FROM THE DEANS’ DESK

The 26th Annual Scientific Sessions of ENRS were held in Philadelphia on April 9-11th. The theme was “Promoting health across the life span: The art and science of person care.” SN and CON were well-represented at the conference and used the opportunity to announce our pending unification. The keynote speaker, Margaret Grey, DrPh, RN, FAAN, Dean and Annie Goodrich Professor at Yale, spoke on the topic of self-management, a buzz-word in the current health science dialog. Her demonstrations that promoting patient’s feelings of mastery (efficacy or control, would also fit here) is the mediating mechanism leading to teens’ improved ability to cope with and manage their diabetes. Her work also provides an excellent model of how to design interventions that get past barriers and scale up interventions to large multi-site trials.

The workshop I especially enjoyed was presented by Rona Levin, Ph. D., Director of Nursing Practice at NYU and the Visiting Nurses Association of New York City. Participants learned how to navigate the AHQR’s guidelines.gov website and to use a web-based tool called AGREE II (Appraisal of Guidelines for Research and Evaluation; www.agreetrust.org). The tool is a comprehensive set of rating scales with which to assess clinical guidelines for completeness, representativeness, and other key criteria. It also provides a training manual and pre-rated sample guidelines against which one can self-assess tool mastery. We tried out the tool, using it to assess clinical guidelines for follow-up after primary therapy for endometrial cancer. In comparing our groups’ ratings with the ratings posted by a group of gynecological specialists, it became apparent that the audience of practicing nurses and graduate nursing students were a lot tougher in their ratings of the guidelines for stakeholder involvement, consideration of risk/benefit ratio, and consideration of barriers. The AGREE is a tool still in the development stage, so extensive reliability data is still not available, especially with respect to ratings of the guidelines by healthcare providers from multiple disciplines. The different responses of the audience make me wonder if nurses or practitioners with interdisciplinary training, might rate guidelines differently than traditionally trained medical personnel on the most patient-relevant ratings. If so, the reliability of the tool would depend on how health care providers are trained. Might this make an interesting DNP project? -MWS-

A UNITED SCHOOL OF NURSING!

July 1, 2014
Patient deaths in hospitals might be reduced by easing nurses’ workloads and emphasizing education in hiring, a new study suggests. The findings can help administrators make informed staffing decisions. The link below provides information on how nurse staffing and education affect patient safety.


American Nurse Movie

DigiNext Films presents “The American Nurse.” This 80 minute film is a visual recreation of the book authored by Carolyn Jones and Lisa Frank. The American Nurse celebrates the work and lives of 75 nurses in diverse roles all across the country. For further details visit www.Nurse.com/AmericanNurseMovie.

Nursing in 3D: Workforce Diversity, Health Disparities, and Social Determinants of Health

- HRSA has just published this public health report supplement which focuses on the accomplishments and lessons learned from the 2012 Nursing in 3D summit. For further details visit http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/nursing/summit.html

How Psychological Science Can Support Smarter Medical Decisions


IMPORTANT GRANT UPDATE REGARDING FUNDING FOR RESEARCH

The NIH has announced a revision of their submission rule. A revised application (A1) that is not funded can be resubmitted. There is no limit on the amount of times you can submit an application. After a second try, the “counter” will be reset. On a third submission, the proposal will be treated as an initial application (A0) and prior “record of review” will be unavailable to the new reviewer.

While this sounds like a good thing, it probably does not make much sense to keep sending unscored or poorly scored proposals back to the same study section. P.I.’s always need to rethink their options and our office is available to help!
Useful INTERNAL Information for Researchers!

⇒ This link to the library page lists useful resources for faculty research.
http://www.libraries.rutgers.edu/services_researchers

⇒ Support letters and Financial Commitments: If you require an INSTITUTIONAL letter of support from the Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED), the following link provides the procedure to be utilized. These letters would come from Terri Kinzy or Christopher Malloy.
http://ored.rutgers.edu/content/requesting-letters-support-ovpr

NEW RULES!!
The federal government has released some new research grant rules. The new document is known as the “Uniform Guidance.” A few rules affect faculty members in preparing grant proposals. Here are some of the changes below effective 12/26/14:

• More time has been allotted to plan and write your grant proposal (60 days vs. 30 days).
• Critical information should be easier to find within the grant announcements.
• The announcements must contain summary information that can help you decide whether it’s worth applying to the program.
• Who is eligible to apply to a grant program must be spelled out in the announcement.
• Any limit on the number of proposals an applicant can submit to a given program must also be stated in the announcement.
• Format specifications will be detailed (i.e. font, number of pages, margins, etc.).
• The review process will be described.
• For competitive grants, agencies must design and use a merit-review process to assess applications.
• The agency will also provide you with a good “road map” for preparing a successful narrative about your project.
• Simplified financing to include clarity to the issue of cost sharing or matching funds, overhead rates, etc.
• Family Friendly policies to include provisions for child care costs for female faculty to travel to conferences.
• Conflict of interest policies must be enforced.
HONORS & APPOINTMENTS & AWARDS

- **Dr. Gina Marie Miranda-Diaz** was appointed to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing by Governor Christie on March 20, 2014. Her appointment will expire on 9/18/15.

- **Dr. Lucille Joel** was appointed to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing by Governor Christie on March 20, 2014. Her appointment will expire on 9/18/15.

- **Dr. Amita Avadhani** was appointed as a scholar of the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy on March 24, 2014 in Indianapolis, IN. It is a STTI program sponsored by Elsevier. Her appointment will expire on 6/30/15.

- **Dr. Lucille Joel** is the recipient of the Leaders in Faculty Diversity Award for 2013-2014 for her work with the Institute of Nursing, the NJ Board of Nursing, and the NJ State Nurses Association. The awards reception was held on May 7, 2014 at the Visitor Center on the New Brunswick Campus.

- **Dr. Adela Yarcheski** is the recipient of the Leaders in Faculty Diversity Award for 2013-2014 for her work throughout her tenure at Rutgers CON. The awards reception was held on May 7, 2014 at the Visitor Center on the New Brunswick Campus.

- **Dr. Jill Cox** is the recipient of the College of Nursing Educational Opportunity Fund Faculty of the Year Award for 2013-2014. The awards banquet was held on May 15, 2014 in Newark, NJ at the Robert Treat Hotel.

- **Professor Jacqueline Mileto** is the recipient of the College of Nursing Educational Opportunity Fund Faculty of the Year Award for 2013-2014. The awards banquet was held on May 15, 2014 in Newark, NJ at the Robert Treat Hotel.

- **Dr. Sallie Porter** was selected from a national pool of nurse applicants to attend the National Institute of Nursing Research Summer Genetics Institute to be held June 2-27, 2014 at the NIH, Bethesda, MD.

- **Dr. Richard Pessagno** was selected as one of the 2014 Fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. The induction ceremony will be held in Nashville, TN in June, 2014.

- **Dr. Yuri T. Jadotte** is the recipient of the 2013 National Member Award for Rutgers University. The award is given by the Alpha Epsilon Lambda, the Graduate and Professional Honor Society, to outstanding graduate students who are highly accomplished leaders in both the academic and extracurricular realms. This honor is awarded to only 1 graduate student among select member institutions nationwide.
Dr. Sallie Porter, Dr. Cheryl Holly, and Dr. Mercedes Echevarria received a grant award from the Society of Pediatric Nurses entitled *A Systematic Review of Risk Factors and Characteristics of Pediatric Acute Delirium in Hospitalized Patients*.

Dr. Susan Caplan is a recipient of the Interdisciplinary Working Groups in Global Health Research Grants competition. The funding is for two years and will expire on 12/31/15.

**PUBLICATIONS**


Kenya V. Beard, CNE, GNP-BC, Elsa-Sofia Morote EdD, Kellie Volcy, DNP, MSN, APN,C. Effects of student response system on preclass preparation learning, and class participation in a diverse classroom. 2013 National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing, Published by Elsevier.


Thomas Hawkins, C., Cox, J., Pajarillo, E. Gennaro, S., Cadmus, E. – Poster Presentation on “Factors Associated with Falls in Hospitalized Patients.”

Gray-Miceli, D. - Paper Presentation on “Patient Level Risk Factors to Assess in Older Adult Fallers with Orthostatic Hypotension.”

Shell, L. – Poster Presentation on “Happiness in Dementia: The Role of Values from the Perspective of the Individual and the Caregiver.”


Faculty from College of Nursing were Symposium Panelists at the 40th Annual Meeting of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioners in Denver, CO on April 4, 2014:

⇒ Dr. Judith Barberio (Symposium Organizer) presented “Faculty Practices: Development Challenges and Lessons Learned & Development of a Pain Management Practice.”
⇒ Dr. Helen Miley presenter, “Faculty Practice: APN-Team Coverage in an ACU.”
⇒ Dr. Kathy Gunkel presenter, “Faculty Practice: Development of an NP Clinic.”
⇒ Dr. Cindy Sickora presenter, “Faculty Practice: NP Practice in Mobile Vans & Public Housing Developments.”