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Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research
Center for Gerontologic Nursing Science
Center for Health Disparities Research
Biobehavioral Research Center
Center for Transitions and Health
Bringing New LIFE to West Philadelphia

On May 1, the University of Pennsylvania, the School of Nursing, and West Philadelphia community members gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the newly renovated, 50,000 square-foot Living Independently for Elders (LIFE) facility at 4508 Chestnut Street. The new LIFE center incorporates two former sites at 41st Street and Woodland Avenue and 38th and Market Streets. Since opening in 1998, the LIFE program has grown from eight members to 300 and can accommodate 500. Based on the national PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) model, LIFE provides nursing home-level care during the day, enabling frail, older adults to continue to live at home while receiving medical and dental care in a social environment. There is a hairdresser on site, a chapel, nationally-recognized art therapy, and a potpourri of other services.

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Welcome to the Fall 2007 issue of our UPfront magazine and welcome to another transformational year at Penn Nursing. In this issue, we will discuss the role our research centers have played in revolutionizing our School.

What are research centers; why do nursing schools develop research centers; why does the discipline of nursing need them; who are the members of such centers; how different are the centers from departments, divisions, and University institutes; and what are some outcomes of such centers? This issue of UPfront will answer some of these questions and help shed some light on the growing presence of research centers in schools of nursing.

Investing in research centers is investing in advancing knowledge, in developing science, in training future generations of scientists, and most importantly, in providing quality care based on evidence. We have taken the need for this investment very seriously by establishing connections over many years, with University of Pennsylvania at-large research institutes and centers and by establishing six research centers at our School.

Our School, one of twelve on the Penn campus, gives faculty options and opportunities to benefit from the exceptional academic and scientific resources of many of the University’s schools. Our faculty are active partners and members of a number of leading interdisciplinary University-wide research institutes, such as The Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, the Abramson Family Cancer Research Institute, and the Institute on Aging. Equally as important, many of our faculty co-lead or are members of research centers housed in other schools. Two examples are the Center for Sleep Research and Neurobiology and the Firearm & Injury Center at Penn, both of which are primarily housed in the School of Medicine.

The Penn environment that supports and promotes this extraordinary interdisciplinarity is reflected in how we conduct our business in our School. Our two divisions are administrative units organized to promote the development of the quality of teaching, scholarship, and research activities of their faculty members and to foster the welfare of the faculty, especially with regard to balancing the execution of teaching, research, and practice missions. The Biobehavioral and Health Sciences Division, led by Dr. Terri Weaver, houses faculty with interests in physiology, sleep, pain management, violence, transitional care, gerontological science, eating behaviors, outcomes research, and other aspects of adult health and illness within complex health systems. The Family and Community Health Division, led by Dr. Lois Evans, brings together faculty with expertise in women’s health, nursing of children, mental health, primary care, and community health. Together, our division members carry the responsibilities for teaching across all programs and in all specialties. They not only develop, but also help translate knowledge into teaching and clinical care.

Our research centers have different but complementary missions to our divisions. As the number of scientists increased, as paradigms that drive the research enterprise in nursing were articulated, and as the nursing perspective and domain became well defined, it became apparent that individual research trajectories would not fast track knowledge development in nursing. Advancing science requires dedicated communities of scholars with similar expertise, a shared vision about a field of investigation, opportunities for critical dialogues, pooling of resources, coherent frameworks, and collaboration and support in building methods and research techniques.

Research centers provide all of this by bringing together thought leaders to mentor and train others and to articulate research findings coherently toward translating knowledge into practice and changing policies. Single researchers develop programs of research, while centers connect programs, deepen and enrich findings, foster interconnectivity between findings and investigators, and promote schools of thought that tend to create turning points in entire disciplines.

Our first research center, the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing, was established in 1985, followed by the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research and Center for Gerontologic Nursing Science. More recently, three centers were established to respond to pressing national priorities for healthcare research: the Center for Health Disparities Research (2005), the Biobehavioral Research Center (2005), and the Center for Transitions and Health (2006).

These research centers—the producers of knowledge—are committed to addressing complex issues facing health systems, healthcare providers, and caregivers around the world, to translating our science into practice, to training future nurse scientists, and to fostering multidisciplinary partnerships among our scholars and others from a variety of interest areas.

These centers have contributed to many national dialogues, providing the base for some turning points in the policies related to staffing ratios and work environments, care models for the elderly, preventive care strategies for vulnerable populations with HIV and AIDS, nourishment of premature babies, promoting healthy transitions for the young and the old, and enhancing safety in healthcare systems.

Research centers are dynamic and changing. They are developed and
maintained to respond to major healthcare concerns and are commonly aligned with the national priorities articulated by the National Institutes of Health, the National Institute of Nursing Research, and organizations such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Research centers require major investments in infrastructures and in training future scientists. While it is expected that all members of a center will be competitively supported with extramural funding, the infrastructure and maintenance of centers require endowments and seed money for their establishment and to continue scientific productivity in spite of decreasing external support.

Our School continues to be one of the nation’s top schools of nursing in competing for federal and state research funding. However, fluctuations in federal and state budgets threaten the outstanding productivity of our faculty. Hence, we have embarked on our Where Science Leads campaign to support our scientific enterprise. As you read this issue of UPfront, you will see how the science advanced by our centers has influenced healthcare and where it has led the discipline of nursing. We are grateful that one of our research centers, the Barbara Bates Center, has been endowed and named. We are confident that with the incredibly generous support of our friends, our research centers will continue to flourish and lead.

Investing in our centers is investing in nursing science and in quality nursing care. Our research centers are providing the evidence that will shape the future of healthcare, and we invite you to join us in reviewing them in the following pages and beyond.

AFAF I. MELEIS, PhD, DrPS(hon), FAAN, FRCN
Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing, Professor of Nursing & Sociology, Council General, International Council on Women’s Health Issues

DEAN AFAF MELEIS: “Single researchers develop programs of research, while centers connect programs, DEEPEN AND ENRICH FINDINGS, foster interconnectivity between findings and investigators, and promote schools of thought that tend to create turning points in entire disciplines.”
Many faculty and students come to Penn Nursing to study in our prestigious research centers, which they describe as “hubs of energy” and “areas of intellectual excitement.” Why are the nursing research centers so critical to the mission of the School and why do they attract the most stellar students and faculty to Penn? This issue of UPfront demonstrates how the School’s six established centers shape our response to the healthcare and nursing issues confronting us, both nationally and globally.

Each center has gone through a detailed process of establishing a need for the specific area of research in the School, solicited participation from a substantial number of both senior and junior faculty members, and successfully obtained sufficient external funding to support their activities. Then, centers must mentor junior faculty in significant ways and engage students. As an example, each year our centers award approximately $150,000 in pilot research funding to junior faculty and post-doctoral fellows, enabling junior investigators and post-doctoral fellows to launch independent lines of research.

Each center is built upon a foundation of research, mentorship, and education to address major areas of research emphasis in nursing. For example, the Biobehavioral Research Center, established in 2005, is aligned with a research priority set by the National Institute for Nursing Research (NINR), which describes the integration of biobehavioral research in its five-year plan. The NINR also recognizes that nursing research can make a substantial contribution to the discovery of knowledge to improve the care and quality of life of our elders. Our Centers for Gerontologic Nursing Science and Transitions and Health are both poised to contribute significantly to the development of new knowledge and to the creation of leaders. The Center for Health Disparities Research is also closely aligned with research initiatives that are needed to improve both the access to care and outcomes by vulnerable populations. Two centers, the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing and the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research (CHOPR) conduct research initiatives cutting across many areas of potential funding priorities. Through the lens of time, scholars in the History Center examine issues that can clarify today’s problems and help to derive successful solutions. CHOPR researchers examine how nursing staffing patterns affect morbidity and mortality in cross-cutting areas including safety of patients and workers, care of patients with AIDS, and treatment of psychiatric patients, to name just a few.

Nursing research priorities change and the health needs of populations change; however, with the breadth of talent at Penn, we anticipate our center structure will be able to adapt to new priorities. The entire nursing community benefits from the stellar research conducted here, which is why we call ourselves Penn Nursing Science.

LINDA A. McCAULEY, PhD, RN, FAAN, FAAOHN, the Nightingale Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Nursing Research

"Why are the nursing research centers so critical to the mission of the School and why do they attract the most stellar students and faculty to Penn?"
The Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing: Care to Change the World by Exploring the Past

The mission of the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing is to ensure the generation of historical knowledge, scholarship, and research on healthcare and nursing history in the U.S. and across the globe. We believe this knowledge will lead to better understanding of contemporary healthcare issues.

Our priority at this time is to enlarge our discipline’s understanding of the importance of a historical standpoint to the development of effective health policy and patient care strategies through the writing of scholarly papers, brochures, and books that tie nursing’s history directly to current health topics. To put this in more direct terms, how can we think about strategies to relieve health disparities if we don’t understand how they developed, what has worked or not worked in the past, and how we can use this information to make a better future for all Americans?

Our work is supported by the Center’s endowment, as is an extensive archival collection of photographs, artifacts, and the personal and professional papers of nursing leaders, schools of nursing, visiting nurse associations, and voluntary associations. We and many other scholars from across the world use the Center’s collections to bring the knowledge provided by history methodology to bear on important contemporary healthcare solutions.

JULIE FAIRMAN, PhD, RN, FAAN
Center Director and Class of 1940 Bicentennial Term Associate Professor of Nursing
Illness came on suddenly and meant almost certain death. The Flu Epidemic of 1918 claimed more than 20 million lives worldwide, including an estimated 12,000 Philadelphians. Although the epidemic occurred nearly 90 years ago, researchers at the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing believe it can inform the 21st century.

“By studying the world’s response to epidemics such as the 1918 flu and polio in the 1950s, scholars can form a better understanding of why so many people were affected, why certain treatments did or did not work, and the importance of nursing care,” says Center Director Julie Fairman, GNu ’80, GRN ’92, PhD, RN, FAAN, Class of 1940 Bicentennial Term Associate Professor of Nursing and a Robert Wood Johnson Fellow. “This is important not only in understanding nurses’ work and role during epidemics, but also in developing appropriate measures to maximize effective response to similar contemporary situations.”

Founded in 1985 by Professor and Center Director Emerita Joan Lynaugh, HOM ’86, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor Emerita Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, GFA ’80, GR ’84, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Professor Emerita Ellen Baer, HOM ’88, PhD, RN, FAAN, the History Center has amassed an unparalleled collection of books, manuscripts, documents, photos, and other archival materials in its other role of preserving nursing history, attracting nurses, historians, sociologists, and other researchers both nationally and internationally. “Scholars from a variety of disciplines come to work with us to shape their research, including three international fellows this fall,” says Dr. Fairman.

These resources help inform research conducted at the Center which ranges from studies of international nursing and home-based nursing to the care of the critically ill and the 20th century relationship between nursing and American philanthropy. For example, Associate Professor of Nursing and Associate Center Director Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN, explores the development of Catholic hospitals and sister-nurses and how the growth of these hospitals, now one of the largest not-for-profit health systems, has influenced contemporary healthcare.

And, notes Dr. Fairman, an early 20th century model for home care developed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company has since been linked with visiting nurse services, including Penn Nursing Science’s Living Independently for Elders (LIFE) program.

Center research has also informed national and international policy debates. Both Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, a sponsor of the Nurse Reinvestment Act of 2002, and the Ministry of Health of New Zealand consulted Dr. Fairman’s work on the history of the nurse practitioner movement and the relationship between gender, nursing, and technology before proposing legislation. Associate Professor of Nursing Patricia D’Antonio, GRN ’92, PhD, RN, FAAN, and Associate Center Director Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN, explores the development of Catholic hospitals and sister-nurses and how the growth of these hospitals, now one of the largest not-for-profit health systems, has influenced contemporary healthcare.

CULTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS

The History Center has graduated 15 doctoral students now employed in academic and research-intensive institutions. Cynthia Connolly, NU ’80, GR ’99, GNC ’01, PhD, RN, PNP, is now Assistant Professor at the Yale School of Nursing, having worked as a Fellow for the late Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone in Washington, D.C. She will publish “Snatching Children from Certain Doom”: The Tuberculosis Preventorium in American Life, 1900-1970.

Deborah A. Sampson, GR ’06, PhD, ARNP, now an Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan School of Nursing, says, “I learned the imperative of historical scholarship as a foundation for understanding the human condition and as context from which to plan other research inquiry.” Dr. Sampson is traveling from Africa to Detroit with a colleague who specializes in genetics to combine historical perspectives about diseases to better understand hypertension and related illnesses in African Americans.
had her research on women, nursing, and baccalaureate education throughout the 20th century cited by the New York State Nurses Association to support the proposed bill to mandate a baccalaureate degree for all nurses within 10 years of their graduation from associate degree or diploma programs.

Post-doctoral fellow Joy Buck’s work on the history and policy implications of the hospice movement is the foundation for several federal and state policy initiatives.

“Because of our relevance to a variety of fields, we can seek support from sources that might not necessarily support what is perceived as strictly nursing funding,” says Dr. Fairman. “Our researchers are helping to formulate new ways of providing care to vulnerable populations and studying the contemporary nursing shortage and the value of baccalaureate nursing education as the entry to practice level.

Having the History Center and its extensive collections in the same building allows our faculty to quickly obtain important background information for their projects.”

When the renovations to Claire M. Fagin Hall are completed in 2008, the History Center will have a larger and more secure space for its collections and activities, as well as enhanced storage areas, a new reading room, more workspace for the Center’s archivist, student work areas, and offices for a post-doc and adjunct faculty.

“Our researchers are funded by the National Library of Medicine, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Mellon Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Our challenges, however, are to continue to make our work relevant to fields other than health sciences for more funding opportunities. We also need to grow the endowment to provide for a full-time archivist for our ever-growing collections, to increase our student and faculty scholarship pool, and to build a Center website that will interface with the NIH-funded website initiative.”

“The supreme purpose of history is a better world.”

HERBERT HOOVER,
31st President of the United States

BARBARA BATES CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF THE HISTORY OF NURSING
Established: 1985
Director: Julie A. Fairman, PhD, RN, FAAN
Associate Directors: Patricia D’Antonio, PhD, RN, FAAN; Barbra Mann Wall, PhD, RN
Directors Emeritas: Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, PhD, RN, FAAN; Joan Lynaugh, PhD, RN, FAAN
Seminar Coordinator: Jean Whelan, PhD, RN
Post-doctoral fellows (since 2002): 11
Current active awards: Nine
Current fellowships: Two
Fiscal Year 2007 funding: $163,595

MODERN COMMUNICATIONS FOR NURSING’S PAST

Dr. Buhler-Wilkerson and Jean Whelan, GR ’00, GR ’02, PhD, RN, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Nursing, are currently working on a National Library of Medicine-funded project to develop a website focusing on nursing, history, and healthcare to “make the profession more visible to the public and to ensure an accurate documentation of nursing’s past,” says Dr. Whelan.

The Center is also the home of the Nursing History Review, the official publication of the American Association for the History of Nursing Influencing Policy, edited by Dr. D’Antonio. Dr. Mann Wall is the publication’s book editor.
The first step in using research to influence policy is to select a research question with policy relevance. That is a major criterion guiding what the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research (CHOPR) investigators study and how we frame our grant proposals. Second, we make use of targets of opportunity and natural experiments to pursue our basic scientific interests in how the organizational context of nursing practice influences patient outcomes. Third, we design our studies to withstand critical examination that often accompanies policy debate over contentious issues. Fourth, we use policy examples to illustrate our research findings. Fifth, CHOPR investigators spend considerable time responding to press inquiries and speaking at stakeholder meetings to explain the application of our findings to current challenges in healthcare.

An illustration of the use of all of these strategies was our National Institute of Nursing Research study of the impact of staffing and nurses’ education on patient outcomes. We have been committed to extending the science about nurses’ work environments from their effects on nurses and nurse retention to their impact on patient outcomes and care safety. Anticipating that our work might be considered controversial because we were studying the impact of nursing on preventable mortality, we created an interdisciplinary research team that brought to the design of the study state of the science research methods that could withstand scrutiny and critique from stakeholders who might not like the study’s findings. We published our findings in highly respectable scientific journals including the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) which increased the public credibility of our findings. We framed our major paper about the outcomes of nurse staffing on patient mortality in terms of the specific patient to nurse staffing ratios being publicly debated in California even though our data were from Pennsylvania. This gave the press an interesting contemporary story and resulted in substantial media coverage that also brought our findings to the attention of policymakers.

Ultimately, our study provided scientific evidence that was used in deliberations by the California Supreme Court that upheld the California nurse staffing legislation. Similarly, our findings that hospitals with better educated nurses achieve more favorable patient outcomes, also published in JAMA, has been extensively cited in federal and state legislation upholding and/or in promoting the BSN as the requirement for registered nurses, and contributed to the decision by the American Organization of Nurse Executives to adopt a position statement in support of the BSN as the desired credential of hospital staff nurses. Our research on the value of BSN education has advanced progress toward improved educational standards for nurses more than any other factor since the American Nurses Association called for setting the BSN as the entry into professional practice more than 40 years ago.

LINDA H. AIKEN, HOM ’88, PhD, RN, FAAN, FRCN
Center Director, the Claire M. Fagin Leadership Professor in Nursing, and Professor of Sociology
Almost a million nurses. This shocking statistic is what many healthcare workforce experts estimate the U.S. nursing shortage will be by 2020. Because that number exceeds the total number of nurses in any other country in the world, it’s unlikely the U.S. can solve its nursing shortage through international recruitment. And many question whether it should.

Nursing is one of the top five occupations in the U.S. projected to produce the most new jobs as more than half a million nurses retire within the decade and the population ages and nursing school graduates fall short. The consequences of a significant nurse shortage include problems of healthcare access and quality, impaired emergency response, consequences to the military, and even slowed economic growth.

“The mission of the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research (CHOPR) is to develop the science of how nursing contributes to achieving good patient outcomes and the evidence base for managing the nurse workforce to meet national and global healthcare needs,” says Center Director Linda Aiken, HOM ’88, PhD, RN, FAAN, FRCN, the Claire M. Fagin Leadership Professor in Nursing and Professor of Sociology. “We apply scientific findings to improve evidence-based decision-making in practice and policy.”

Established in 1989, CHOPR consists of an interdisciplinary team involving 30 faculty, staff, research fellows, and students from nursing, medicine, sociology, and economics who conduct large-scale National Institutes of Health (NIH) studies. As a result of the Center’s innovative work, it has been designated a National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) P30 research core center.

CHOPR’s original research agenda, begun in 1988, considered whether there were exemplary hospitals for nursing practice, whether patient outcomes were better in such hospitals, and whether these hospital environments could be replicated. This area of inquiry produced an evidence base of superior outcomes for these hospitals which eventually led to the Magnet Recognition Program of the American Nurses Credentialing Center. “We demonstrated that magnet hospitals have lower Medicare mortality rates than matched non-magnet hospitals,” says Dr. Aiken. “We determined from surveys of nurses practicing in magnet hospitals that their institutions had organizational attributes that were different from other hospitals. In subsequent research, we have demonstrated that hospitals in the

CHOPR offers Advanced Training in Nursing Outcomes Research via a (T32) NINR, NIH grant that provides funding for pre-doctoral and postdoctoral research fellows. Ann Kutney Lee, a doctoral student whose research interests include nurse organization, quality of care, and patient outcomes, especially in those with mental illness, will continue her work at CHOPR as a postdoctoral fellow. “This decision was made with firsthand knowledge that CHOPR has the power, ability and resources to make change happen in healthcare,” she says.

Postdoctoral fellow Eunhee Cho, GR ’05, GNu ’06, PhD, MPH, MSN, RN, is the project director for the School of Nursing’s Global Research Collaborative Initiative. “This initiative aims to create a research partnership between Penn Nursing, the Yonsei University School of Nursing in South Korea, and Penn Nursing’s South Korean alumni to replicate CHOPR’s International Hospital Outcomes Study examining the impact of differential staffing levels and organizational attributes on patient and nurse outcomes in South Korea.”
U.S. and abroad that have organizational features similar to magnet hospitals have better nurse and patient outcomes.”

Out of these initial findings, CHOPR’s research momentum grew, leading to landmark studies published in major peer-reviewed journals, including *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (JAMA), linking low job satisfaction and poor work environments to the nursing shortage and higher patient mortality. Recently, CHOPR researchers have conducted surveys and gathered patient outcomes data in California, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey in research funded by the NINR and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to update and extend this work.

The work also extends to the policy arena. “There has also been a voluntary movement toward the benchmarks suggested by Penn research, such as state nurse staffing legislation in California, federal reaffirmation of BSN job requirements, the American Organization of Nurse Executives’ adoption of the BSN as the desired qualification of hospital nurses, and a focus on transforming the nurse work environment,” adds Dr. Aiken.

CHOPR researchers have continued to study the impact of the nursing shortage overseas, forming partnerships leading to multi-disciplinary scholarly exchanges and translational research opportunities with colleagues at the University of Basel in Switzerland, the Institute for Clinical Evaluative Studies in Toronto, and the Centre for Policy in Nursing Research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London. The Center’s International Hospital Outcomes Consortium, which began with a five-country study of hospital outcomes in the U.S., Canada, England, Scotland, and Germany, has now grown to include New Zealand, Switzerland, Thailand, Japan, and South Korea among other countries. Dr. Aiken, a member of the Expert Advisory Panel guiding the World Alliance for Patient Safety and a recognized expert on global nurse migration, its consequences, and solutions in developing and developed countries, directed the Nursing Quality Improvement Program in Russia and Armenia to demonstrate the successful application of twinning initiatives with U.S. magnet hospitals to improve hospital quality.

“Our international research documents that the challenges nurses face in providing safe and effective care are similar in every country in the world. Thus solutions that succeed in any country to stabilize the nurse workforce and improve nurse work environments are likely to work in any other country. We see our research as facilitating the diffusion of nursing innovation and best practices around the world,” says Dr. Aiken.

Nursing staffing issues are not the only focal point of CHOPR collaborations. Research projects also examine leadership issues, nurses’ ability to influence policy in their workplaces, factors related to nurse occupational health, differences in access to and quality of hospital care for different national and global healthcare needs.”

“The mission of the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research is to develop the science of how nursing contributes to achieving good patient outcomes and the evidence base for managing the nurse workforce to meet national and global healthcare needs.”

Dr. Eileen Lake was invited to Havana, Cuba, for a week-long consultation with the National School of Public Health, sponsored by Cuba’s Ministry of Health.
 Members of the CHOPR team

racial and ethnic groups, patient safety, and the international migration of healthcare professionals and health system development in emerging economies. For example, CHOPR Associate Director and Class of 1965 25th Reunion Term Associate Professor of Nursing Sean Clarke, GNC ’99, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, conducts research on safety issues in clinical nursing care, such as needlestick injuries and the quality of bedside treatment. His most recent projects as principal investigator have been funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and he’s been a co-investigator on many CHOPR projects over the last decade. Dr. Clarke uses CHOPR findings and his experiences as an outcomes researcher in his role as course director for the final semester course in leadership and professional issues in nursing for Penn BSN students about to enter practice. “The most rewarding part of working in this field of research, especially now, is having the opportunity to influence thinking among clinicians, managers, and policymakers at so many levels and in so many countries and to help shape the future of the profession for the benefit of patients and nurses.”

Eileen Lake, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor of Nursing, has made important national contributions to the measurement of work environments for nurses in hospitals. The Practice Environment Scale of the Nursing Work Index developed by Dr. Lake was adopted as a voluntary consensus measure of hospital quality by the National Quality Forum. Assistant Professor of Nursing Nancy Hanrahan, PhD, RN, CS, studies how psychiatric nurses can help HIV-positive, seriously mentally ill patients maintain their regimen of HIV and psychiatric medications so to slow the progress of HIV, prevent transmission, and improve their overall functional status.

“Research centers play a critical role in developing new science by building programs of research that integrate previous findings into new inquiries and that link nursing research with researchers in other disciplines to expand knowledge and its application,” says Dr. Aiken. “Obtaining an endowment for CHOPR is key for our continued growth and success. Endowment income will allow for greater investment in development of new ideas and new programs of research as well as enhanced mentoring opportunities for students, research fellows, and faculty.”

CENTER FOR HEALTH OUTCOMES AND POLICY RESEARCH
Established: 1989
Director: Linda H. Aiken, PhD, RN, FAAN, FRCN
Associate Director: Sean Clarke, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN
School of Nursing Faculty members:
Ivo Abraham, PhD
Robyn Cheung, PhD, RN, ARNP
Joannie Cimiotti, DNS, RN
Nancy Hanrahan, PhD, RN, CS
Eileen Lake, PhD, RN
Douglas Sloane, PhD
Doctoral students (since Center’s inception): 30
Post-doctoral fellows (since Center’s inception): 22
Current active awards: 16
Fiscal Year 2007 funding: $2,209,350
The Center for Gerontologic Nursing Science (CGNS) serves to advance gerontologic nursing and to facilitate state-of-the-science in aging research, education, and practice that improves the care of frail, vulnerable older adults across all settings. CGNS researchers provide information on geriatric issues and trends shaping research, education, and practice. They design and test models of care that emphasize individualized, patient-centered interventions and demonstrate the unique contributions of advanced practice nurses in the care of at-risk and vulnerable elders and their caregivers.

The CGNS faculty have made substantial contributions to gerontologic nursing, securing millions of dollars in extramural and pilot grants to support the advancement of research translation in palliative care, psychiatric mental health, cultural change in long-term care, gero-oncology, symptom management, and geriatric trauma care since 2001. These efforts support knowledge acquisition and the discovery of evidence-based benchmarks that create solutions for many problems faced by older adults.

The Center’s successful dissemination of research, curriculum design, and promotion of innovative evidence-based practice models has been documented in almost 350 publications and 250 presentations, and honored by 44 national awards. In conjunction with faculty dissemination efforts, the Center designed a sophisticated, comprehensive website with a structure that provides ease of access to research, education, and practice.

The Center is equally committed to building geriatric nursing leadership and capacity to address the demand for older adult healthcare. To do so, our faculty mentor and support undergraduate through postdoctoral students and fellows, many of them funded by scholarships and traineeships.

NEVILLE STRUMPF, HOM ’88, PhD, RN, FAAN
Center Director and the Edith Clemmer Steinbright Professor in Gerontology
This is the era of the “Graying of America,” the time when the country’s population is getting older and living longer — the youngest Baby Boomers are now in their mid-40s. According to the U.S. Bureau of the Census and the National Center for Health Statistics, the number of Americans age 65 and over was 36.8 million in 2005, an increase of 3.2 million since 1995. By 2030, the number of Americans in the 65 and older age bracket may reach 71.5 million.

And, as Americans live longer — the current life expectancy is about 78 years — many do so while coping with chronic conditions affecting their physical and mental well-being. Taking note of the changing demographics and their impact on the healthcare system, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), especially its National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) and National Institute on Aging (NIA), have made evaluating and improving care of older adults a top priority. As outlined in its strategic plan, the NINR’s initiatives include “evaluating factors that impact independence and self-care in long-term care settings”; “designing interventions aimed at improving physiological and cognitive function in residents of long-term care facilities; designing interventions to improve quality of caregiving; [and] evaluating factors that impact the health and quality of life of informal caregivers and recipients.” The NIH has also selected the NINR as the lead NIH Institute for end-of-life research.

Thus, the activity of the Center for Gerontologic Nursing Science (CGNS) has intensified in recent years. “In its almost 10 years of existence, the CGNS has grown from a small group of people doing research in aging to a broader community of faculty whose research relates closely to older adults. In addition, many students engage in this research, especially doctoral students and post-doctoral fellows,” says Center Director Neville E. Strumpf, HOM ’88, PhD, RN, FAAN, the Edith Clemmer Steinbright Professor in Gerontology. “We are also a Center working to identify partnerships with academic institutions that do not have a critical mass in aging and we are interested in training the next generation of researchers, clinicians, and educators who will influence care of older adults.”

CULTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS

The CGNS offers support for undergraduates through senior inquiry and independent study, including research projects with faculty, and pre- and post-doctoral scholarship opportunities. Meg Bourbonniere, PhD ’01, RN, has a leadership role in the Hartford Foundation’s Nurses Improving Care for Health System Elders (NICHE) program at Rhode Island Hospital, developing geriatric competencies in the nursing staff and improving nursing care processes on medical units. “My area of research is geriatric health services research specifically focused on preventing failed or poorly executed transfers from hospital care to nursing homes,” she says, having received a postdoctoral position at Brown University’s Center for Gerontology and Health Care Research, receiving the first fellowship awarded to a nurse, and a John A. Hartford Foundation “Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity” postdoctoral fellowship.

Anna Song Beeber, GNu ’00, PhD ’05, RN, CRNP, a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Nursing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Nursing, explores gerontology, health services, and caregiving, with the goal of helping elders and their families access and use community-based long-term care services in order to avoid nursing home placement as the recipient of a John A. Hartford Foundation Building Academic Geriatric Nursing Capacity Pre-Doctoral Scholarship as well as an Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality Dissertation RO3 grant.
As is often the case, the School of Nursing was ahead of current trends when it responded to the increased healthcare needs of the rising older population and established the CGNS in 1998. Led by Dr. Strumpf, CGNS researchers are focused on developing interventions that improve quality of life and influence best practices for frail elders while addressing specific issues such as long-term care, palliative care, mental health, geriatric oncology, and the use of advance practice nurses (APNs) in geriatric care.

“Our scholars participate in interdisciplinary and community-based initiatives for older persons across the care continuum,” says Dr. Strumpf, known for her work on restraint-free care of the elderly. “We have established partnerships and formed alliances with public, private, and academic partners who share our commitment to frail elders. These partners include Penn’s Schools of Medicine, Social Policy & Practice, and Dental Medicine, as well as the Institute on Aging, Genesis ElderCare, the Presbyterian Foundation for Philadelphia, and the Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Philadelphia.”

Mary Thomas is a member of the LIFE Council of Elders

Eileen Sullivan-Marx, HUP ’72, Nu ’76, Gr ’95, HOM ’01, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, Associate Dean for Practice and Community Affairs and the Shearer Endowed Term Chair for Healthy Community Practice, is a successfully funded NIH researcher who also has oversight for the Living Independently for Elders (LIFE) program. Her research has focused on outcomes of care for frail older adults, specifically, predictors and outcomes of nurse staffing and advanced practice nursing care in hospitals and nursing homes. To facilitate improved outcomes through the use of APNs, Dr. Sullivan-Marx conducted the only study comparing nurse practitioner with family physician responses in the methods used to establish the Medicare Fee Schedule through relative work values. This work was cited by the Medicare Professional Advisory Committee to the U.S. Congress in June.

CGNS faculty have received prestigious awards for their work. In 2003, Sarah H. Kagan, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor of Gerontological Nursing and a Clinician Educator, received a $500,000 MacArthur Foundation Fellowship — becoming only the second nurse in history to receive the Foundation’s “Genius Award.” Dr. Kagan, whose research focuses on symptom management in older adults, especially those with cancer, is a Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and holds a secondary faculty appointment in
the Department of Otorhinolaryngology: Head and Neck Surgery. She offers advanced nursing consultation to patients, families, and healthcare providers on the needs of older adults in relation to their hospitalization for acute or chronic illness and consults on clinical research and the management of patients who have head and neck cancers and are suffering complex wounds and other symptoms. "Dr. Kagan is a wonderful role model for our students, as she demonstrates the integration of research into practice," says Dr. Strumpf.

The CGNS mission has also included making life at home better for frail elders. After exploring the national Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) model in the mid-1990s, Mary D. Naylor, GNu ’73, GR ’82, HOM ’91, PhD, RN, FAAN, the Marian S. Ware Professor in Gerontology and Director of the Center for Transitions and Health, and Professor Emerita Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, GFA ’80, GR ’84, PhD, RN, FAAN, set in place the funding and services to open the School of Nursing’s LIFE program in West Philadelphia in 1998. LIFE, which serves frail clients 55 or older who are eligible for nursing home placement, provides lower cost social services and healthcare by nurses, primary care physicians, social workers, dieticians, and occupational, speech, rehabilitation, and physical therapists, in an adult daycare health center, allowing members to continue living at home. LIFE also offers home healthcare as needed.

Care in remote areas or for homebound elders has been influenced by advances in technology. Associate Professor of Nursing and Beatrice Renfield Visiting Scholar for the Visiting Nurse Service of New York Kathryn H. Bowles, GR ’96, PhD, RN, FAAN, and colleagues evaluate the effectiveness of a telehomecare system that monitors the condition of homebound patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes and congestive heart failure via a video monitor system by transmitting images and vital health data, such as blood pressure, pulse, and blood glucose levels. This technology holds promise for easing the nursing shortage, and improving patients’ self-care skills, while maintaining the close monitoring of chronic conditions needed to decrease costly rehospitalizations.

No matter how good the care, end-of-life comes to all, so CGNS researchers work in the area of palliative care. Dr. Strumpf partnered with the Genesis ElderCare long-term care network to train staff to handle advanced care planning, pain and symptom management, and psychosocial support. “As a result of this project funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, nursing home staff members were more effective in honoring resident and family wishes, improving bothersome symptoms experienced by dying residents, decreasing unnecessary hospitalizations, and increasing utilization of advance directives,” says Dr. Strumpf.

Because of its success and renown, in 2001 the CGNS was recognized by the John A. Hartford Foundation and selected as one of five Hartford Centers of Geriatric Nursing Excellence (HCGNE) in the United States. The Center was re-funded by the Hartford Foundation in 2006. “The Hartford Foundation has been committed to improving healthcare for older adults for many years,” says Dr. Strumpf. “The funding Penn Nursing receives as a HCGNE allows us to continue our mission of advancing research, education, and practice, including working closely with our interdisciplinary partners.”

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**CENTER FOR GERONTOLOGIC NURSING SCIENCE**

**Established:** 1998 (supported as a Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence in 2001)

**Director:** Neville E. Strumpf, PhD, RN, FAAN

**School of Nursing faculty members:**

Christine Bradway, PhD, RN, CRNP

Valerie Cotter, MSN, RN, CS, CRNP, FAANP

Lois Evans, PhD, RN, FAAN

Sarah Kagan, PhD, RN, FAAN

Lenore Kurlowicz, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN

Therese Richmond, PhD, CRNP, FAAN

Eileen Sullivan-Marx, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN

**Pre-doctoral fellows (since Center’s inception):** 32

(including six John A. Hartford Foundation funded scholars)

**Post-doctoral fellows (since Center’s inception):** 20

(including six John A. Hartford Foundation funded scholars)

**Current active awards:** 18

**Current fellowships:** 12

**Fiscal Year 2007 funding:** $1,223,512
The goals for the Center for Health Disparities Research (CHDR) are to advance knowledge of the determinants of health among racial/ethnic minorities, marginalized, vulnerable, and/or underserved populations across the life span; and to develop, evaluate, and disseminate multidisciplinary research methods and behavioral interventions aimed at improving the health of vulnerable populations and reducing health disparities. CHDR faculty members are involved in various research projects aimed at improving the health of vulnerable populations as a way to reduce health disparities. Our research goals are derived in collaboration with the community and reflect our mutual perspectives.

This is the fundamental philosophy of the Center. This type of research and commitment to the community requires a new set of strategies to guide research that involves implementing a study with a community population versus implementing a study on a community population. What this involves is questioning, rethinking at every level, and reinforcing and developing culturally competent research methodological strategies to reflect this partnership. We are not novices; we are experts who are passionately committed to this philosophy of research. The Center gives us a home for our collaborations and partnerships that promotes and further develops our mission. Our challenge is to continue to develop resources and methodologies so that we can accomplish our mission. This Center is also very committed to mentoring members of the Center, undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, and postdoctoral students, and special fellows who join us from around the world. We meet and review grants-in-progress as well as other activities pertinent to their growth. Seeking to improve the education of nurse scholars from all over the world, this Center engages in pre- and post-doctoral training, research institutes, visiting professorships and seminars, including our annual Summer Nursing Research Institute to create the next generation of scholars. An institutional predoctoral and postdoctoral training grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health (T32 NR007100) has supported 22 predoctoral and 21 postdoctoral trainees.

We have established strong interdisciplinary collaborations with faculty in the School of Medicine, School of Arts and Sciences, School of Dental Medicine, and the School of Social Policy & Practice. Various local, national, and international partners also work to support our partnerships with organizations and institutions that serve our community.

LORETTA SWEET JEMMOTT, Gnu ’82, Gr ’87, HOM ’95, PhD, RN, FAAN, Center Director and the van Ameringen Professor in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing

JANET A. DEATRICK, HOM ’96, PhD, RN, FAAN, Associate Center Director, Associate Professor of Nursing, and Program Director of Pediatric Acute-Chronic and Pediatric Oncology Nurse Practitioner Programs

ANNE M. TEITELMAN, PhD, CRNP, Assistant Professor of Nursing
AT HOME
Mr. Jackson and Mr. Jones are both 65 year old Philadelphians. They share a love of their communities, their hometown sports teams, card games, and a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes. Despite these similarities, there is one life-threatening difference — Mr. Jones is more likely to die from complications caused by his diabetes than Mr. Jackson simply because Mr. Jones is African American and Mr. Jackson is Caucasian.

Both here and abroad, some are suffering from complications of manageable diseases because they lack access to care and education. The School of Nursing’s Center for Health Disparities Research (CHDR) is working to close the gap in disease diagnosis and access to appropriate care.

“Despite steady improvements in the overall health of the U.S. population, disparities still exist,” says Loretta Sweet Jemmott, GNu ’82, GR ’87, HOM ’95, PhD, RN, FAAN, the van Ameringen Professor in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing and CHDR Director. “Racial and ethnic minorities receive a lower quality of healthcare and have higher rates of morbidity and mortality than non-minorities, even when access-related factors, such as insurance status and income are controlled,” says Dr. Jemmott, indicating the life expectancy for African Americans is approximately five years shorter than Caucasians.

According to Dr. Jemmott, issues that contribute to health disparities include personal behavior and lifestyle, socioeconomic status, cultural and religious backgrounds, education level, racism, discrimination, bias, and marginalization. In Philadelphia, the Center has established relationships with public and private schools, healthcare clinics and providers, the Philadelphia Departments of Health and Housing, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, and local community advisory boards. “In order to be successful with these groups, it is important to understand the various cultural issues and traditions that impact health-related behaviors and tailor the evidenced-based program accordingly,” says Dr. Jemmott.

Also conducting research in a cultural context, Assistant Professor of Nursing Lisa M. Lewis, PhD, RN, is working in West Philadelphia to determine the impact spirituality has on hypertension care and control in the African American community. “Cardiovascular disease is the number one cause of death for African Americans and the prevalence of hypertension in that community is more than 40 percent,” says Dr. Lewis. “Unfortunately, many African Americans often do not seek healthcare because they do not trust providers or may have had negative experiences in the past. We have to bring healthcare to them, in places where they are comfortable.” While patients have reported they pray for doctors and nurses, Dr. Lewis has also discovered

CULTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS
Robert L. Waite, EdD, MSN, APRN, a postdoctoral research fellow in the CHDR, investigates depression in women who are HIV positive and Adult Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder among ethnic minority populations, particularly African American women. “The Center has been instrumental to my research and scholarship endeavors in developing my writing for peer-reviewed journals and in developing proposals for grants,” she says. “The Center has also been helpful in supporting my connection with colleagues having similar research interests. These relationships will continue after the completion of my fellowship.”
that those patients with fundamental religious views, or who are from lower income brackets, are more likely not to take medications or use healthcare providers at all. “We have to figure out how to negotiate those beliefs and talk about them with the patients,” says Dr. Lewis.

Health disparities cut across more than racial lines. “We live in a diverse, multicultural world where healthcare and health outcomes disparities continue to exist in people who are marginalized because of age, gender, race/ethnicity, poverty, or residential status,” says Marilyn Sawyer Sommers, Nu ’72, PhD, RN, FAAN, the Lillian S. Brunner Professor of Medical-Surgical Nursing. “Scientific work that develops or tests culturally-competent, developmentally-appropriate, and theoretically-based interventions is critical to the reduction and elimination of health disparities and ultimately improves the health of the populations we serve.”

Dr. Sommers is currently researching if postmenopausal women sustain more injury after rape than younger women and if women with dark skin are less likely than women with light skin to have their genital injuries identified and treated, noting “I am trying to determine whether the standard forensic rape examination is appropriate for all women and improve that exam by developing new technologies that can be used in emergency departments.” Dr. Sommers recently received a four-year $2.3 million R01 National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) and National Institute of Mental Health grant to continue this research.

Children are another segment of the population that often finds itself without a voice in the healthcare system. To help remedy that, Associate Professor of Nursing of Children Terri H. Lipman, Gnu ’83, GRN ’91, PhD, CRNP, FAAN, developed and maintains the only registry of pediatric type 1 diabetes in Philadelphia and is investigating the epidemiology of type 2 diabetes in the city’s schoolchildren. “Type 2 diabetes was not seen in pediatric practice, and therefore has not been included in pediatric research until recently,” says Dr. Lipman. “The increased incidence is associated with the increase in childhood obesity.”

She is also investigating the optimal biobehavioral interventions to treat children with type 2 diabetes as part of a multi-site, randomized controlled, National Institutes of Health (NIH) study entitled Treatment Options for type 2 Diabetes in Adolescents and Youth (TODAY).

Associate Professor of Nursing and Associate Center Director Janet A. Deatrick, HOM ’96, PhD, RN, FAAN, also focuses on... 

“The family’s well-being as a unit has an impact on the child’s ability to function. Oncology resources and programs have been more family-oriented. We need to learn from these programs and develop similar resources for other illnesses...”
the well-being of children, especially those who have survived brain tumors. “Cancer survivorship research started with pediatrics,” says Dr. Deatrick. “We now have 30 years of data of children who have overcome cancer. Children with brain tumors are the second most-affected disease survivors and are more susceptible to other diseases.”

And a child changed by brain surgery can also affect caregivers. “The family’s well-being as a unit has an impact on the child’s ability to function. Oncology resources and programs have been more family-oriented. We need to learn from these programs and develop similar resources for other illnesses,” says Dr. Deatrick whose research agenda is aligned with the NINR’s strategic plan to “design intervention studies using community-based approaches to facilitate health promotion/risk reduction behaviors, e.g. families with special needs such as parents or caregivers of persons with chronic illness or developmental disabilities.”

AND ABROAD
The prosperous southern African nation of Botswana, with a population of almost 1.8 million, has an estimated HIV prevalence rate of 24 percent, according to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS. For three years, Assistant Professor of Nursing Christopher L. Coleman, G ’83, PhD, MS, MPH, APRN-BC, ACRN, FAAN, has been working with colleagues at the University of Botswana School of Nursing and Penn Nursing students to develop initiatives that will teach Botswanans about HIV-risk reduction behaviors. “Botswanans are better educated than Americans about HIV and AIDS and its causes and treatment, but there is a cultural stigma with regard to taking medication and discussing one’s HIV status outside of a health clinic,” says Dr. Coleman. “We’ve found that many of these people won’t take their medications at work and mothers will continue to breastfeed their babies even though they can pass along HIV to their children simply because they don’t want others to know they are infected with the disease.” Unprotected heterosexual activity is the main form of HIV transmission in Botswana. Dr. Coleman and his colleagues are conducting the first surveys of the sexual behaviors of Botswanan men. “From this data, we will design a culturally-tailored intervention program.”

“CHDR faculty members are involved in various research projects aimed at improving the health of vulnerable populations as a way to reduce health disparities.”

FUNDING THE FUTURE
For the last five years, the Center has had one of six P20 pilot grants from the NINR that support pilot research between faculty from research institutions with those from historically minority-serving colleges and universities. “This grant has allowed the School to form the Hampton University-Penn Center for Reducing Health Disparities partnership, which has developed a cadre of researchers who will advance nursing science by encouraging junior faculty and doctoral students at both Hampton and at Penn to bring their research ideas to fruition, including studies exploring body weight changes in African American and Caucasian adolescents, the family influences on risky sexual behaviors in African American college students and the linking genetics and obesity to diabetes,” says Associate Professor of Nursing Lorraine J. Tulman, GRN ’84, DNSc, RN, FAAN, the Center’s P20 study core director. “The results of many of these studies have been published, accepted for publication, or have led to further research.”

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Center for Health Disparities Research
Established: 2005 (after merger of the Urban Health Center and International Center for Research with Children and Families)
Director: Loretta Sweet Jemmott, PhD, RN, FAAN
Associate Director: Janet A. Deatrick, PhD, RN, FAAN
School of Nursing faculty members:
Jane Barnsteiner, PhD, FAAN
Christopher L. Coleman, PhD, MS, MPH, APRN-BC, ACRN, FAAN
Lisa M. Lewis, PhD, RN
Terri H. Lipman, PhD, CRNP, FAAN
William McCool, PhD, CNM, RN
Ann O’Sullivan, PhD, CRNP, FAAN
Mary Lou de Leon Siantz, PhD, RN, FAAN
Marilyn Sommers, PhD, RN, FAAN
Diane L. Spatz, PhD, RNC, FAAN
Marilyn Stringer, PhD, CRNP
Anne Teitelman, PhD, CRNP
Lorraine Tulman, DNSc, RN, FAAN
Pre-doctoral fellows (since Center’s inception): 22
Post-doctoral fellows (since Center’s inception): 21
Current active awards: 29
Current fellowships: Five
Fiscal Year 2007 funding: $1,748,411
Psychosocial factors, particularly behavior, can enhance or compromise health. Our understanding, aided by technology and by conceptual advances in the behavioral, biological, and medical sciences, of the interactions between brain function and behavior are grounded in neurobiology, neuroscience, and neuro-endocrinology, and range from molecular mechanisms to psychological systems as an alternative to the traditional biomedical model. As an “outcomes model,” biobehavior research emphasizes patient outcomes rather than disease pathologies and the concept of health must integrate mortality with multiple dimensions of life quality such as physical and mental symptoms of behavioral and social functioning.

At the core of our research are three underlying assumptions: that biological, behavioral, and social factors such as genetic endowment, cognitive and emotional interpretations of experience, physical environment, social relationships, and socioeconomic status interact through multiple feedback mechanisms to influence individual health over time; that health is not defined solely in biological terms but also in terms of psychological and social function; and the relevance of any given event or intervention must be examined in this context to understand the health status of individuals and populations. These assumptions guide our Center’s research enterprise.

BARRBARA MEDOFF-COOPER, HOM ’92, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN
Center Director and the Ruth M. Colket Professor in Pediatric Nursing
Researchers in the School of Nursing’s Biobehavioral Research Center (BRC), established in 2005, explore the relationship between physiological functioning and behavior in the prevention and early detection of disease to symptom control and then to the management of acute and chronic illness. “Our science, known for influencing nursing practice, is focused on healthy living and improving quality of life,” says Center Director Barbara Medoff-Cooper, HOM ’92, PhD, RN, CRNP, FAAN, the Ruth M. Colket Professor in Pediatric Nursing.

The Center’s projects encompass five areas — sleep, nutrition and metabolism, environmental health, genetics and human development, and neuroscience — and how the interrelationship of these factors with persons of differing racial and socioeconomic backgrounds can affect daily functioning across the lifespan.

**SLEEP RESEARCH**

Sleep is at the core of biobehavioral research. “We want to understand the impact sleep has on metabolism and nutrition, exercise, cardiovascular disease, hypoglycemic control, and other topics studied at our Center. “Recognizing the power of sleep will help us change public health policy and improve outcomes,” says Dr. Medoff-Cooper.

The internationally-used Pulmonary Functional Status Scale (PFSS), the gold standard of functional assessment in sleep practice and research, provides critical data on the effect of treatment, particularly continuous positive airway therapy for sleep apnea, on improving daily functional and cognitive behavior. The PFSS was developed by Professor of Nursing and Biobehavioral and Health Sciences Division Chair Terri Weaver, GNu ’78, GR ’90, PhD, RN, FAAN, with doctoral student Georgia Narsavage. Dr. Weaver also created the Functional Outcomes of Sleep Questionnaire, assessing how excessive sleepiness contributes to poor quality of life.

Sleep, or lack of it, can impact the workplace, too. Associate Professor of Nursing Ann E. Rogers, PhD, RN, FAAN, and colleagues have studied the impact of fatigue caused by lack of sleep when nurses work shifts longer than 12 hours or work more than 60 hours a week, finding they are significantly more likely to commit medication errors while exhibiting decreased productivity. These data have been used by the American Nurses Association, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Texas Board of Nurse Examiners to recommend shift limitations for nurses. Dr. Rogers and colleagues will also explore how too little sleep affects production of leptin, the hormone that regulates appetite and metabolism, thus

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**CULTIVATING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENTISTS**

The Biobehavioral Research Center has three post doctoral researchers, 11 predoctoral fellows, 20 undergraduates, and five interdisciplinary students, including pre-doctoral research fellow Christopher S. Lee, GNu ’05, MSN, RN, CCRN, Senior Lab Coordinator of the Mathias J. Brunner Instructional Technology Center, whose area of research interest is heart failure, specifically how pathophysiological mechanisms and self-care behavior impact health outcomes.

His research has involved conducting an in-depth self-directed study with Drs. Nancy Tkacs and Karen Badellino, and completing coursework with Dr. Barbara Medoff-Cooper, who helped shape concepts critical to his dissertation study. He also studied quantitative research methods with Dr. Jennifer Pinto-Martin and participated in a grant-writing workshop organized by Dr. Linda McCauley.
Our science, known for influencing nursing practice, is focused on healthy living and improving quality of life….”

contributing to weight gain and cardiovascular disease in people of all ages.

Other conditions are associated with sleep and may benefit from new treatments. Assistant Professor of Nursing Norma Cuellar, DSN, RN, examines the use of Complementary and Alternative Medicine in older adults with Restless Leg Syndrome (RLS) associated with sleeplessness. In two recently completed pilot studies examining RLS in older adults, Dr. Cuellar found that RLS has a significant impact on quality of life and depression and that 45 percent of type 2 diabetics have RLS symptoms. Her research could impact the care of diabetics and influence how diabetes educators teach patients how to manage diabetes when RLS is aggravated.

NUTRITION AND METABOLISM

From a paucity of sleep to a surplus of calories, Americans seek a healthy balance. The research agenda for Center researchers has focused on issues of obesity, which the Centers for Disease Control estimated in 2005 would affect 20 percent of the U.S. population. As the incidence of obesity rises, BRC faculty are investigating how diet, nutrition, medications, and environment can impact weight and overall well-being. Associate Professor of Nursing Stella L. Volpe, PhD, RD, LD/N, FACSM, who is exploring the effects of an exercise program on the members of Penn Nursing Science’s Living Independently for Elders (LIFE) program, is also co-investigator of a multi-site trial in middle schools to see if changes to nutrition and food service and physical education prevent type 2 diabetes mellitus in children.

Managing obesity has repercussions as well. Associate Professor of Nutrition Science Charlene Compher, PhD, RD, FADA, CNSD, also studies individuals with severe obesity, as well as the energy needs of vulnerable populations and issues of malabsorption, exploring optimal vitamin D requirements of patients with gastrointestinal disease or if they have had obesity surgery. Assistant Professor of Nursing Karen Badellino, GNu ’82, PhD, RN, examines the effect of dietary and environmental factors that promote inflammation and the development of atherosclerosis. She is currently funded to study the role of the enzyme endothelial lipase in the development of vascular disease among individuals with obesity and features of metabolic syndrome.

GENETICS AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Child development is also a current focus of BRC researchers. Parents are usually the early observers of development variables, but relinquish this role as the child matures. Research Associate Professor Ellen Giarelli, EdD, CRNP, CS, is the recipient of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) R21 grant to fund her research on “Transition to Self-Management of a Chronic Genetic Disorder in Adolescents.” Dr. Giarelli’s research addresses issues such as cancer predisposition syndromes, genetics disorders, and developmental disabilities. Implications for Dr. Giarelli’s work include developing guidelines for families living with chronic genetic disorders, improving access to healthcare, and providing models of care for interdisciplinary teams. Her interdisciplinary research model incorporating “life-long self-surveillance” is being used to inform the study of life-long care of congenital heart disease and prevention and early detection of human papillomavirus infection.

The behavior of infants, temperament in low birth weight infants, premature infants’ feeding behaviors, and transitioning premature infants to open cribs are research topics of Dr. Medoff-Cooper, the first nurse to hold an endowed chair at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. She was the first author of the Early Infancy Temperament Questionnaire, now used widely to assess when to transfer premature infants from isolettes to open cribs and also developed Bioflow, a neonatal sucking instrument measuring an infant’s ability to suck. The sucking pattern measurements help practitioners assess babies’ brain metabolism in order to identify which
infants, especially those that are premature, might be at high risk for developmental deficiencies.

**NEUROSCIENCE**

Metabolic imbalances can have a dramatic effect on the body and its organs. Associate Professor of Nursing Nancy C. Tkacs, Nu ’75, GNu ’77, PhD, RN, studies the effect these imbalances, especially hypoglycemia, have on the brain. “Patients receiving insulin treatment for diabetes experience wide swings of blood glucose from high levels [hyperglycemia] to low levels [hypoglycemia],” she says. “Many of these individuals develop ‘hypoglycemia unawareness,’ the inability to detect warning symptoms of hypoglycemia,” which she is now investigating with funding from the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

Medical and technological advances have made it possible for soldiers injured in battle to survive what were once life-threatening injuries. Associate Professor of Pain Practice Rosemary C. Polomano, PhD, RN, FAAN, is part of a collaborative team of investigators from the Philadelphia Veterans Administration Medical Center, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and Walter Reed Army Medical Center examining whether early regional anesthesia delivered on the battlefield prevents latent chronic pain.

**Growing the Science and the Scientists**

Associate Professor of Nursing Martha Curley, PhD, RN, FAAN, has conducted interventional studies to explore the management of critically ill children, the needs of parents with critically ill children, and the priorities of pediatric intensive care units. She also led a team that developed the American Association of Critical Care Nurses’ “Synergy Model for Patient Care.” In this model, patient or family needs drive the nursing care to improve clinical outcomes. This model informs models of care delivery, nursing school curricula, and certifying exams.

“Being a part of Penn and the School of Nursing’s strong research enterprise helps us attract collaborators who share our researchers’ goals,” says Dr. Medoff-Cooper. Continuing to educate tomorrow’s nurse scientists and faculty, as well as conducting cutting edge research during a time of declining federal funding is one of the BRC’s biggest challenges. “Maintaining our current level of funding will be a challenge,” says Dr. Medoff-Cooper. The Center’s current funding includes 15 federally funded projects, including six NIH Research Project Grant Program (R01) awards, one NIH Research Center grant, and one foundation grant, along with support from subcontractors, the University, the School and other sources. “We need the support for our projects and to build our infrastructure and to create state-of-the-art laboratories.”
Center for Transitions and Health:
Care to Change the World for the Chronically Ill

Meeting the complex healthcare needs of individuals, especially frail elders and families coping with chronic illnesses such as heart failure, diabetes, and depression in a person-centered, safe, timely, effective, and efficient manner will be a, if not the, dominant healthcare challenge in coming decades. Our mission in the Center for Transitions and Health is to generate, disseminate, and translate advances in science related to nursing’s influence on transitions in health among individuals and their caregivers. Our research agenda focuses on the growing population of chronically ill, with a special focus on frail elders and their caregivers. Utilizing multiple research methods, the transitions studies being developed and conducted by our members is creating a body of knowledge that will directly benefit this vulnerable population. Understanding transitions in health is essential for nurses to play a major role in health promotion, prevention of health problems, and the effective management of people of all ages and at all stages of health. Interventions during transitions present opportunities for maximal effect, and thus optimal results.

Unfortunately, the common experience for these vulnerable people is that they and their families must navigate a fragmented care system with very poor information about a patchwork of services that often do not meet their needs. A research focus on transitions in health provides an opportunity to explore the dynamic interplay between the patient and a multitude of physical, psychological, social, and behavioral domains during major points of change along the health and illness continuum. Understanding the meaning, purpose, and the effect of transitions on the individual, family, organization, and society will improve our ability to influence health outcomes for patients and their caregivers, both nationally and internationally.

MARY D. NAYLOR, GNu ’73, GR ’82, HOM ’91, PhD, RN, FAAN
Center Director and the Marian S. Ware Professor in Gerontology
As people continue to live longer and once-fatal diseases have become chronic, “there has been a shift in emphasis from treatment to prevention and from acute to chronic conditions,” writes National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) Director Patricia A. Grady, PhD, RN, FAAN. NINR has outlined strategies for improving care for the chronically ill, emphasizing better symptom management and self-care, smoother transitions along the continuum of care, and educating patients and their families about care options.

Penn Nursing Science responded to the need for chronic disease research with the establishment in 2006 of its Center for Transitions and Health, the first of its kind in the nation — and potentially internationally — dedicated to improving health outcomes for frail elderly patients making transitions across the healthcare spectrum, from the hospital to home, from assisted living to skilled care and rehabilitation clinics.

“The Center’s mission is to improve knowledge of natural transitions that happen to the chronically ill and how the healthcare system, especially nursing, helps those in transition,” says Center Director Mary D. Naylor, GNu ’73, GR ’82, HOM ’91, PhD, RN, FAAN, the Marian S. Ware Professor in Gerontology. “When a patient receives a diagnosis of diabetes or depression, there are implications that change the life not only of the patient, but the lives of the caregivers, too. We are studying what those implications are and how the system can be improved to help families and patients cope with the diagnosis.”

The number one public health problem in the United States, chronic illness is vulnerable to gaps in care because illnesses often involve treatment by multiple providers. “The goal of our work is to prevent negative outcomes and improve the coordination of care so the system can be easily navigated,” says Dr. Naylor. “Frequent transitions among providers and across services and settings are often triggered by unexpected, acute exacerbations of chronic illnesses. Managing and coordinating care during these difficult transitions typically falls to family members or other informal caregivers who are often not prepared to address these challenges.”

Transitions and care coordination for
older adults has been a focus of Penn Nursing research for almost 20 years, culminating in the Center’s opening. Dr. Naylor and an interdisciplinary group of Penn researchers developed a model of care coordination delivered by advanced practice nurses (APNs) for high-risk older adults making the transition from hospital to home. The team found in its NINR-funded trials that their model not only improved care, but it also significantly lowered healthcare costs. The team has partnered with two major insurance organizations to promote the adoption of the APN care coordination model and is studying the possible use of the model with hospitalized cognitively impaired elders and their caregivers.

Many elders make the transition to receiving long-term care services either in their own home or by moving to a nursing home or assisted living facility. Led by Dr. Naylor and funded by the National Institute on Aging and NINR, work involves collaborations with Center colleagues and with organizations including NewCourtland Elder Care Services, Friends Services for the Aging and the Penn Nursing LIFE program. Kathryn Bowles, PhD, RN, FAAN, Associate Professor of Nursing, a co-investigator says, “What we learn from this work will help healthcare providers and caregivers understand the meaning and components of health related quality of life for the elderly. Our hope is that we will learn how to take the best possible care of our older adults so that life is not just long, but is of the highest possible quality.”

Bioethicist and Assistant Professor of Nursing Connie M. Ulrich, PhD, RN, has also been studying the role of APNs and nurse practitioners (NPs) in transitional care, but more specifically the ethical issues they encounter as they attempt to provide quality care with cost effective outcomes. "This has critical implications for health transitions and the delivery of care because if we can educate and train NPs and APNs to better address ethical issues related to the complex needs of their client populations, we will improve the quality and care coordination of patients and the healthcare organizational system in which they practice,” says Dr. Ulrich.

To achieve its goals, the Center partners not only with other School of Nursing Centers, but also with Penn’s Schools of Medicine and Social Policy & Practice and the University of Pennsylvania Health System, as well as the Philadelphia Veterans Administration Medical Center (PVAMC). “The interdisciplinary nature of the Center, including experts and stakeholders both internal and external to Penn, is essential for informing and advancing health promotion, prevention, treatment and management of people of all ages and at all stages of health,” says Janet Prvu Bettger, ScD, a postdoctoral research fellow in the Penn School of Medicine’s Department of
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Nursing Research Assistant Professor Karen B. Hirschman, SW ’96, SWP ’01, PhD, MSW, works with Dr. Naylor and Jason Karlawish, MD, Jennifer Kapo, MD, and David Casarett, MD, MA, from Penn Medicine’s Division of Geriatrics to study advance care planning, medical decision-making, caregiver burden, and end-of-life care, especially for dementia patients and their families. “My background in geriatric social work and social welfare, my postdoctoral training in neurodegenerative diseases, and my current position in the School of Nursing brings a unique interdisciplinary twist to my work with elders and their families,” says Dr. Hirschman.

Associate Professor of Nursing Barbara J. Riegel, DNSc, RN, CS, FAAN, who is internationally renowned for her studies on heart failure self-care, recently received a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct a research study in Australia. Working with Sanford A. Schwartz, MD, Daniel Polsky, PhD, and Steve Sayers, PhD, all of the School of Medicine, and members of the Penn Sleep Center, Dr. Riegel is investigating the relationship between excessive daytime sleepiness and heart failure self-care. Dr. Riegel is also collaborating with James Kirkpatrick, MD from the School of Medicine’s Department of Cardiology to create an intervention to improve self-care in challenging patient populations.

As a new entity, the Center for Transitions and Health is challenged with maintaining the momentum it has generated within the last year as it continues to build a national and international reputation for research excellence. The Center’s members have demonstrated a strong commitment to the group’s collective body of work. Using the NIH Study Section model, members critically review their colleagues’ proposals. “Only the top proposals are funded and a researcher might only have one or two opportunities to submit a research plan,” says Dr. Naylor. “Our researchers are dedicated to helping each other put together the most competitive research proposals possible.”

“Receiving pilot money to help provide support for our infrastructure and administrative costs is crucial,” says Dr. Naylor. “Expanding our collaborative research efforts is exceedingly important in attracting funding.” In addition to research proposals, the Center members also critique manuscripts and presentations under development. Cultivating these types of mentorship activities for the membership is essential to sustaining the Center.

“This is a critical time for nursing research,” adds Dr. Naylor. “As the world realizes that nursing is a key link to finding the best care solutions, opportunities for researchers in our field are growing by leaps and bounds. How we capitalize on this opportunity is our challenge.”

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**CENTER FOR TRANSTITIONS AND HEALTH**

**Established:** 2006

**Director:** Mary D. Naylor, PhD, RN, FAAN

**School of Nursing faculty members:**
- Katherine Abbott, PhD
- Katherine Bowles, PhD, RN, FAAN
- Karen B. Hirschman, PhD, MSW
- Arlene D. Houldin, PhD, APRN, BC
- Anne Keane, EdD, CRNP, RN, FAAN
- Kathleen McCauley, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN
- Helene Moriarty, PhD, RN, CS
- Barbara J. Riegel, DNSc, RN, CS, FAAN
- Julie A. Sochalski, PhD, RN, FAAN
- Connie M. Ulrich, PhD, RN

**Pre-doctoral fellows (since Center’s inception):** Two

**Post-doctoral fellows (since Center’s inception):** Three

**Current active awards:** 30

**Current fellowships:** Five

**Fiscal Year 2007 funding:** $4,601,137
In addition to its six School-sponsored Research Centers for Excellence, Penn Nursing is home to two prestigious grant-funded research entities: the Pennsylvania Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities Research and Epidemiology (PA-CADDRE) and the Hartford Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence (HCGNE).

Funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the PA-CADDRE is one of only six centers in the first major national effort to identify the cause of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) in the U.S. These centers also work to determine the baseline prevalence of ASDs in defined geographic regions across the country. Once that is known, rates of increase may be identified. Further research may begin to tease out a relationship between genetic factors and possible environmental triggers so that a comprehensive program of prevention and treatment may be implemented.

The Center, managed by the School of Nursing with The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), is directed by Jennifer A. Pinto-Martin, HOM '98, PhD, MPH, the Viola Maclnnes Independence Professor of Nursing. It was established in 2001 and re-funded by the CDC for an additional five years in 2006. The PA-CADDRE is also part of the CDC’s 10-site Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network. Among the data the Center is currently analyzing are those collected at two CHOP-affiliated primary care practices in an early intervention study seeking to determine if advanced practice nurses using an assessment questionnaire can begin to identify toddlers as young as 15 months who may be showing signs of ASD.

“We rely on interdisciplinary research in order to sustain and enhance our funding opportunities,” says Dr. Pinto-Martin. “This is true for all centers, but it has certainly been true that some of what the PA-CADDRE has accomplished is a function of linking across the School, the University, and external organizations.” The Center recently received funding from Autism Speaks and from the National Institutes of Health to study the prevalence of autism in India.

To attract more students to its research opportunities, PA-CADDRE is hoping to create an introductory lecture series for undergraduates. The Center is also exploring a possible autism track in the School’s new Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program. “Right now at CHOP there is a year-and-a-half wait for parents who suspect their children might have an ASD to see a physician,” Dr. Pinto-Martin says. “We can train nurse practitioners to direct a cadre of healthcare providers that will screen children for ASDs at earlier ages, which will help those children and their parents access the support systems they will need sooner.”

In March 2000, the John A. Hartford Foundation endorsed a major multi-faceted, $14.6 million, five-year initiative to build academic geriatric nursing capacity in response to the country’s nursing shortage, and specifically, the dearth of nurses with geriatric skills to take care of the rapidly increasing older population. One component of this initiative was the funding of five HCGNEs, each with goals of strengthening nursing excellence in research, teaching, and clinical care; producing a cadre of future academic and practice leaders; advancing scientific and clinical knowledge; providing for interdisciplinary collaboration; and enhancing local and regional activities relating to improved care for older adults.

Funding to each center was intended to be flexible and provide infrastructure support so that each site could build off their own strengths and multiply them. According to the Hartford Foundation, at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing — a research “powerhouse”— funding enabled the Center to expand the science of gerontological care, develop, and evaluate innovations in care, and use a web-based approach to disseminate evidence-based practice. An example of this is the work on improving transitions of care for elders by Mary Naylor, PhD, RN, FAAN, which has gone on to receive further funding as the innovation continues to be tested and adopted by healthcare systems. Penn Nursing Science’s HCGNE is directed by Neville Strumpf, HOM ’88, PhD, RN, FAAN, Edith Clemmer Steinbright Professor in Gerontologic Nursing Science.

The HCGNE designation provides the Center with access to a network of researchers who share similar commitments to the advancement of geriatric nursing science. With foundation support, the Center participates in a broader range of activities than would otherwise be possible, especially educational and consultative activities, and wider dissemination of the work of the Center and its faculty. As an example, the Center’s website provides free access to GERo T.I.P.S., which informs health practitioners of the latest developments in elder care and provides for enhancement of skills through online training.
Putting Ideas in Action for Healthcare Reform

When Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell visited the School of Nursing in January to launch his “Prescription for Pennsylvania” healthcare reform plan, he spoke to a packed audience that included nurses, physicians, schools of nursing deans — and the Penn Nursing students who would be working with the Statehouse.

During the spring semester, 20 undergraduates from across the University enrolled in the Health Systems Analysis class — a capstone course in the Nursing Healthcare Management School of Nursing/Wharton joint degree program — and analyzed Governor Rendell’s “Prescription for Pennsylvania” health reform plan to evaluate its economic impact on key stakeholder groups in the Commonwealth.

“The class was not about a grade, it was about making a difference,” says Associate Professor of Nursing Julie Sochalski, HOM ‘02, PhD, FAAN, RN. “We were responding to a question from the governor that was critical to his efforts to debate the merits of his health reform efforts.”

The students were able to undertake this effort with an award from the University’s Ideas in Action program, an initiative established by Provost Ronald Daniels to encourage course offerings that link leading public officials and policymakers with the classroom. Policymakers introduce the issue at the beginning of the semester and return when students, who have analyzed the issues under the supervision of faculty, present their findings. “This course demonstrates how the teaching enterprise can influence policy and the public good,” says Dr. Sochalski.

The course was designed to involve students in the work of the Governor’s Office of Health Care Reform (OHCR) through its director, Rosemarie Greco, a member of the Penn Nursing Board of Overseers, on issues such as the medical malpractice crisis. However, as the time approached for the course to start, the landscape changed. “The governor was reelected and announced his healthcare reform plan,” says Dr. Sochalski. “The class was now charged with determining the economic impact of extending health insurance coverage to all uninsured Pennsylvanians on the Commonwealth, its hospitals and providers, and business community.”

Students and faculty met with OHCR staff to come up with a work plan which divided the class into four groups, representing three key stakeholder groups — employers, providers, and the Commonwealth — to evaluate the economic impact of the reform plan on each group. If nothing were done, the fourth group described the future without reform.

“If a substantial number of residents do not take advantage of the program, hospitals and large businesses will be paying for the care of people who are not receiving the insurance coverage.”
students. At the end of the semester, Dr. Sochalski and the students presented their final report directly to the Statehouse, including analysis and conclusions, and policy implications. The next day, OHCR representatives testified before legislative committees on exactly the same issues that the class had presented.

Their conclusion? The students had determined that, on balance, Prescription for Pennsylvania could work with some changes. “Pennsylvania thrives when there is a growth and creativity in its industry,” says Dr. Sochalski. “There has to be encouragement and incentives for smaller businesses to remain in Pennsylvania. Therefore, the healthcare reform plan has to be structured in such a way so as to not ‘kill off’ small businesses.” Additionally, the plan has to entice those currently uninsured to enroll in the program. “If a substantial number of residents do not take advantage of the program, hospitals and large businesses will be paying for the care of people who are not receiving the insurance coverage,” says Dr. Sochalski.

Earlier in the semester, the students had an audience with the Governor — by chance. “Our class assembled at the School for the governor’s press conference prior to his arrival,” says student Ashley Zampini NU ’07. “During his address, we frantically wrote down key aspects of his plan. As we hung on every word, the excitement heightened for our future research and analysis. At the closing of his speech, the Governor’s assistant arranged for him to come meet the class. We only spoke briefly, but it was so motivating. I felt like I was working on something that was important.”

“Dr. Sochalski’s class is a perfect example of the Ideas in Action model: one of our leading faculty members directing student research on a matter of cutting-edge importance, with a high-level client prepared to take advantage of what the students discover,” says Donald F. Kettl, HOM ’04, PhD, director of Penn’s Fels Institute of Government. “The students did terrific work, which will surely help advance the policy debate on health reform here in Pennsylvania. In other universities, students sometimes do case studies and sometimes do internships. But this kind of concerted, faculty-directed, policy-relevant work, with a direct link to the policy process, is truly unusual. There’s every indication that the students’ work will move the process.”

Says Ms. Zampini, “Having the opportunity to be engaged in this process so early in my career helped me to realize how capable I am to investigate and implement improvements to the overall healthcare system. Nursing has grown far past the bedside.”
Dear Fellow Alumni,

As the Penn Nursing Alumni president, I had the honor of participating in the School’s graduation ceremony last May. I was quite nervous about giving the alumni address, but just before I approached the podium, Dr. Kathy McCauley Nu ’74, GNu ’77, GRN ’90, GNC ’96, Class of 1942 Term Associate Professor of Nursing and Associate Dean for Academic Programs, whispered to me, “Don’t worry. You’ll be wonderful.”

I was touched by these simple, but incredibly thoughtful words. I was also struck by the realization that regardless of how long ago one graduated from Penn Nursing, the support and encouragement of the faculty never goes away.

Commencement was an inspiring opportunity for me to hear about the accomplishments of Penn’s newest graduates and the careers they were about to start. I have never been more proud to be a Penn Nurse. The experience reminded me of the reasons that I stay in touch with the School: access to a network of amazing colleagues, the unyielding support of the faculty, and the chance to work with the current students.

I hope you’ll join me in staying in touch. Here are some ways you can get involved this year:

• Come to Homecoming on October 20th.
• Mentor a current student through the Alumni Liaison program or join PACNet
• Volunteer for an Alumni Board committee such as the Alumni Outreach Committee, Events Committee, or Awards Committee.
• Run for an open position on the Alumni Board.
• Share the stories of what you are doing on the Penn Nursing Alumni website, www.nursing.upenn.edu/alumni.
• Contribute to Penn Nursing Annual Giving.

Remember, you are always a Penn Nurse and we welcome your involvement.

Warmest regards,

Tara Trimarchi, GNu’97
Penn Nursing Alumni President

To learn about the many ways you can become involved in Penn Nursing, call 215-898-4841, email nursalum@pobox.upenn.edu, or visit www.nursing.upenn.edu/alumni.

New Alumni Board Members Announced
Congratulations to our newly elected Penn Nursing Alumni (PNA) Board members. Their two-year terms began on July 1, 2007 and will run through June 30, 2009:

President-Elect: Jonathan Gilbride, Nu ’98, GNu ’00, GNu ’03, of New York City
Secretary: M. Brian Bixby, GNu ’87, of Philadelphia
Vice President for Student and School Support: Mary Knapp, GNu ’87, of Bayhead, N.J.
Young Alumni Representatives: Dominique Gaherty, Nu ’98, and Jill M. Siegrist, Nu ’05, GNu ’07, both of Philadelphia
Board of Directors: Kathleen G. Burke, GR ‘01, of Blue Bell, Pa., and Mary Walton, Nu ’74, GNu ’81, of Philadelphia
Nominating Committee: Linda Herrmann, Nu ’95, GNu ’98, of Tempe, Ariz., and Krista Malovany Pinola, Nu ’86, of West Chester, Pa.

We would like to recognize and thank the following board members who stepped down on June 30, 2007:
Young Alumni Representative: Kathleen Birck, Nu ’02, GNu ’03
Board of Directors: Charlotte Cady, GNu ’74
Nominating Committee: Leslie Obermeier Plona, Nu ’82
Recent Graduate Representative: Kara Colopinto, Nu ’05

Nominate yourself or a fellow alumnus to serve a two-year PNA term. PNA Board members work together on various committees to connect alumni to each other, current students, faculty, staff, and friends of the School through programs, events, publications, and outreach. Complete a nomination form online at www.nursing.upenn.edu/alumni or call 215-898-4841 for more information.
Penn Nursing Celebrates Alumni Weekend 2007

On Saturday, May 12, more than 150 alumni and friends attended a series of Alumni Weekend events hosted by Penn Nursing Alumni (PNA) and led by Committee Chair Jill Siegrist, Nu ’06. The festive day began at Claire M. Fagin Hall with tours of the School and the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and an expert alumni panel discussion on “Changing Policy, Changing Practice.”

Eileen Sullivan-Marx, HUP ’72, Nu ’76, GR ’95, HOM ’01, began the panel discussion by sharing some of Penn Nursing’s initiatives in its community: the recently expanded Living Independently for Elders (LIFE) practice and Penn’s community partnership with the William L. Sayre School in West Philadelphia. “Public health policy must begin by addressing the needs of young children and the elderly,” said Dr. Sullivan-Marx, the Associate Dean for Practice and Community Affairs.

Issues reflected locally such as patient safety and nurse fatigue are also concerns across the globe, added panelists Lillee Gelinas, GNu ’79, MSN, RN, and Sean Clarke, GNC ’99. Researchers have increasingly focused on issues of nurse migration and the ethics of attracting nurses from other countries. Lillee described an emerging trend wherein recruiters from Dubai, Singapore, and Thailand are hiring top nurse administrators from the U.S. to foreign positions at significant pay increases, the reverse of previous trends whereby the West pulls nurses from the East. The discussion led one listener to comment, “Updates [such as these] on the state of nursing and healthcare help me understand what policies I need to push for.”

After the panel discussion, the day’s program continued with updates from Afaf I. Meleis, PhD, DRPS (hon), FAAN, FR CN, the Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing, and PNA President Tara Trimarchi, GNu ’97, and the Alumni Awards presentations. Guests then moved to the Nursing tent on Hill Square, where alumni and friends remembered the past and celebrated the future of Penn Nursing, culminating with a traditional march through campus in the Penn Parade.

Greetings from the HUP Alumni President

As the new president of the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing Alumni Association, I look forward to working with a talented group of board members and all of the alumni as we honor our HUP legacy.

This year, the board will remain committed to many activities, including continuing the alumni association membership drive, generating support for both the HUP scholarship fund and the Philadelphia Foundation, producing the HUP alumni newsletter, and collaborating with alumni interested in starting satellite groups. Our next social event, the Fall Luncheon, will be held October 27th. I hope to make new friends and see many of you there.

Finally, we need your help! Send us your updated contact information so that we can keep you informed with our newsletter and event information. Contact us at HUP Alumni Association, PO Box 42018, Philadelphia, PA 19101, HUPALUM@nursing.upenn.edu, or 215-898-7047 and leave a message concerning new contact information or questions about your membership status. And, be sure to check out our website at www.nursing.upenn.edu/alumni.

Deborah Haug Whealton, HUP ’75

P.S. Look for more HUP Alumni News in the spring issue of UPfront.
Alumni Notes

1940s

1950s
Norma Woodbridge HUP '52, a nurse for more than 50 years, is currently working as a fulltime night RN on a locked Alzheimer’s unit. She credits HUP for “fostering an insatiable curiosity, knowing how to ask the right questions, how to have a profound humanity, and to be patient centered with the most professional knowledge possible.”

1960s
Prudence (String) Humber Nu '66, is Executive Director of Alpha Pregnancy Services in Philadelphia, “a Christian agency devoted to helping women of all backgrounds carry children to birth and beyond by providing counseling, birth training, support, and clothing free of charge,” writes her husband, Paul G. Humber C '64 GEd '66. “She has been happily married for more than 40 years, and has three children and seven grandchildren. Her missionary son, Paul D. Humber C '95, serves in Pointe Noire, Congo. Her daughter, Ruth P. Brittain C '95, plans to go with her husband and family to Papua New Guinea for a four-month term of missionary service.”

1970s
Joan (Slater) McDonough Nu '71, writes, “I am currently working as a nurse practitioner in presurgical testing at Huntington Hospital, a local community hospital in Huntington, N.Y., where I have worked as an NP in the emergency department. I have also done primary care and orthopedic hand surgery as an NP. I received my master’s degree from the State University of New York Stonybrook. I have been married for 35 years and have two sons - one is an attorney in New York City and one does web design in New York City - no grandchildren yet!”

1980s
Nancy Vanore GNu '81, sponsored the pre-season training weekend for the Penn women’s field hockey at her home in Avalon, N.J., in August 2006. One of her daughters is Nicole Black C '08.

Susan Bakewell-Sachs GNu '82, GR '92, GNC '95, Dean of the School of Nursing, Health, and Exercise Science at the College of New Jersey, was honored by the March of Dimes in March as the 2007 Reality Awards Amazing Race Winner. This is a statewide recognition of maternal child health nurses in New Jersey.

Gail (Carlson) Kost GNu '82, was awarded Nurse Educator of the Year, sponsored by The Indianapolis Star and the Indiana State Nurses Association in May. Gail, who taught nursing at Valparaiso University for 10 years, has been teaching at Indiana University for the past seven years. She received her certification as a nurse educator (CNE) in March.

Charlotte Thomas-Hawkins GNu '85, GR '98, Assistant Professor at the College of Nursing at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, received the Research Abstract award from The American Nephrology Nurses’ Association (ANNA). She was honored for the peer-review research abstract, “Illness Representations and Depression in Older Adults with Stage 5 Chronic Kidney Disease Receiving Long Term Hemodialysis,” which she presented at the ANNA's National Symposium in Dallas in April.

Mary Zorzanello GNu '88, recently graduated from the Yale School of Nursing with a post master’s certificate as an adult nurse practitioner and started a new job as a nurse practitioner for the Yale School of Medicine, Department of Nephrology in July. She writes, “This is an extension of my many years as a nephrology clinical nurse specialist, the past 13 of which were spent running the Peritoneal Dialysis program for a company now called DaVita, which is affiliated with Yale Nephrology. I live in New Haven with my son Arthur, who just celebrated his eighth birthday.”

1990s
Catherine A. Brown GNu '89, was named President of the Children Affected by AIDS Foundation in January 2006 and named a Fellow of ASAE and the Center for Association Leadership in August 2005. She credits her master’s education for setting the foundation for her success and leadership in non-profit organizations.

Patricia Marie Dawson Nu ’91, GNu’ 97, is a neonatal nurse practitioner at Oregon Health & Science University and at Legacy Emanuel Hospital for Children in Portland. “When I’m not taking care of babies at work, I’m busy at home with our baby, Olin Williams, born September 12, 2006.” He joins his big sister, Gillian, and brother, Aaron.

Aaron J. Poller C ’69 GNu’ 91, writes, “I am very happy in my professional career and have felt very grateful for the opportunities I have had. I am currently teaching and have a private psychotherapy practice which keeps me quite busy. I enjoy gardening, my dogs, and exploring North Carolina. I continue to write poetry and look forward to having a few things published shortly.”

Jennifer (Eschenauer) Travers Nu ’91, writes, “I am thrilled to announce the opening of my own legal nurse consulting practice, Travers Legal Nurse Consulting, LLC. It is exciting to take my nursing background in a new and challenging direction. I work with attorneys involved in healthcare related litigation by providing behind the scenes support and education through medical record review, report preparation, and research. Prior to this, I worked in the acute care hospital setting and the insurance industry. I have also completed the Comprehensive Small Business Development Program at the University of Hartford.”

Christi (Smith) Stille Nu ’92, writes, “I am now at home fulltime with my three sons: Jack (four) and Sam (two), who were joined by baby Charlie in August 2006. My husband and I are renovating yet another old house here in Massachusetts.”
Rebecca (Bergman) Maher Nu ’93, writes, “We welcomed Brooke Marie Maher to our family on December 26, 2006. Braden (five) and Bryce (two) are enamored with a baby sister—for now. We are happy to be back in the Bay Area, having moved to Moraga, Calif., in August.”

Robert G. Hess Jr. GR ’94, Senior Vice President of Continuing Education at Gannett Healthcare Group, recently received the Many Are One 2007 Service award from Seton Hall University’s College of Nursing. Every year, each of Seton Hall’s nine schools and colleges chooses an alumnus who has made an extraordinary contribution of time or talent to further the progress of the school or college.

Joanne (Patterson) Robinson G ’94, GR ’95, assumed the role of Chairperson of the Department of Nursing at Rutgers University-Camden in July.

Rachel L. Grencavich GNu ’96, is currently working as a certified nurse midwife at the Advanced Care OB/GYN in Absecon, N.J.

Mia Tepper Lew Nu ’96, married Shmuel Lew in Jerusalem on November 2, 2006. Mia and Shmuel live in Ranaana, Israel, where she is an oncology nurse and he is a bond trader for First International Bank of Israel.

Karen E. (Henrichs) Campbell Nu ’97, and her husband, David, announce the birth of their first child, Sarah Elizabeth Campbell, born on July 4, 2006, weighing eight pounds, one ounce. “Mom, Dad, and Sarah are doing extremely well down in Melbourne, Australia, and are looking forward to Sarah’s first visit to the U.S. in December-January.”

Erin (Crowley) Henry Nu ’97, GNu ’01, and James Henry EAS ’97, of Voorhees, N.J., announce the birth of their son, Connor James Henry, on October 9, 2006. He was born at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, weighing in at a “petite” 11 pounds, 4.8 ounces., and 22-and-a-half-inches long. He joins his three-year-old sister, Kaitlyn.

Vicki (Brener) Frindell GNU ’98, writes, “I live in Scottsdale, Ariz., with my husband, Scott and two children, Talia (five) and Craig (two). I work part-time as a women’s health nurse practitioner in a private practice, Caring for Women, P.C., where I have been for the past eight years.”

Matt Hendell Nu ’97, GNu ’98, and Christine D. Hendell Nu ’99, GNu ’00, announce the birth of their second child, Madeleine Grace, on June 10, 2005. She weighed seven pounds, eight ounces. “She is more than feisty enough to keep up with her now five-year-old brother, John, and is keeping us all in stitches. We have moved from Philadelphia to York, Pa., to move our careers in a new direction. We are both still practicing as CRNPs, Matt in pediatric neurology and Christine in pediatric endocrinology.”

J. Olivia Voellmicke Nu ’99 received her MSN in adult primary care from New York University in May 2006. She was named valedictorian of the master's program. She and her husband welcomed their first child, Abigail Kate, on February 24, 2007. Abigail weighed in at eight pounds, three ounces and almost 22 inches long.

2000s

Sheldon D. Fields GR ’00, was promoted to Associate Professor of Nursing with tenure effective at the University of Rochester in Rochester, N.Y.

Kathleen Birck Nu ’02, GNu ’03, writes, “I will finish my three-year commitment with the National Health Service Corps in September 2007. I hope to move to Arizona, Colorado, or New Mexico and start a new nurse practitioner job later this year.”

Hanne Harbison Nu ’02, GNu ’03, writes, “Anna Koopman Nu ’02, GNu ’03, and I have recently relocated to Birmingham, Ala., to be closer to family. Anna is working for the University of Alabama (UAB) in the Department of Obstetrics as a nurse practitioner providing prenatal care to women seeking care through the public health department clinics. I have just taken a job with Dr. Edward Hook III, director of the STD program at UAB. I will be providing care to patients in the county-run STD clinic as well as being the primary research nurse for all the STD protocols. We are excited to have found two well-matched jobs as NPs in women’s health after all these years since graduation.”

Jeniffer Tobon Nu’02, writes, “I graduated June 2007 with my master’s of nursing from the University of Washington and will soon become certified and licensed as an Adult nurse practitioner in Washington state.”

Make sure you are receiving the latest news from Penn Nursing. Keep your contact information accurate by sending us your new email address and home and business information. Email nursalum@pobox.upenn.edu, call 215-898-4841 or make the changes yourself on Penn’s QuakerNet site at www.alumniconnections.com/penn/.
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2007

October 19
Annual State of the School Address by Afaf I. Meleis, PhD, DrPS(hon), FAAN, FRCN, the Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing

October 20: Homecoming
Come early and tailgate on the Green with Penn alumni from 10 a.m.-noon at Quakerfest, cheer for the football team at noon, and end the day at an all-alumni party celebrating the launch of Penn’s Campaign at 6 p.m.
Homecoming Game: Penn vs. Yale

October 26-27
Penn Nursing Hosts “Men in Nursing: Contributions to the Health of Men and the Profession of Nursing” the 32nd Annual Conference of the American Assembly for Men in Nursing (continuing education program)

October 27
HUP Alumni Fall Luncheon

October 31
Center for Transitions and Health Inaugural Lecture
First in Provost Interdisciplinary Seminar Series
Speaker: Dean Afaf Meleis

November 2-4
Family Weekend at Penn

November 10
Penn Nursing Graduate Open House

November 12-16
Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (continuing education program)

2008

February 9
Penn Nursing Graduate Open House

April 4-5
Penn Nursing Preview Weekend

April 10
Claire M. Fagin Distinguished Researcher Lecture

May 16-17
Alumni Weekend
35 and 85 – this is your reunion year! Penn Nursing reunion chairs are needed. For more information, contact Monica LoRusso at 215-898-4841 or nursalum@pobox.upenn.edu.

May 19
Penn Nursing Commencement

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING 2007 ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS:

Penn Nursing Alumni Student Award:
Christine Becer, Nu ’06

Recent Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence:
Martin Camacho, GNu ’03, MSN, CRNP-BC

Legacy Award:
Beverly Emonds, HUP ’69, Nu ’72, GNu ’90

Alumni Award for Clinical Excellence:
Sharon Katz, GNu ’87, RN, MSN

Lillian Sholtis Brunner Award:
Terri Lipman, GNu ’83, GRN’91, PhD, CRNP, FAAN

Outstanding Alumni Award for Leadership in Nursing:
Therese Richmond, GRN ’95, GNC ’97, PhD

Honorary Alumni Award:
George and Estelle Sands

In Memoriam
Ruth (Booker) Daniels Nu ’57, GEd ’61, of Harrisburg, Pa., February 2005.
Joyce (Morgan) Dunn Nu ’57, of West Townshend, Vt., June 3, 2006.
Dolores M. Fournier HUP ’57, of South Park, Pa., April 9, 2007.
Judy L. House WG ’88, GR ’95, of Center Valley, Pa., April 11, 2007. She was one of the first recipients of the PhD/ MBA combined degree.
Margaret W. Muldoon Nu ’51, of Livermore, Calif., December 26, 2006.
Catherine (Gray) Paine NEd ’47, GEd ’57, of Lansdale, Pa., April 3, 2006.
Bette (Cole) Watson HUP ’47, of Philipsburg, Pa., April 19, 2005.
Sara A. Williamson Nu ’67, of Union Dale, Pa., November 9, 2006.
Dorothy G. Wyzykiewicz NEd ’41, of Malvern, Pa., November 27, 2006.

PNA Awards Committee Chair Mary Walton, Nu ’74, GNu ’81 presents Dr. Terri Lipman, GNu ’83, GRN’91 (left) with the Lillian S. Brunner Award.
New Faculty
Join School of Nursing

The School of Nursing further exemplified its commitment to nursing education and research excellence by welcoming the following new faculty members:

Jianghong Liu, PhD, RN, Assistant Professor of Nursing. In her research, Dr. Liu takes an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach in an international setting, examines early health risk factors in relation to childhood behavior, and uses longitudinal methodology. Her specific research areas include prenatal/perinatal/postnatal risk factors, early nutritional deficits, and environmental toxicity in the development of childhood behavioral and cognitive deficit.

Salimah H. Meghani, GNu ‘00 GR ’05, PhD, MBE, CRNP, Assistant Professor of Nursing. Dr. Meghani’s current research focuses on racial and ethnic disparities in cancer pain treatment. More specifically, her current work includes an exploration of the patient-level factors affecting negotiation of treatment for cancer pain among African Americans. Through her research, she has sought to identify the factors that shape analgesic preference for cancer pain and analgesia-related belief structures among subsets of minorities.

Friends Old and New
School of Nursing Says Farewell to Two Who Cared to Change the World

Professor of Nursing Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, GFA ’80 GR ’84, PhD, RN, FAAN, retired during the 2006-07 academic year after 34 years. A retirement celebration titled “No One Like Karen… No Place Like Home” was held in her honor at the School of Nursing with friends, colleagues, and former and current students.

The celebration’s title reprised the title of Dr. Buhler-Wilkerson’s successful book, There’s No Place Like Home: A History of Nursing and Home Care in the United States, which documents the history of the visiting nurse movement. The book was well received in reviews in such publications as The New England Journal of Medicine and The Journal of the American Medical Association.

Dr. Buhler-Wilkerson helped found the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing at the School of Nursing, one of the first centers of nursing history in the country. Noting that accomplishment, Lois Evans, HOM’90, PhD, RN, FAAN, presented Dr. Buhler-Wilkerson with an antique nurse’s timepiece and announced the establishment of a Karen Buhler-Wilkerson Historical Research Fund in the History Center.

Dr. Buhler-Wilkerson also served as Co-Faculty Director of the Living Independently for Elderly (LIFE) program. “One of the most rewarding parts of my career was to create the LIFE Program, which to date has cared for 550 members and their families,” said Dr. Buhler-Wilkerson. “It was an honor to be a founding mother of this innovative, integrated model of care for the frail elderly.”

“We will always think of Karen as a teacher, researcher, scholar, and artist,” said Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing Afaf I. Meleis, PhD, DrPS(hon), FAAN, FRCN. “She inspired students and stimulated them to follow her from course to course.”

Penn Nursing also honored Associate Professor of Nursing Cynthia Scalzi HOM ’92, PhD, RN, FAAN, who, after 18 years on the faculty, retired in 2007 as Associate Professor in the Wharton School of Business Department of Health Care Systems and Senior Fellow in the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics.

Known as a key collaborator in the development of the Penn Nursing/Wharton interdisciplinary graduate program, Dr. Scalzi was also an important contributor to the efforts of her colleagues in the School’s Center for Geriatric Nursing Science and the John A. Hartford Foundation Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence. With Dr. Evans, Dr. Scalzi identified the characteristics of exemplary environments in nursing homes to uncover how the environment in nursing homes relates to the cost, quality of life for elders, and quality of work life for staff. Sought-after for her knowledge of healthcare administration curricula, Dr. Scalzi has consulted for Chiang Mai University, Khon Kaen University in Thailand, and for Kobe University in Japan.

Dean Meleis said, “We are experiencing both a great sense of loss and deep sense of appreciation.”
“The purpose of the Claire Fagin Distinguished Research Award is to honor Dr. Fagin, to recognize our faculty, and to be inspired by our faculty’s accomplishments,” said Afaf I. Meleis PhD, DrPS(hon), FAAN, FRCN, the Margaret Bond Simon Dean of Nursing, as she introduced the Fifth Claire M. Fagin Distinguished Research Award lecturer.

Before an audience of family, friends, current and former students, and colleagues, Linda H. Aiken, HOM ’88, PhD, RN FAAN, FRCN, the Claire M. Fagin Leadership Professor in Nursing, Professor of Sociology, and Director of the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research (CHOPR) presented her extensive research regarding the international nursing shortage and its subsequent effects on patient care — research that has not only inspired colleagues, but has influenced policies in the United States and around the world.

Among those in attendance to hear Dr. Aiken present “Healing Hospitals: Improving Patient Outcomes at Home and Abroad” was Dr. Fagin, PhD, FAAN, RN, Dean Emerita and former interim Penn President. Dr. Fagin, one of the nation’s first nursing deans to recognize the value of nursing research through the creation of a funded research center, was responsible for recruiting Dr. Aiken to Penn Nursing in 1988.

“Dr. Aiken was born a star,” said Dr. Fagin. “She has always excelled in everything she has done,” recently landing on the Modern Healthcare magazine’s list of the top 100 most influential people in the number 20 spot, right behind Hillary Clinton.

“Recently, Dr. Aiken’s research has focused on the global nursing shortage and how to alleviate it. She believes researchers must use their findings to create a “burning platform” that will “mobilize a broad constituency for addressing the inter-related problems of ailing hospitals and inadequate global nurse workforce.”

Dr. Aiken’s long research career has produced many important findings including that for every one additional patient added to a hospital staff nurse’s workload, patient mortality after common surgery increases by seven percent. “Hospitals with more RNs and better patient care environments have better patient outcomes and nurse retention,” she said.

According to Dr. Aiken, negative work environments and failed human resources policies also contribute to poor nurse retention, which then leads to an increase in preventable patient deaths and complications. “Nurses are not treated by hospitals as the scarce resources they are,” she said. “Nurses report negative work environments in hospitals and lack of regard for their expertise and education.”

Dr. Aiken’s team also found that each 10 percent increase in proportion of hospital staff nurses with BSNs is associated with a five percent decline in mortality and a five percent decline in the risk of death of patients with complications (also known as failure to rescue). “More than 40,000 hospital deaths could be prevented each year if all U.S. hospitals improved the quality of their nurse practice environments, nurse to patient ratios and nurse education to the levels in the ‘better’ hospitals,” said Dr. Aiken.

Yet, the U.S. nursing shortage is not unique. The International Hospital Outcomes Study (IHOS) was developed and designed and has been coordinated by the School of Nursing’s CHOPR. It began as a consortium of eight interdisciplinary nurse-led research teams in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Germany, and New Zealand studying the factors that cause the nursing shortage and potential solutions. In recent years, the IHOS measurement tools and approach have been used by teams in Switzerland, Belgium, Iceland, Australia, Japan, Thailand, and South Korea. Remarkable similarities have been found in the working conditions reported by nurses and in the connections between staffing and other factors related to patient outcomes. According to 2001 findings, 66 percent of U.S. hospital nurses reported there were not
enough nursing staff on the job to provide high-quality care, compared to 65 percent in Canada, 71 percent in England, 62 percent in Scotland, 63 percent in Germany, and 56 percent in New Zealand. “Poor nurse retention and preventable patient deaths are common in hospitals all over the world,” said Dr. Aiken.

“We must show stakeholders — hospitals and health systems whose capacity to continue to grow will be limited by nurse shortage, large employers who purchase healthcare for their employees, the health insurance industry, local business interests and local and state governments that benefit from job creation and revenue generated from healthcare, and patients and their advocates — that staying where we are is not an option, and that doing nothing will result in a worse alternative. We must use research, policy analysis, evaluations of best practices, and the media to convince stakeholders to collaborate on an action plan,” said Dr. Aiken.

“The number of international nurses in the U.S. has tripled since 1994,” said Dr. Aiken. “The loss of nurses through migration from sub-Saharan Africa is one of the major barriers to addressing the HIV-AIDS crisis.” While one in five adults in South Africa is HIV positive, first-world countries continue to recruit South African nurses. “Nurses are leaving because conditions make it impossible to be nurses there,” said Dr. Aiken. “We are currently designing a public-private partnership to develop magnet hospitals to retain nurses in developing countries,” while also developing policy to expand U.S. nurse supply with domestic applicants and retain more nurses in clinical care.

The data compiled by Dr. Aiken and her colleagues have impacted healthcare policy on many fronts, including state- and federal level legislation related to safe staffing levels in hospitals. Their pioneering paper on nurse education and surgical patient outcomes in the Journal of the American Medical Association was used to support a reaffirmation of the BSN job requirement for permanent positions in the federal health services, the adoption by the American Organization of Nurse Executives of a resolution in support of the BSN as a desired qualification of hospital nurses, pending state legislation on the bachelor’s degree as a condition of ongoing licensure. Dr. Aiken’s research on Magnet hospitals has laid the ground for the Magnet Recognition program’s ongoing success and transforming nurses’ work environment.

“Our research has given the field new methods and measures for studying nursing outcomes. Our leadership has created a cadre of nurse outcomes researchers in U.S. and abroad whose work challenges the status quo. And our research has been disseminated to those who can and are making changes to improve hospital quality and the adequacy of global nurse workforce,” said Dr. Aiken.
FACULTY HONORS & AWARDS 2006-2007

Ivo Abraham
Distinguished Lecturer, University of Arizona College of Nursing; Visiting Fellow for Research, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Linda Aiken
20th among Modern Healthcare’s “100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare” 2006

Deborah Becker
Educational Advancement Scholarship, Southeast Chapter of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses

Kathryn Bowles
Fellow, American Academy of Nursing

Deborah Watkins Bruner
Fellow, American Academy of Nursing; Independence Endowed Chair in Nursing Education, SoN

Karen Buhler-Wilkerson
President’s Award for Lifetime Service, American Association for the History of Nursing

Sean Clarke
Class of 1965 25th Reunion Term Assistant Professor of Nursing, SoN

Christopher Coleman
Fellow, American Academy of Nursing; Distinguished Lecturer, Association of Nurses in AIDS Care

Charlene Compher
Distinguished Service Award, American Dietetic Association (National Dieticians in Nutrition Support Practice Group)

Valerie Cotter
Nurse Scholar Award, Independence Blue Cross

Norma Cuellar
Ildaura Murillo-Rehde Award for Education Excellence, National Association of Hispanic Nurses

Janet Deatrick
Book of the Year Award, American Nurses Association; Distinguished Contribution to Family Nursing Award, International Family Nursing; Suzanne Feetham Nurse Scientist Family Research Award, Eastern Nursing Research Society

Dawn Durain
Excellence in Teaching Award, American College of Nurse Midwives; Postpartum Support International Community Service Award; elected to the Board of Directors, American College of Nurse Midwives

Lois Evans
van Ameringen Endowed Chair in Nursing Excellence, SoN

Julie Fairman
Investigator Award in Health Policy Research, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, University of Pennsylvania

Loretta Sweet Jemmott
Kyosaki Kuromiya Award for commitment to ending AIDS, Philadelphia FIGHT, Sigma Tau Theta International 2007 EpisteMe Award for Research

Sarah Kagan
Centennial Wall of Fame, University of California–San Francisco

Lenore Kurlowicz
Fellow, American Academy of Nursing

Araf Meleis
Centennial Wall of Fame, University of California–San Francisco; Dr. Gloria Twine Chisum Award for Distinguished Faculty, James Brister Society of the University of Pennsylvania

Marjorie Muecke
Global Health Research Ambassador, Paul G. Rogers Society of Research/America

David Perlman
Rose Award for Best Paper of the Year, Journal of Research Administration

Jennifer Pinto-Martin
Viola MacInnes/ Independence Endowed Chair in Nursing, SoN

Barbara Riegel
Fullbright Senior Scholarship Award, Australian-American Fulbright Commission

Marilyn Sommers
Presidential Award, Midwestern Nursing Research Society; Lillian S. Brunner Endowed Chair in Medical-Surgical Nursing, SoN

Diane Spatz
Fellow, American Academy of Nursing; Helen M. Shearer Term Associate Professor of Nutrition, SoN; Sigma Theta Tau International Research Utilization Award

Neville Strumpf
Distinguished Scholar Award, New York University

Barbra Mann Wall
Lavinia L. Dock Award for Best Book of the Year, American Association for the History of Nursing

Terri Weaver
Ada Sue Hinshaw Award, Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research

Victoria Weill
Distinguished Member Award, Pennsylvania Delaware Valley Chapter of the National Association of Nurse Practitioners

Jean Whelan
Mary Adelaide Nutting Award for Outstanding Research, American Association for the History of Nursing

Jean Yudin
Nancy Tatem Memorial Award, Eastern Pennsylvania Geniatric Society

STUDENT AWARDS

Rachel Corbin
Summer research internship, from NIH/NIDDK from the National Institutes of Health Undergraduate Short Term Education Program for Underrepresented Persons (STEP-UP) Selection and Review Committee

Jennifer Lynn Hobbs
Sigma Tau Theta International Xi chapter research funding for “A historical analysis of clinical information systems, 1970-1990s”

Brandon K. Howard
Sigma Tau Theta Xi chapter research funding for “Looking beyond the surface: Classification of inner-city Black and Hispanic adolescents based on characteristics associated with sexual risk behavior”

Erin Lacey
$20,000 scholarship from Evercare, a division of UnitedHealth Group

Christopher S. Lee
Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Pre-Doctoral Fellowship, National Institute of Nursing Research for “The Influence of Heart Failure Self-Care Behavior on Cardiac Performance”

Christina Pherson
Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania scholarship

Amy Sawyer
Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania scholarship

Lichuan Ye
Sigma Tau Theta Xi chapter research funding for “Gender differences in baseline functional status and response to continuous positive airway pressure in milder obstructive sleep apnea”

Mindy B. Zeitzer
Sigma Tau Theta Xi chapter research funding for “Ethical issues and decision making related to resuscitation of severely injured patients: Perceptions of emergency room nurses”
### RESEARCH GRANTS

**Linda Aiken**  
Center for Nursing Outcomes Research  
National Institutes of Health (R01-NR004513)  
7/1/2003-6/30/2007  
Principal Investigator: *Linda Aiken*  
Norma Cuellar

A comparison of type 2 diabetes with/without Restless Leg Syndrome
American Association of Diabetes Educators
Principal Investigator: Norma Cuellar

The use of alternative medicine for the sleep disorder RLS
Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Foundation
Principal Investigator: Norma Cuellar

The use of alternative medication for the sleep disorder RLS
Office of the Vice Provost for Research-University Research Foundation Award
7/1/2006-6/30/2007
Principal Investigator: Norma Cuellar

The use of Valerian on sleep in persons with RLS
National Institutes of Health (K01-NR009570)
Principal Investigator: Martha A. Q. Curley

Patricia D’Antonio

Nursing History Review
American Association for the History of Nursing
1/1/1992-12/31/2007
Principal Investigator: Patricia D’Antonio

Nursing in the U.S.: A history of people and places
National Institutes of Health (G13-LM008199)
Principal Investigator: Patricia D’Antonio

Owning origins: Nursing in 19th century Philadelphia
University of Pennsylvania Humanities Forum Mellon Faculty Research Award
7/1/2007-6/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Patricia D’Antonio

Great expectations: Points of congruency and discrepancies between incoming accelerated second degree baccalaureate students and their faculty
Duke University/Helene Fulda Foundation Trust
7/1/2007-6/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Patricia D’Antonio

Janet Deatrick

Assessing family management of childhood chronic illness
Yale University (R01-NR008048)
Principal Investigator: Kathleen Knaff
Co-Investigator: Janet Deatrick

Family management and survivors of childhood brain tumors
Oncology Nursing Society
Principal Investigator: Janet Deatrick

Julie Fairman

Practice politics: History of nursing 1975 to the present
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Principal Investigator: Julie Fairman

Ellen Giarelli

Transition to self management of a chronic genetic disorder in adolescents
National Institutes of Health (R01-NR00892)
Principal Investigator: Ellen Giarelli

Pennsylvania Autism and Development Disabilities Surveillance Program (PADDSP)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
6/1/2006-5/31/2010
Principal Investigator: Ellen Giarelli
Co-Investigator: Jennifer Pinto-Martin

Karen B. Hirschman

Redesigning the hospice Medicare benefit for persons with advanced dementia
Alzheimer’s Association (NIRG-05-13570)
Principal Investigator: Karen B. Hirschman

M. Katherine Hutchinson

Parental influence of adolescent sexual risk behaviors: Comparing Catholic and non-Catholic parochial and public families
Office of the Vice Provost for Research - University Research Foundation Award
Principal Investigator: M. Katherine Hutchinson

Loretta Sweet Jemmott

AIDS clinical trial unit
National Institutes of Health (U01-AI032783)
1/1/2000-12/31/2007
Principal Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott
Co-Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

The generalizability of HIV risk reduction strategies
National Institutes of Health (R01-HD039109)
9/30/1999-9/30/2006
Principal Investigator: John Jemmott
Co-Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

Hampton-Penn Center to Reduce Health Disparities
National Institutes of Health (P20-NR008361)
9/30/2002-9/30/2007
Principal Investigator: John Jemmott
Co-Investigators: Christopher Coleman, Anne Teitelman, Terri Lipman, Julie Sochalski

HIV prevention trial unit
National Institutes of Health (U01-A048014)
7/1/2000-12/31/2007
Principal Investigator: David Metzger
Co-Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

HIV sexual risk reduction for Black drug-using women
National Institutes of Health (RO1-MH64407)
Principal Investigator: Pablo Tebas
Co-Investigators: Loretta Sweet Jemmott, M. Katherine Hutchinson, Barbara Medoff-Cooper, Lorraine Tulman
Pilot Projects: Christopher Coleman, Anne Teitelman, Terri Lipman, Julie Sochalski

John Jemmott
HIV/STD prevention interventions for Black adolescents
National Institutes of Health (R01-MH062049)
Principal Investigator: John Jemmott
Co-Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

HIV/STD risk reduction for African American couples
National Institutes of Health (U10-MH064394)
Principal Investigator: John Jemmott
Co-Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

South African adolescent health promotion project
National Institutes of Health (R01-MH065867)
9/20/2002-7/31/2007
Principal Investigator: John Jemmott
Co-Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

Translating proven interventions for underserved and emergent high-risk populations: The Sister-to-Sister project
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U65-PS-00024)
5/1/2006-4/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

Eileen Lake
Nurse staffing and adverse events on inpatient units
National Institutes of Health (R01-NR00906)
8/1/2005-1/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Eileen Lake
Co-Investigator: Linda Aiken

Lisa M. Lewis
Exploring beliefs, attitudes, and perceived behavioral control associated with medication adherence for African Americans with hypertension
Office of the Vice Provost for Research-University Research Foundation Award
Principal Investigator: Lisa M. Lewis

Evaluation and refinement of the African American spirituality
Columbia University
Principal Investigator: Lisa Lewis

Terri Lipman
Evaluation of linear measurement in an inpatient pediatric setting
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society
Principal Investigator: Terri Lipman

Feeding behaviors and energy balance in infants with CHD
The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
Principal Investigator: Barbara Medoff-Cooper

Mary Naylor
Coordinating care between hospital and home: Translating research into practice
The Commonwealth Fund
8/1/2005-10/31/2007
Principal Investigator: Mary Naylor
Co-Investigators: Kathryn Bowles, Kathleen McCauley

Enhancing care coordination
National Institutes of Health (R01-AG023118)
09/15/2005-8/31/2010
Principal Investigator: Mary Naylor
Co-Investigators: Kathryn Bowles, Kathleen McCauley, Lenore Kurlowicz

Translating research into practice: Transitional care for elders
The John A. Hartford Foundation
5/15/2006-10/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Mary Naylor

Interdisciplinary Nursing Quality Research Initiative
The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
10/1/2005-9/30/2010
Principal Investigator: Mary Naylor

Patients’ and families’ home care service priorities
National Institutes of Health (R01-CA10954)
8/1/2005-5/31/2008
Principal Investigator: David Casarett
Co-Investigator: Mary Naylor

Transitional care for elders: Expanding the model of care
Jacob and Valeria Langeloth Foundation
7/1/2004-3/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Mary Naylor
Co-Investigators: Kathryn Bowles, Kathleen McCauley

Health related quality of life: Elders in long-term care
National Institutes of Health (R01-AG025524)
Principal Investigators: Mary Naylor, Kathryn Bowles, Julie Sochalski
Therese Richmond

Alcohol, firearms, and adolescent gunshot injury risk
National Institutes of Health
9/20/2005-7/31/2009
Principal Investigator: Douglas Wiebe
Co-Investigator: Therese Richmond

Case-control study of alcohol outlets and firearm violence
National Institutes of Health (R01-AA013119)
8/1/2002-4/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Charles Branas
Co-Investigator: Therese Richmond

UPACE: The Philadelphia Collaborative Violence Prevention Center
The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
9/1/2006-8/31/2011
Principal Investigator: Therese Richmond

Major depression following minor injury
National Institutes of Health (R01-MH03818)
4/1/2002-3/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Therese Richmond

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) research partner
U.S. Department of Justice Assistance (2003-GP-CX-0110)
Co-Principal Investigators: Therese Richmond, Charles Schwab

Reducing firearm injury through interdisciplinary and community partnership
The Joyce Foundation
Co-Principal Investigators: Therese Richmond, Charles Schwab

The Philadelphia gun crime deterrence study
The Joyce Foundation
Principal Investigator: Therese Richmond

Barbara Riegel

Enhancing heart failure self-care
Edna G. Kynett Memorial Foundation, Inc.
Principal Investigator: Barbara Riegel

Impact of sleepiness on heart failure self-care
National Institutes of Health (R01-HL084394)
Principal Investigator: Barbara Riegel
Co-Investigator: Terri Weaver

Symptom recognition in elders with heart failure
University of Pennsylvania Institute on Aging
7/1/2007-6/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Barbara Riegel

U.S. Fulbright Senior Scholarship:
Self-care in persons with heart failure
U.S. Department of State/Australian-American Fulbright Commission
3/1/2007-12/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Barbara Riegel

Gender differences in self-care in patients with heart failure
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
Investing in the Future Initiative
Principal Investigator: Barbara Riegel

Ann Rogers

Neurobehavioral effects of partial sleep deprivation
National Institutes of Health (R01-NR004281)
5/1/2004-1/31/2009
Principal Investigator: David Dinges
Co-Investigator: Ann Rogers

Julie Sochalski

Home care medication management for the frail elderly
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
4/01/2006-1/31/2011
Principal Investigator: Karen Marek
Co-Investigator: Julie Sochalski

Improving quality and efficiency: Coordinated care benefit for Medicare beneficiaries with heart failure
The Commonwealth Fund
7/1/2005-10/31/2007
Principal Investigator: Julie Sochalski
Co-Investigators: Barbara Riegel, Mary Naylor

Predicting pediatric risk of death after hospitalization
The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia
(20640-01-01)
8/1/2003-7/31/2006
Principal Investigator: J. Christopher Feudtner
Co-Investigator: Julie Sochalski

Quality of nursing care and outcomes of hospitalized patients
University of Pennsylvania Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics
Principal Investigator: Julie Sochalski

Marilyn Sommers

Injury from sexual assault: Addressing health disparity
National Institutes of Health (R01-NR005352)
1/1/2001-3/31/2011
Principal Investigator: Marilyn Sommers

Ellen Giarelli

Therese Richmond

Barbara Riegel, Mary Naylor

Julie Sochalski

Barbara Riegel

Marilyn Sommers

Neurophysiological, pain and quality of life outcomes with chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy
University of Pennsylvania Research Foundation
7/1/2006-6/30/2007
Principal Investigator: Rosemary Polomano

Regional anesthesia for combat injury improved pain disability outcomes
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
7/1/2006-6/30/2009
Principal Investigator: Rollin Gallagher
Co-Investigator: Rosemary Polomano

Gender differences in self-care in patients with heart failure
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing
Investing in the Future Initiative
Principal Investigator: Barbara Riegel

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University of Pennsylvania Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics
Principal Investigator: Julie Sochalski

Marilyn Sommers

Injury from sexual assault: Addressing health disparity
National Institutes of Health (R01-NR005352)
1/1/2001-3/31/2011
Principal Investigator: Marilyn Sommers

Ellen Giarelli

Therese Richmond

Barbara Riegel, Mary Naylor

Julie Sochalski

Barbara Riegel

Marilyn Sommers

Ellen Giarelli
ED intervention to reduce risky behaviors in drivers
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (R49-CES23225)
Principal Investigator: Marilyn Sommers

Diane Spatz
Breastfeeding promotion at primary care Market Street
Pennsylvania Department of Health
Principal Investigator: Diane Spatz

Support for low-income breastfeeding:
Cost and outcomes
Johns Hopkins University (R01-NR007675)
Principal Investigator: Linda Pugh
Co-Investigator: Diane Spatz

Mothers’ beliefs and experiences regarding breastfeeding in public urban areas
University of Pennsylvania Institute for Urban Research
1/1/2007-12/31/2007
Principal Investigators: Diane Spatz, Roberta Cricco-Lizza

Neville Strumpf
Center for Gerontologic Nursing Excellence:
Renewing the commitment for innovative leadership development and capacity building in geriatrics
The John A. Hartford Foundation
1/1/2001-9/30/2010
Principal Investigator: Neville Strumpf
Co-Investigators: Lois Evans, Mary Naylor
Pilot Projects: Christopher Coleman, Lisa Lewis

Eileen Sullivan-Marx
Rebuilding the interdisciplinary: Toward elder friendly urban environments
University of Pennsylvania Institute for Urban Research
Principal Investigator: Eileen Sullivan-Marx

Outcomes of an exercise program for older African American women in a PACE model
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
1/1/2006-12/31/2009
Principal Investigator: Eileen Sullivan-Marx

Visiting Nurse Service of New York scholars program
Visiting Nurse Service of New York
Principal Investigator: Eileen Sullivan-Marx
Co-Investigator: Kathryn Bowles

Anne Teitelman
HIV/STI risk reduction for African American adolescent girls: Addressing the context of abusive relationships
University of Pennsylvania Center for AIDS Research
7/1/2007-8/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Anne Teitelman
Co-Investigators: Anne Teitelman, Marilyn Stringer

Cervical cancer risk reduction among economically disadvantaged young females
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing Investing in the Future Initiative
Principal Investigators: Anne Teitelman, Marilyn Stringer

Understanding teen partner violence and pathways to safety
University of Pennsylvania Institute for Urban Research
1/1/2007-8/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Anne Teitelman

Nancy Tkacs
Hypoglycemic brain injury and loss of hypoglycemic arousal
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Principal Investigator: Nancy Tkacs

Hippocampal cell proliferation and cortical BDNF after juvenile hypoglycemia
University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing Investing in the Future Initiative
Principal Investigator: Nancy Tkacs

Connie M. Ulrich
Ethical issues encountered by nurses and social workers
National Institutes of Health
Principal Investigator: Connie M. Ulrich

Providers’ practices related to cancer clinical trials
Oncology Nursing Society
1/1/2007-6/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Connie M. Ulrich

Factors associated with attrition in radiation oncology clinical trials
American College of Radiology/Pennsylvania Department of Health
1/1/2007-12/31/2010
Principal Investigator: Connie M. Ulrich

Stella Volpe
School-based prevention of type 2 diabetes in children
National Institutes of Health (U01-DK061230)
Principal Investigator: Gary Foster
Co-Investigators: Stella Volpe, Terri Lipman

Short-term exercise on body weight in overweight elderly African American women
LIFE Research Initiative
5/1/2007-4/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Stella Volpe
Co-Investigator: Terri Lipman

Barbra Mann Wall
A comparative history of 20th century Catholic hospitals
University of Pennsylvania Research Foundation
Principal Investigator: Barbra Mann Wall

Terri Weaver
Impact of CPAP on functional outcomes in milder OSA
National Institutes of Health (R01-HL07101)
9/1/2003-8/30/2008
Principal Investigator: Terri Weaver

SCOR in neurobiology of sleep and sleep apnea
National Institutes of Health (P50-HL060287)
9/1/2003-8/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Allan Pack
Co-Investigator: Terri Weaver

Jean C. Whelan
Never enough: Nurse supply and demand, 1900-1965
National Institutes of Health (G13-LM00840)
8/1/2005-7/31/2008
Principal Investigator: Jean C. Whelan

Nursing, history and healthcare: A website
National Institutes of Health (G13-LM008295)
Co-Investigators: Karen Buhler-Wilkerson, Jean C. Whelan
**INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING GRANTS**

Advanced training in nursing outcomes research (T32)  
National Institutes of Health (T32-NR007104)  
Principal Investigator: Linda Aiken  
Co-Investigators: Sean Clarke, Eileen Lake, Nancy Hanrahan, Herbert Smith

Building RN training skills for geriatric education excellence  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
9/1/2003-6/30/2009  
Principal Investigator: Eileen Sullivan-Marx

Creating careers in geriatric advanced practice nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
7/1/2002-6/30/2008  
Principal Investigator: Neville Strumpf

Delaware Valley Geriatric Education Center  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (D31-HP070144)  
7/1/2001-12/31/2006  
Principal Investigator: Mary Ann Forciea  
Co-Investigator: Lois Evans

Graduate nurse education  
Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation  
1/1/2007-12/31/2007  
Principal Investigator: Kathleen McCauley

Individualized care for at-risk older adults  
National Institutes of Health (T32-NR009356)  
7/1/2007-6/30/2012  
Principal Investigator: Neville Strumpf  
Co-Investigators: Mary Naylor, Kathryn Bowles

Initiative for minority students: Bridges to the doctorate  
National Institutes of Health (R25-GM075307)  
7/1/2005-6/30/2008  
Principal Investigator: Anne Keane  
Co-Investigator: Linda McCauley

Master’s education in occupational environmental health  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (T01-CCT310445)  
7/1/2005-7/30/2007  
Principal Investigator: Linda McCauley  
Co-Investigators: Ann Rogers, Sean Clarke

Nurse Anesthetist Traineeship  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
7/1/2006-6/30/2007  
Principal Investigator: Kathleen McCauley

Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation 2006-2007 Nursing Education Grant Program  
Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation  
7/1/2006-6/30/2007  
Principal Investigator: Kathleen McCauley

Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation Nurse Scholars Grant  
Pennsylvania Higher Education Foundation  
7/1/2006-6/30/2007  
Principal Investigator: Kathleen McCauley

Research on vulnerable women, children and families  
National Institutes of Health (T32-NR007100)  
Principal Investigator: Janet Deatrick  
Co-Investigator: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

University-based nurse anesthesia program  
Health Resources and Services Administration (D09-HP04061)  
Principal Investigator: Anne Keane

**CONFERENCE GRANTS**

Geriatric mental health nursing: State of the future conference  
van Ameringen Foundation, Inc.  
1/1/2005-12/1/2006  
Principal Investigator: Lois Evans

Modeling the built and social environments for health, development and behavior research  
Penn Institute for Urban Research  
Principal Investigator: Dennis Culhane  
Co-Investigator: Stella Volpe

Penn summit on global issues in women’s health: Safe womanhood in an unsafe world  
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (#36122)  
Principal Investigator: Afaf Meleis

**PRE/POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP AWARDS**

Critical analysis of nursing home management styles and identification of management strategies aimed at producing constructive work cultures  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
7/1/2006-6/30/2007  
Fellow: Katherine K. Hostved  
Mentor: Lois Evans

Developing and testing a cultural model for long-term female urinary incontinence  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
Fellow: Christine Bradway  
Mentor: Neville Strumpf

Factors affecting the negotiation of cancer pain treatment among African Americans  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Fellow: Salimah Meghani  
Mentor: Arlene Houldin
Improving physical and functional outcomes of critically ill older adults  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
Fellow: Michele Balas  
Mentor: Therese Richmond

Improving nursing home care through palliative care  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
7/1/2006-6/30/2007  
Fellow: Rebecca Trotta  
Mentor: Neville Strumpf

In incidence of postpartum depression in mothers of infants admitted to a neonatal intensive care unit and the relationship to breastfeeding  
Holz Award  
8/1/2005-5/30/2008  
Fellow: Nicole Hitti  
Mentor: Lois Evans

The lived experiences of Korean immigrant caregivers after nursing home placement of their elderly non-English languages (NELS) relatives with dementia  
American Nurse Foundation (2005084)  
11/14/2005-11/14/2006  
Fellow: Eun-Hi Kong  
Mentor: Arlene Houldin

Master’s degree scholarship in cancer nursing  
American Cancer Society (MSCN-04-166-01-SCN)  
Fellow: Brooke Slater  
Mentor: Arlene Houldin

Master’s degree scholarship in cancer nursing  
American Cancer Society (CN-06-232-01)  
8/1/2006-7/31/2008  
Fellow: Monica Ploof  
Sponsor: Janet Deatrick

Nurse practitioner legislation and access to healthcare  
National Institutes of Health (F31-NR008302)  
9/1/2003-7/31/2006  
Fellow: Deborah Ann Sampson  
Mentor: Julie Fairman

Obstructive sleep apnea: African American perceptions  
National Institutes of Health (F31-NR-00931)  
Fellow: Amy Sawyer  
Mentor: Terri Weaver

Organizational culture, nursing care delivery and nursing home resident outcomes  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
7/1/2005-6/30/2007  
Fellow: Jennifer Bellot  
Mentor: Lois Evans

Parental beliefs about neonatal clinical trials  
National Institutes of Health (F31-NR-00896)  
Fellow: Frances Ward  
Sponsor: Janet Deatrick

Physical activity determinants and behavior in older breast cancer survivors  
American Cancer Society (CN-05-183-02)  
Fellow: Carrie Stricker  
Mentor: Neville Strumpf

Genital injuries in adolescents after sexual assault  
National Institutes of Health (F31-NR09727)  
1/1/2006-12/1/2006  
Fellow: Rachel Beekman Baker  
Mentor: Marilyn Sommers

Factors influencing inner city older adults’ non-urgent ED visits  
Penn-Hartford Center for Geriatric Nursing Excellence  
6/1/2007-8/30/2008  
Fellow: Deborah D’Avolio  
Mentor: Neville Strumpf

Pain in older adults with Parkinson’s Disease  
The American Academy of Nursing  
7/1/2006-6/30/2008  
Fellow: Lisette Bunting-Perry  
Mentors: Rosemary Polomano, Neville Strumpf

A mixed methods study investigating the influence of psychological variables of self-care management in heart failure patients  
Sigma Theta Tau  
Fellow: Barbara Dickson  
Mentor: Barbara Riegel

Variables affecting heart failure self-care management in the workforce  
Johns Hopkins University  
Fellow: Victoria Dickson  
Mentors: Barbara Riegel, Linda McCauley

The influence of heart failure self-care behavior on cardiac performance  
National Institutes of Health (F31-NR010299)  
9/1/2007-8/31/2010  
Fellow: Christopher Lee  
Mentors: Barbara Riegel, Kenneth Margulies

Older Black women’s stories of hypertension treatment with physicians  
The American Academy Of Nursing  
7/1/2006-6/30/2007  
Fellow: Sadie Mitchell  
Mentor: Eileen Sullivan-Marx

Age-discordant relationships among teen girls in Jamaica  
National Institutes of Health (F31-NR009919)  
9/1/2006-12/31/2007  
Fellow: Elyssa Vasas  
Mentor: Loretta Sweet Jemmott

Care of older adults following traumatic closed head injury  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
7/1/2007-6/30/2009  
Fellow: Linda Herrmann  
Mentor: Neville Strumpf

A pilot study of oral nutritional supplementation, weight loss and health  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
7/1/2007-6/30/2009  
Fellow: Rose DiMaria-Ghalili  
Mentor: Eileen Sullivan-Marx

Feeding decisions by surrogate decision makers of African American nursing home residents  
The John A. Hartford Foundation through the American Academy of Nursing  
7/1/2007-6/30/2009  
Fellow: Ruth Lopez  
Mentor: Neville Strumpf
SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Abraham, Ivo


Aiken, Linda

Aiken, L. (2007). U.S. nurse labor market dynamics are key to global nurse sufficiency. Health Services Research, 42 (3, part II), 1299-1320.


Akiyama, Cliff


Badellino, Karen

Barnsteiner, Jane


Boullata, Joseph

Bowles, Kathryn


Bradway, Christine


Brown, Kathleen

Brunner, Deborah Watkins


Buzby, Marianne

Cheung, Robyn


Cimioti, Jeannie

Clarke, Sean


Coleman, Christopher


Compher, Charlene


Curley, Martha A. Q.


D’Antonio, Patricia


Beatrick, Janet


Durain, Dawn


Evans, Lois


Fairman, Julie


Liu, Jianghong


McCausley, Kathleen


McCausley, Linda


McCaul, William


Medoff-Cooper, Barbara


Mooney-Doyle, Kim


Muecke, Marjorie


O’Sullivan, Ann


Perlman, David


Pinto-Martín, Jennifer


Sullivan-Marx, Eileen


Tkacs, Nancy

Tulman, Lorraine

Ulrich, Connie


Verger, Judy

Volpe, Stella


Wall, Barbra Mann


Weaver, Terri


Weill, Victoria

Zurakowski, Tamara


STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Bunting-Perry, Lisette

Kutney Lee, Ann

Trout, Kimberly K.

KEYNOTE, INVITED, AND INTERNATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Linda Aiken


International Nurses Day, Hong Kong Hospital Authority. Hong Kong, SAR, China. May 2007 (invited keynote speaker).

The Global Healthcare Workforce, Hong Kong Hospital Authority Convention. Hong Kong, SAR, China. May 2007 (invited plenary speaker).


Strategic Opportunities in Nursing, China Medical Board meeting on Nursing in China and Southeast Asia. Bangkok, Thailand. February 2007 (invited).


Nursing’s Role in Quality and Safety, Global Government Health Partners Leadership Forum, Lillian Carter Center for International Nursing, Emory University School of Nursing, Atlanta. November 2006 (invited plenary address).


Jane H. Barnsteiner

Deborah Becker


Joseph Boullata

Kathryn Bowles

Developing a Decision Support System for Discharge Decision Making, Grand Rounds at the Mayo Clinic, Department of Nursing Research. Rochester, Minn. April 2007 (invited).


Deborah Watkins Bruner
The RTQG Outcomes Model: Exploring the Value Added of Combining Traditionally Disparate Endpoints, Washington University School of Medicine, Department of Radiation Oncology. St. Louis. April 2007 (invited).


Issues and Challenges with Integrating PROs in Clinical Trials supported by NCI-sponsored Clinical Trials Networks, National Institutes of Health Patient-Reported Outcomes Assessment in Cancer Trials: Evaluating and Enhancing the Payoff to Decision Making. Bethesda, Md. September 2006 (invited).


Sean Clarke


Staffing Levels and Work Environments Save Lives (and Nurses); Research Evidence, Icelandic Nurses’ Association Annual Congress. Reykjavik, Iceland. November 2006 (keynote).


Christopher Coleman

Martha A.Q. Curley
International Research Collaboration Pre-conference: Site Selection; Nightingale Metrics; Measuring Nursing Care that Impacts Patient Outcomes; Data that Supports Nursing Practice in Pediatric Critical Care; Challenges in Setting up a Multi-center Study; Simulation Education: Facilitating Parents Presence at the Bedside, Fifth World Congress on Pediatric Intensive Care. Geneva, Switzerland. June 2007.


Evidenced-based Practice – Developing Clinical Inquiry; Association of Pediatric and Gastroenterology and Nutrition Nurses Annual Meeting. Orlando, Fl. October 2006 (keynote).

Pediatric and Neonatal Critical Care Nursing: Advances and Challenges; Family Centered Care – USA State of the Art; Nursing Care of Children with ALI; Prone Positioning Children with ALI; Nursing Acute Interventions in Shock; Pain and Sedation Assessment in PICU, Synergy Model of Care; Research in Nursing Practice. First International Symposium of Pediatric and Neonatal Critical Care Nursing. Sao Paulo, Brazil. June 2006 (keynote).

Patricia D’Antonio
History and Ethics: The Legacy and the Vision, Center for Health Policy and Ethics, Creighton University. Omaha, Neb. April 2007 (invited).

To Degree or Not to Degree: Women, Nursing and Baccalaureate Education in 20th Century America, New Jersey Nursing Students Annual Convention. Atlantic City, N.J. February 2007 (invited).


Janet Destrick


Mary K. Guidera


Unexpected Outcomes Occur: Managing the Personal and the Professional, American College of Nurse Midwives New Jersey Chapter meeting. Trenton, N.J. September 2006 (invited).

Loretta Sweet Jemmott


Strategies for Designing Effective Programs to Prevent HIV/STDs, University of West Indies. Midwifery Conference, Oshos Rios, Jamaica. June 2006 (keynote).

**Sarah Kagan**


Qualitative Research and Impact on Evidence Based Rehabilitation Nursing Practice, Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation Research Symposium. Chicago. October 2006 (invited).


Aging and Assessment – Weighing Evidence to Enhance Care of Older Adults with Cancer, Yale Cancer Nursing Conference. New Haven, Conn. October 2006 (invited keynote).


Hospice Care in America, Chang Gung University. Taipei, Taiwan. October 2006 (invited).

Life Story Methods in Oncology Nursing Research, Chang Gung University. Taipei, Taiwan. October 2006 (invited).

With Boberick, C., Denno, M., and McMenamin, E. Balancing Generalist and Specialty Care: Mapping Transition To Oncology Care In A General Medicine Unit, International Society of Nurses in Cancer Care 14th International Conference on Cancer Care. Toronto, Ontario, Canada. September 2006 (peer reviewed; coordinator and presenter).

**Eileen Lake**


**Terri Lipman**


**Linda McCauley**


**William McCool**

Global Midwifery Issues in the 21st Century, presented to midwifery tutors, practitioners, and students. Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. May 2007 (invited).


**Barbara Medoff-Cooper**


**Alaf Meleis**

Global Nursing Scholarship and Women’s Health, University of California – San Francisco School of Nursing 100th Anniversary Celebration. San Francisco. June 2007.


Developing and Translating Research Evidence in a Practice Discipline: International Implications, Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the National School of Nursing & Obstetrics at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma De Mexico. Mexico City. January 2007.


Jennifer Pinto-Martin

Rosemary Polomano


Therese Richmond

Barbara Riegel


Improving Outcomes in Heart Failure, Australian Cardiac Rehabilitation Association Congress. Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. August 2006 (keynote).

Beyond Treatment Adherence: The Challenges of Heart Failure Self-Care, Australian Cardiac Rehabilitation Association Congress. Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. August 2006.


Ann Rogers

Marilyn Sommers
With Fargo, J. D. and Lyons, M. Cluster of Health-Compromising Behaviors: Risky Driving Behaviors in Young Adults, Midwest Nursing Research Society. Omaha, Neb. March 2007 (referred presentation).


Diane Spatz


Marilyn Stringer

Neville Strumpf
Research Assessment Exercise, University Grants Council of Hong Kong. Hong Kong, SAR, China. November 2006 (invited panelist).

Eileen Sullivan-Marx
Health Promotion Among Older Adults at Risk for Disparities, Institute on Aging, and College of Nursing, University of Arkansas. Fayetteville, Ark. June 2007 (invited).

Anne M. Teitelman

Lorraine Tulman


Judy Verger
*Certification is for You,* Dimensions of Cardiac Care, Cleveland Clinic. Cleveland, Ohio. April 2007 (keynote).


Stella Volpe


Barbra Mann Wall
*Ethnicity and Nursing: Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century Catholic Immigrants from Europe,* Assuming Responsibility for the Sick: Global Perspectives, University of Pennsylvania Colloquium. Philadelphia. April 2007 (invited).


Terri E. Weaver
*Sleep Apnea,* Dean’s Doctoral Nursing Colloquia, Drexel University. Philadelphia. 2007 (invited).


Non-Surgical Intervention to Improve Quality of Life in Sleep Apnea, World Congress of Sleep Apnea. Montreal, Quebec, Canada. September 2006 (invited).


Flanked by state legislators and state healthcare administrators, Governor Edward Rendell signed into law the first Prescription for Pennsylvania healthcare reform bills at the School of Nursing on July 20. Among the bills Governor Rendell signed in front of a boisterous crowd of honored guests, including deans of schools of nursing, nurses, midwives, students, faculty, and staff, were House Bills 1253, 1254, and 1255, which expand the scope of practice for certified nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, and nurse midwives.

Joining Governor Rendell at the bill signing were (front left to right) Pennsylvania State Representative P. Michael Sturla, Pennsylvania Office of Health Care Reform Director and Penn Nursing Overseer Rosemarie B. Greco, and State Senator Edwin B. Erikson.
Pennsylvania Governor Rendell Addresses 2007 Graduates

It’s not often that a sitting governor gives the commencement address at a School of Nursing. This year, however, was just that kind of extraordinary time when Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell spoke before 323 graduates of BSN, MSN, and PhD programs, friends, family, faculty, and staff in the glittering Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia.

The Governor used the opportunity to discuss key elements of a sweeping healthcare reform plan, now being used as a model in other states, to give uninsured Pennsylvanians greater access to healthcare by among other measures, breaking down legislative barriers to nursing practice.