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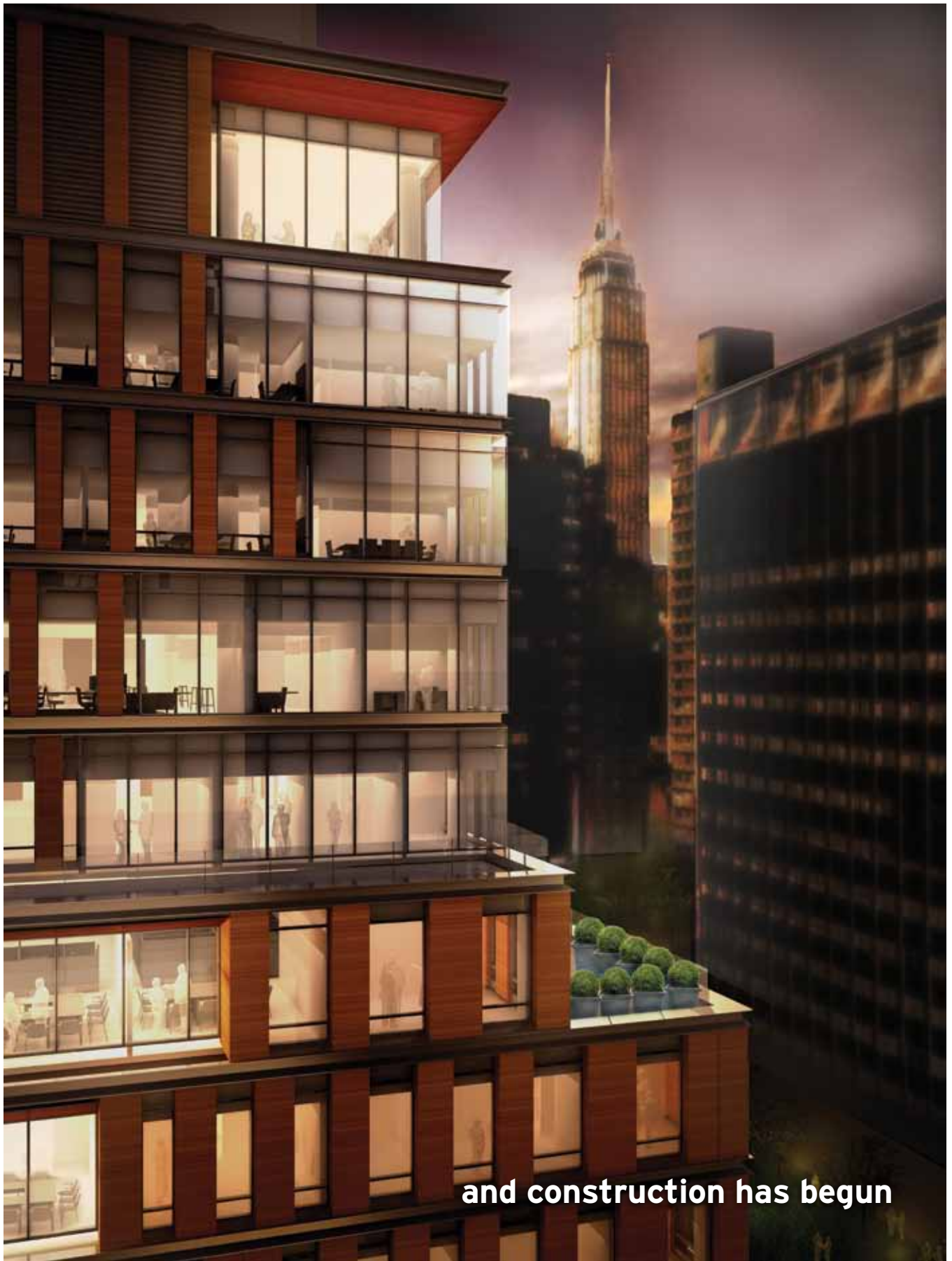


## Building Our Dream

A New Home for the College of Nursing



NEW YORK UNIVERSITY



**and construction has begun**



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# GREETINGS FROM THE INTERIM DEAN

Dear Friends,

Almost 80 years ago, in the fall of 1932, the School of Education at New York University established nursing as a discrete area of professional study. This landmark event was the first step in a remarkable journey that would ultimately lead to the emergence of a College of Nursing recognized today as one of the preeminent institutions for nursing research, education, and practice in the nation.

I was recently struck by archival photos of those early NYU nursing students from the 1930s, wearing crisp white uniforms and starched caps, posed at patient bedsides and in hospital corridors. The images made me reflect: What would those nurses think if they saw us now? What does an NYU nurse look like today, and if you were to take a snapshot, where would he or she be standing? Then I realized that the answer to my question was right in front of me—in this current issue of *NYU Nursing*.

Where are NYU nursing students, faculty, and alumni today?

In this issue you will learn that our students are in Spain, Argentina, Italy, and other countries around the world, as record-breaking numbers participate in study-abroad opportunities this year. They are aiding trauma victims in the emergency room, learning hands-on care in simulation labs, and standing on the podium to accept scholarships and awards from prominent foundations such as the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women, and the Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation.



Our faculty are at the United Nations, speaking to international health leaders about the global burden of diabetes and cardiovascular disease, as well as in Ghana, Rwanda, and 20 other countries, working to improve the lives of people with HIV/AIDS and those living with chronic illness. NYU nurse scholars are leading an ambitious research agenda that has earned the College a ranking of No. 8 in the United States from the National Institutes of Health. And they are in our own backyard on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, providing much-needed primary care to low-income older adults.

Our alumni are spearheading efforts to raise funds for a new home for nursing, returning to NYU to join the ranks of our faculty, and reaching out to others on the web, as has one alumna who is chronicling her battle with inflammatory breast cancer in a blog that is breaking the silence about how people with terminal illnesses can fight for their quality of life.

NYU nurses are philanthropists, educators, filmmakers, researchers, technology specialists, and business leaders. They are in the classroom, in the community, in the laboratory, and in the headlines. They are forging creative, interprofessional partnerships with dentists, physicians, artists, and engineers.

While it seems that much has changed over the past eight decades in the diversity of our roles and in the scope of our impact, I find that we also share a great deal of common ground with our predecessors: an enduring passion for helping others, a commitment to excellence in all that we do, and a vision of the nursing profession as evolving and at the forefront of anticipating the needs of a changing society.

I hope you will join us in celebrating our 80th anniversary this fall. I extend my warmest congratulations to the Class of 2012. And I wish all of our alumni, friends, and supporters a wonderful and relaxing summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith Haber". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light-colored background.

Judith Haber  
PhD '84, MA '67, APRN-BC, FAAN

Ursula Springer Leadership  
Professor in Nursing

Interim Dean, College of Nursing



HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS

# NYU College of Nursing Launches Next Phase of Building Campaign with Lead Gifts

**GAZING OUT THE WINDOW** of her office on the 10th floor of 726 Broadway near Washington Square, NYU College of Nursing Interim Dean Judith Haber says, “I know there will be an amazing moment when I first step through the doors of our new building and know that *this is our home*, that for the first time NYU College of Nursing will occupy  
[continued on next page]





**Picture this!** The 160-seat state-of-the-art Alumni Lecture Hall — supported by the College's graduates and friends — will feature events, lectures, and conferences.

a building specifically designed to support our future—to promote excellence in nursing research, education, and practice that fosters interprofessional collaboration.”

Architecturally modern, high-tech, and centrally located in NYU’s health science

corridor on First Avenue between East 25th and 26th Streets, the building will be a 21st-century interprofessional urban learning community that brings NYU’s schools of nursing, dentistry, and engineering under one roof. A

state-of-the-art setting for students, faculty, and staff, it will also be a welcoming center for College of Nursing alumni, friends, and visitors from around the world.

“The synergy that will take place in this building between NYU College of Nursing,

“I am very committed to the Campaign for Nursing and have chosen to take on a leadership role in this project because I believe NYU College of Nursing graduates some of the most outstanding nurses in the country. The biggest challenge facing nursing today — and facing our health care industry generally — is producing adequate numbers of professionals who are prepared for service at every level, from the bedside to the research arena to the classroom, where the nurses of tomorrow learn their craft. In my estimation, NYU College of Nursing is increasingly head and shoulders above the rest in its ability to meet this challenge. I have witnessed a tremendous increase in the number of top-level faculty, in the breadth of clinical practice opportunities, and in the quality and dedication of the student body. The College needs to have a physical plant that can keep pace with this institution that is growing by leaps and bounds. It needs a space that is modern and user-friendly, and that reflects the collaborative nature of the profession. I am delighted to be a part of this effort to create such a resource for NYU, and for the future of nursing.”—Robert V. Piemonte



#### **BUILDING CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR**

**Robert V. Piemonte, EdD, RN, CAE, FAAN**, a leader in the field of nursing education and administration and a former executive director of the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA), was named a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing in 2008 for his dedication to the profession and contributions to improving health care. He has been an adjunct professor at NYU College of Nursing since 2000, is currently a member of the College’s Board of Advisors, and is co-chair of the College’s Building Campaign Committee, with Norman H. Volk, chairman of the board of The John A. Hartford Foundation, and College supporter Grace Lipson.





The window-lined Learning Commons is designed to inspire interprofessional study, discussion, and sharing of ideas.

College of Dentistry, and NYU-Poly is part of what makes the project unique and very exciting,” Haber says. “We already collaborate with our colleagues in dentistry and engineering, but the shared space will create a hub for new ideas and innovations that can lead to improvements in health care in a vast array of areas.”

To fund the construction of its new home, the College has undertaken its most ambitious fundraising campaign to date, spearheaded by an energetic Board of Advisors. The Board has also formed a Campaign Committee composed of leaders in health care,

education, and business. The co-chairs, **Norman Volk**, **Robert Piemonte**, and **Grace Lipson**, have made generous lead gifts to the campaign.

“Our vision is to take nursing at NYU to its highest level ever, so it seems only fitting that we keep our building campaign goals at the highest level as well. To achieve these goals, we will need our friends and alumni to join us as partners in this extraordinary journey,” Haber adds. “After all, home is where the heart is, and this building will be the beating heart of nursing at NYU for generations to come.” ■



The site of the future College of Nursing building: Construction has begun on First Avenue between East 25th and 26th Streets!

# JOIN US!

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN, INCLUDING THESE NAMING OPPORTUNITIES.

## ALUMNI LECTURE HALL

A prominent, state-of-the-art, 160-seat space that will be a busy site for events, lectures, and conferences.

## DEAN'S SUITE

A handsome office space for the College's leaders, named in honor of founding dean Terry Fulmer.

## CLINICAL SIMULATION LEARNING CENTER

A place where faculty and students will participate in valuable hands-on learning experiences with teaching mannequins and standardized patients. Simulation suites will include high-tech clinical simulation rooms.

## SMART CLASSROOMS

Spaces that promote interactive teaching and learning experiences.

## LEARNING COMMONS

An inspiring, light-filled interprofessional space for study, discussion, and sharing of ideas.

## CONFERENCE ROOMS

Vital spaces on every floor for collaboration among College of Nursing students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

## FACULTY OFFICES

Well-appointed spaces that promote collegial interaction and mentoring.

To discuss these and other naming opportunities in the future building, please call Larry Siegel at 212-998-6794.



CONFERENCE EXPLORES THE ROLE OF

# Socio-Behavioral Factors in Chronic Disease Management

**HOSPITALIZED OLDER ADULTS,** injection drug users at risk for HIV, people with diabetes, and at-risk youth may appear to have little in common. Yet, to stay strong and healthy, members of each of these populations must exert a significant effort to care for themselves. The management of their conditions can't be left to the health care system alone, according to researchers at the College of Nursing, who are exploring interventions to help each of these groups stay safe and prevent serious health risks that are inherent in their conditions.

Socio-behavioral approaches to fending off these risks—and ultimately to improving health—were the focus of the first joint conference held on October 6, 2011, by the College's Center for Drug Use and HIV Research (CDUHR) and Muriel and Virginia Pless Center for Nursing Research. The conference was organized by **Sherry Deren, PhD**, an HIV/AIDS researcher and director of CDUHR, and **Gail D'Eramo Melkus, EdD, C-NP, FAAN**, director of the Pless Center. More than 100 nursing faculty and researchers from the HIV/AIDS community and 250 undergraduate nursing students attended.

When Deren joined the College two years ago, she immediately noted that a large amount of socio-behavioral research was

taking place. Moreover, her area of expertise, HIV/AIDS, intersected with several of the College's other established priorities: self-management of chronic conditions, aging, and the nursing workforce.

"HIV is now a chronic condition that requires a great deal of self-care," Deren says. "But, other conditions being researched at the College, including diabetes and cardiac disease, also require behavioral interventions. And, now that people in their 60s, 70s, and even older are living with HIV, we are crossing over into the area of older-adult health."

**Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, PhD, RN, FAAN**, a nurse-psychologist and dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Pittsburgh, presented her extensive research on adherence to treatment in a variety of patient populations. Psychologist **Seth Kalichman, PhD**, professor at the University of Connecticut and editor of the journal *AIDS and Behavior*, provided an overview of multilevel interventions needed to enhance HIV prevention and care, which may also apply to other kinds of chronic conditions.

A panel discussion on specific projects in socio-behavioral research emphasized the wide range of health care areas in which these approaches are needed. **Noelle Leonard, PhD**, a psychologist and senior research scientist at the College of Nursing, discussed recent advances in neuroscience that can inform behavioral intervention efforts for adolescents at risk for poor health outcomes.

**Pedro Mateu-Gelabert, PhD**, a sociologist and principal research associate at the National Development and Research Institutes (NDRI), discussed an intervention to facilitate long-term prevention of HIV among injection drug users. **Kelley Newlin, DNSc, C-NP, CDE**, an assistant professor at the College of Nursing, whose participatory research into diabetes prevention and management takes place in churches and community centers in the Harlem neighborhood of New York City and in Nicaragua, emphasized the importance of family and community support in helping patients stick to their self-care regimens. **Marie Boltz, PhD '07, RN, GNP-BC**, assistant professor and practice director of NICHE (Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders)—part of the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing at the College of Nursing—presented her research on reducing functional decline in hospitalized older adults.

"Whether it's rigorous adherence to HIV/AIDS medications or adherence to medication, diet, and exercise for diabetes, behavioral medicine is a critical component of daily self-care for chronic illness," Newlin says. "Real life presents challenges and interruptions, so strategies to overcoming barriers to self-care are critical."

For older adults, Boltz adds, "Recovering function also requires a behavioral perspective, which takes into account the beliefs and attitudes of both staff and patients as well as the particular morbidity. Adherence to behavioral factors is an issue across all chronic diseases." ■

Above Speakers presented socio-behavioral research from a variety of perspectives. From left: Drs. Sherry Deren, Marie Boltz, Kelley Newlin, Pedro Mateu-Gelabert, Noelle Leonard, Seth Kalichman, Jacqueline Dunbar-Jacob, and Gail D'Eramo Melkus.



# College of Nursing Ranked No. 8 in National Institutes of Health Research Funding

RANKING REPRESENTS A METEORIC RISE IN SIX YEARS

In six short years, the College of Nursing has become the eighth-highest-ranked nursing school or college in National Institutes of Health funding, rising from a ranking of 46 in 2006.

“The growth is exponential, and it is extremely unusual to see such rapid growth in funding,” says **Gail Melkus, EdD, C-NP, FAAN**, Florence and William Downs Professor in Nursing Research and director of the Muriel and Virginia Pless Center for Nursing Research at the College. “It is the result of a deliberate investment that the College has made in growing its research productivity across all of our key focal areas, including aging, chronic illness, HIV/AIDS and infectious disease, global health, and health systems.”

With NIH and foundation funding combined, College of Nursing faculty, research scientists, and centers have quadrupled their direct and indirect grant revenue, from \$3.3 million in 2006 to \$13.4 million today. Melkus attributes the College’s rapid rise in funding to the decision made by founding dean Terry Fulmer and her administrative team, with the support of the College of Dentistry, to recruit a cadre of new faculty and scientists with an intensive research focus. In particular, the addition at the College of the Center for Drug Use and HIV Research (CDUHR)—a 14-year-old NIH-funded P30 center led by **Sherry Deren, PhD**, and her fellow research scientists and faculty—has had an extraordinary impact on the College’s research enterprise and ranking.

Beyond recruiting CDUHR and a number of highly regarded and prolific researchers over the past six years, the College has become home to the



Division of Special Studies and Symptom Management, led by **Joyce Anastasi, PhD, DrNP, MA '82, FAAN**, the Independence Foundation Professor of Nursing, who receives NIH funding for her program of research. These centers join the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing and the World Health Organization Collaborating Center in Gerontological Nursing Education, which attract significant foundation funding.

The College has also expanded its research enterprise by providing mentorship, peer review, and grant management through the Pless Center.

“The bottom line is, when you believe and invest in the right people and infrastructure, you can create an environment that is supportive of such research growth,” Melkus says.

In addition to crediting the leadership of Terry Fulmer, “whose vision and determination made this dream a reality,” Interim Dean Judith Haber says that the growth in funding is due to “the strength and dedication of the faculty, research scientists, and administrative staff whose high-impact research and grant management are making important contributions to building

the science that informs our practice and positively affects patient outcomes.”

Following is a selected list of NIH principal investigators, many of whom are collaborating with other faculty or research scientists from the College of Nursing or other NYU schools and colleges:

## Selected Faculty NIH Grants

### AGING

**Victoria Vaughan Dickson, K01 Award**  
Organization of Work and Self-Care Among Aging Workers with Coronary Heart Disease  
Funding Agency: National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

### CHRONIC ILLNESS

**Joyce K. Anastasi, R01 Award**  
Protocol- vs. Patient-Oriented Practices: A RCT for IBS Symptom Management  
Funding Agency: National Institute of Nursing Research

**Mei Fu, R21 Award**  
Pro-inflammatory Biomarkers and Post-Breast Cancer Lymphedema  
Funding Agency: National Institute of Nursing Research

**Marilyn Hammer, K23 Award**  
Glycemic Status and Infections in Autologous HCT Recipients  
Funding Agency: National Institute of Nursing Research

### HIV/AIDS & INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**Marya Gwadz, R01 Award**  
Peer-Driven Intervention to Seek, Test & Treat Heterosexuals at High Risk for HIV  
Funding Agency: National Institute on Drug Abuse

**Holly Hagan, R21 Award**  
Reducing HIV Transmission by Promoting Sexual Health Among Drug Users  
Funding Agency: National Institute on Drug Abuse

### GLOBAL

**Katherine Hutchinson, R01 Award**  
Development & Testing of a Jamaican Mother-Daughter HIV Risk Reduction Program  
Funding Agency: National Institute of Nursing Research

**Ann Kurth, R01 Award**  
Computerized Counseling to Promote Positive Prevention and HIV Health in Kenya  
Funding Agency: National Institute of Mental Health

NYU FACULTY ADVOCATE FOR RECOGNITION OF

# NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

AS TOP WORLDWIDE HEALTH ISSUE

**FOR SOME, THE WORDS** “global health” evoke images of infectious diseases like malaria and HIV/AIDS or the long-time challenges of maternal and child mortality. The reality, says **Deborah Chyun, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN**, associate professor, interim executive associate dean, and deputy executive director of NYUCN Global at NYU College of Nursing, is that 63% of deaths worldwide are caused by non-communicable illnesses such as

cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease. The top risk factor for death is high blood pressure, followed by tobacco use, high blood glucose, and physical inactivity.

Chyun presented these World Health Organization figures at the September

8, 2011, NGO Health Committee Symposium on the Global Challenge of Chronic Disease: Interaction of Physical and Mental Health Risks. The meeting, held in the Church Center at the United Nations, was one of several that took place in anticipation of the UN Meeting on Non-communicable Diseases on September 19—the first symposium of its kind. Chyun and **Gail D'Eramo Melkus, EdD, C-NP, FAAN**, Florence and William



Deborah Chyun

Gail D'Eramo Melkus





Downs Professor in Nursing Research and director of the Muriel and Virginia Pless Center for Nursing Research, were invited to speak at the symposium by **Beatrice Goodwin, PhD '70, MA '60, RN**, who has spearheaded the College of Nursing work in Latin America for more than three decades. Goodwin chairs the NGO Health Committee, which provides consultation to the Economic and Social

## 63% of deaths worldwide are caused by non-communicable illnesses such as cardiovascular and cerebrovascular disease.

Council of the United Nations. Chyun and Melkus addressed the global burden of diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

“The goal of our talk was to make people aware of the extent of non-communicable disease (NCD) around the world,” Melkus says. “Now, 80% of all people living with chronic diseases are in low-income countries. The number one cause of death worldwide is cardiovascular disease, and diabetes is a risk factor for it.”

Speaking to an audience of US and international health organization leaders, Chyun and Melkus noted that health care systems and workforces are not prepared for the growing burden of chronic disease coupled with aging populations. Many nations’ systems do not have adequate supplies such as blood-pressure cuffs and insulin; nor do they have advanced practice nurses to lead primary care.

Melukus notes that, for the first time ever, the UN has established a mental health committee and has recognized mental health as an issue that must be addressed. People with chronic diseases all over the world have a poorer quality of life, leading to widespread depression; yet, stigma

toward mental illness has prevented a sufficient response from emerging, she says.

“The NGO symposium was a good opportunity for us to tie together diabetes and cardiovascular disease with the mental health aspects that are typically ignored,” Chyun says. “Participants came away with a better understanding of how mental health issues can and should be recognized and managed in conjunction with diabetes and cardiovascular disease.”

The increase in the prevalence of NCDs is due in large part to rapid urbanization and westernization. Lives are getting longer in many places, but they are lived with increased protein and fat in the diet, less physical activity, and more obesity. According to Melkus, the number of people with diabetes—now 285 million—will grow to 438 million within 20 years, at a cost of \$376 billion. Recently, China eclipsed India as the country with the largest number of diabetes cases (the United States is third). In addition, in many places, HIV/AIDS has become a chronic disease requiring the same types of behavioral adjustments that are a mainstay of diabetes, asthma, multiple sclerosis, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. These problems are compounded by the exodus of health care talent from many developing countries, like India, to wealthier nations.

Chyun notes that the United States is far from a role model when it comes to NCDs. “The US should be a leader in this area; yet, the World Health Report 2000 ranked the US health care system 37th in the world,” she says.

### At the College of Nursing

Nurses all over the world are generally the main point of contact within health care systems for people with chronic illnesses, providing treatment and education, often with insufficient resources.

“Several of our faculty have devoted their careers to NCDs in the United States and are poised to contribute to the global agenda,” Chyun says. The following faculty members are studying treatment and management of NCDs:

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**DR. MADELINE NAEGLER** IS INVOLVED IN MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND PRACTICE IN THE AMERICAS THROUGH HER LEADERSHIP OF THE WHO COLLABORATING CENTER BASED AT THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

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**DR. DEBORAH CHYUN** WILL BE WORKING IN RWANDA TO EDUCATE NURSES AT ALL LEVELS.

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**DR. VICTORIA VAUGHAN DICKSON** IS CONDUCTING STUDIES OF HEART FAILURE IN OLDER WORKERS.

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**DR. KELLEY NEWLIN** CONDUCTS PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY RESEARCH INTO DIABETES OUTCOMES NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

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**DR. ANN KURTH; DR. GBENGA OGEDEGBE**, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN THE NYU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, AND **DR. GAIL D'ERAMO MELKUS** ARE WORKING WITH **DR. ALBERT AMOAH** OF THE NATIONAL DIABETES MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH CENTRE IN GHANA TO CREATE AN ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD THAT WILL PROVIDE DATA ON DIABETES CARE DELIVERY.

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**DR. MARILYN HAMMER** IS RESEARCHING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INFECTIONS AND GLYCEMIC CONTROL AMONG PEOPLE WITH CANCER.

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**DR. MEI FU** IS STUDYING GENOMIC FACTORS THAT INCREASE THE RISK OF LYMPHEDEMA, A COMMON AFTER-EFFECT OF BREAST CANCER SURGERY.

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**DR. MARY ROSEDALE** IS CONDUCTING NEUROSTIMULATION RESEARCH FOR THE TREATMENT OF REFRACTORY DEPRESSION AND NEUROPSYCHIATRIC ILLNESS IN ADULTS.

Chyun and Melkus are optimistic about changes that may occur as a result of the UN conference, particularly in terms of funding for diabetes and cardiovascular disease interventions internationally. They note that it wasn't until the UN made it a priority that funding for AIDS began to flow to the places where it was needed. Faculty researchers at the College of Nursing will be well positioned to participate in any initiatives that may result from the conference, they say. ■

## Ann Kurth Builds NYUCN Global CONSOLIDATES COLLEGE'S INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Dr. Ann Kurth's research has taken her from New York City to Kenya to Russia, where she and local research partners are investigating novel ways to improve sexual and reproductive health, particularly around HIV disease, in hard-to-reach communities. Recognized for her innovations in this area, Kurth was named in 2010 as the only nurse to serve on the committee of the Institute of Medicine and National Research Council to evaluate the US AIDS funding program known as PEPFAR — one of the largest global health programs in history.

Ann Kurth, PhD, CNM, FAAN, is the director of NYUCN Global (see story, below) and the principal investigator on six major NIH grants and a Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation global health grant for research programs focused primarily on HIV prevention and treatment adherence. Several of these studies are evaluating the use of technological tools, such as handheld devices and computerized counseling, to bring essential HIV education to hard-to-reach populations in both the United States and the developing world. Her randomized controlled trials have shown that this type of counseling can be effective in reducing HIV viral load, reducing risk behavior, and helping people to take their HIV medications — which is critical for survival.



Ann Kurth (right) moderated a panel on March 6, 2012, called Rural Communities: Health Workforce for Women, sponsored by the NGO Health Committee. From left: Jacob Kumaresan, executive director of the World Health Organization US/UN, Frances Day-Stirk, president of the International Confederation of Midwives, and Dr. Kurth.

Kurth earned a master's degree in public health before becoming a nurse. After attending Yale for a nurse-midwifery master's degree, she moved to Indiana and started one of the first nurse-managed HIV-care clinics.

By 2009, when Kurth came to the College of Nursing from the University of Washington, where she had served on the faculty, she had amassed a sizable global research portfolio that has only continued to grow. Among her current studies, Kurth is examining whether cell-phone messaging can facilitate HIV prevention among heterosexual couples in rural Uganda and Kenya and among recently

### NYUCN GLOBAL MAKES WAVES

# Health Workforce Is a Chief Concern

**THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP** of the College of Nursing and its faculty has expanded dramatically. Faculty and students are extending their impact around the globe by conducting grant-funded initiatives to strengthen health care workforces in 18 countries. The College is collaborating in a groundbreaking initiative with the Rwandan health care system to build its health care workforce. Gail Melkus, EdD, C-NP, FAAN, and Ann Kurth, PhD, CNM, FAAN, are working through the College's affiliation with the University of Ghana in Accra and with the national diabetes

center there to institute electronic health records. Madeline Naegle, PhD '80, MA '67, APRN-BC, FAAN, leads the WHO Collaborating Center in Gerontological Nursing Education at the College of Nursing, promoting nursing and interprofessional training in gerontologic care in Latin America. These efforts and many more now fall under the rubric of NYUCN Global, the program initiated by Kurth to unite the international research, practice, and education initiatives emanating from the College of Nursing.

"Through NYUCN Global, we are creating synergy among the focal areas in which the

College has deep expertise and has already made valuable investments: HIV and infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases (NCD), healthy aging, maternal and child health, and building workforces to enhance health systems," Kurth says.

A foundational emphasis of NYUCN Global is the development of stronger health systems around the world to address common problems, such as NCDs (like diabetes and cardiovascular disease), with evidence-based approaches. To that end, in 2010, Kurth launched the Global Health Scholars program, which brings health leaders

THE WHO  
MILLENNIUM  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
SPECIFY THAT THERE SHOULD BE  
A MINIMUM OF 2.3 NURSES, DOCTORS,  
OR MIDWIVES PER 1,000 PEOPLE.  
CURRENTLY, 57 COUNTRIES — MANY OF  
THEM IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA — FALL  
SHORT OF THESE THRESHOLDS. AN  
ADDITIONAL 4.3 MILLION HEALTH  
WORKERS ARE NEEDED IN LOW- AND  
MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES  
OVER THE NEXT TWO  
DECADES.





© Amanda Koster Productions

An HIV-specialist nurse cares for a patient of the Kenyan organization AMPATH. Ann Kurth collaborates with AMPATH in her study of technology and its impact on reducing HIV infections in hard-to-reach communities.

lining” of the international response to the global HIV pandemic has been the development of clinics in places that did not previously have adequate primary care structures. Organizations such as AMPATH, which operates 49 HIV clinics in western Kenya and is an NYU partner, are shifting to deliver

released prisoners in Washington, DC. These types of technology are particularly promising in places like East Africa, she says, because cell-phone usage is widespread even in remote areas, but health care facilities are hard to reach and patients can rarely afford to travel hours to a clinic. Kurth explains that these methods also are beginning to help those with non-communicable diseases, such as heart disease or diabetes, to adapt their behavior.

Kurth notes that an unforeseen “silver

primary care. For organizations such as this one, with numerous patients spanning a wide geographic area, technology tools may prove to be particularly useful.

Joining NYU College of Nursing held particular appeal to Kurth because of the opportunity to leverage the global health work already being conducted and to position the nursing faculty to attain more funding and partnerships. Faculty members are engaged in the main pillars of global health

research, and for nearly a decade, the College had been a World Health Organization Collaborating Center in Gerontological Nursing Education for the Americas region. Kurth is pulling those researchers and educators together into an organized structure, now known as NYUCN Global.

Kurth hopes to contribute her scholarship on technological resources to the development of stronger health systems around the world—a central focus of NYUCN Global. “Given that there is never going to be enough money to cover all of the world’s health needs, we have to strategically utilize the tools we have to train and retain health workers,” she says. “Technological tools can’t replace people, but we can find out the most useful ways for them to be a very successful adjunct.”

NYUCN Global advances the College’s ties to the rest of the world while accelerating NYU’s mission to be a global network university. “It’s an interconnected world, academically, biologically, and socially,” Kurth says. “Nowhere is that more clear than in New York City, at NYU, and at the College of Nursing.”

from the developing world to the College of Nursing to provide mutual opportunities for learning and to offer in-depth mentoring in research and evidence-based practice. So far, the College has hosted two health care leaders from Tanzania.

In October 2011, Kurth collaborated with Marilyn DeLuca, PhD, an adjunct associate professor, to convene a summit aimed at inspiring philanthropic investment and other private support for strengthening the global health workforce. The highly successful event, “Strengthening 21st Century Global Health Systems: Investing in the Health Care Workforce,” was held in partnership with 16 agencies, including the Global Health Workforce Alliance, and was attended by 90 leaders of health care organizations and funders from around the world. Space for the conference was donated by McKinsey & Company.

The main purpose of the summit was to make funders more aware that there is a profound need to support the global health workforce and infrastructure. “Of the



RJ Ensalada, 2011


Investment in the global health workforce was the focus of an NYUCN Global-hosted conference held October 13, 2011. The keynote speaker was Dr. Ann Phoya, RNM, director of Sector Wide Approach, a strategy of the Malawi Ministry of Health to pool funding in an effort to improve the effectiveness of international aid and reach health goals.

children under the age of five who die each year, approximately two-thirds could be saved by having adequate frontline health workers in clinics and in their communities,” DeLuca says. “We have to work at the welcome of national governments and with nongovernmental organizations and people on the ground to build health systems that can provide integrated primary care and not just silo each disease.”



A panel on foundations’ role in strengthening health systems featured, from left, Kasia Biezychudek, vice president and chief financial officer of the Touch Foundation; Le Nhan Phuong, director of the Population Health Program of Atlantic Philanthropies; Ed Wood, president of the Clinton Health Access Initiative of the William J. Clinton Foundation; and moderator Mubashar Sheikh, executive director of the Global Health Workforce Alliance.

“NYUCN Global is well-poised to meet the global challenges of the 21st century, not only as they relate the health workforce and aging population, but also to epidemics of HIV/AIDS, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease,” says Deborah Chyun, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN, associate professor, interim executive associate dean, and deputy executive director of NYUCN Global. ■



Dr. Mei Fu collects a saliva sample from a patient with lymphedema. Fu is studying biomarkers and genomic variations related to infection and inflammation among lymphedema sufferers.

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# Faculty Awarded Major NIH Grants

SPUR RESEARCH AT NYU COLLEGE OF NURSING

## Dr. Mei Fu ▶ Tracing the Clues to Lymphedema Risk

For the past decade, **Mei R. Fu, PhD, RN, APRN-BC**, assistant professor, has been assembling a puzzle, seeking the factors that put women at risk for lymphedema, a debilitating complication of breast cancer surgery that affects up to 40% of survivors. Lymphedema, caused by injuries to the lymphatic system from cancer treatment, can lead to debilitating swelling and pain in the sufferer's arms.

Fu was the first researcher to show that education can help women reduce or prevent the symptoms of lymphedema—a condition long thought to be nearly unmanageable. In October 2011, she received an NIH R21 grant to examine the biomarkers and genomic variations related to infection and inflammation among lymphedema sufferers. Fu's two-year, \$452,218 grant acknowledges the

innovation of her work and potential for significant contributions to science.

Fu's study grew out of several years of research in which she observed that some lymphedema sufferers seem to have a stronger reaction than others to small infections and injuries, and often have a higher-than-average body-mass index. Indeed, past research has shown that some people have a pattern of inflammatory cytokines (protein molecules) that puts them at greater risk for infection after surgery. For those with lymphedema, these biomarkers may trigger inflammation after traumas like infections and minor burns or other injuries. People with a higher body-mass index are also known to have higher levels of inflammatory cytokines. Therefore, Fu is grouping these at-risk patients together, seeking biomarker and genomic commonalities among them.

"If we find specific biomarker and genomic patterns related to lymphedema risk, then we can develop tests to determine who is most susceptible to lymphedema and provide them with personalized educational and behavioral interventions to help prevent this condition," Fu says.

Fu's team will collect data on 120 women who are newly diagnosed and treated for invasive breast cancer. They will examine the women before surgery and at 2, 6, and 12 months after surgery using a state-of-the-art infrared perometer—a device that measures changes in their limb volume.

"Because of Dr. Fu's dedicated focus on this clinical problem, we may see groundbreaking changes in the way that lymphedema risk is assessed," said Gail D'Eramo Melkus, EdD, C-NP, FAAN, Florence and William Downs Professor in Nursing Research and director of the Muriel and Virginia Pless Center for Nursing Research. "In turn, patients could ideally benefit from significant improvements in quality of life compared with past breast cancer survivors."



## Drs. Marya Gwadz and Ann Kurth ► Reaching People Who Are Unaware They Are Infected with HIV

One critical new frontier in the fight against AIDS can be summed up by the letters STTR: Seek, Test, Treat, and Retain (in treatment). Whereas prevention was once thought to be the main way to stop HIV in its tracks, there is now a growing awareness that in addition to the clinical benefits to the individual, treating those with HIV lowers their viral load, making them less likely to transmit the virus to others. The NIH has called for innovative strategies to identify those with HIV who are not yet aware of their diagnosis and provide them with HIV health care in a timely fashion. College of Nursing Professor **Ann Kurth, PhD, CNM, RN**, and Senior Research Scientist **Marya Gwadz, PhD '98 (GSAS), MA '92 (GSAS)**, have been awarded STTR grants from the NIH to conduct studies in two very different settings.

In spring 2011, Gwadz, a psychologist, and her co-investigators were awarded \$7.7 million, one of the largest grants ever received at the College of Nursing, to study a peer-driven intervention to seek, test, and treat heterosexuals at high risk for HIV. The five-year study focuses on individuals who are at high risk for HIV because they live in areas with high rates of poverty and a high prevalence of HIV in their neighborhoods. These factors greatly increase their chances of coming into contact with the virus and of being susceptible to it, while at the same time reducing their chances of early detection. Gwadz's study is designed to complement new policies instituted by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to identify individuals with HIV and link them to care if needed.

"HIV travels on society's fault lines, and in the United States, these are mainly poverty, discrimination, and segregation, which are barriers to the protective factors—such as regular health care and identification and treatment of sexually transmitted infections—that keep people free of HIV or diagnosed and linked to care in a timely fashion," says Gwadz.

Gwadz is working with several colleagues from the College, including **Noelle Leonard, PhD**; **Holly Hagan, PhD**; **Ann Kurth, PhD, CNM, FAAN**; and **Chuck Cleland, PhD**; as well as David Perlman, MD, at the Beth Israel Medical Center, on this study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the NIH. The methodology involves recruiting a small number of people from the target population to become peer ambassadors. These individuals recruit friends, who also recruit friends, ultimately reaching deeper into communities than is otherwise typical in research and clinical practice. To motivate their peers to be tested, study participants deliver positive messages, such as the facts that annual HIV testing is beneficial for both individuals and the larger community, that support and treatment are available, and that one does not have to have the traditional risk factors for HIV, such as injection drug use, to be at risk. The ultimate goal of the study is to provide the public with a user-friendly, relatively brief, and highly potent intervention that can be used in a variety of settings.

Dr. Ann Kurth has worked for the last seven years in Kenya, where intravenous drug use is a growing problem. Until now, services for this population have been nonexistent, but Kenya is becoming the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to institute HIV-prevention programming for intravenous drug users (IDUs), including a needle and syringe program. Kurth and her co-investigator, Peter Cherutich, MD, MPH, of the government's National AIDS & STD Control Program, have been awarded a five-year, nearly \$4.2 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse at the NIH to help seek IDUs, deliver HIV testing, link patients to antiretroviral therapy, and assess the viral load in these communities. The research team includes investigators from the College's Center for Drug Use and HIV Research.

"If we could help people who are injecting drugs to reduce their risk, find



Dr. Marya Gwadz and a team of research scientists are implementing the Seek, Test, Treat, and Retain approach to stopping HIV. From left: Robert Quiles; Amanda Ritchie; Dena Quiñones; Mindy Belkin; Marya Gwadz, PhD '98 (GSAS), MA '92 (GSAS); Noelle Leonard; Angela Banfield; Rosa Colon; and Marion Riedel, BS '82 (Steinhardt).

out their HIV status, and get them HIV treatment if positive, then we could knock down infectivity and reduce transmission among people who share needles, and their sexual partners. Theoretically, this is how we may be able to control the epidemic," Kurth says.

As in Gwadz's study, participants will be recruited by trained peer educators. Up to 8,000 participants will be offered rapid HIV testing, literally on the street, to determine the level of HIV in their bloodstreams, and their CD4 counts will be assessed on the spot. This highly innovative element means that subjects can find out immediately whether their CD4 levels qualify them for free government-paid antiretroviral therapy and be assigned to a peer case manager to help them access and stay on HIV treatment.

Kurth's team will attempt to capture the effectiveness of the program on the entire community by comparing participant viral load levels at project sites in eight waves over the study period. "Not everything we do in public health can be assessed as a randomized controlled trial, so it's increasingly important to find other ways to rigorously evaluate what works or doesn't work to improve a population's health. That's true whether it's Kenya or the United States," she says. ■

# HRSA Grants Enhance Clinical Education and Community-Based Care

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the US Department of Health & Human Services has awarded NYU College of Nursing several substantial grants to improve aspects of nursing education and practice. These funds support expansion of nurse-midwifery education, nurse practitioner-led care for older adults, increasing the diversity of the Nursing Education Master's Program and the use of high-tech simulation strategies within that program, and enrichment of the College's Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program.

## Enabling Nurse-Midwives to Provide Comprehensive Primary Care

A three-year, \$1,002,318 grant from HRSA will strengthen nurse-midwifery master's education at the College by introducing an intensive, hands-on primary care clinical experience into the traditional classroom-based curriculum. A second component of the grant focuses on preparing certified nurse midwives (CNMs) to better promote health literacy among their patients. There are more than 11,000 CNMs in the United States, and this growing group is a vital link to primary care services for the thousands of women and girls in their care—especially low-income and medically underserved women and girls.

“The largest barrier to nurse-midwives incorporating primary care into practice is the lack of experience in clinical

primary care during midwifery education,” says **Julia Lange Kessler, MS, CM, RN, IBCLC**, instructor and coordinator of the Nurse Midwifery Program. “Students will undertake required clinical work in New York City-based primary care facilities, gaining the opportunity to practice and become proficient in basic procedures, such as initiating cardiac or oral glucose medications.”

Kessler adds that relatively few graduate-level midwifery programs require this level of primary care clinical work. “In this light, one of our principal aims is to develop a replicable model that might expand the capacity of nurse-midwives across the country.”

Using a simulation model, **Julia Lange Kessler** demonstrates gynecological abnormalities to her midwifery students (from left) **Jessica Dowd '13**, **Uwera R. Rwayitare '12**, and **Julie Lamonoff '13**.



NYU Photo Bureau. Mathieu Asselin



## Preparing Nurse Leaders to Translate Research into Practice

A three-year, \$1,018,323 grant from HRSA will support the enrichment of the College of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program.

"Today's health care environment requires a high level of both scientific knowledge and practice expertise to ensure high-quality patient care," says Principal Investigator **Jamesetta A. Newland, PhD, FNP-BC, FAANP, DPNAP**, clinical associate professor and director of the College's DNP program. "While a PhD program prepares nursing professionals who generate the knowledge we need to improve nursing practice, the DNP student is being prepared to assume a leadership role in translating and implementing that research evidence in actual clinical settings."

The HRSA-funded project will focus on building leadership skills among the advanced practice nurses who enroll in the College's DNP program. Students will develop mentoring relationships with professionals within and outside the nursing field and gain skills in public speaking and scholarly writing. They will also have opportunities to take coursework at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development and the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. Their final capstone projects will address systems-level organizational and health care delivery issues in health care organizations.

"The aim is that our DNP graduates, as leaders of interprofessional practice initiatives, will significantly improve quality of care, patient outcomes, and the efficiency of health care delivery," says Newland.

## Nursing Faculty Practice to Bring Health Care to Older Adults in Lower Manhattan

Since 2006, the College of Nursing Faculty Practice has been providing primary care through its office at 345 East 24th Street in the College of Dentistry. Now, a three-year, \$1.2 million HRSA grant will support an expansion of these services to

the Grand Street Settlement, a naturally occurring retirement community (NORC) in lower Manhattan.

The Elder Care Program will enable the College to provide much-needed primary care services and care coordination onsite for residents of this largely low-income community. Services will include a primary care house-calls program, a diabetes self-management education program, an oral health/dental screening program in partnership with NYU College of Dentistry, and outreach to community resources for primary care.

"The Elder Care Program will dramatically improve access to primary health care for a medically vulnerable and underserved older adult population," says Project Director **Leslie-Faith Morrith Taub, DNSc, FAANP**. "In addition, the project will provide opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate nursing students to develop competencies in primary care and community health nursing of older adults. Since the population of older adults will be

"This funding speaks to recognition on a national level of the breadth and quality of nursing innovation at the College of Nursing."

—Interim Dean Judith Haber



NYU Photo Bureau, Mathieu Asselin

Nurse practitioner student Abby Yenkinson, MS '12, checks a patient's blood pressure at the Elder Care Program kick-off event, November 30, 2011, held at the Grand Street Settlement, a naturally occurring retirement community.

rapidly growing over the next 30 years, this preparation is absolutely vital for future nurses and nurse practitioners."

## Increasing the Diversity and Cultural Competency of Master's and Post-Master's Nursing Students

"There is a severe shortage of and lack of diversity among nursing faculty in the United States, particularly among people of Hispanic/Latino heritage," says College of Nursing Associate Dean of Academic and Clinical Affairs **Barbara Krainovich Miller, EdD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, ANEF, FAAN**. "This shortage threatens the overall integrity of the nation's health care system. We simply don't have a sufficient number of diverse and culturally competent nurse educators to teach future RNs."

To help address this issue, HRSA has awarded the College a three-year, \$994,741 grant to increase the diversity and cultural competency of students graduating from the College's master's and post-master's certificate programs by using high-fidelity patient simulators to present complex patient cases in the classroom. With this funding, the College will refine its high-tech simulated patient scenarios to include cultural competency content and develop, implement, and evaluate a minority-recruitment and retention plan with an emphasis on reaching out to students of Hispanic/Latino background. ■

**Estelle Osborne Recognition Ceremony**



A

**Rudin Award Dinner**



B

**Doctor of Nursing Practice Valedictory Dinner**



C

**Alumni Day**



D



E



F



G

**Estelle Osborne Recognition Ceremony**  
February 15, 2012

**A** Roslyn Parchment, MS '06 (center), was the 2012 Estelle Osborne Award recipient, with Interim Dean Judith Haber, PhD '84, MA '67 (left), and emcee Edwidge Thomas.

**Rudin Award Dinner**  
February 27, 2012

**B** From left, Mark Bodden, vice president and program director of the Rudin Family Foundations and Interim Dean Judith Haber congratulate PhD candidate Nadine Drescher, who was one of the recipients of the Rudin Family Student Award.

**Doctor of Nursing Practice Valedictory Dinner**  
October 4, 2011

**C** Members of the graduating class and faculty celebrate the graduation of the Doctor of Nursing Practice inaugural class: (left front) Gillian Palette, DNP '11; DNP Program Director Jamesetta Newland; Beverly Smith, DNP '11, MA '87, ADCRT '02; Barbara Krainovich-Miller; (left rear) Erin Hartnett, DNP '11; Robert Abel, DNP '11, MS '08; Janet Standard, DNP '11, ADCRT '02, ADCRT '04; Beth Latimer, DNP '11, MA '93; Kathy Gunkel, DNP '11.

**Alumni Day**  
October 24, 2011

**D** Ann Kurth, who delivered the Vernice Ferguson Lecture, was presented with the Faculty Scholar Award at the Dean's Luncheon.

**E** Maja Djukic, PhD '09, vice president of the College's Alumni Association (right), receives the Rising Star Award from Maria Dolce, PhD '09, MA '85, BS '79, Association president.

**F** From left, Lisa Gallup, MS '12, Allison Kiefer, BS '12, and Alysha Koorji, BS '12, join the Alumni Day festivities.

**G** Interim Dean Judith Haber presents Ann Marie Mauro, PhD '98, with the inaugural Teaching Excellence Award.

CELEBR



### Hillman Alumni Nursing Network Roundtable



### Reception at the American Academy of Nursing Annual Meeting



### Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk



### Career Fair



### NYU College of Nursing – Eastern Nursing Research Society Reception



# ACTIVATIONS

#### Hillman Alumni Nursing Network Roundtable March 22, 2012

- H** From left, Amy Berman, BS '06; Interim Dean Judith Haber, PhD '84, MA '67; Kimberly Glassman, PhD '07, MA '87; and Ahrin Mishan, executive director of the Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation, participated in the roundtable discussion on patient-centered care.
- I** Linda D'Andrea, director of the Hillman Alumni Nursing Network, welcomes current and past Hillman Scholars to this event, held at the Global Center for Academic and Spiritual Life.

#### Reception at the American Academy of Nursing Annual Meeting October 13, 2011

- J** Barbara Guthrie, PhD '87 (right), celebrates the new 2011 Fellows of the American Academy of Nursing with new Fellow Meredith Kazer Wallace, PhD '01. Other 2011 AAN fellows included Kathleen Hickey, MA '80, and Associate Professor Nancy VanDevanter.

#### NYU College of Nursing – Eastern Nursing Research Society Reception March 29, 2012

- K** From left, Cynthia Jacelon, PhD '01, the 2012 John A. Hartford Senior Geriatric Research Award recipient; with Margaret Curnin and Marc Bourgeois, also of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, School of Nursing.

#### Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk October 16, 2011

- L** In 2011, the College of Nursing doubled its participation in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk for the American Cancer Society, raising a record-breaking \$8,500. From left, nursing students Salina Cascino '12; Janelle Fontela, BS '12; Linda Tan, BS '12; and Tim Shi '12.

#### Career Fair

December 5, 2011

- M** From left, Melissa (Lowden) Marrero, BS '07, college relations specialist at the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, speaks with a nursing student about career opportunities.

## Joan K. Stout, A Champion of Bedside Nursing

**J**oan K. Stout, RN, FAAN, president and managing director of the Hugoton Foundation, has been a registered nurse for more than 60 years.

“I keep my credentials up to date,” she says, “because while I am thrilled to be in my role as a funder of the nursing profession, truthfully I often miss bedside care.” As a member of the Dames of Malta, a lay apostolic order dating back to medieval times, Stout travels every spring to Lourdes, France, with a group of medical professionals to work with ailing patients. “It gives me immeasurable joy to work one-on-one with a person in need of care,” she says.

Born and raised in New York City, Stout attended the University of Vermont before returning to the city and obtaining her nursing diploma at Lenox Hill Hospital in 1952. She married, raised four children, and continued to work as a bedside nurse until 1983, when a patient she cared for named Wallace Gilroy recognized her exceptional passion for nursing and asked her to serve as president of a foundation he established called The Hugoton Foundation.

“I am fortunate to have spent a good deal of my life helping people one at a time, and now, owing to Mr. Gilroy, I am in a position to help many more patients than I could as an individual by working to improve the profession as a whole,” Stout says.

While the Hugoton Foundation funds a number of New York City-based cultural organizations and Catholic agencies, its core mission is improving patient care. Stout has focused much of the Foundation’s funding on projects designed to implement evidence-



based improvements in patient care or incorporate clinical practice into nursing education.

“One of the biggest issues facing nurses today is lack of clinical experience,” she says.

Interim Dean Judith Haber notes that The Hugoton Foundation has been a leading supporter of NYU College of Nursing since the 1980s. The foundation has provided major grants that

include \$100,000 to the Virginia and Muriel Pless Center for Nursing Research, \$100,000 for the purchase of the College’s mobile health van, \$50,000 to the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing for developing evidence-based standards in elder care and an elder care best practices “app” for health care providers’ mobile devices, a lead gift for the College’s new building in the NYU health science corridor, and most recently, a gift of \$25,000 toward naming the Dean’s Suite in the new building in honor of founding dean Terry Fulmer.

“We are so fortunate that Joan Stout’s dedication to the nursing profession and to improving patient outcomes guides her philanthropy and enriches the resources we have for implementing innovative curriculum and practice initiatives at NYU College of Nursing,” Haber says.

Adds Tara Cortes, PhD ’76, MA ’71, RN, FAAN, executive director of the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, “Joan has made a tremendous impact on the nursing profession and on the care of patients. She is absolutely committed to supporting quality care that is compassionate and effective.”

When asked about the future of the profession, Stout comments, “Nurses have such an ability to see clearly what is needed and to just go out and get the job done. I believe that when we get together, there isn’t much we can’t accomplish.” ■



## Amy Berman Merges the Personal and the Policy Dimensions of Illness



Amy Berman (second from right) with, from left, Corinne Rieder, executive director of The John A. Hartford Foundation; Kathleen Sebelius, secretary of the US Department of Health & Human Services; and Donald Berwick, former administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

In November 2010, Amy Berman, BS '06, found herself facing a scenario that she had discussed many times as a nurse and health care administrator, but never as a patient: a diagnosis of breast cancer. In her case, it was stage IV and had spread to her spine.

“Terminal is a word that’s frowned upon in health care,” says Berman. “It implies there isn’t any possibility that one can get better. Of course, there are always new treatments,” Berman notes, but she acknowledges that her rare diagnosis, inflammatory breast cancer, comes with a survival rate of only 40% after five years.

“When you’re confronted with that information, you have to ask, ‘What do you do?’” she says. Berman shed a lot of tears, and it was a very hard time for her children, parents, and friends. But a defining moment occurred, she says, when she decided to pursue a treatment that would preserve her quality of life—and to share her story to help others make informed health care decisions. Berman writes about older-adult health care and end-of-life decision making with lessons from her own health journey on The John A. Hartford Foundation’s blog, HealthAGenda ([jhartford.org/blog](http://jhartford.org/blog)).

Since 2006, Berman has been a senior program officer at the Hartford Foundation, where she supports organizations that are seeking to improve the quality and reduce the cost of care for older adults. Because of her work in this area, she was asked to join the US government’s first work group that developed indicators for older-adult health as part of the nation’s Healthy People 2020 goals.

Berman spent 20 years as a home care administrator before joining the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing (HIGN) at NYU College of Nursing in 2002. There, she

worked with nursing schools to improve curricular material on the care of older adults and helped grow the ranks of nursing faculty able to teach this subject. When she came to HIGN, she was ecstatic to learn that she could pursue her lifelong desire to become a nurse while working at NYU.

After receiving her diagnosis, Berman determined that the most aggressive treatment for her cancer carried a prognosis no better than that of a less intense hormone

**“What do you say when you can’t say, ‘I hope you get better soon?’”**

therapy, which would yield a far better quality of life. As soon as she became a “consumer” of the health care delivery system, she started to see her health care issues as a microcosm of the national debates taking place around health care reform and end-of-life care. In particular, she encountered a great deal of discomfort from those who thought that perhaps she should be treated more aggressively, despite the lack of evidence.

Berman’s blog tackles this topic directly, taking an engrossingly honest look at end-of-life decision making from someone in the eye of the storm. One of her posts struck a particular chord. Berman had spoken with a hospital-based social worker about her need to make plans, and the social worker became visibly upset.

Berman writes: “She was concerned that I was depressed, misinformed, and focusing on the negative. Later, she even spoke to my oncologist and suggested I needed to join a support group. Maybe a support group would be helpful, but the social worker was missing the point... I am

very well informed (which my oncologist told her, thankfully). There is a fine line between acceptance and giving up hope, and I believe I am on the right side of it.”

Berman has been overwhelmed by the kindness she has received from nurses involved in both her care and in the professional setting. “When you can’t say ‘I hope you get better soon,’ what do you say?” Berman asks. “Beyond their professionalism and expertise, so many nurses have taken the time to say a kind word.”

Despite all of her prior accomplishments, these days it is Berman’s blog that is getting the most attention, for having broken a long silence about how people with a serious illness can fight for their quality of life. Based on her writing, she was invited to speak with Secretary of Health & Human Services Kathleen Sebelius and former administrator of the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services Donald Berwick in May 2011. Berman received the National League of Nursing’s Presidential Award for shaping nursing education last year.

A year into Berman’s treatment, the cancer remains, but she feels less pain than she did when first diagnosed. Thus energized, she is determined to keep talking about difficult issues for as long as she can.

“There are 2.4 million people who die every year. It’s a common occurrence. But conversations around the end of life are uncommon,” Berman says. “We need to help people understand their options and share their goals. It’s not just about advance directives. It’s about whether my health care team is on the same page as me. Are you on the same page as your health care team?” ■

## Wilhelmina Manzano Takes Nursing to the Top



**W**ilhelmina Manzano, MA '87, BS '81, is a nurse, a businesswoman, and, if you happen to be in the West Village on the right night, a rock 'n' roll singer. She also advises the College of Nursing as a member of the Board of Advisors. P.S., her desk is immaculate, and she exudes an air of calm.

Manzano grew up in the Philippines, in a family of doctors, nurses, and other professionals who considered *her* the family overachiever. Her multiple roles today attest to an energy and drive that have not let up. Today, she is the senior vice president and chief nursing officer at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, a 2,400-bed hospital across five campuses, where she oversees close to 5,000 registered nurses. Manzano also holds the role of chief operating officer of one of the hospital's campuses, The Allen Hospital, and serves as assistant dean for clinical affairs at Columbia University School of Nursing.

"It's about having a purpose, a clear understanding of what is important. And of course, time management is essential," Manzano quips. "The key is surrounding myself with smart people who share the same values and believe in the work we're doing." She is quick to add that technology has helped tremendously, lending a portability that was not possible in the past.

For Manzano, who arrived in the United States at age 17, enrolling in NYU was truly a new beginning. Timid and shy, she focused intently on her studies. The philosophy of nursing that Manzano absorbed at NYU—and that informs the leadership she provides

to her department—is as close to her heart as the purple pen she keeps on her desk. "You have to look at the person as a whole," she says. "New nurses, whose skills are not fully formed, might focus on one aspect of the patient or perhaps focus primarily on tasks. But you have to see the patient as a whole and understand the importance of the environment as an integral part of the patient—the patient's family, relationships, support systems. It always left an impression on me that you're not just dealing with a body part but the whole person and his or her relationship to other people."

Manzano answers to many groups that call for metrics establishing excellence in nursing, but she says that her job, first and foremost, is about *putting patients first*. Clearly she is doing that well. NewYork-Presbyterian is ranked No. 1 among New York metro-area hospitals and No. 6 nationwide by *US News & World Report*.

Manzano is a talent scout, believing that a hospital cannot be great if it doesn't have the right people. "There is growing evidence in the literature regarding the positive impact of healthy work environments on recruitment, retention, staff satisfaction, improved patient outcomes, and operational excellence. This requires strong nursing leadership at all levels of the organization, but especially at the unit level where most front-line staff work and patient care is delivered. Leadership drives performance, and it's important to ensure that we quickly identify talent and provide them the right tools for managing effectively, especially in today's challenging health care environment."

Manzano hosts at her hospital several deans and program directors from many of the nursing schools in New York City. She sees it as critical that they collaborate, rather than compete, on issues related to the future of nursing. The agenda focuses primarily on better aligning goals and priorities between the hospital and the schools, working with nursing faculty to make curricula more relevant to current practice, and sharing ways to support nursing students and new graduates.

When former dean Terry Fulmer asked Manzano to join the College of Nursing Advisory Board, she jumped at the chance. "I was already asking how I could give back to a school that's been great to me. Aside from what I've learned, when you have a degree from NYU it carries a lot of weight."

When she's not juggling a daunting workload, Manzano sings in *Off the Chart*, a band made up of hospital staff that has performed at the Bitter End and the Village Underground.

"As a nurse executive with a vast scope of responsibility, Willie Manzano has the opportunity to profoundly affect nursing practice and patient care in this city," says Eloise Cathcart, coordinator of the Master's Program in Nursing Administration at the College of Nursing. "She is an important role model for nursing administration graduate students at NYU. She articulates beautifully the daunting challenges and immense possibilities in her role, and generously shares the expert knowledge, skill, and strategies she uses to always act in the best interest of patients and clinical nurses." ■



# Celia Maysles



In 2004, Celia Maysles, BS '12 began a journey to find her father. Her journey evolved into *Wild Blue Yonder*, a documentary film that deals with his life and her grief over his loss. In the process, she found out that making a documentary can be a lot like nursing.

Celia's father, the prominent documentary filmmaker David Maysles, died of an aneurysm when she was seven years old. Her grief-stricken family spoke little about him while Celia was growing up, and despite his fame, she felt that she barely understood who he was. David Maysles is best known for his film *Grey Gardens*, which exposed the impoverished and hazardous living conditions of the Beale family, relatives of Jacqueline Onassis who had been all but forgotten in a decrepit Long Island family compound. Maysles, known as a founder of cinema vérité, made a number of other films about people on the fringes of society as well as the landmark Rolling Stones film *Gimme Shelter* and *Christo's Valley Curtain*, about the famed environmental artist.

Most of Celia's childhood was spent far from the limelight. She majored in Hispanic studies at Lewis and Clark College in Oregon, where an attentive teacher helped transform her initial reticence toward Spanish into a passion.

After college, Celia's Spanish skills helped her land a job in Portland, Oregon, where she worked in a clinic for homeless youth and the uninsured. Serving as a translator, she worked with health care personnel and patients and began a program for new translators. Soon, Celia was training new medical residents in cultural competency, providing HIV testing and counseling, and helping to run a mobile outreach clinic.

The first time Celia watched *Grey*

*Gardens*, at 23, she realized that the Beales were similar to some of her patients—living on the fringe of society. “That was my first connection to my dad,” she says. “He felt the same thing toward people who were marginalized. I realized that I needed to know much more about him.”

Celia began commuting back to New York to research *Wild Blue Yonder*. For four and one-half years, she immersed herself in her father's documentaries and visited the subjects of his films, who universally painted her father as a deeply caring person. Ironically, she was prevented from obtaining many hours of footage of her father by her uncle, her father's filmmaking partner—a factor she attributes to

**“The kind of storytelling my dad did was the best form of advocacy.”**

trauma and the inexplicable ways in which death can affect bereaved family members.

To make ends meet during this period, Celia worked on other documentaries, films, and commercials—including those for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the New York City Department of Health. But, while she loved filmmaking, she missed her work with homeless and underserved patients.

Returning to college was a challenge for Celia, who graduated from NYU's 15-month accelerated baccalaureate program in January 2012. “Every day, I learned so much, it was amazing!”

At NYU, Celia used her experience working with people with HIV/AIDS to help recruit HIV-positive patients for a study being conducted by Dr. Ann Kurth.

Left Celia Maysles attended the Raindance Film Festival in London for the opening of her documentary, *Wild Blue Yonder*.

Above Celia honed her Spanish skills while studying and traveling in South America. She lived with a local family (and helped with the cooking) in Azuay Province, Ecuador.

Her advisor, Adjunct Associate Professor Cynthia Sculco, praises her dedication to research: “She's an amazing student and person, and I believe she will be one of our future leaders in the profession.”

Celia is off to a great start. This spring, she was hired to work in the Emergency Department of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center. For Celia, NYU has been the perfect setting to learn nursing. She particularly appreciated the diversity of the student body and the influence of professors like Drs. Tara Cortes and Ann Marie Mauro. Mauro, she says, is like the Spanish teacher who made her love Spanish. “She taught me how to think in a totally different way, especially about prioritizing care, which may be the biggest challenge for nursing students,” Celia says.

Celia's experience of her father's death—as well as her mother's having had breast cancer twice—has been a constant presence as she becomes a nurse. She is especially conscious of the need to preserve good memories for people who are coping with tragedies.

Would she consider making a film about nursing? “If the right story came along,” she says. But nursing may very well be the ultimate connection to her father, according to Celia. “The kind of storytelling my dad did was the best form of advocacy. As a nursing student, my favorite part was working with families and supporting patients through challenging times. You listen and then give them a voice—all the things that a good nonfiction storyteller does.” ■

## Congratulations to Student Scholarship Recipients!

Thanks to our very generous donors, the College of Nursing recently announced a number of scholarships. The following are some of the outstanding foundations that support our students.

### Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing

Five College of Nursing students were awarded scholarships from the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing (NCIN)** program for the 2011–12 academic year. NCIN supports accelerated baccalaureate students from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in the field of nursing.

The NCIN Scholars are Maritess Cabrera, Veronica Cepin, Sheyla Reyes, Luis Sanchez, and Danielle Spencer. All will graduate in 2013.

NCIN provides more than funding. Scholars are assigned experienced nurse and recent graduate mentors, attend professional conferences, and participate in a leadership development and mentoring program that was created at the College of Nursing by NCIN Program Liaison and Principal Investigator **Ann Marie Mauro, PhD '98, RN, CNL, CNE**.

The College's NCIN mentoring program was one of three programs selected from 52 participating schools to be featured in the January 2012 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing FastTrack Newsletter.

### Hillman Seamless Transition into Doctoral Studies Scholarship Program

The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation Scholarship, which has supported more than 300 College of Nursing students over the past 23 years, has undergone a transformation. Now called the Hillman Seamless Transition into Doctoral Studies Scholarship Program, the scholarship is targeted toward accelerated baccalaureate students who desire to become nurse scientists. In addition to receiving scholarship funding, these students attend monthly research seminars and are assigned faculty and alumni mentors. Twenty College of Nursing students were awarded the Hillman scholarship for the spring 2012 semester:

Lynn Baggese	Sara Kaleya
Caroline Macmillan	Georgette Lawlor
Baptista	Jennette Nazmia Morgan
Frances Bell	Brendan Powers O'Connor
Caitlin Brodel	Victoria Petrovsky
Alia Lynn Carey	Alia Rogers
Magdalena Marta	Hanna Wise Schwartz
Del Angel	Lauren Ashley Scott
Sara Fernandez	Caitlin VanDeGiesen
Andrea Garcia	Heather Wisdom
Lisa Herskovitz	Aviva Zipkin

### Jewish Foundation for Education of Women

The College is delighted to announce a new scholarship provided by the **Jewish Foundation for Education of Women**, called the JFEW Nursing Scholars Program, targeted to accelerated students. This scholarship is awarded to students who identify as female, are new to the College in spring 2012, and live within 50 miles of New York City. The recipients of this four-semester scholarship — all slated to graduate in May 2013 — are Tamema Cohen, Yaffa Eichen, Yvonne Hoover, Danielle London, Miriam Kahn, and Evgeniya Muzhetskaya.



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THANK YOU!

### Greenidge Endowed Fund for International Education

The College is also thrilled to announce the recipients of the **Greenidge Endowed Fund for International Education**, made possible through a generous donation by alumna and loyal supporter Jocelyn A. Greenidge, MA '75. During the winter 2012 Intersession, the Greenidge Fund enabled six students to study health care in Italy and Argentina. The recipients are Jessica Brown '14 (Italy), Erica Chuang '12 (Italy), Paola Giraldo '12 (Argentina), Ariana Horton '12 (Argentina), Jennifer Lynn Silver '12 (Italy), and Christopher Stephen-Jones '12 (Argentina).

### Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence Doctoral Award

Four College of Nursing doctoral students in the PhD program have been awarded scholarships through the **Jonas Center for Nursing Excellence**, which is supported by the Barbara and Donald Jonas Family Fund. Tania Williams received funding for the 2011–12 school year; Michael Valenti, MS '08, and Margaret McCarthy received funding for 2010–12; and Adrian Juarez received funding for 2008–12. The Jonas Center established the Jonas Nursing Scholars program to address the nation's shortage of nursing faculty. Scholarship recipients teach nursing full-time in the New York City metropolitan area after completion of the doctoral degree.



## Dean's Leadership Nurse Educator Roundtable Meeting Draws Praise for Students

The annual Dean's Leadership Nurse Educator Roundtable, held October 18, 2011, brought together the top nurse educators from the major health care agencies at which College of Nursing students are placed for their clinical experiences. Roundtable attendees, representing hospitals, nursing homes, the Visiting Nurse Service of New York, and the College's mobile health van, provided feedback on student performance in their clinical placements to help the College prepare its students for the workforce.

"This type of external community-of-interest information is critical to program improvement," says **Barbara Krainovich-Miller, EdD, RN, PMHCNS-BC, ANEF, FAAN**, associate dean for academic and clinical affairs, who organized the conference with other deans from the College of Nursing. "The event is an important opportunity for us to understand how our baccalaureate, master's, and doctoral students are performing in their clinical placements and where we need to infuse our curriculum with new competencies to prepare them for their careers."

A major theme of this year's meeting was the College's new curriculum initiative to incorporate the interprofessional competencies developed by the Interprofessional Education Collaborative throughout all four programs (BS, MS, DNP, PhD). Conference participants congratulated the College's deans on their innovative clinical teaching model, in which 50% of students' clinical time is spent on campus in clinical simulation. In addition, they noted that the College's initiative related to quality and safety had a noticeable effect on students' understanding in these areas, which are very important to the agencies. "Overall, they were pleased that our students are doing so well," Krainovich-Miller says.

## College Launches a Family Nurse Practitioner Program

The College of Nursing this spring announced a new Advanced Practice Nursing—Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) master's degree program that will begin during the summer of 2012. The program, coordinated by **Caroline Dorsen MSN, BS '97, FNP-BC**, is already shaping up to be highly competitive.

Dorsen joined the College's faculty full-time in 2005 as the coordinator of the Adult Primary Care Nurse Practitioner program. The first cohort of 20 FNP students will begin classes this summer. Those who attend full-time will graduate in two years, and part-time students will graduate in three to four years.

FNP programs are very popular and there are more FNPs than any other NP specialty. The College of Nursing also has NP master's degree programs in pediatrics; mental health; adult primary care; and adult acute care as well as specialty sequences in holistic nursing; palliative care; substance-related disorders; and herbs, supplements, and nutraceuticals. Dorsen notes that the Affordable Care Act is changing the patient landscape. Some 32 to 38 million Americans will have new health coverage in the next several years, leading to a great need for primary care services, which FNPs can provide.

"FNPs are an essential part of primary care. They provide evidence-based preventive care and chronic-disease management, as well as care for patients with acute episodic illnesses," Dorsen says.

Historically, many FNPs have worked with underserved populations, often in federally qualified community health centers, although they can be found in a wide variety of settings.

Dorsen's passion is the reduction of health disparities among vulnerable populations, which she says will be a strong focal point of the new program.

## M2M Evidence-Based Practice Conference

On November 29, 2011, the College of Nursing hosted the conference "Making a Difference Based on the Evidence"—an all-day event for sharing nursing best practices and innovative approaches to patient care and professional practice. The conference was sponsored by the Hospital for Joint Diseases in conjunction with the Montauk to Manhattan Evidence-Based Practice Alliance (M2M), a group composed of academic medical centers, community hospitals, home care agencies, and schools of nursing in New York City and Long Island.

Held at the Kimmel Center, the conference targeted clinicians, including RNs and advanced practice nurses, nurse leaders, students, and faculty. It was intended to introduce evidence-based practice tools that can be implemented to improve patient and nursing professional outcomes.

"This is a perfect example of a collaborative effort on evidence-based practice between academic nursing and medical institutions and an advocacy alliance," says **Wendy Budin, PhD '96, RN-BC, FAAN**, adjunct nursing professor and director of nursing research at NYU Langone Medical Center. She thanks Lillie Shortridge-Baggett, PhD, RN, FAAN, of Pace University, for bringing the M2M organization to fruition and Patricia Lavin of the Hospital for Joint Diseases for her leadership in convening the event.

Keynote speaker Susan Gennaro, RN, DSN, FAAN, previously the Florence and William Downs Professor in Nursing Research at NYU College of Nursing, delivered the talk "Making Practice Perfect: Current State of Evidence-Based Nursing." Other speakers included Interim Dean Judith Haber, PhD '84, MA '67, APRN-BC, FAAN; Lily Thomas, PhD, RN, vice president of nursing research at North Shore—Long Island Jewish Health System; and Shortridge-Baggett.

## Rockefeller Center Window Shares Hartford Institute Message

During January 2012, the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing (HIGN) at the College of Nursing unveiled a 115-square-foot window display at 10 Rockefeller Plaza with this message:

“Soon one out of every five Americans will be over the age of 65. The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing prepares the people who care for those you care about most.”

The poster featured 93-year-old Edith McAllister, an avid swimmer, emerging from a clear blue pool, looking healthy and refreshed. McAllister traveled from her home in San Antonio, Texas, to see the display and appeared with Hartford Institute Executive Director **Tara Cortes** in a January 9, 2011, segment about the initiative on WABC Eyewitness News. The window space was donated by EHE International, America’s oldest and largest preventive health company, whose president, **Deborah McKeever**, serves on the College of Nursing Advisory Board.

“Our message is that older people can lead very healthy and active lives, but we need to ensure that our health care provider workforce is prepared to support this growing population and help them achieve a healthy lifespan,” said Cortes.

## Nursing Undergrad Named as Most Influential

**Timothy Shi '12**, president of the Undergraduate Nursing Student Organization (UNSO), was named by the *Washington Square News* in December 2011 as one of NYU’s Most Influential Students—an honor bestowed on 15 students from the entire University student body. NYU’s daily student newspaper honored these exceptional students for the positive impact they have on the NYU community.

During the two years that Tim has been UNSO president, the organization has flourished, offering new activities and involving growing numbers of students. The group leads student tours of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, organizes a large College of Nursing presence for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk, and has organized a wide range of wellness seminars. Tim is also active in the student groups Men Entering Nursing and the Asian Pacific Islander Nursing Student Association. He is the philanthropy programming chair of Sigma Phi Epsilon, the undergraduate representative on the Council of Ethics and Professionalism for the College of Nursing, and a member of the Dean’s Search Committee. Tim—who learned to cook from his mother, a scientist and talented chef—hosts a cooking show on NYUnews.com.

## Making More Strides Against Breast Cancer

In 2011, the College of Nursing doubled its participation in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk for the American Cancer Society. About 100 students and College of Nursing community members walked on October 16, 2011, raising a record-breaking \$8,500. They joined an NYU contingent that was the largest single group participating in the walk—with 475 community members—and the eighth largest in fundraising, topping \$16,000.

The walk was organized for the fourth year by the Undergraduate and Advanced Nursing Student Organizations. “The members of their executive boards really stood out as student leaders in ensuring this huge turnout,” says **Cindy Lundberg-Lewis**, student affairs officer.

## Leadership Institute for Black Nurses Celebrates 100th Fellow; New Funding

The College of Nursing has received a generous grant of \$30,000 from the New York City Council to continue its Leadership Institute for Black Nurses, now enrolling its 100th Fellow. The program, conceived by **Yvonne Wesley, PhD '00, RN, FAAN**, adjunct associate professor of nursing, helps black nurse managers to



The Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing was invited to produce a window display at Rockefeller Center in January 2012. The message: The health care workforce must prepare for an aging population.



The Leadership Institute for Black Nurses helps to advance black nurses’ careers and address health disparities. In 2012, the seven-year-old program enrolled its 100th Fellow.



both envision and achieve career goals in administration, education, and research. It was founded to advance black nurses' careers and to address the extreme disparities in health between African Americans and other groups in the United States.

## Upsilon Chapter Celebrates 50 Years!

The Upsilon Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI)—the honor society of nursing—celebrated its 50th anniversary at the College of Nursing with a lively celebration attended by more than 100 members in October 2011. To mark the occasion, the chapter organized an exhibition of archives of its past, including photos of the first induction ceremony, the letter that NYU submitted in 1961 to STTI to request a charter, and the original charter document. Upsilon was the 18th of 431 STTI chapters internationally.

The guest speaker at the event was Karen Morin, DSN, RN, FAAN, the 2009–11 STTI president, who discussed the benefits and requirements of society membership. The anniversary celebration, held in the Rosenthal Pavilion of Kimmel Center, was also attended by **Bea Goodwin PhD '70**,

**MA '60**, adjunct professor at the College of Nursing and a charter member of the chapter. Three area hospitals, NYU Langone Medical Center, NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill-Cornell Medical Center, and Maimonides Medical Center provided support for members to attend the event.

Upsilon boasts more than 800 members internationally. The group—which emphasizes knowledge, scholarship, and leadership—holds panels and mentorship events for nurses to learn about aspects of the profession, an annual research day, social events, and research grants and scholarship programs.



From left, Gloria Chan, BS '08, president-elect of the Upsilon chapter, celebrates with guest speaker Karen Morin, STTI president, and outgoing chapter president Todd Piorier, BS '06.

At the anniversary event, **Gloria Chan, BS '08**, president-elect of the chapter, spoke about her experiences as a member of STTI. As a new nursing graduate, she started attending meetings and learned of an opportunity to become a research assistant for an NYU faculty member.

"This experience has given me an opportunity to learn more about research and become a stronger leader," Chan says. "Being a member of STTI provides wonderful leadership opportunities that you wouldn't have otherwise."

Membership in STTI is extended by invitation to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship and to community nursing leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing. Undergraduate students must maintain a 3.5 grade point average, complete half of their nursing courses, and demonstrate academic excellence. Nurse members may apply for research grants and scholarships through the organization. For more information about STTI Upsilon chapter, please write [nyu.upsilon@gmail.com](mailto:nyu.upsilon@gmail.com).



Sigma Theta Tau International  
Honor Society of Nursing

## Faculty News

**Marie Boltz, PhD '07, RN, GNP-BC**, received the 2012 John A. Hartford Geriatric Nursing Practice Research Award from the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

**Wendy Budin, PhD '96, RN-BC, FAAN**, has been elected to serve as president-elect of the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

A 2010 article by **Elizabeth Cappezuti, PhD, RN, FAAN**, Dr. John W. Rowe Professor in Successful Aging and co-director of the Hartford Institute for Geriatric

Nursing; **Marie Boltz, PhD '07, RN, GNP-BC**; and **Nina Shabbat, BA '07 (CAS)**, "Building a Framework for a Geriatric Acute Care Model," in *Leadership in Health Services*, received the Emerald Literati Network 2011 Award for Excellence as "highly commendable." Emerald Group Publishing is a producer of scholarly journals and books, based in England.

**Bernadette Capili, DNSc, NP-C**, received the Muriel and Virginia Pless Center for Nursing

Research 2011 Pilot Award for her proposal "An Exploratory Study: Acupuncture for Smoking Cessation in HIV."

**Tara A. Cortes, PhD '76, MA '71, RN, FAAN**, professor of nursing and executive director of the Hartford Institute for Geriatric Nursing, was named as one of the New York Women's Agenda 2011 STARS on December 6, 2011. Cortes was honored for exemplifying the qualities embodied in NYWA's mission—to advocate



Dr. Tara Cortes was honored at the New York Women's Agenda STAR Breakfast.

and collaborate for the interests of New York women in public policy decisions. Cortes was also elected co-chair of the American Academy of Nursing Expert Panel on Aging.

**Victoria Vaughan Dickson, PhD, CRNP**, assistant professor and Brookdale Leadership in Aging Fellow, is the principal investigator on a three-year, \$324,000 Career Development Award (K01) from the CDC National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health for her study “Organization of Work, Self-Care and Health and Productivity Outcomes among Aging Workers with Coronary Heart Disease.” Dickson was also named a Fellow in the American Heart Association and received the 2012 Rising Star Research Award from the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

**Maja Djukic, PhD '09, MS '06, RN**, assistant professor, was the lead author of an article published in November 2011 in *Health Care Management Review*, which has been covered in a number of media outlets. Her paper found a link between nurses who rate the quality of their physical work environment high with a higher rating for the quality of patient care. The survey also found that when nurses experience greater organizational constraints, they are less likely to rate the quality of patient care high. Professor Christine Kovner is a coauthor of the article.

**Mei Fu, PhD, RN, APRN-BC**, assistant professor, was awarded a \$59,815 grant from the Oncology Nursing Society and Foundation for her

study “Genetic Variations and Lymphedema Risk Reduction.” She also received the Muriel and Virginia Pless Center for Nursing Research 2011 Pilot Award for her proposal “Percent of Body Fat among Chinese American Women with Pre-Diabetes, Diabetes, and without Diabetes.”

**Candice Knight, PhD, EdD, APN**, coordinator of the psychiatric nurse practitioner graduate program, received the Society of Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurses 2011 Leadership Award for “her exemplary vision and willingness to take necessary risks.” Knight, the society’s president, catalyzed the creation of the first family psychiatric nurse practitioner program and post-master’s family psychiatric nurse practitioner program in New Jersey.

**Christine Kovner, PhD '85, RN, FAAN**, professor, received a grant of \$91,718 from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for the study “Analyzing the Cost of Alternative Strategies for Implementing the Institute of Medicine’s Recommendations Related to Nursing Education.” Kovner was the keynote speaker at the National Association of Hispanic Nurses New York Chapter Annual Educational Conference, October 7, 2011, where she presented the talk “IOM: Future of Nursing.”

**Ann Marie Mauro, PhD '98, RN, CNL, CNE**, clinical associate professor, received the first NYU College of Nursing Teaching Excellence Award at Alumni Day on September 24, 2011. Mauro is also program liaison and principal investigator for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New

Careers in Nursing grant to the College of Nursing, funding five \$10,000 scholarships to newly admitted students. In February 2012, she earned the certified nurse educator credential (CNE) from the National League for Nursing.

Mauro, together with **Laureen Lampert**, scholarship and recruitment officer, Lindsay Sutton, MA '06 (Steinhardt), former assistant director of undergraduate student affairs and admissions, and **Amy Knowles, MSED**, assistant dean for student affairs and admissions, submitted the winning poster in the category of Leadership Development at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Fourth Annual New Careers in Nursing Program Liaisons Summit in Washington, DC, on October 8, 2011. Their poster was titled “Grooming the Next Generation of Nurse Leaders.”

**James C. Pace, DSN, MDiv, APRN-BC, FAANP**, associate dean of the undergraduate program, was appointed to a two-year term on the board of directors of the Hospice and Palliative Nursing Foundation.

**Mary Rosedale, PhD '07, ADCRT '01, PMHNP-BC, NEA-BC**, assistant professor, was named a Distinguished Visiting Scholar at Louisiana State University School of Nursing.

**Allison Squires, PhD, RN**, assistant professor, was appointed by Nurses Now International to oversee its compliance with the Code for Ethical International Recruitment and Accreditation by the Alliance for Fair and Ethical Recruitment. Squires will

be in charge of monitoring the company’s internationally educated nurses’ work experiences in the United States. Squires has also begun a three-year term on the Board of Punte a la Salud Comunitaria, a nongovernmental organization based in Oaxaca, Mexico, that addresses maternal and child malnutrition through health programs and sustainable agriculture practices. Squires was appointed to the advisory board of the International Bilingual Nurses Association, an organization dedicated to facilitating the educational needs of bilingual and international nursing students.

An article published by **Shiela Strauss, PhD**, associate professor of nursing, and colleagues from NYU College of Dentistry in the *American Journal of Public Health* has generated media attention for its revelation that there are nearly 20 million Americans who visit a dentist annually but do not visit a general health care provider during the same period. The study — the first of its kind — asks whether dentists could play a more central role in primary care, identifying systemic illnesses that would otherwise go undetected.

**Laura Wagner, PhD, RN**, assistant professor, received a \$299,000, two-year grant from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing for her study “Impact of an Internationally Educated Nurse Workforce on Patient Safety Processes and Outcomes in Nursing Homes.”



## Selected Faculty and Research Scientist Publications

### Marie Boltz

**Boltz, M.** (2012). Review: Comprehensive geriatric assessment increases a patient's likelihood of being alive and in their own home at up to 12 months. *Evidence-Based Nursing*, 15, 25–26.

**Boltz, M., Capezuti, E., & Shabbat, N.** (2011). Nursing staff perceptions of physical function in hospitalized older adults. *Applied Nursing Research*, 24(4), 215–222.

**Boltz, M., Capezuti, E., & Shabbat, N.** (2011). Function-focused care and changes in physical function in Chinese American and non-Chinese American hospitalized older adults. *Rehabilitation Nursing*, 36(6), 233–240.

### Mary Brennan

**Brennan, M.** & Johnson, J. (2011). Evidence-based care for patients with acute coronary syndrome in New York City. In F. Chiappelli, C. Brant, & C. Cajulis (Eds.), *Comparative effectiveness and efficacy research and analysis for practice (CEERAP): Applications in health care*. Heidelberg, Germany: Springer-Verlag.

### Ab Brody

**Brody, A., Barnes, K., Ruble, C., & Sakowski, J.** (2012). Evidence-based practice councils: Potential path to staff nurse empowerment and leadership growth. *Journal of Nursing Administration*, 42(1), 28–33.

### Elizabeth Capezuti

Gulpers, M., Bleijlevens, M., van Rossum, E., **Capezuti, E.**, Ambergen, T., & Hamers, J. (2011). Belt restraint reduction in nursing homes: Effects of a multi-component intervention program (EXBELT). *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, 59(11), 2029–2036.

Fink, R., Gilmartin, H., Richard, A., **Capezuti, E., Boltz, M., & Wald, H.** (2012). Indwelling urinary catheter management and CAUTI prevention in Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders (NICHE) hospitals. *American Journal of Infection Control*, published online February 10, doi:10.1016/j.ajic.2011.09.017.

### Deborah Chyun

Tandon, S., Inzucchi, S.E., Wackers, F.J.Th., Bansal, S., Stain, L.H., **Chyun, D.A., Davey, J.A., & Young, L.H.**, for the DIAD Investigators. (2012). Gender-based divergence in cardiac outcomes in asymptomatic patients with type 2 diabetes. Results from the Detection of Ischemia in Asymptomatic Diabetics (DIAD) study. *Diabetes and Vascular Disease Research*, published online January 6, doi:10.1177/1479164111431470.

Hayman, L., Helden, L., **Chyun, D.A., & Braun, L.** (2011). A life course approach to cardiovascular disease prevention. *Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, 26(4), S22–S34.

Bansal, S., Wackers, F.J.Th., Inzucchi, S.E., **Chyun, D.A., Davey, J.A., Staib, L.H., & Young, L.H.**, for the DIAD Investigators. (2011). Five-year outcomes in "high-risk" patients in the Detection of Ischemia in Asymptomatic Diabetics (DIAD) study. A post-hoc analysis. *Diabetes Care*, 34, 204–209.

Coviello, J. & **Chyun, D.** (2012.) Fluid overload: Identifying and managing heart failure patients at risk for readmission. In **M. Boltz, E. Capezuti, D. Zwicker, & T. Fulmer** (Eds.), *Evidence-based geriatric nursing protocols for best practice* (4th ed.). New York: Springer Publishing.

### Sherry Deren

**Deren, S., Kang, S-Y., Mino, M., & Guarino, H.** (2011). Conducting peer outreach to migrants: Outcomes for drug treatment patients. *Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health*, published online April 10, doi: 10.1007/s10903-011-9467-4.

**Deren, S., Kang, S-Y., Mino, M., & Seewald, R.** (2011). Attitudes of methadone program staff toward provision of harm reduction and other services. *Journal of Addiction Medicine*, 5(4), 289–292.

Kang, S-Y., **Deren, S., & Colón, H.M.** (2011). Differential gender effects of depression on use of HIV medications among HIV-positive Puerto Rican drug users. *AIDS Care*, published online October 25, doi: 10.1080/09540121.2011.565022.

Mino, M., **Deren, S., & Colón, H.M.** (2011). HIV and drug use in Puerto Rico: Findings from the ARIBBA study. *Journal of the International Association of Physicians in AIDS Care*, 10(4), 248–259.

Mino, M., **Deren, S., Kang, S-Y., & Guarino, H.** (2011). Associations between political/civic participation and HIV drug injection risk. *Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse*, 37(6), 520–524.

### Victoria Vaughan Dickson

**Dickson, V.V., Howe, A., Deal, J., & McCarthy, M.** (2012). The relationship between work, self-care and quality of life in a sample of older working adults with cardiovascular disease. *Heart & Lung: The Journal of Acute and Critical Care*, 41(1), 5–14.

**Dickson, V.V.** (2012). Meeting the health challenges of the 21st century workforce: Future directions for cardiovascular research (invited editorial). *Heart & Lung: The Journal of Acute and Critical Care*, 41(1), 2–3.

**Dickson, V.V., McCarthy, M.M., Howe, A.L., Schipper, J., & Katz, S.** (2012). Socio-cultural influences on heart failure self-care among an ethnic minority black population. *Journal of Cardiovascular Nursing*, published online February 12, doi: 10.1097/JCN.0b013e31823db328.

### Maja Djukic

**Djukic, M., Pellico, L.D., Kovner, C.T., & Brewer, C.S.** (2011). Newly licensed RNs describe what they like best about being a nurse. *Nursing Research and Practice*, published online August 17, doi:10.1155/2011/968191.

**Djukic, M., Kovner, C.T., Brewer, C.S., Fatehi, F., & Cline, D.** (2011). Nurse work environment factors other than staffing associated with nurses' ratings of patient care quality. *Health Care Management Review*, published online November 2, doi: 10.1097/HMR.0b013e3182388cc3.

Fairchild, S., Tobias, R., **Djukic, M., Corcoran, S., Kovner, C.T., & Noguera, P.** (2012). White and black teachers' job satisfaction: Does relational demography matter? *Urban Education*, 47(1), 170–197.

**Djukic, M.** (2011). Review: Job satisfaction and intentions to leave of new nurses. *Journal of Research in Nursing*, 16(6), 549–550.

### Emerson Ea

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## Letter from Maria Dolce

Dear Fellow Alumni,

It is truly an honor and privilege to serve as president of the NYU College of Nursing Alumni Association. I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and to share some highlights about our amazing College and Alumni Association. I have had a longstanding history with NYU College of Nursing and I am always eager to share that I am a “triple alumna.”

My experiences at NYU span three decades, starting in the 1970s as an undergraduate nursing student, returning in the 1980s as a master’s student majoring in nursing education, and finally realizing a lifelong dream of a PhD degree in 2009. After 30 years of professional nursing experience, I joined the College of Nursing faculty as a clinical assistant professor and coordinator of the Nursing Education Master’s and Advanced Certificate Programs. I am thrilled to be part of the College at a time of tremendous growth for NYU—the first “global network university”!

Serving on the Alumni Board is an opportunity for me to say thank you for a world-class education in nursing and to continue to be inspired by faculty, alumni, friends, and students. As president of the Alumni Association, I am committed to building and sustaining lifelong connections with alumni and friends of the College. To that end, I am very fortunate to work with an esteemed

board, Maja Djukic, PhD ’09, MS ’06, RN, vice president; Pamela Galehouse, PhD ’03, MA ’69, secretary; Michele Crespo-Fierro, BS ’90, member-at-large; Nominating Committee members Donna McCabe, MA ’02, and Carole Wind Mitchell, MS ’10; Madeline Naegle, PhD ’80, MA ’67, faculty advisor; and past presidents Ann Marie Mauro, PhD ’98, and Wendy Budin, PhD ’96.

On December 5, 2011, the Association hosted a career networking event, the Job Search Forum, for recent baccalaureate nursing graduates. The program included a panel presentation by Paula Lee, director of the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development; Lillian Gleason, manager of college relations for the Visiting Nurse Service of New York; and Marianne Harkin, senior director of professional practice at NYU Langone Medical Center. This event connected recent alumni with nurse leaders in the New York metropolitan area and Alumni Board members.

A centerpiece of our current work is the Alumni Lecture Hall campaign, spearheaded by Ann Marie Mauro. My vision is that the Association will have a prominent presence in the new home of the College of Nursing—a state-of-the-art building located at the First Avenue health science corridor. I am happy to report that to date, we have raised more than \$80,000



toward our goal of \$200,000. I hope that each of you will help us reach that goal!

As I reflect on my early memories of Shimkin Hall and envision our new building as the hub for nursing students, faculty, and alumni, I am enthralled with the image of a contemporary building designed to facilitate interprofessional education and collaboration. Please join the Alumni Association Board members and me in contributing to the Alumni Lecture Hall Campaign. We count on you!

I look forward to our future conversations and connections.

Warmest regards,

Maria Dolce, PhD ’09, MA ’85, BS ’79, RN, CNE, NEA-BC, FACHE

# ALUMNI

1976



**Jane Jeffrie Seley, DNP, MSN, MPH, BS '76**, was inducted as a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine in November 2011 and was also elected to the national board of directors of the American Association of Diabetes Educators. Jane is a coauthor of new Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guidelines for the management of hyperglycemia in hospitalized patients, published in January 2012 in the *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*. In November 2011, she presented a research poster at the Hospital Diabetes Technology Society meeting in Barcelona, Spain, on using information technology to optimize inpatient insulin therapy.

1981

**Gail M. Dolan, EdD, MA '81, MA (GSAS) '87**, has been named Florida regional dean of the School of Nursing at Rasmussen College. Gail will oversee the Rasmussen nursing operations at the New Port Richey, Tampa/Brandon, Ocala, and Fort Myers campuses. She joins Rasmussen from the NCH Healthcare System in Naples, Florida, where she served in executive-level administrative roles for 21 years, most recently as chief operations officer of North Naples Hospital. Gail has also served as an adjunct professor at both NOVA Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale and Barry University in Miami Shores.

1982



**Margaret Comerford Freda, EdD, MA '82, RN, CHES, FAAN**, has been honored by the March of Dimes, which for the first time named a research grant award for a nurse in her honor: the March of Dimes Dr. Margaret Comerford Freda "Saving Babies, Together™" Award. March of Dimes Foundation Vice President Janis Bierman wrote that the award was so named "in appreciation of your decades of volunteer service to the March of Dimes and because of the instrumental role you played in the development and implementation of the Foundation's nursing program." Margaret is professor emerita in obstetrics & gynecology and women's health at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Montefiore Medical Center, and is editor-in-chief of *MCN: The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing*.

1985

**Dorothy Woods Smith, PhD '92, MA '85**, was the recipient of the 2011 Nurse Healers Award given by the Therapeutic Touch International Association. In announcing the award in its newsletter, *Cooperative Connection*, the association described Dorothy's research into therapeutic touch and her publications, within the Rogerian framework, that address power and spirituality and their relationship to those receiving therapeutic touch.

1986



**Marlaine C. Smith, PhD '86, RN, AHN-BC, FAAN**, was appointed as dean and Helen K. Persson Eminent Scholar at the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing at Florida Atlantic University.

2001

**Annalisa Cappello Porter, RN, BS '01, CNIV**, received the Florence Nightingale Nursing Award from the Southern Connecticut chapter of the Visiting Nurse Association in May 2011. She was honored for her work at Yale New Haven Hospital in the Surgical ICU, where she has worked for nine years. Annalisa was promoted to clinical nurse IV in September 2011 after having created a multidisciplinary

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**Cynthia Jacelon, PhD '01, RN-BC, CRRN, FAAN**, received the John A. Hartford Senior Geriatric Research Award from the Eastern Nursing Research Society on March 29, 2012. Cynthia is an associate professor and director of the PhD program at University of Massachusetts Amherst.

## 2002



**Leonard Achan, MA '02, RN, ANP**, has been promoted to chief communications officer, vice president of marketing, communications & digital media at the Mount Sinai Medical Center in New York City. Leonard was previously vice president of digital and social media, leading new and innovative initiatives to

expand the organization's digital footprint while using social media platforms to amplify its messaging to patients and the global community.

## 2003



**Esma D. Paljevic, EdD, BS '03, RN**, received a doctorate in education from The College of New Rochelle/St. John Fisher Program. Her dissertation topic was "The Lived Experiences of Families Who Have Attended a Cardiogenetics Clinic."

## 2006



**Cora D. Zembruski, PhD '06, APRN**, is a gero-psychiatric consultant at MedOptions Inc., based in Connecticut, providing mental health services to individuals residing at skilled nursing homes and assisted living facilities. She also provides educational updates, seminars, and in-service education for professionals and paraprofessionals seeking to meld geriatric education with psychiatry. Cora has helped to develop competencies in gero-psychiatry for the advanced practice nurse.

## 2009



**Charlotte de Sa Pereira, BS '09**, worked for two years on the neurosurgery floor of NYU Langone Medical Center in a unit that includes both telemetry-neuro beds and a 10-bed neuro ICU. She recently moved to San Francisco, where she will be working at UCSF Medical Center in neuro-oncology research.

## 2010



**Carol Gable, BS '10**, passed the RN-NCLEX exam and has moved to Gaithersburg, Maryland.

## 2011

**Lauren Hughes, MA '11** (Adult Primary Care), is a nurse practitioner at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center on the leukemia/lymphoma/multiple myeloma inpatient service.



**Johanna Rosman, BS '11**, began her first job as a perioperative nurse in the day surgery operating room at NYU Langone Medical Center. She is currently participating in a one-year residency program.

**Maria Tassoni, BS '11**, is working as a staff nurse at NYU Langone Medical Center on the Transplant/Medical Surgical Unit.

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## Barbara Hayes, MA '63



Barbara Hayes has been a donor to NYU for 18 years.

**NURSING IS A FIELD FILLED** with many challenges — and opportunities. After completing my undergraduate degree in nursing at Georgetown University, I was fortunate to be the recipient of a government grant for continuing education that made it possible for me to attend the Division of Nursing at NYU and obtain a master's degree in maternal and child health. I had worked as a labor and delivery nurse to support our family while my husband completed medical school. Earning an advanced degree in nursing expanded my professional horizons and fueled my interest in community health education.

When my husband, Arthur Hayes Jr., was named commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration during the first administration of former president

Ronald Reagan, I found myself back in Washington, DC, where I had grown up. There I became increasingly interested in working in community-based settings and took on a new role as head of continuing education for the Childbirth Education Association of Greater Washington, DC. We subsequently moved back to New York City, where as a certified Lamaze instructor I offered community classes to pregnant teens.

I am retired now, but I see my daughter, who teaches nursing at Fairfield University, working with young nurses and I am reminded: You never know where nursing is going to take you. I give to NYU College of Nursing because I want to give back to the institutions that, at critical times in my life, opened up exciting new possibilities. ■

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