From the Dean’s Desk
Marilyn M. Lauria, R.N., Ed.D.

We hear a lot about the nursing shortage these days. It’s a topic that receives a great deal of media attention. Recently I was pleased to read that the public awareness of the professional nurse goes beyond staffing shortages. In a survey conducted by the Gallup Organization, respondents were asked to rate the honesty and ethics of 21 professions. The results were reported in The Orlando Business Journal in December and nurses were ranked number one by 79% of the respondents! It is nice to know that occasionally we are appreciated for what we do!!

Once again I am happy to report that the enrollment in the School of Nursing and Health Studies continues to grow. We welcome 33 additional graduate students this spring semester. Health Studies continues to be very popular, with each class offered this semester filled to capacity! While the influx of students is positive, planning for increased enrollment is a (growing) challenge. We make an effort to plan classes that meet the professional and academic needs of our students and we ask current students to assist us in the process. What can you do? Speak with your advisor before Spring break and register as soon as your schedule permits. You can register yourself on the web. At this time you will be able to register for the summer, fall and spring semester. This will allow us to plan for additional classes if needed.

We have started the on-line Forensic Nursing Certificate program; the first course was completed this past fall. This semester an on-line section of Inter-personal Violence is in progress. The SANE course, which is part of the Forensic requirements, was held as a Continuing Education class during January. We have scheduled another SANE class in June. Please see the insert of our Continuing Education programs for more details about this and the other classes that we will offer.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we are preparing for a site visit from the CCNE for re-accreditation of the BSN & MSN programs. The faculty and staff are working on the self-study report. We want to thank all who took the time to respond to our recent alumni survey. The information that you provided will be helpful in our analysis. We may call upon some students and alumni for your additional input into this process.

Please check The Monmouth University website www.Monmouth.edu for news, upcoming programs, job postings and re-accreditation news.

Weather Information - Questions about University Closing? The number for the Emergency Weather Hotline: (732) 263-5900. We are aware that many of our students travel a distance; if your class is cancelled we will make every attempt to email all students - please check your Monmouth University email account.
Welcome to Professor Marianne Darden

The School of Nursing and Health Studies welcomes Professor Marianne Darden. Marianne received her BSN from Catholic University in 1970. She went on to complete a MSN in Nursing Administration at Syracuse University in 1982 and a second Masters degree in Management from Salve Regina University, Newport, RI.

Ms. Darden holds several distinctions. She attended Catholic University along with Monmouth University’s President Paul Gaffney and she has 30 years clinical experience in Army Nursing where she obtained the rank of Colonel. She is a War College graduate and is very proud of this achievement. Marianne made the observation that her military experience broadened her knowledge in many areas and through this experience she obtained an unparalleled education. Her forte is in leadership and one of the aspects that she enjoys in the academic setting is guiding others to take on the roles and responsibilities that are an integral part of nursing. Her extensive Nursing experience includes both surgical and ambulatory services. She is a Legal Nurse Consultant associated with the ANCS of University of Pennsylvania.

Although she has traveled extensively, one of Marianne’s favorite pastimes is walking along the Jersey Shore. When time allows she enjoys baking. In fact, the faculty of the School of Nursing and Health Studies recently enjoyed the fruits of this hobby. Marianne prepared a delicious amaretto chocolate cheesecake for the first faculty meeting of the New Year. Ms. Darden claims that this cake was a Weight Watchers confection, but this writer found that hard to believe.

Milestones - Faculty News

Marianne Darden, RN, MSN, MS, CNOR, CAN, CLNC – was recertified as a legal Nurse consultant in Jan 04.

Dr. Cira Fraser – is the editor of a new publication for health care professionals caring for people with multiple sclerosis called MS Scan, BioScience Communications. The Inaugural issue was published, January 2004. "To receive this free publication provide your name, and how you would like to receive MS Scan (fax or e-mail) and provide the fax number or e-mail address to BioScience Communications: phone 212-704-4539, fax 212-704-0120, or e-mail MSscan@bioscicom.net

Laura Kelly, RN, MS, CNS, C - gave a lecture on childhood obesity to the NJHPERD organization on December 8, 2003.

Patricia Reineke, MS, RN, CSN - was the recipient of the Pauline Greenidge Scholarship, from the Division of Nursing, New York University. She was the keynote speaker for the Zeta Omega Chapter at Large of Sigma Theta Tau International, at Pace University, 12/4/03, presenting “Parents’ Belief About Managing Their Child’s Asthma.” In addition she co-authored “Preventing coronary heart disease: The implementation of healthy lifestyle strategies for children and adolescents.” In the Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing, 2003.
Students & Alumni

Jo Austin, current MSN student – has accepted the position of Clinical Director of Renal Services at Monmouth Center. Congratulations!

Jennifer Aviado-Gurico, current MSN student - was appointed nurse manager for an Orthopedics unit at Beth Israel Medical Center Singer Division. Jennifer was also the recipient of the Beatrice Renfield Award for Clinical Excellence and received the Goldstar Award for nursing excellence.

Rosemarie Decker, BSN 85 – met one of her long term goals. She is enjoying a happy productive retirement in Arizona!

Kathryn Hanna, current MSN student- is a ski Instructor for the Adaptive Sports foundation in Windham NY. This is the 2nd season that she has volunteered in this capacity! In addition she has made several scholarly presentations this year. She presented a lecture on “Communication Skills, Techniques and Conflict Resolution” at Brookdale Community College as a Continuing Education program. She also presented, “Dimensions of Leadership for Nurses” to the NJ Organization of Nurse Executives and also as a Continuing Education Program.

Kimberly Sheekey Sayne, MSN 02 – had a baby girl, Catherine Elizabeth, born on September 8, 2003. She currently holds a NP position with a local nephrology practice.

Martha Turner, current MSN student – was awarded the Centennial Scholarship from the Institute for Nursing. This award is designated for students who have demonstrated academic ability and potential for leadership.

Notes on Nursing

Lambda Delta News – Applications for membership into the Lambda Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, Int. are available in the School of Nursing and Health Studies, located on the 3rd floor of McAllan Hall. If you would like more information please contact faculty advisor, Dr. Janet Mahoney at 732-263-5271 or email jmahoney@monmouth.edu.

Monmouth University Association of Professional Nurses - The organization formally known as MUSNA (Monmouth University Student Nurses Association) has reformed with a new name and a new mission to provide Monmouth University undergraduate and graduate nursing students an opportunity to be a stronger part of the mission and governance of the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Plans are in the works for creating an interactive webspace with a discussion board, a section for news, events and links to both professional and academic sites. If you have questions or would like to offer suggestions, please contact the faculty coordinator, Dr. Diane Meehan at 732-263-5216.

Scholarship Information – If you are interested in taking a look at scholarship information, stop by the School of Nursing and Health Studies. There are packets available with extensive resources. If you have questions you may contact Dr. Janet Mahoney at (732) 263-5271 or e-mail: jmahoney@monmouth.edu.
Make a Note of these Dates

February 26, 2004  A Regional Update for School Nurses
Sponsored by the MCSNA from 4:30-7:30 pm
Speakers: Mary Suesmann, MS, RN, NCSN &
Marilyn E. Kent, MSN, RN
Place: Gibbs Hall, Fort Monmouth/Fee: $25. - includes dinner

March 22, 2004  MCSNA Meeting
Time:  7:00 pm, Wilson Auditorium
Speaker: Dr. Michael Tavil will speak on ENT issues and the
otoscopic exam.  For more information contact:
Laura Jannone at 732-263 5457.

April 8, 2004:  Health Fair
The BSN students in NU 414 will be providing a Health Fair at
Monmouth University for the campus community.  The
program will be held in Anacon Hall. For more information
contact Dr. Diane Meehan at 732-263-5216.

April 24, 2004:  Disaster Preparedness
Regional Conference of the NJ State School Nurse Association
Time:  9:00 am-4:00 pm
Speaker: Karen Farrell, RN, Med. BC.
Place: Monmouth University
For more information contact: Laura Jannone at 732-263-5457.

April 30, 2004:  Lambda Delta’s Annual Research Day
May 10, 2004:  Lambda Delta’s Annual Induction and Award Dinner
May 19, 2004:  Graduation!

June 10, 2004:  NJSNA Region 6 Annual Meeting
The History of Nursing During the Civil War Era.
Speaker: Barbara Chamberlain
Time:  6:00 pm
Place: Holiday Inn, Hope Toad, Tinton Falls

School of Nursing & Health Studies Contact Numbers
Main Number: 732-571-3443  FAX: 732-263-5131
Dean Lauria  571-3443  lauria@monmouth.edu
Karen Lapenta  571-3443  klapenta@monmouth.edu
Diane Hansen  571-3443  dhansen@monmouth.edu
Barbara Paskewich  571-3694  bpaskewi@monmouth.edu
Faculty
Prof. Darden  571-3692  mdarden@monmouth.edu
Dr. Fraser  263-5294  cfraser@monmouth.edu
Prof. Jannone  263-5457  ljannone@monmouth.edu
Prof. Kelly  263-5852  lkelly@monmouth.edu
Dr. Mahoney  263-5271  jmahoney@monmouth.edu
Dr. Meehan  263-5216  dmeehan@monmouth.edu
Prof. Reineke  263-5307  preineke@monmouth.edu
Dr. Stark  571-3691  swstark@monmouth.edu
Prof Troiano  571-4431  ntroiano@monmouth.edu