha Robinson
Steven Link

Institutions receiving awards will use this funding to help secure new faculty resources and provide mentoring and leadership development resources to ensure successful program completion by scholarship recipients.

Scholarships Distributed 2008-2009

Scholarship	Distribution
Andrew Holt.....	\$ 4,000
Brenda Mills.....	\$ 500
Dorothy Martin.....	\$ 1,000
Elizabeth Club	\$ 3,000
Faculty Minority.....	\$ 5,000
Grace Wallace.....	\$ 6,000
HRSA Grant - NAT	\$ 16,800
HRSA Grant - AENT.....	\$124,147
Josephine Circle.....	\$ 6,000
Margaret N. Stokes	\$ 2,500
Marie Buckley	\$ 2,000
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (Mississippi).....	\$ 2,000
Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare (Shelby County)..	\$ 3,000
Roane County Medical Society	\$ 6,000
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation	\$ 50,000
Ruby Stephenson.....	\$ 7,500
Trentham – Washburn – Absher.....	\$ 6,500
TOTAL	\$245,947

*100 graduate students received scholarship funds during the July 2008 to June 2009 distribution.

*56 undergraduate students received scholarship funds during the July 2008 to June 2009 distribution.



Health Fairs

Student nurses continue to learn as they serve at various health fairs throughout the year.

Wicks and Meeks to Receive 2009 Alumni Awards

A feature of the UTHSC's College of Nursing Alumni Day is the presentation of the Outstanding and Most Supportive Alumni Awards. This year during the luncheon on May 8 at the Hilton Memphis, Mona Newsome Wicks, PhD, RN, will be recognized as the 2009 Outstanding Alumna, while Suzanne Meeks, BSN, MA, MSN, will be honored as the 2009 Most Supportive Alumna.

2009 Outstanding Alumna Award Winner

Mona Newsome Wicks, PhD, RN



Mona Wicks, PhD, RN

Mona Newsome Wicks received her associate and BS degrees in nursing from the University of Memphis in 1978 and 1981, respectively. Her MSN (medical and surgical nursing) was earned from UTHSC in 1987 and PhD from Wayne State University in 1992.

On the faculty of UTHSC since 1987, Dr. Wicks is a professor and the associate dean for research. She mentors students enrolled in the PhD program and guest lectures in PhD program courses.

Professional memberships include the American and Tennessee Nurses Associations, Sigma Theta Tau International (Beta Theta Chapter at-large), the Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science, and Southern Nurses Research Society. Dr. Wicks reviews grants for the American Nurses Foundation and Southern Nursing Research Society and is a reviewer for the Adult and Older Adult Study Section, the National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Nursing Research.

Dr. Wicks is a lifetime member of the Greater Memphis Area Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses and is a former president of this organization. Dr. Wicks' program of research and publications focuses on minority health and patient-caregiver populations in the context of chronic lung disease and end-stage renal disease. She is currently conducting a study funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research to test an intervention to reduce depressive and anxiety symptoms in a sample of black women caring for relatives receiving chronic hemodialysis therapy.

Dr. Wicks has been awarded university, regional, and national awards for her teaching and mentoring skills. Some of the honors include finalist, Memphis

Business Journal Healthcare Heroes (non-physician) in 2008; the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Leader Fellowship award 2008-2011; the Chancellor's Distinguished Educator Award from UTHSC in 2003-2006; and the COMPACT for Faculty Diversity, Southern Regional Educational Board Faculty Mentor of the Year Award in 2002.

Wicks also enjoys mentoring African-American high school and college students interested in careers in health and science and teaches health promotion in her church where she serves as an usher. She and her husband, Sammie, have been married for 25 years and have one son, Jamie.

2009 Most Supportive Alumna Award

Suzanne Meeks, BSN, MA, MSN



Suzanne Meeks, BSN, MA, MSN

Suzanne Meeks received her BSN degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1956. She also earned a MA degree in gerontology from the University of South Florida in 1971, as well as a MSN in nursing from the UT Health Science Center in 1977.

Her first position after graduation was as a staff nurse in the ER of the Children's Hospital in Cincinnati. She stayed at home with her children for a few years and then re-entered the profession as a nursing instructor in an AND program in Mississippi. The next 16 years were spent in nursing education, including being the director of the Methodist Hospital School of Nursing. An opportunity to use her knowledge of gerontology and geriatric nursing came when she was appointed the position as the director of nursing at the Memphis Jewish Home. After 10 years in that capacity, she began an independent practice as a Geriatric Care Manager, a post she held until retirement in 2007.

While the director of nursing at Memphis Jewish Home, she worked with her good friends, Dr. Michael Carter and Dr. Peg Hartig to establish the nurse practitioner program at the Home. Later, she was named as an adjunct professor for the College of Nursing where she occasionally gave lectures and seminars on being in independent nursing practice. She has four children, Steven, Christina, Michael and Katherine, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Speaker to Help Nurses Become Tech Savvy in Health Care Setting



*Christine R. Curran, PhD,
RN, CNA*

As technology advancements are incorporated more and more into health care settings, the need for better information management and security also increases. This contemporary topic — “Best Practices in Information Management to Ensure Quality and Safety” — is exactly what Christine R. Curran, PhD, RN, CNA, will be discussing at Alumni Day.

As the featured speaker for the Mary L. Morris Distinguished Visiting Professorship, Dr. Curran will address participants during the continuing education portion of the day-long event.

Dr. Curran is the associate chief nursing officer, professional development and chief nursing informatics officer at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center. She also holds dual practice and academic positions as an associate professor of clinical nursing

at the Ohio State University College of Nursing.

She received her undergraduate degree in nursing from Duke University, a master’s degree in nursing from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a PhD in nursing with an emphasis in nursing informatics from the University of Maryland.

Her research has focused on developing effective data displays to improve clinical decision making by nurses at the point of care. Dr. Curran has a wealth of experience to share as she has spent more than 30 years in nursing with a combination of critical care, administrative, and information technology experience. She has worked with implementations of clinical information systems, has an extensive background in work redesign/restructuring initiatives, and development of clinical competencies and professional practice models.

In order to maximize the use of information technology in the clinical setting and increase your understanding and knowledge on this topic, please join us for Alumni Day at the Hilton Memphis.

UT Health Science Center College of Nursing Alumni Day ~ May 8, 2009 Hilton Memphis

Continuing Education Program

“Best Practices in Information Management to Ensure Quality and Safety,” featuring Dr. Christine Curran, PhD, RN, CNA — Mary L. Morris Distinguished Visiting Professor. Dr. Curran is the associate chief nursing officer, professional development and chief nursing informatics officer at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center.

Silent Auction

Alumni Awards and Reunion Luncheon

Special Recognition of the Golden Graduates of 1959

Student Poster Presentation

Class Reunions: Class of 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, and 1999. If you would like assistance in coordinating a special event for your class, contact the UT Office of Alumni Affairs.

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center Office of Alumni Affairs

62 S. Dunlap, Suite 520, Memphis, TN 38163

(800) 733-0482 or (901) 448-4974

keggert@utm.edu

<http://www.utm.edu/nursing>

The Hilton Memphis – 939 Ridgeland Blvd. ~ For reservations call (800) 445-8667 or (901) 684-6664.

Class Notes

The University of Tennessee Alumni Association (UTAA) wants to hear from you!

The Class Notes section is a great way to share news about your professional and personal accomplishments. It's also a chance to reconnect with former classmates and good friends! Best of all, staying in touch is quick and easy.

Go to the UTAA Online Community Web site, sign in and click on the Class Notes tab. Staying connected couldn't be easier. Visit <http://alumni.tennessee.edu> and click on the link "Get Connected!"

'85 Jane Owen, MSN, RN, BC, APN, FNP, is the recipient of the 2008 John W. Runyan Community Nursing Award.



The award is named in honor of Dr. John W. Runyan, Jr., University Distinguished Professor Emeritus in the UTHSC Department of Preventive Medicine, and an internationally recognized advocate for the role of nurses in community health care. The award recognizes a nurse who has made an impact in that setting.

Owen is an advanced practice nurse in palliative services at Methodist Le Bonheur. She has more than 30 years of experience in critical care, oncology, occupational health, and family practice as a nurse practitioner.

In Memoriam

'41 **Alma Bernice Godsey**, 88, passed away Jan. 20 at Morning Pointe in Greeneville, Tenn. Godsey was a graduate of Bristol Tennessee High School, the UT College of Nursing, and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She also did postgraduate studies at East Tennessee State University and Vanderbilt University. She was a veteran of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and served in North Africa and Italy from 1941 to 1946. Following her military service, she worked as a public health nurse for 34 years, 17 years in Sullivan County and 17 years in Greene County. She had been a resident of Greeneville since 1963.

'42 **Pauline Eleam "Polly," Campbell**, 91, of Bowling Green, Va., died Dec. 2, 2008, in Mary Washington Hospital. Born in Hamilton County, Tenn., she was a 1938 graduate of Horace Greeley School in New York and a 1942 graduate of the University of Tennessee College of Nursing. Polly enlisted in the U. S. Navy Nurse Corps in 1942 and served during World War II. She was the widow of Ray S. Campbell Sr., whom she married December 1, 1944, in Pasco, Washington. After a 34-year career, she retired in 1983 as supervisor of the Emergency Room at Mary Washington Hospital. Survivors include three sons and their families.

'44 **Sylvia Norman Britt**, 92, a resident of Cleveland, Tenn., passed away Jan. 17 at the family residence. She was an active member

at Hopewell Church of God where she taught Sunday school and also served on the Church of God Home for Children Board for many years. After working as public health nurse in Sumner and Monroe counties, she was sent to the University of Michigan where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in public health nursing. She retired as director of public health nursing in the Knoxville office. Britt was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Mitchell Britt. Survivors include two sisters: Lucille Curbow of Cleveland, and Marie Sutton of Lexington Ky.; one step-daughter, Janie Payne of Knoxville; several nieces and nephews also survive.

'62 **Fay Fortenberry Russell**, 81, of Memphis, passed away on Dec. 24, 2008, at Kirby Pines. Mrs. Russell graduated from the Baptist School of Nursing and the University of Tennessee College of Nursing, then went on to work on her doctorate at the University of Washington in Seattle. Russell was a professor at the



Child Development Center and the UT CON. She was a member of the Who's Who of Women and a member of Sigma Theta Tau, Honorary Nursing Society. She is preceded in death by her husband, and survived by her daughter, son and their families.

Friends of UTHSC

Dr. Shirley Burd, retired faculty member in psychiatric nursing, died in January 2009.

UT Engaged in \$1 Billion Campaign; Now 77 Percent to Goal

The University of Tennessee officially launched its \$1 billion fundraising campaign last spring to enhance programs of excellence at all of the university's campuses and institutes.

The Campaign for Tennessee — the most ambitious effort in the university's 214-year history — places UT among the ranks of the nation's largest public and private institutions that have sought this level of private support.

According to Hershel P. Wall, MD, chancellor, the UT Health Science Center's goal within the UT System-wide Campaign is \$180 million. "We are a little more than half-way to our goal, and our faculty and staff have given more than \$10 million of the total through the Family Campaign," he said.

Accompanied by Board of Trustees Vice Chair Andrea Loughry, UT President John Petersen announced that \$704,007,696 has been raised. He made the announcement at a gathering of campaign volunteers held at Pratt Pavilion on the Knoxville campus.

Since this kick-off event, giving has continued. System-wide more than \$773 million has been raised, bringing UT to 77 percent of its goal.

"This is a historic day for the University of Tennessee and a time to celebrate the university's



President John Petersen announces the historic \$1 billion fundraising campaign for the UT system.

successes. We extend our thanks to the many volunteers and supporters who've helped us achieve this unprecedented amount," said Petersen. "We also look forward to a continued momentum to further engage alumni and friends in achieving the university's goals."

The campaign seeks support for initiatives that impact student access and success, research, economic development, outreach and goals for globalization.

Jim Haslam, along with his wife, Natalie, and Brenda Lawson of Chattanooga serve as co-chairs of the Campaign for Tennessee.

"We have the distinct honor to be part of a powerful effort that will have an enormous impact on the state and its residents for many years to come," said Jim Haslam, founder of Pilot Oil Corp. "Each day we have been reminded that the University of Tennessee family is a large one that extends all over the world. We have especially enjoyed meeting with supporters and learning more about the enduring connection that compels them to invest in the university's future."

Funds are raised through outright gifts and pledges, planned gifts and private grants for research. For more information about the Campaign for Tennessee, please visit <http://development.tennessee.edu/campaign/>.

To make a gift, contact the Office of Development, UT Health Science Center, 62 South Dunlap, Suite 500, Memphis, TN 38163, or call (901) 448- 5516.



Chancellor Hershel P. Wall, MD, addresses the UT crowd gathered to celebrate the capital campaign kick-off.

Dr. Wall's Devotion Honored by Legacy Society

On September 22, 2008, UT President John Petersen arrived in Memphis to lead a very special event — the inaugural dinner of the Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society. Eighty-five Legacy Society members, the Memphis-area UT trustees, and UTHSC leaders joined the celebration at The University Club.

"You all represent a special organization of supporters who have demonstrated your vision and commitment to the future of education and health care by including UTHSC in your estate plans," stated Dr. Petersen. Legacy gifts can be made by naming UT as a beneficiary of a will, charitable trust, gift annuity, insurance policy, or retirement plan.

"These types of gift commitments have an inherently special meaning because you are equating UT to a family member," he observed. "Your gifts will help us sustain the proud tradition of teaching, research, patient care and public service, all of which make a tremendous, positive difference in the lives of so many throughout Tennessee and across the region."



UT President John Petersen honors Chancellor Pat Wall, MD, at the inaugural dinner of the Legacy Society named in his honor.

Dr. Petersen noted that naming the society for Chancellor Wall was a natural decision. "Pat sets a wonderful example for others, demonstrating true leadership and exemplary service to the Health Science Center. He truly embodies the spirit and ideals of the Legacy Society."

Accepting this recognition and a commemorative gift from the university, Chancellor Wall stated, "In honoring me in this lasting and meaningful way, you also challenge me as well. When one receives recognition such as

this — which seems undeserved — one has to earn it so I will have to work hard to do just that.

"I have been blessed to have served this place for half a century in one capacity or another. The wonderful students, residents, physician peers in the College of Medicine and now my superb colleagues here and across the state in our flagship health science institution have greatly enriched my professional life. To all of them, I am grateful."

For information on how you can become a founding member of the Hershel P. Wall, M.D., Legacy Society, contact Bethany Goolsby at (901) 448-4941 or bgoolsby@utmem.edu.



At top, left to right: Margaret A. Newman, UT President John Petersen, College of Nursing Dean Donna Hathaway, and Vice Chancellor of Development and Alumni Affairs Linda Garceau-Luis

Below: Donna Mehr, Margaret A. Newman, and Dianne Greenhill

Chancellor and Mrs. Wall



Hershel P. Wall, M.D.
Legacy Society

The UT Health Science Center
Office of Development and Alumni Affairs
62 S. Dunlap, Suite 500
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UPCOMING EVENTS

May 8, 2009

2009 Alumni Day: “Best Practices in Information Management to Ensure Quality and Safety”

September 30 - October 3, 2009

National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference: “Transforming Care Through Education & Scholarly Practice”

UTHSC CON GRADUATE PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINES 2009 - 2010

September 1, 2009

Nurse Anesthesia (CRNA)

January 15, 2010

Master’s Entry CNL

February 1, 2010

DNP