

MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
MARJORIE K. UNTERBERG
SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES
Notes on Nursing

*"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out."
~Robert Collier*

**From the Dean's Desk -
Marilyn M. Lauria, R.N., Ed.D.**

On May 20, 2008, the first seven students to walk across the stage during Monmouth University's commencement at the PNC Art Center were from the inaugural class of the Health Studies major! They were followed by seven graduates from the BSN program and fifty who had earned a Master of Science in Nursing. It was a cold and rainy day but spirits were high as family, friends and the campus community gathered to honor the milestones reached on this day. Congratulations to the class of 2008!

This year an honorary degree was awarded to Thomas I. Unterberg who was instrumental in establishing the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies (MKUSN&HS) in honor of his mother. In addition to this major contribution to nursing, he is known for his many other philanthropic activities such as supporting Monmouth Medical Center and theater arts. His wife, Ann Unterberg, is a current trustee of Monmouth University.

As the academic year ends the School is in the final stages of completing the search for the endowed Hess Chair. We are also gearing up for the summer. At

one time the University was relatively quiet in the summer, but there are now numerous courses and activities held on campus. The School is offering courses in both nursing and health studies and enrollment is very good in both areas. We are also holding several continuing education programs, the list and registration information can be found inside this newsletter.

An evening program on health careers is in the planning stages for the students who attended the nurse camps over the last three years. This will be the final nurse camp event bringing closure to a very successful program. We will continue to survey the participants regarding their academic and career interests for several years. You may remember that the goal of this camp was to create an interest and awareness about the nursing profession for young people at a time when they were beginning to explore career opportunities. Apparently the development of this program coincided with a heightened interest in nursing. There is now a waiting list to enter most nursing programs in NJ.

Congratulations to the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies Graduates 2008

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Joan Doyle
Rex David Gido
Susan Karl

Bertha Lawani
Ana Pinto
Elizabeth Zorojew

Master of Science in Nursing

Susan Adams
Louisa Akukwe
Catherine Albach-Jordan
Diane Anthony
Kathleen Bihuniak
April Bird
Maureen Bowe
Jeffery Butch
Kara Crass
Nicole Cruz
Heather Della Croce
Lorraine DeNoyelles
Christene DeWitt-Parker
Colleen Donovan
Eileen Eccleston
Debra Ann Eckel
Colleen Flusk-Manzetti

Beverly Gerberich
Victoria Hanlon
Laura Hess-Sacks
Carol Huggler
Jennifer Joiner
Laurie Jung
Eva Kucaba
Eileen Kuchinski
Nana Langworthy
Maureen Lefanto
Donna Ligor
Vicky Matthews
Bernard Nosanchuk
Carolann O'Connor
S. O'Connell-Craney
Jasmin Osol
Ann-Margaret Painter

Donna Pleus
Joni Prentice
Lisa Rizzo
Linda Robbins
Jamie Rohrbach
Karen Rooney
Marilyn Roy
Kay Scala
Karla Schultz
Antonina Shriver
Maria Smisek
Catherine Stanzione
Susan Tellone
Annette Terzo
Barbara Wyczesany
Michelle Zarzecki

School Nursing Certificate from Monmouth University

Robyn DeCicco
Margaret Fryer

Jill Generelli
Christine Leddy

School Nursing Instructional Certificate from NJ Department of Education

Kimberly Franzo
Inas Gendy
Cynthia Hoens

Marguerite Phillips
Karen Rooney
Allison Ross





Graduation!
Monmouth University
**The Marjorie K.
Unterberg School of
Nursing and
Health Studies**
PNC Arts Center
May 20, 2008





Pictured above Health Studies students: Joe Donlon, Kara O'Dell, Marissa Klein, Marion Easley, Tara Warner, Amy Hoyer, Christina Liotto, Lisa DiLeo, Janet Miller and Rylee Plitz

Milestones – The First Graduating Class - Bachelor of Science in Health Studies

Lisa Marie DiLeo

Amy Lynn Hoyer

Christina Marie Liotto

Janet Elizabeth Miller

Kara Lynn O'Dell

Rylee Erin Plitz

Tara Aileen Warner

Congratulations to the first graduating class from the Health Studies program. This new major is designed to prepare students for future careers by increasing knowledge about health and to expand interdisciplinary and comprehensive understanding of health issues.

Dr. Jim Konopack, Phd., Assistant Professor of Health Studies taught the capstone course for the students who were preparing to graduate this spring. In addition to class work which involved analysis of current health policies and the development of proposals for health-based interventions, the students completed externships in various health related organizations. According to Dr. Konopack, the externships were a tremendous benefit to the students. The lessons learned outside the classroom such as the role of the insurance industry in healthcare, patient-provider communication, health publishing and non-profit fundraising, are experiences that are best learned through experiential education. He said, "This group of students was a pleasure to work with, and they will be making positive contributions to public health and society in general in a variety of career paths."

Many of these graduates will build on the knowledge gained at Monmouth University as they go on into health related fields such as nursing, physical therapy and occupational therapy. Good luck to the first graduating class! We hope you take what you have learned to be leaders in a field that integrates health, wellness and education.

Awards and Recognition - Health Studies

Tara Warner (BS '08) - Received the Academic Excellence Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Rylee Plitz (BS '08) - Received the Leadership Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.





*Lambda Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau
Congratulations to the following students and community
leaders who were inducted in the
International Honor Society of Nursing
May 13, 2008*

Susan Adams
Esther Adekunle
Weddy Balmaceda
Kathleen Bihuniak
Claire Cerame
Donna Colabroy
Mary De Sane
Christene DeWitt-Parker
Joan Doyle
Debra Eckel

Anne Fraser
Elaine Greenberg
Victoria Hanlon
Katherine Hoos
Laurie Jung
Nicole Keegan
Andrea Krasno
Donna Ligor
Erica LoPresti
Janet Mazauskas

Debra McGrath
Teresita Medina
Judith Melillo
Ashley O'Connell
Ann-Margaret Painter
Lisa Rizzo
Allison Ross
Catherine Scucces
Antonina Shriver
Elizabeth Zorojew

Professor Joanne McGurl, RN, MSN, Instructor, Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies - received the Hannelore Sweetwood Mentorship Award at the Sigma Theta Tau Induction.

Donna Cardillo, RN, MA, professional keynote speaker, author, consultant, and coach - received the Janice Marchetti Leadership award at the Sigma Theta Tau Induction.

Rosario Sanchez, RN, current BSN student - received the Carolyn Zagury Memorial Scholarship at the Sigma Theta Tau Induction.

Barbara Paskewich, RN, MA, Special Projects Coordinator, Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies - received The Dr. Scott Eisenberg Scholarship Award at the Sigma Theta Tau Induction.

The 18th Annual Nursing Research Day of the Lambda Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International was held on May 2, in Anacon Hall, at Monmouth University. Twenty-seven posters were presented this year.

Research Poster Awards

1st Place Poster - Coping Styles in Individuals Living with Chronic Back Pain, Kara Crass, Nicole Keegan, Erica LoPresti, Bernard Nosanchuk, Cathy Pelican, and Emily Romkey

2nd Place Poster - The Coping Styles of Parents Caring for Children with Autism, Diane Anthony, Kathleen Bihuniak, Linda Robbins, and Karla Schultz



3rd Place Poster – The Experience of Coping in a Parent of a Child with Multiple Chronic Illnesses, Laura Hess-Sacks and Donna Pleus

Research Grant Award – A Comparative Study of Perceived Exercise Benefits and Barriers in Normal and Overweight 18 to 22 Years Olds - Antonina Shriver and Debra Ann Eckel

Research Grant Award – The Experience of Coping in a Mother of a Child with Autism. Lorraine De Noyelles and Shannon O'Connell-Craney



Awards and Recognition - School of Nursing

Rex David Gido (BSN '08) - Received both the Academic Excellence Award and the Service/Leadership Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Heather Della Croce (MSN '08) - Received the Academic Excellence Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Lorraine DeNoyelles (MSN '08) - Received the Academic Excellence Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Christene DeWitt-Parker (MSN '08) - Received the Academic Excellence Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Donna Pleus (MSN '08) - Received the Academic Excellence Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Karla Schultz (MSN '08) - Received the Academic Excellence Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Ann-Margaret Painter (MSN '08) - Received the Service/Leadership Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Katherine Albach-Jordan (MSN '08) - Received the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database Award.

Maureen Bowe (MSN '08) - Received the Spirit of Nursing/Army Award.

Natalie Bopp - Received the Preceptor of the Year Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Linda Geisler - Received the Preceptor of the Year Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.



Alumni Celebration 2008 **Commemorating the 25th Anniversary**



**of the first graduating class from the
Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.**

**Nursing Gala - Candlelight Dinner
and Tour of the Historic Wilson Hall
October 17, 2008, 6-9 pm**

This year the school of nursing marks 25 years since the first class of BSN students and 10 years since the first class of MSN students graduated from the School of Nursing and Health Studies. We are commemorating this occasion with a Gala to honor the alumni from the last 25 years.

To mark this occasion we will honor two outstanding alumni and seek nominations for this award. Details about the nomination process will be sent with the invitation in late August.

2008 Student Organized Health Fair

Professor McGurl's NU415 BSN students, assisted by Professor Konopack's Health Studies students organized an impressive Health Fair this year! On Thursday, May 1st the annual Health Fair sponsored by the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies and the Office of Substance Awareness took place at the Rebecca Stafford Student Center. The event's presence began outside in the commuter parking lot where the *American Red Cross* bloodmobile could be found, as 94.3 - *The Point* (WJLK) radio station rallied guests to visit the Health Fair inside. A blue and white themed Anacon Hall was the venue for more than 38 vendors who set up their exhibits to provide the Monmouth University community with free health screenings, interesting health information, and many, many giveaways.



Both community and campus related health services could be found, as nearly 300 students, faculty, administration, staff, and community members came out to visit the event. Whether it was a *free* massage, Reiki, a blood pressure or blood sugar screening or to receive valuable health education - there was something to meet everyone's needs! A special thank-you is extended to everyone who took part in making this year's Health Fair a success. Whether your part was big or small...it was appreciated. A job well done!



Faculty and alumni milestones will appear in the next newsletter. We would like to hear from you and include your "milestones". If you are a School of Nursing or Health Studies Alumni, please drop us a line. We are fishing for news. bpaskewi@monmouth.edu.

Continuing Education Programs Summer 2008

- **An Update on Diabetes Management – Dinner Lecture**

Co-sponsored with Monmouth Medical Center

June 10 (Tuesday) from 6-9pm

Fee: \$55/\$45 for MU Students and employees (*a light dinner is included*)

Contact hours have been applied for. Monmouth Medical Center is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by NJSNA an accredited approver, by the AACN's Commission on Accreditation # (P91-12/2007-2010).

- **Legal Issues for School Nurses**

June 19 (Thursday) from 5-8pm

Fee: \$50/\$40 for MU students (*a light dinner is included*)

3 Professional Development Hours (NJ Dept of Education) will be awarded - Provider number #1655

- **Substitute School Nurse Workshop**

June 24 (Tuesday) from 11:30-4pm

Fee: \$65 (*a light dinner is included*)

This program has been approved for 4 contact hours from the NJSNA, an accredited approver, by the ANCC's commission on Accreditation.

- **Psychotropic Pharmacology for Healthcare Providers**

July 16 (Wednesday) from 9-4pm

Fee: \$95 (*a light dinner is included*)

Contact hours have been applied for through the NJSNA, an approver of continuing nursing education by the ANCC's Commission on Accreditation.

For Social Work - 6 clinical CEU's will be awarded.

- **Writing Workshop: Research Papers in APA Style**

August 21 (Thursday) from 3-6pm

Fee: \$45/\$35 for MU Students

3 Professional Development Hours (NJ Dept of Education) will be awarded - Provider number #1655

For more information or to register contact the School of Nursing or visit our website
www.monmouth.edu/academics/schools/nursing/continuing_programs.asp

Please provide the following information:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Telephone _____(home) _____(work)

Email: _____

Mail to: Monmouth University, Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and
Health Studies, 400 Cedar Avenue, West Long Branch, NJ 07764