Embracing the Educator Role

Welcome New Faculty!
Seven new faculty joined the Department of Nursing family this Fall! The new faculty and their teaching roles are:

- Dr. Catherine Belden - N418 and N342
- Patrick Reed MSN, RN - N421 and N354
- Carole Guidry, MSN, RN - N418 and N104
- Michael Hebert, MSN, RN - N308 and N204
- Dr. Gwen Leigh - N308 and N502
- Dr. Lawrence Rosenquist - N418 and N500.

Regional Action Coalition meetings and forums began this fall. The first regional forum meeting was held on November 21, 2013 at the UL Lafayette Research Park, Picard Center with an emphasis on nursing education and leadership. Approximately 150 nurses attended the forum.

As a member of the Louisiana Action Coalition Leadership Team, I am providing the following questions/answers which give more information regarding national nursing coalitions relevant to the future of nursing:

- **What is the Institute of Medicine report, Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health?** The report was released in October, 2010 and included recommendations for a variety of system improvements including proven, solution-oriented ways to address the nursing and nurse faculty shortage in the U.S.

- **What is the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action?** The Campaign for Action is a collaboration created by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the AARP Foundation that is committed to using the IOM report as a framework to ensure that all Americans have access to high quality, patient-centered care in which nurses contribute as essential partners in system-wide transformation. For more information, please visit: www.thefutureofnursing.org.

- **Who is organizing the National Campaign for Action?** The Campaign for Action is being organized by the Center to Champion Nursing in America. For more information, please visit: http://championnursing.org.

- **What are Action Coalitions?** Action Coalitions are convened to advance the Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action. They are comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders at the state level that can effect long-term, sustainable change. Action Coalitions will further the overall effort by capturing best practices, determining research needs, lessons learned, and identifying replicable models.

**FUTURE OF NURSING LOUISIANA’S ACTION COALITION**

Louisiana’s Action Coalition is spearheaded by the Louisiana Center for Nursing and AARP Louisiana. With guidance from a diverse group of stakeholders and professionals from both nursing and non-nursing fields, the Coalition will work to advance the following long-term goals:

- Advance interprofessional collaboration to ensure coordinated and improved patient care;
- Improve health care workforce data collection to better access and project workforce requirements;
- Expand leadership ranks to ensure that nurses have a voice on management teams, in boardrooms and during policy debates;
- Strengthen nurse education and training;
- Enable nurses to practice to the full extent of their education and training.

The ultimate goal of the Action Coalition is to ensure that all Louisianans have access to high-quality, patient-centered care in a health care system where all members of the health care team contribute as essential partners.

Kajun Kudos is exclusively available at the UL College of Nursing and Allied Health Professions Web Site under About Us.
A Fine Balance: Teaching, Scholarship, and Service

Christy Lenahan, a 2002 ULL alumna, returned to the Department of Nursing as an instructor in Fall 2011 after receiving her MSN and practicing as a certified family nurse practitioner. Christy has embraced the instructor role; she promotes student engagement by utilizing creative strategies such as multimedia presentations, experiential learning techniques, and comedic interjections. And, as an instructor in the online RN to BSN program she believes that online faculty should “humanize yourself; let students know there is a real person on the other end of the keyboard. Do your best to be available.” Christy continues to prepare herself for her role as an educator. She obtained her Online Course Designer and Instructor certifications and is enrolled in the second to last semester of a doctor of nursing practice (DNP) program.

Lifelong Learning

The proud history of scholarship and academic accomplishments are again exemplified by the UL Lafayette CONAHP through published works and presentation activities. Kathleen Wilson and Kathy Ardoin co-authored “When professional and personal worlds meet: Nurse as daughter” published in Medsurg Nursing. Dr. Deedra Harrington authored “Preventing and recognizing venous thromboembolism after obstetric and gynecologic surgery” published in Nursing for Women’s Health and co-authored a pending publication with Christy Dean “Constipation: A Practitioner’s Guide to Diagnosis and Treatment” in the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners CE Professional Practice Compendium. Dr. Harrington also presented “Evidence – Based Quality Improvement: Power Presentation Implementation of an Inpatient Warfarin Protocol” during the Summer Institute on Evidence-Based Practice in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Mary Neiheisel had multiple publications involving medication adherence practices, FAANP News Forum updates, and an examination of knowledge application in the DNP curriculum and was invited to participate in several podium presentations, including “Medication Adherence-Evidence Based Approach” and “Compassion Fatigue: Research, Assessments, and Interventions” at AANP and “What Nurse Practitioner Faculty Should Know about NINR’s Strategic Plan and the National Agenda for Nurse Practitioner Research” at NONPF.

In the Allied Health Department, the Health Information Management Program achieved a 100% pass rate for the Registered Health Information Administrators certification examination, including twenty-one seniors from UL’s program in May 2013!

The spirit of lifelong learning was embodied by the UL Lafayette CONAHP Continuing Education Program, which was awarded Accreditation with Distinction, the highest recognition awarded by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Accreditation Program! Congratulations to Pat Miller and the CE Department for their dedication and hard work!

Collaborative Efforts

The Delta Eta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau Honor Society Induction ceremony was held on November 4, 2013. Dr. Lisa Broussard presided over the ceremony and the keynote speaker was retired Distinguished Professor Dr. Anne Broussard, whose intriguing presentation on mindfulness gave the inductees “food for thought”. Inductees included sixty-eight students from the undergraduate BSN program, one student from the RN to BSN program and eleven students from the graduate program. These newly inducted members will join the current Sigma Theta Tau members in helping to achieve the society’s mission to create a global community of nurses using knowledge, scholarship, service and learning to improve the health of the world’s people. Delta Eta Counselors Kathy Ardoin and Joseann DeWitt, along with Kevin Besse, Faye Blankenship, Dr. Lisa Broussard and Frances Stueben all collaborat-ed to ensure that the induction ceremony was a success!