

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

MARJORIE K. UNTERBERG SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES

Notes on Nursing

"The great aim of education is not knowledge but action."

Herbert Spencer (1820-1903)

From the Dean's Desk

Marilyn M. Lauria, R.N. Ed.D.

I am pleased to report that enrollment in the School of Nursing and Health Studies continues to rise. While we are very happy about this, it does present one problem, in that many classes quickly reach capacity. When possible, we add classes to meet the needs of students. I would like to take this time to remind students to sign up for classes during the early registration period in March. You will receive a notice from the Registrar's office as to the exact dates. Remember you can register for Summer and Fall 03 as well as Spring 04. Your early registration will allow us to add courses as necessary for the upcoming semesters.

We have also had an excellent response to our continuing education classes. We are pleased to see growing interest, as we provide ongoing programs and new areas of study. Our dinner lecture series which started in the Fall has been very popular. The participants enjoy the dinners, the opportunity to meet with peers to learn and discuss new issues.

In another area of interest, you may have heard people talking about a New Jersey University that is planning to offer a second degree (14 month) Nursing program (at a local college) for

students who already have a bachelor's degree in another field. We would like to clarify some details about this program.

For those who are contemplating a career change a 14-month program may sound appealing, but before students can start the nursing courses, 25 credits of prerequisite course work must be completed. Following the prerequisites, a total of 64 Nursing credits, are *then* completed over a fourteen-month period as a full-time student. The entire program will take approximately two years. Students will have spent \$40,000 dollars for the Nursing courses alone and will have earned a second bachelor's degree. I wanted to take

an opportunity to make our readers aware of an alternative to this second degree Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program. Completing the requirements for the

RN by earning an Associates Degree at a local Community College, costs approximately \$5,000 dollars and takes approximately 2 academic years. **With a bachelors degree and an RN license it is possible to enroll in Monmouth University's Bridge to the MSN program.**

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Many people are evaluating their current careers and taking a closer look at Nursing.

Please your message here. For maximum impact, use two or three sentences.

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Notes on Nursing

Student & Faculty News - Milestones

Faculty News

Assistant Professor Cira Fraser, Ph.D., RN - presented: "A Research Update on Multiple Sclerosis" at Meridian's Ann May Center for Nursing, APN Network, Jersey Shore Medical Center on January 6, 2003. She recently published, one of many co-authors, the results of a randomized, comparative study of interferon B-1a treatment regimens in MS. This work is titled "The Evidence Trial" and it appeared in the *Journal of Neurology*. She was a co-author of a Poster Presentation for the European Neurologic Society (ENS) Conference, Berlin, Germany, June 24, 2002. The presentation was on the topic of Multiple Sclerosis Nurses International Certification: Standards of Professional Nursing Practice and Patient Care.

Professor Janet Mahoney, Ph.D., RN (Acting Assistant Dean of the Graduate School) - has completed training in the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC) Curriculum and received a Certificate of Training, presented by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. The consortium was held at the Pasadena Hilton in Pasadena California Jan 15-18, 2003.

Assistant Professor Diane Meehan, Ph.D., APRN, BC - completed her Ph.D. from Adelphi University in Dec 02. Her dissertation and research was on the "The Experience of Mothering a Three to Six Year Old With Hemi Paresis." Congratulations!

Assistant Professor Sharon Stark, DNSc, APNC, RN - successfully defended her Doctoral Dissertation at Widner University in October. Her research and dissertation were on "The Effects of Clinical Nurse Specialists, Nurse Practitioner and Masters Nurse Education on Role Choices, Role Flexibility, and Practice Setting." Congratulations!



Student News

Cyndi Daullary, RN - finished her course work in School Nursing and will receive her NJ State School Nurse Certificate in January. Congratulations!

Rita Knittel, RN - finished her course work in School Nursing and will receive her NJ State School Nurse Certificate in January. Congratulations!

Noreen Schifano, RN, BSN 01 - currently enrolled in the MSN program served as a delegate of the Emergency Nurses Association's 2002 General Assembly, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Valerie Schiafone, RN - currently enrolled in the BSN program has volunteered extensively for two local organizations. For the last six years Valerie has supported Holiday Express in a variety of roles. This organization puts on about 50 concerts and holiday parties during the Christmas season at locations such as; homeless shelters, soup kitchens, The Special Olympics, and shelters for battered women. The mission of Holiday Express is to bring the gift of food, music and the spirit of giving to those less fortunate.

Valerie also helps to organize the Twilight Concert an acoustical concert which is a collaborative performance by several local artists. The concert will be held March 1st, 5pm at the St Georges Church by the River in Rumson. In it's seventh year the proceeds from this event go to St Clare's Home in Neptune City, which is part of the Aids Resource Foundation for Children. This foundation supports babies and children with AIDS or children who have lost parents to this disease. St Clare's Home is currently one of our clinical sites.

Notes on Nursing



Notes on Nursing is published three times per academic year: Fall, Winter, and Spring by the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies at Monmouth University.

We would like to hear from graduates and current students so that we may update our readers about your professional and personal achievements.

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Visit us on the web

www.monmouth.edu

Scholarship Money Available

In the past the Department of Nursing has awarded approximately \$80,000 in scholarship money annually! In February application packets will be sent to each current student. These packets contain information on University and outside scholarships. If you would like more information please contact: Dr. Janet Mahoney at (732)263-5271 or e-mail:Jmahoney@monmouth.edu.

Lambda Delta News

Notes from Dr. Janet Mahoney,
Lambda Delta Faculty Advisor 03

The next general meeting will be held on March 3, in the club at Monmouth University. Students who are interested in joining the Honor Society in Nursing are welcome to attend. The criteria for membership and applications are available in the Nursing office.

Call for Abstracts - The 13th Annual Research Day will be held at Monmouth University on May 2, 2003. The Research Committee of Lambda Delta Chapter invites submission of abstracts for lecture or poster presentation of nursing research. Send abstract, author's names, address and phone numbers to: Fiesta Clanton, 57 Alan Terrace Howell, NJ, 07731. The deadline for abstracts: March 31, 2003

Nursing Research Grant Awards - The Nursing Research Committee is pleased to offer two Nursing Research Awards, each one for up to \$500. The grants will be awarded at the 13th Annual Research Day, May 2, 2003.

Grants are available to any Registered Nurse for the purpose of financing expenses related to conducting nursing research. Applicants must submit an application and a completed research proposal (data collection may be in progress). Send request for applications to: Fiesta Clanton, 57 Alan Terrace Howell, New Jersey 07731. Application deadline: March 31, 2003

Monmouth County School Nurse Association

Wednesday, April 2, 2003- 5:30-8:30pm

MCSNA is presenting a dinner lecture in:

The Club at Monmouth University

"CHILDREN ARE DIFFERENT"

Pediatric Neurological Assessment and Case presentations by Rita Marie John, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner & Director of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program at Columbia University School of Nursing. MCSNA members \$25. Non-Members \$30. For more information call Valerie Boodghians (732)493-8451 or Lorraine Chewey (732)493-4525.

Graduating BSN and MSN Students!

If you would like a School of Nursing Pin and missed the sales representative, please contact Karen Lapenta at 732-571-3443. She can give you a contact number.

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Monmouth University's well established Bridge program is designed for Registered Nurses who hold a degree in a field other than nursing. The *only* requirements needed before entering the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program are 11 undergraduate nursing credits. The course work required for the Master's Degree consists of 39 to 44 credits (based on the area of specialization chosen).

The benefits to the bridge program and Monmouth University's MSN Program are as follows:

- The career advantages of an MSN.
- The students enjoy the flexibility of part time or full-time course work.
- The ability to select an area of specialization including:
 Adult and Family Nurse Practitioner
 Nursing Administration
 Nursing Education
 School Nursing
 Forensic Nursing

- After completing the RN in 4 semesters at the local community college (full or part-time study of approximately 50 credits) students will be able to work and receive tuition reimbursement from employers as well as scholarship monies from MU and outside sources.
- Easy transfer process because of long standing articulation agreements between local community colleges and Monmouth University.

While the Monmouth University route will take longer to complete, graduates will end up with a MSN for only a few additional credits than the second BSN degree program. The cost will be considerably less in the Monmouth University program and much of it will be offset by tuition reimbursement from your employer and Monmouth University Scholarships.

Second degree BSN Program		Community College/ Monmouth University	
Prerequisite credits	25	Prerequisites & Nursing credits	50
Nursing credits	64	MU Bridge credits	11
		MU MSN credits	39-44
Total Credits	89	Total Credits	100-105
For a Second Bachelors degree		For a Masters Degree	

For up to date information about this and other Nursing Programs contact the School of Nursing at 732-571-3694 or visit our website:www.monmouth.edu



April is Organ Donation Awareness Month

You can also get information about tissue donation by calling the Sharing Network 1-800-SHARE NJ