

From the Director

Dr. Diane Hunker, Ph.D., MBA, RN, *associate professor and director of nursing programs*

“We do not learn from experience. . .we learn from reflecting on experience.”

— JOHN DEWEY



► In the academic world, or at least for me, summer is the time for both personal and professional reflection. As I reflect on the remarkable accomplishments of

our faculty, staff, alumni and students, I am proud to be a part of such an amazing group of nurses. With each announcement of a student or alumnus' accomplishment, I remember why I chose to be a nurse educator and I continue to be grateful for being a small part of their professional and educational journey. With each completed project from the nursing faculty at Chatham, I marvel at what a productive group we are and am appreciative for having been a

part of these accomplishments. Outside of Chatham's boundaries, nurses are saving lives, making profound evidence-based decisions, generating science and advocating for national and global health, equity and security. Although it is easy to focus on the day to day tasks at hand, during this time of reflection the goals and accomplishments of the profession at large do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

In addition to reflection, summer is also a time for planning. Planning brings new goals and excitement to the department. Aside from the usual new academic year activities, I look forward to the launching of our new educational offerings involving the MSN program at Chatham. RNs are now being offered the option to fast track their careers by

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From the Dean



► Chatham University is undergoing a significant leadership transition this summer. Dr. Esther Barazzone, the president of Chatham is retiring at the end of June after 24 years of remarkable leadership in this position. The Board of Trustees has announced that Dr.

David L. Finegold will succeed her as the 19th president in our institution's 147-year history.

President Barazzone, who joined Chatham in 1992, has led a remarkable transformation from a small, financially struggling, undergraduate women's college to a fully coed, internationally recognized university with three distinctive schools including the School of Health Sciences; the School of Arts, Science & Business; and the Falk School of Sustainability & Environment. The School of Health Sciences has significantly evolved from Dr. Barazzone's initial vision dating back to 1994/95 when she started the physician assistant studies, physical therapy, and occupational therapy programs. It was also under her leadership that Chatham acquired the Eastside location in 2008, where the physician assistant program now resides. (www.chatham.edu/barazzone2016)

On July 1, the University welcomed Dr. David Finegold, a renowned scholar and educational innovator who has dedicated his career to education reform, the design of high-performance organizations, and research on education and skill-creation systems around the world. Dr. Finegold graduated from Harvard University and was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University where he received his DPhil in Politics. (chatham.edu/president-elect)

We wish Dr. Barazzone the best on her continued journey as we welcome our new president, Dr. Finegold.

My best to you all,
Dr. Pat Downey

Message from the Editor



The Chatham University nursing programs are pleased to share this edition of InTouch, a 2015-2016 Year in Review. This issue is being provided in a digital format to support Chatham's mission of sustainability. Keeping in line with the theme of reflection and planning, this issue provides a summary of activities and accomplishments for the last academic year, faculty spotlights, current student and alumni achievements, and information regarding an upcoming event sponsored by Chatham University's Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau, Chi Zeta Chapter. Enjoy!

Best Regards,
Dr. Meigan Robb

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

Kathleen C. Spadaro, PhD, PMHCNS, RN, assistant professor



► Dr. Kathleen Spadaro has been in the nursing profession for 39 years. Her educational training consists of an AAS in Nursing and BSN from Marymount University, MEd in Mental Health Counseling from the University of Virginia, and Ph.D. in Nursing from the University of Pittsburgh. Her professional experiences span across multiple environments: clinical, administrative, research,

and academia. In addition, Dr. Spadaro is certified as a Psychiatric and Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist. Based on her training as a specialist, she has previously developed mental health clinics, intensive outpatient and partial hospitalization programs, and adult inpatient programs. She currently maintains a part-time private practice in Murrysville, PA providing psychotherapy services to adolescents, adults, and elderly adults.

Dr. Spadaro joined Chatham University in 2010. She is full time faculty for the DNP and MSN programs, and her scholarship focuses on mindfulness meditation in healthcare and excellence in nursing education. To acknowledge academic excellence, she spearheaded the development of a university nursing

honor society that became an official STTI chapter in 2014. She has been a member of Chatham's IRB board since 2013 and recently accepted the chair position. Using previous career skills, she led the development of two new tracks in the MSN program, and a certificate option to meet the needs of nurses and the healthcare industry.

Chatham University nursing programs would like to acknowledge Dr. Kathleen Spadaro for being nominated for the 2016 Cameos of Caring® Nurse Educator Award. The future of nursing relies on the quality of instruction nursing students receive from today's expert nurse educators. Dr. Spadaro will be honored at the yearly Cameos of Caring Gala at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh on November 5, 2016. It is anticipated more than 1,000 hospital CEOs, CFOs, administrators and nursing professionals will attend the esteemed event.

Betty Robison, MSN, RN, adjunct professor

► As a young nurse, Betty Robison would often look at the charts of older adults and wonder why they were not improving or why they were so confused. At that time little was known about the effect of medications on the older adult and delirium was never spoken of. These experiences led way to Betty's career long passion for geriatrics and improving geriatric care.

Betty earned her BSN from California University, MSN from Waynesburg University, and has maintained gerontological nursing board certification since 1997. In reflection Betty notes, "I was a geriatric nurse when geriatric nursing wasn't cool!" Betty's professional experiences include: home health, acute care, and long-term care. Betty is employed at the Aging Institute of UPMC where she creates educational programs for employees within and outside of the organization's system.

In addition to working at the Aging Institute, she has been serving in the role of an adjunct faculty member in the RN-BSN program since 2007. Julie

Slade, RN-BSN program coordinator, describes Betty as a tremendous asset, "Betty provides faculty and students with geriatric expertise and has opened the door to many practice experience opportunities for our students." Because of Betty's dedication to improving geriatric care, she was recently awarded the 2016 Geriatric Teacher of the Year award from the Pennsylvania Geriatrics Society Western Division.

In Betty's continued pursuit of improving geriatric care, she and her husband created a nursery business Robison Acres (www.robisonacres.com). At Robison Acres there is a strong commitment to the environment, growing pesticide free plants, and educating the public on pollinator friendly gardens. Also offered at the nursery are programs on healing and therapeutic gardening in the healthcare field, including creating gardening opportunities for Alzheimer's patients.

RECENT FACULTY AND STAFF SCHOLARSHIP

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Doas, M. (2016). Psychiatric nursing medication administration: Is it just a med pass? *Annals of Psychiatry and Mental Health*, 4(1).

BenDavid, D. N., **Hunker, D. F.**, & **Spadaro, K. C.** (2016). Uncovering the golden veil: Applying the evidence for telephone screening to detect early postpartum depression. *The Journal of Perinatal Education*, 25(1), 37-45.

Rittle, C. (2015). Multicultural nursing: Providing better employee care. *Workplace Health & Safety*, 63(12), 532-538.

Rittle, C. (2016). Recommended vaccines for adults – A quick update for 2016. *American Nurse Today*, 11(2).

Robb, M., & Fisher, MD. (2015). Functionality tools: Time management approaches for facilitating an on-line course in Moodle. *Teaching and Learning in Nursing*, 10, 196-199.

Robb, M. (2016). Self-regulated learning: Examining the baccalaureate millennial nursing student's approach. *Nursing Education Perspectives*, 37(3), 162-164.

Shellenbarger, T., & **Robb, M.** (2016). Effective mentoring in the clinical setting: Strategies for clinical instructors and preceptors. *American Journal of Nursing*, 116(4), 64-68.

Lee, M., & **Sherrod, B.** (2015). Improving patients' knowledge about kidney failure. *Nursing2015: Critical Care*, 10(1), 41-48.

Goda, T., **Sherrod, B.**, & Kindell, L. (2015). An interdisciplinary education initiative to promote blood conservation in cardiac surgery. *Journal for Healthcare Quality*. doi: 10.1097/01.JHQ.0000462687.63006.48.

Mallisham, S., & **Sherrod, B.** (2016). The spirit and intent of motivational interviewing. *Perspectives in Psychiatric Care*. doi: 10.1111/ppc.12161.

Spadaro, K.C., & Hunker, D.F. (2016). Exploring the effects of an online asynchronous mindfulness meditation intervention with nursing students on stress, mood, and cognition: a descriptive study. *Nurse Education Today*, 39, 163-169.

Sterrett, S. (2015). Interprofessional learning as a third space: Rethinking health profession students' development and identity through the concepts of Homi Bhabha. *Humanities*, 4, 653-660.

Goreczny, A. Bednarek, M., Hawkins, S., Hertweck, M., Schreiber, J., & **Sterrett, S.** (2016). Assessing self-reported interprofessional competency in health-care education: Impact of new curriculum. *International Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*, 14(3).

Wolf, D., & Olszewski, K. (2015). Boot camp for OHNs: Understanding social media. *Workplace Health & Safety*. 63(8), 62-67.

Wolf, D., Wenskovitch, J. & Anton, B. (2016). Social media and nurses: Does age, years of experience and education level make a difference? *Journal of Nursing Education and Practice*, 6(2), 68-75.

Invited Book Reviews

Hopkins, E. (2016). Inventing baby food: Taste, health, and industrialization of the American diet [Invited Book Review]. *Journal of Economic History*, 76(1), 268-269

Faculty Podium, Poster Presentations, Webinars, Workshops

Doas, M. (2016). *How do Social Determinants Drive Health Inequities in the Mental Health Population?* Podium Presenter at the Cultural Inclusion Institute, University of Texas Health Science Center: Relating Cultural Inclusiveness to Social Determinants of Health, San Antonio, Texas.

Ambrose, H., **Fisher, MD.**, Weyant, D. & **Sterrett, S.** (2016). *Connecting the Dots: Interprofessional Collaborative Practice; Patient and Family Satisfaction Scores; and Implications for Practice*. Poster presentation at the CHP 7th Pediatric Nursing Conference, Pittsburgh, PA

Fisher, MD., Sterrett, S., Weyant, D. & Ambrose, H. (2016). *Perceptions of Interprofessional Collaborative Practice and the Correlation with Patient and Family Satisfaction Scores*. Podium presentation at the Sigma Theta Tau 43rd Biennial Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Hopkins, E. (2015). *Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate: A Comprehensive Review*. Podium presentation at the International Society of Nursing in Genetics World Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Rittle, C. (2016). *Managing Occupational Health Projects*. Podium presentation at the AAOHN National Conference, Jacksonville, FL.

Rittle, C. (2016). *Project Management How To's for the OHN*. Webinar presentation for the AAOHN Webinar Series.

RECENT FACULTY AND STAFF SCHOLARSHIP

Rittle, C. (2016). *Updates in Adult Immunizations, Vaccine Storage & Handling*. Webinar presentation for the AAOHN Webinar Series.

Shellenbarger, T., & **Robb, M.** (2015). *Engaging Students in Nursing Research with Mobile Technology*. Podium presentation at the National League for Nursing and Elsevier Technology Conference, Tampa, FL.

Shellenbarger, T., & **Robb, M.** (2015). *Jackpot! Strategies for Promoting Effective Digital Learning Communities*. Podium presentation at the National League for Nursing Education Summit, Las Vegas, NV.

Robb, M., & Spadaro, K. (2016). *Thinking Outside of the Paper Binder: ePortfolio use in Graduate Nursing Education*. Poster presentation at the AACN Master's Education Conference, Houston, TX.

Shellenbarger, T., & **Robb, M.** (2016). *Beyond the Classroom Walls: Approaches to Improve Online Student Engagement and Clinical Evaluation Practices*. Workshop delivered at the West Virginia League for Nursing Annual Meeting, Bridgeport, WV.

Shellenbarger, T., & **Robb, M.** (2016). Making Technology Part of Your Teaching Toolkit. Workshop delivered at the ANCC Symposium on CNE, Pittsburgh, PA.

Slade, J. (2016). *Identifying the Differences (and Similarities) between Hospice and Palliative Care*. Poster presentation at the League of Intravenous Therapy Education Vascular Access Network (LITEVAN) 2016 Annual Education Conference, Farmington, PA.

Slade, J. (2016). *Culture, Menstruation, and Women's Health*. Poster presentation at the Association for Women in Psychology 2016 Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.

Wolf, D. (2015). *Big Data: Where is Nursing?* Invited speaker at Geisinger Health System's Advance Practice Nursing Conference, Dansville, PA.

Wolf, D., & Olszewski, K. (2015). *Social Media Integration into Occupational Health*. Invited speaker at the Susquehanna Valley Association of Pennsylvania Occupational Health Nurses (SVAPOHN).

Wolf, D., Anton, B., & Wenskovitch, J. (2015). *Quality Education: An Important Key to the Effective Use of Social Media by the Engaged Patient*. Podium presentation at the HIMSS Patient Engagement National Summit, San Diego, CA.

Wolf, D., & Olszewski, K. (2016). *Improving Health Outcomes: Utilizing Social Media and Mobile Applications in the Occupational Health Clinic*. Workshop delivered at the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses 2016 National Conference Jacksonville, FL.

Wolf, D., & Olszewski, K. (2016). *#SOCIALMEDIABOOTCAMP*. Podium presentation at the Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry Workers' Compensation Conference, Hershey, PA.

Wolf, D. (2016). *Big Data: Where is nursing?* Invited keynote speaker at the Geisinger Health System's Nurse's Week Conference: Potpourri of Nursing Topics, Dansville, PA.

Wei, Z., **Wu, H.**, Yan, S., Qian, Y., & Zhuang, Q. (2016). *Interprofessional Care in Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension Patient: A Case Analysis*. Podium presentation at the 10th Oriental Congress of Cardiology, Shanghai, China.

Wu, H., LaRue, E., & Borruso, C. (2016). *Ten Roles of Informatics Nurse Specialists (INSS) in Implementing Electronic Health Record (EHR) Systems*. Podium presentation at the 11th International Symposium on Healthcare Information Management, Tainan, Taiwan.

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earning an MSN degree through the RN-MSN track. Also, baccalaureate prepared nurses can now consider the option of developing their leadership skills by enrolling in the BSN-DNP track. Lastly, a certificate in nursing education is now an option for RNs who want to develop the skill-sets of an educator. As you can tell, the nursing faculty at Chatham have spent a considerable amount of time planning exciting initiatives to promote both the nursing workforce and the future of nursing.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the InTouch Nursing Newsletter and join me in reflection and planning as we review the past and look to the future of Chatham nursing.

Sincerely,
Dr. Diane Hunker

Heading the Call: Nursing Faculty Impacting Health Outcomes both Locally and Nationally

► The Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, explicitly describes the need for nurses to lead care coordination efforts, and advocate for strong community collaboration to promote population health. Nursing faculty at Chatham University took heed to this call and sought opportunities to become involved in healthcare redesign efforts at both the local and national level. Dr. Sue Sterrett is part of a group of individuals who have identified a need to develop and implement community health initiatives. The group is comprised of the Dean of Health Sciences, faculty from nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, counseling psychology, and the physician assistant studies programs.

Recently these individuals have been working with Homewood Renaissance to develop health and wellness programs. Homewood, located just a few blocks from Chatham Eastside in Pittsburgh, is a predominately low-income community. Due to the organizational efforts of the group Dr. Sterrett is part of, the local football team – the Homewood Bulldogs

– were offered free sports physicals as well as agility training and concussion screening last summer. Dr. Sterrett notes the efforts could not have been initiated without the collaborative help of Chatham students, faculty, and two UPMC physicians. The group also organized the involvement of counseling psychology students and faculty who led discussions on post-traumatic stress with a group of high school students who experienced violent crimes. Building on the success of previous initiatives, plans are underway to offer a health fair in a senior housing facility in the near future. To further advocate for strong community support, Dr. Sterrett hopes to develop a community board to guide health and wellness initiatives as well as a Photovoice research project identifying the community's view of their health needs.

On a national level, Dr. Chad Rittle is currently serving as an American Nursing Association (ANA) liaison representative to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The ACIP meets three times a year at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). As an ANA liaison, Dr. Rittle,

presents a nursing perspective at ACIP meetings and prepares summary reports of the proceedings for the ANA and other interested parties. Since taking this position in 2014, Dr. Rittle has participated in monthly ACIP work-group meetings. The Work-Group reviews new recommendations approved by the ACIP and discusses how to best present the annual schedule and explanatory footnotes to facilitate education of all providers – physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and the general public. To further advance population health on a national level, Dr. Rittle recently participated in the National Immunization Summit. The focus of the event was to identify best educational techniques to increase immunization rates among healthcare providers and the adult population. Dr. Rittle will continue to develop the work started at the summit by working with the newly formed Influenza Workgroup to develop an agenda and priorities for educating physicians and nurses.



It Takes a Team: Professional Health Science Recruiter for Online Programs Joins Chatham



► The growth of online nursing programs has created a surge in interested individuals submitting inquiries to learn about program requirements and admission procedures. Working as a collaborative team has yielded fruitful results starting with student procurement and carrying through with student retention. Melissa Dunn BSN, RN, OCN has recently joined the team as the Professional Health Sciences Recruiter for Online Programs. Prior to joining Chatham, Melissa – an alumna of Chatham University's RN-BSN program – worked as an oncology nurse for 13 years within the UPMC

Programs. Prior to joining Chatham, Melissa – an alumna of Chatham University's RN-BSN program – worked as an oncology nurse for 13 years within the UPMC

system. Throughout her tenure as a collaborative practice nurse, Melissa always encouraged her co-workers and the students she precepted to demonstrate the principles of life-long learning. When asked about her vision for her role as a professional recruiter Melissa stated, "I am very happy to work in an environment that values forward-thinking and innovative ideas in education and allows change that will benefit perspective students. I look forward to working with nurses to achieve their goals, and collaborating with employers and nursing organizations to promote Chatham's nursing programs and open doors."

MSN INTERNATIONAL TRACK

Second Cohort Celebrates MSN Program Graduation

Debra M. Wolf, Ph.D., RN, *assistant director of nursing programs, associate professor of nursing & international nursing coordinator*

► On August 18, 2016, Chatham University nursing program celebrated the second international cohort of Chinese nurses to graduate with their Masters of Science in Nursing (MSN) education. The nurses arrived in fall of 2015, with limited to little knowledge of life in the United States. Over the past 12 months, the students have strengthened their understanding and use of the English language, endured the American culture, and embraced opportunities to further their knowledge and experience regarding healthcare in the U.S. In April, each member of the international 2016 graduating class was inducted into Chatham's chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International, Chi Zeta.

Completion of the MSN degree required students to follow a full time schedule, taking four courses a term over three terms. During course related activities, the students visited several medical facilities including UPMC Telehealth Services; UPMC East, Center for Technology; and Wisner Center for simulation. In addition, each student worked closely with an assigned preceptor who guided them through 250 hours of practice experiences and opportunities to further their nursing knowledge.

In between terms, many students traveled the states, visiting Washington, D.C, New York, Boston, Florida, and California. Key attractions visited included Disneyland, the White House, Yellowstone National Park, and the Golden Gate Bridge. When asked what they enjoyed the most, one stated "I loved the Washington Monument, for it symbolized the gigantic nation." While the students enjoyed their time of study at Chatham University, they were eager to return to China to begin utilizing the new skill-sets they acquired through completing their MSN.



International Alumni Group Launched

Debra M. Wolf, Ph.D., RN, *assistant director of nursing programs, associate professor of nursing & international nursing coordinator*

In spring 2016, Chatham University officially launched its first international alumni group. The international Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) education graduates met to discuss the feasibility of hosting an alumni group in Shanghai, China. Twenty of the twenty-one 2015 graduates gathered to reminisce and share stories of their role as a MSN prepared nurse educator since returning to China. Many graduates shared the promotions received, presentations completed, awards obtained and articles published. The reunion was the first time several of the graduates had seen each other since returning to China.

Stephanie Adamczyk, director of graduate alumni relations and giving, stated "This is the first time in the history of Chatham that an international alumni group has been organized." Plans are currently underway to identify key alumni in China to spearhead this chapter. The alumni chapter will strive to provide educational, networking and peer-to-peer opportunities to support the alumni in their professional growth. In November, the international alumni will host its second event in Shanghai where alumni will welcome the most recent MSN nursing graduates of 2016 class. As of August, 2016, the alumni chapter will consist of 29 members.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

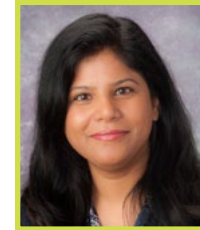


RN-BSN Student Makes Impact on Community

► Devin Corboy, BSN '16 competitive cyclist and nurse in the PICU at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, knew that after the 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit Nepal in April 2015 he had to help the people affected. In May 2015 Devin became a spontaneous, unaffiliated volunteer and embarked on a self-funded medical mission trip. He collaborated with New Hope Society (a local Nepali NGO), and worked with the medical team at Bhaktapur Community Health Clinic providing care to nearly 1,000 men, women, and children under extreme conditions with little supplies. He also volunteered to deliver much needed supplies to a village in the Everest mountain region, covering 20 miles and gains in altitude upward of 4,000 meters (13,123 feet) on foot in record time. Devin returned home knowing that his mission was not complete. In November 2015 he and his wife joined All Hands' (a US-based disaster relief nonprofit) Project Nepal, taking skills and supplies to the hard hit Nuwakot region. Devin was appointed First Aid and Medical Curriculum Coordinator by the Project Director. While there he aided in demolition and rebuilding efforts while providing medical education and care to those in need. Devin ended this mission knowing that he would do more. While reflecting on his experience Devin stated, "I never felt as empowered and fulfilled as I did during my time treating the people in Nepal."

When Devin completes the RN-BSN program at the end of summer 2016. Devin hopes to utilize his expanded knowledge of global diversity, electronic health resources, and leadership to support international health by connecting rural areas to first world medicine. Currently Devin and his wife are working on their goal to raise funds to build a primary school and community health clinic in a small village in Tanzania. His goal is to bring telehealth to remote villages and provide access to care to people that need it the most.

DNP Student Receives First Place Award for Excellence in Aging Research



► Aparna Gupta, a current Chatham University DNP student, was recently awarded for her efforts in addressing depression amongst the elderly population by the Aging Institute and University

of Pittsburgh. Aparna, along with a group of collaborating clinicians, implemented and evaluated a QI project assessing the effectiveness of multimodal strategies to increase utilization of a collaborative depression care protocol in the primary care setting. Findings of the project yielded a 3-fold improvement in process measures. Aparna's expertise as an advanced practice nurse has provided a strong foundation for many QI initiatives ranging from chairing an inaugural Transforming Care at The Bedside (TCAB) inpatient pilot project to demonstrated improvement in interdisciplinary care of the elderly in a Medical Home setting. Aparna, who is slated to graduate in May 2017, plans to direct her professional efforts as a DNP prepared nurse to lead improvement processes aimed at achieving quality measures for value based, cross continuum care as well as patient safety and quality in organizational operations.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Outstanding Black MBA of the Year Awarded to Current DNP Student



► Marylyn Harris, a current Chatham DNP student, was chosen as the *Outstanding Black MBA of the Year* by the National Black MBA Association (NBMBAA). Marylyn was selected out of 9000 candidates in 46 chapters across the U.S. and Europe.

The award exemplifies the mission of the NBMBAA regarding individuals who demonstrate a commitment to the principles that build leadership and lifelong learning while exemplifying a high standard of ethics personally and organizationally. Marylyn dedicated her award “to others from diverse backgrounds with “Big Dreams” who are committed to a legacy of servant leadership and making a difference in the communities they live, work and serve.” Prior to receiving the NBMBAA award Marylyn was recognized by her alma mater, the University of Texas (Houston) School of Nursing as a *Distinguished Nurse Alumni*. Marylyn’s extensive expertise as an entrepreneur and business consultant is evident through her founding of the Harland Healthcare Consulting Firm in 2007 and the country’s first Women Veterans Business Center in Houston in 2010. Upon completion of her studies at Chatham Marylyn plans to continue embodying the goals she has set for herself as a DNP prepared psychiatric nurse practitioner, a former army nurse and disabled war veteran.

HONOR SOCIETY

Chi Zeta Chapter: Passing the Leadership Torch

Michelle Doas, EdD, RN,
associate professor of nursing, previous Chi Zeta Chapter president



Sigma Theta Tau International
Honor Society of Nursing
Chi Zeta Chapter

The Chi Zeta chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) experienced another successful year of supporting the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses. Chi Zeta is proud to share that membership retention rates have exceeded the national average by 25%. To date Chi Zeta has over 140 active members. This growth has brought about a diverse group of members that possess strong leadership skills noted by the 2016 elections for president (Seun Ross), vice president (Kadesha Clark), treasurer (Kamala Devivo), counselor (Jasmine Garces-King), and web editors (Amber Henry and Kristina Lee). New officer transitions occurred on July 1, 2016.

Chi Zeta provides many opportunities for membership involvement in leadership, scholarship, and community service. The chapter website can be found at chizeta.nursingsociety.org. If you are a member of STTI but not part of Chatham University’s Chi Zeta chapter, please consider joining our current membership by contacting STTI Membership Services at 888-634-8174 or memserv@stti.iupui.edu.

Save the Date: Current Updates on Immunizations

Planning ahead, the next Chi Zeta chapter event will occur on Oct. 26, 2016. The event will include a live presentation on Chatham’s Eastside campus as well as a video link uploaded to the Chi Zeta website for virtual viewing. The event is open to all Chatham students, community, and community members. The keynote speaker is Dr. Chad Rittle who will share the most current updates on Immunizations. Dr. Rittle serves on a CDC board and has several published articles related to this topic. Please check the Chi Zeta website for updates on this free educational event. Please plan to join your colleagues for an evening of professional networking. Light refreshments will be served. Stay tuned for additional information and registration.

NURSING PROGRAM GRADUATES

We are pleased to extend our congratulations to the following Chatham University nursing programs students that received a degree conferral in this past academic year.

AUGUST 2015

BSN

Shannon Bigelow
Robin Ceccarelli
Kelly Dorsch
Nicole Fairbaugh
Tara Hughey
Kim Le
Caroline McGreevey
Jennifer Meier
Stephanie Polaski
Victoria Reifer
Josephine Rekasie
Melissa Rupert
Kristina Stock
Nichele Washington

DNP

Charles Besong
Rachel Boyd
Robin Chianumba
Denise De La Rosa
Ernestine Enohmbi
Jeanne Franza
David Free
Kimberlee Hunsaker
Gloria Ikechukwu
Denise Keegan
Mary Kibble-Leu
Edward Lopez
Mary-Jane Maloney
Steven Marks
Julie Martin
Kenyatta Merriweather
Melanie Morehead

Amy Offret
Michael Perry
Barbara Rahman
Tracy Riddle
Jacquelyn Stovall
Laura Thompson
Alice Ukaegbu
Rose Valentino
Michael Zielinski

DECEMBER 2015

BSN

Jamie Briscoe
Kathleen Chuckro
(Vogelsberger)
Diana Keenan
Ashley Kochis
Margaret Krellner
Dustin Manwill
Elyse Miele
Nicole Nolla
Holly Novacek
Courtney Penick
Haley Sass
Michael Sinclair
Hannah Staley
Heather Walker

MSN

Lynn Belice
Chelsea Mehalic
Carmen Ogradnik
Kyle Walkiewicz
Cheryl Wynn

DNP

Nkiru Avidime Ibrahim
Devin Bailey
Danielle Cady
Eun Choi
Catherine Christenson
Emelinda Comer
Giuseppina Gaglio
Bethany Gillis
Erica Henry
Carylin Holsey
Nadirah Keith
Danielle Koman
Tammy Lipke
Dora Martin
Rosanne Mattiace
Amarachi Ogbonnaya-Akpa
Ijeoma Okeke
Nicholas Reeder
Ellen Sanborn
Nicole Sinkler
Wanda Staab
LaDonna Thomas
Jennifer Wasco
Raymond Zakhari

MAY 2016

BSN

Dorothy Birkner
Ashley Boehm
Alexandra Botti
Jonathan Crossett
Jessica Dunn
David Huber

Traci Karan
Ashlee Kenny
Melissa Krebs
Dori Kuchta
Bradley Lehn
Socheat Long-Elliott
Valerie McConnell
Catherine Okyere
Tobi Ressler
Bernadette Stewart
Andrew Tamburino
Stephanie Tangara
Ashley Veith
Auriel Vesic
Hailey Vroman
Andrea Wearden

MSN

Nicoletta Blaise

DNP

Hermina Antwi-Boasiako
Gail Bader
Joan Bennett
Jody Brown
Laura Cohen
MaryGrace Courreges
Ann Marie D'Angelo
Aine Donohue
Amanda Federovich
Debra Furtado
Shanna Greminger
Terry Guyton-Smith
Bonnie Hammack
Sameerah Harris
Amber Henry

Angela Holman
Julie Iglar
Alfred Imbody
Jaye Krubally
Dana Meadows
April Morris
Abimbola Ogunleye-Kolawole
Kathleen O'Neill
Nancy O'Neill
Julie Petsche
Mary Printz
Georgina Rotzler
Danielle Saunier
Shobha Solomon
Maria Tuason
Jessica Walsh
Brent Wetendorf

AUGUST 2016

International MSN

Wei Dai
LingLing Jiang
LiJun Liu
JiaQi Ni
Lei Shao
YiTing Sheng
ZhaoLing Wei
YiXin Zha

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Advancing the Treatment of Newborns in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit



► Dr. Mary Puchalski, DNP '14, has worked as a staff nurse in all areas of the maternal-child nursing specialty, including mother/baby, labor and delivery, neonatal intensive care, pediatrics, and pediatric

intensive care. While a student in Chatham's Doctorate of Nursing Practice program Dr. Puchalski directed her scholarly efforts towards addressing the problem of neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS). The work she completed while implementing

and evaluating her evidence-based project served as the foundational starting point for combating NAS in the state of Illinois. The office of women's health and family services, at the Illinois department of public health has recently been charged by the Illinois general assembly to form a perinatal advisory committee to address the problem of NAS. The call for action includes the developing of protocols for training hospital personnel in implementing an appropriate and uniform process for identifying and treating NAS. Dr. Puchalski was appointed to the committee "as the nurse with expertise" in the

treatment of newborns in the neonatal intensive care unit. In addition to her work in Illinois at the state level, Dr. Puchalski is a clinical assistant professor and director of the neonatal nurse practitioner (NNP) program at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing and holds a clinical position as a NNP in Rush University Medical Center's level IV NICU. She is the coauthor of the N-PASS: Neonatal Pain, Agitation and Sedation Scale and presents nationally on neonatal topics.

DNP Alumni Serve as Leaders for Professional Nursing Organizations

► In hallmark reports the Institute of Medicine (IOM) has focused attention on the need for leadership in nursing, in which best prepared nurses function in key leadership positions and participate in executive decisions. With doctorate of nursing practice (DNP) prepared nurses at the forefront of leading change in healthcare, nurses need to become involved in professional organizations that focus attention on developing clinical competency, leadership skills, and life-long learning habits.

Two Chatham DNP alumni are currently serving as leaders for professional nursing organizations. Dr. Linda Lakdawala, DNP '10, is currently serving as the President for the American Board of Perianesthesia

Nursing Certification, INC (ABPANC). The mission of ABPANC "is to assure a certification process for perianesthesia nurses that validates knowledge gained through professional education and experience, ultimately promoting quality patient care." For more information on how to become involved with ABPANC, visit cpncapa.org.

Likewise, Dr. Kristen Straka, DNP '11, is currently serving as the President of the Society of Pediatric Nurses (SPN). The mission of SPN "is to advance the specialty of pediatric nursing through excellence in education, research and practice." For more information on how to become involved with SPN visit www.pedsnurses.org.

Please keep the Chatham University nursing programs updated with your achievements – we would like to share your scholarly work and projects with the Chatham University community. Send your stories, news, and publications to sharding@chatham.edu.

Do you have professional news? Are you interested in accessing the online directory? In order to get the most up to date information from your alma mater, please be sure to keep your contact information updated with the Office of Alumni Relations.

Keep in touch with Chatham and your classmates by visiting chatham.edu/alumni. There you can become a member of the alumni directory, view and share classnotes, as well as register and pay for events online! Contact alumni@chatham.edu for your unique ID needed to login!

PRECEPTOR SPOTLIGHT

Janet Cipkala-Gaffin, Ph.D., RN

Jennifer Wasco, DNP, RN, *nursing practice experience coordinator*



► The benefits of being a nursing preceptor are rewarding in many ways, both personally and professionally - just ask Dr. Janet Cipkala-Gaffin, who is a nurse scientist in the department of nursing and education research at UPMC Shadyside in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Cipkala-Gaffin, who has her master's degree in psychiatric nursing and doctorate in epidemiology from UCLA, has been a preceptor for the Chatham University International MSN Program for two academic years.

Dr. Cipkala-Gaffin states "I have learned as much or more from them than they have from me" when questioned why she takes on voluntary role as a nursing preceptor. She further explains, that it very rewarding to see fellow colleagues

from around the world develop and grow to reach their professional potential. It is a time for mutual learning and allows for continued life-long learning.

Dr. Cipkala-Gaffin often continues professional relationships as a mentor with the students after they have finished the program and return to China. As an example, she is currently supporting a project to apply best practices for identifying and reducing post-operative delirium in the hospitals the graduates are employed in Shanghai and Beijing. She continues with "the international students that have been accepted to the Chatham University MSN program are responsible, dependable and scholarly - not to continue with a professional relationship which allows both parties an immersion in each other's cultural diversity would be disappointing."

Precepting: A Rewarding Experience

Precepting is a formal arrangement between a novice and an experienced person for a defined period. Preceptors serve as role models working in a collaborative fashion with the student towards meeting established program goals.

Precepting is an immensely rewarding experience for both the student and preceptor. It is also an essential component to nursing education. The identification of preceptors grows increasingly difficult as competition for practice experience sites increase and doctorally prepared nurses are not yet vast in number. Take a moment to reflect on your practice experience preceptor and the valuable experience they provided. Please consider donating your time and knowledge to advance the field of nursing through precepting for Chatham University nursing programs.

As a preceptor, you are required to sign a student-preceptor agreement, provide a copy of your CV and your professional license number for verification and approval.

If you are interested in precepting, please contact Jennifer Wasco, DNP, RN, practice experience coordinator, at jwasco@chatham.edu or 412-365-1378.



DNP On-Campus Residency Recap

► Chatham University's School of Health Sciences Doctor of Nursing Practice program prepares nurses to practice as experts in the promotion and use of evidence-based practice in health care delivery systems. Twice per year - in the spring and the fall - DNP students from around the country gather on Chatham University's Shadyside Campus for a two-day retreat to share their evidence-based practice change projects in the format of a professional poster presentation. During this time, the faculty and staff, peers, colleagues, and the healthcare community learn more about each student's clinical and educational endeavors through an interactive dialogue. This year a total of 89 DNP students attended the required event.