



NURSING NEWS

Department of Nursing loses a beloved professor and colleague

Christy Stark Smith, assistant professor of nursing, clinical track, died November 14, 2007, from complications as a result of the reoccurrence of a brain tumor. The visitation and memorial service was held at CrossPoint United Methodist Church in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, where Christy and her family were members.

Christy received her diploma in nursing from St. James Mercy School of Nursing, her baccalaureate degree in nursing from Villa Maria College in Erie, Pennsylvania, and her master's degree in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania. She practiced as an OB/GYN nurse practitioner prior to accepting a teaching position at Messiah College. Her professional memberships included Sigma Theta Tau International, Nurse Practitioners of Central PA, American Diabetes Foundation; she was an associate member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Christy was the Chairperson of "America's Walk for Diabetes" in 2001.

Christy was a professor of nursing for three years at Messiah College; she embodied all of the qualities that are critical for teaching nursing from a Christian worldview. Christy was an expert clinician in women's health and maternity nursing. Her knowledge base was very broad and up to date, which is imperative in the nursing discipline.

Her passion was to teach nursing students and share her knowledge and clinical expertise. She valued education and loved interacting with students. As a result, each student who knew Christy was positively impacted by her wealth of knowledge and passion for providing quality patient care in the maternal health field.

Christy was a beautiful example of what it means to be a Christian. She lived



Professor Christy Stark Smith in Zambia in 2007

her faith in her life choices and in her day-to-day life journey. Carolyn Kreamer, chair of the Department of Nursing, shared an example of Christy's Christian spirit at her memorial service. A senior nursing student was in the midst of a major family crisis and Christy purchased several Sheetz gift cards so the student could use them for food and gasoline as she traveled back and forth to visit her family. This type of action was commonplace for Christy because she knew what it meant to be a Christian and how to do God's work.

Another valued trait of Christy's was her sense of humor. All of us in the department treasured her ability to tell a funny story, even if it was about herself. Our Department meetings were ever so much more lively because of her off-the-cuff

remarks and comments. Laughing is good for the soul, and anyone who was around Christy certainly benefitted from her sense of humor and lightheartedness.

Christy is survived by her husband, Stephen, her two sons, Alex and Andrew, her two sisters, Kelley and Julie, and their families.

God truly has one of his faithful servants with him forever.

The Christy Stark Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established in memory of Christy. Anyone wishing to make a donation should make the check payable to Messiah College, write the designation in the memo section of the check, and mail to: Messiah College, Office of Development, Box 3013, One College Avenue, Grantham, PA 17027.

Making the pieces fit

by Heidi Lutz

Steven Wright coined the phrase “You can’t have everything. Where would you put it?” Well, I have an example of how to have it all and how to make it fit very well. I am referring to how God has assembled the pieces of my life: my devoted husband, four beautiful sons, and close-knit family; being on the verge of completing my doctorate in nursing; and landing my dream job at Messiah College.

When I accepted a faculty position in the Department of Nursing at Messiah College, I was thrilled while simultaneously feeling very nervous: would I be able to meet their expectations? Raising young children and knowing that my education was not yet complete, would I be able to continue “doing it all?” My anxieties wax and wane, but the support I receive from my friends and colleagues in the nursing department is invaluable.

Things just seemed to fall into place as I arrived in my new office late last summer. Not only did I feel welcome, but I felt valued as an important member of a team. Although I have been formally assigned a terrific mentor, I would be hard-pressed to name only one or two people that were supportive from the beginning; rather, nearly everyone reached out to me.

God knows what we need and when we need it most. I take comfort in knowing that He will help me become the educator I dream of becoming. Even though I still tend to be nervous before classes, preparing and sharing devotions eases my anxiety, as does remembering and focusing on what I have been called to do.

I am so thankful that I have been invited to share the mission of Messiah College, knowing that God meant for me to meet such bright, warm, and kind individuals. I look forward to building a strong network of friends as we work together to prepare intelligent, caring nurses for tomorrow.

Department of Nursing is on the forefront of technology integration

by Debra Loop

The Department of Nursing, in collaboration with the IT department, is piloting a student response system and electronic portfolios for potential college-wide integration. The Interwrite PRS RF was chosen to be the standardized student response system for the pilot program. Beginning fall 2007, the receiver and software were installed in selected nursing classrooms. The transmitter (clicker) was then loaned to each sophomore and junior nursing student. The student response system is a way to add interactive learning to the classroom. Typically, instructors use the PRS PowerPoint add-in to add interactive questions to their presentations. During the presentation, when a slide with a clicker question comes up, an easy-to-use toolbar allows the instructor to start, pause, and stop the question, and then review the results with the class. Using response pads, students are able to respond to questions during the lecture, and the results of those responses can be seen immediately on the screen, enabling the instructor and the student to instantly assess the comprehension of the material. Clickers can be used for attendance, quizzes, test prep, review, group activities, and more.

Serensoft, a computing service for higher education, is assisting the Department of Nursing in implementing the Open Source Portfolio (OSP) using the Sakai learning management system. Traditionally, students have maintained a portfolio with an accordion-like file folder. This method was fine for print-based materials but limited the students’ creativity and the audiovisual capabilities of the portfolio. The electronic portfolios are a creative means of organizing, summarizing, and sharing artifacts, information, and ideas about teaching and/or learning, along with personal and professional growth. Documents can be stored on hard drives, Zip disks, or CD-ROM in many digital formats such as text documents, picture files, web pages, digital video, and presentation files. Implementation of the portfolios is scheduled for April 2008 with the sophomore nursing class.

Nursing department modifies curriculum to nurture balance

by Marti Derr

January 2008 brought the launch of the first significant deconstruction and rebuilding of the nursing curriculum at Messiah College since its inception. The curriculum no longer has any 8-credit courses, and clinicals will now always run parallel to the theory being taught in the classroom. The first course to be offered in the new curriculum (recently given the seal of approval by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing) was The Historical and Conceptual Basis of Nursing, labeled Nursing 203. The course is a combination of the former NSG 101 and NSG 201. It covers the history of nursing, nursing theorists, the metaparadigms of nursing, and legal and ethical implications for nursing practice, from a Christian worldview. The core of the course continues to be the textbook by Shelly and Miller now in its second edition, supplemented by a new Fundamentals textbook (Berman, Snyder, Kozier, & Erb, 2008). Students are encouraged to examine their own worldviews, as well as their motivation for entering nursing. One assignment that was added to this 3-credit course was a self-care log. In an effort to encourage students to develop the healthy habit of self-care (necessary for surviving any rigorous nursing program), the first students of NURS 203 were required to keep a log of something they did each day to nurture themselves. Life is about balance, and the nursing curriculum redesign seeks to nurture healthier and more balanced nurses for life.

Curriculum revision: NURS 210 and NURS 211

by Debra Loop

Beginning spring 2008, 54 sophomore nursing students were enrolled in the first phase of the curriculum revision. The old NSG 202 Care of the Well Individual and Family course has been replaced with two 3-credit courses. **NURS 210 Health Assessment** focuses on establishing a foundation in conducting a thorough health assessment. Included is an introduction to using appropriate communication techniques, obtaining a detailed health history, demonstrating physical assessment skills, and cultivating critical thinking. Physiological, psychological, sociocultural, developmental, and spiritual variables are introduced as they relate to the nursing process. Essential assessment techniques include inspection, palpation, percussion, and auscultation with an emphasis on expected findings and variations of those findings. Students practice comprehensive health history taking and physical assessment skills in laboratory sessions. Students have 2 hours of lecture and 3 hours of laboratory practice a week.

NURS 211 Foundation of Nursing Practice focuses on the application of nursing concepts and knowledge necessary to create a foundation for nursing practice. Emphasis is on the scientific rationale, critical thinking, and competence in the implementation of skills within the nursing process. Intervention strategies focus on primary and secondary prevention. Physiological, psychological, sociocultural, developmental, and spiritual variables are introduced as they relate to the nursing process. Clinical experiences emphasize the provider of care role. Clinical learning experiences occur in the simulated laboratory setting as well as various patient care settings. Skills have been expanded upon and simulation experiences have been added to the course. Students have 1 hour of lecture and 6 hours of clinical experience a week.

Course faculty for NURS 210 included Debbie Loop, Pamela Linstedt, M'Liss Halsey, Patricia Reyes, Leisa McAlicher, and Sarah Harne-Britner. Course faculty for NURS 211 included Debbie Loop, Pamela Linstedt, M'Liss Halsey, Patricia Reyes, Kay Blecher, Leisa McAlicher, Charlotte Wool, and Diane Kanode. Everyone, including faculty and students, gave 100% effort in making this semester a success. For that we are grateful.

FACULTY NEWS

Kay Huber was nominated for associate professor emeritus. Kay retired from full-time teaching in May 2007 after serving the Department of Nursing and the College for 23 years. She continues to do clinical teaching in NURS 301 and NURS 402.

Congratulations to **Wanda Thuma-McDermond**; her proposal for research was accepted, as submitted, in early December 2007. Wanda is pursuing doctoral education at Weidner University. The research is entitled "A Focused Ethnographic Study of Nursing Students' Perceptions of Social Justice and Cultural Competence during an International Clinical Experience."

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

PARTNERSHIPS: CRITICAL CARE FOR NURSING EDUCATION

Carolyn L. Kreamer, Ph.D., R.N.,
chairperson and professor of nursing

Nursing education in the 21st century is facing titanic challenges. All nursing educational programs, public and private, are facing similar pressures: limited resources, increased and more diverse enrollments, fewer qualified faculty, and increased complexity of health care systems requiring more sophisticated skill sets for health care providers. It is essential that nurse educators seek creative solutions to these challenges. Probably the most daunting of these challenges is the limit to resources—both financial and human—that hamper the ability of nurse educators to expand learning opportunities for qualified, interested students.

Recent data from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing show that enrollment increases slowed in 2006–07 to just under 5 percent.¹ This marks a slowing growth in nursing program enrollments over the last five years since a peak increase in 2003, and probably indicates that nursing programs have nearly reached their maximum capacity. Healthy enrollments are a good thing, but with over 30,000 qualified applicants turned away from baccalaureate programs last year due to faculty shortages and other resource limitations, and increasing demands for well-educated nurses to meet the nation's health care needs, creative solutions must be sought to educate more nurses for the future.

Creative, cooperative partnerships between and among all interested stakeholders are essential and critical if nursing education is to survive and thrive in these next decades. In addition to long-standing cooperative partnerships for clinical experiences with local clinical agencies, the department of nursing has recently engaged in a "faculty sharing" partnership with the PinnacleHealth System. Recognizing the resource challenges facing nursing programs in the state, the Pennsylvania Center for Health Careers began awarding grants to assist nursing programs to increase their clinical education capacity. Supported by one of these grants, Messiah College and PinnacleHealth agreed to enter into a partnership for a period of three years to release master's prepared clinical educators two days a week from PinnacleHealth to help with clinical instruction of nursing students. This financial support has allowed our nursing program to increase its clinical enrollment by 15 percent.

These kinds of creative solutions that partner health care agencies who are seeking a better educated workforce and educational institutions are critical to meet the nation's health care needs. All of us must work diligently toward solutions that will assure that all interested, qualified applicants who desire a career in nursing will never be turned away.

¹American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2007). *Enrollment Growth Slows at U.S. Nursing Colleges and Universities in 2007 Despite Calls for More Registered Nurses*. Retrieved on March 10, 2008, from <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Media/NewsReleases/2007/enr1.htm>.

Alumni news

'88

Tena (Wheeler) Brown married Eric Brown on September 15, 2007. They and their three children, Emily, age 12, Lea, age 10, and Seth, age 7, live in Carlisle, Pa. Tena works at Holy Spirit Hospital; she worked for 15 years in the MICU and currently works in the CVU in the Ortenzio Heart Center.

'95

Alison (Brett) Resch and husband, Barry, welcomed their new daughter, Ella Katherine, into their family on August 25, 2007. She joins her two brothers, Luke and Matt. Alison and her family reside in West Grove, Pa.

'96

Jack Rudick is working as a procedures nurse in interventional radiology at Pinnacle Health in Harrisburg, Pa. He is engaged to be married to Babette Kellogg.

'97

Tara Little has been accepted into the Nurse Anesthesia Program at Georgetown University and will start her coursework in August.

Mandy Riker married Bradley Hershey on January 27, 2007. She and her husband live in Marietta, Pa., and Mandy works in the PACU at Heart of Lancaster Regional Medical Center.



Mandy (Riker) Hershey (center) with friends and former classmates Sarah (DiBattista) Crown (far left) and Carolyn (Mast) Baddorf (second from the right).

Chrystelle (Hamlett) Anderson and her husband, Mark, are living in 29 Palms, Calif. Mark is a nurse in the U.S. Navy, and Chrystelle is home with their three children, ages 5, 4, and 2.

'98

Nicole Barca and husband, Michael, live in Wellsville, Pa. They welcomed Anthony

Michael into their family on November 19, 2006.

Andrea Bean is the executive director of Morning Star Pregnancy Services. She stays involved with nursing by managing the clinic portion of the ministry and by working directly with the patients.

Tanya (Ward) O'Brien and husband John had a second child, Jacob Patrick, on October 19, 2007.

'03

Joy (Bonnie Vendetti) and Peter Ahn were married August 4, 2007. Joy and her husband live in Pittsburgh, Pa. She interviewed at Magee-Women's Hospital, and Peter began seminary education.

'04

Bethany Burk works on the MedSurg Tele unit at Glen Oaks Hospital in Glendale Heights, Ill. In addition to her nursing responsibilities, she teaches and helps to implement the Cerner Computer System at the regional hospitals. Bethany is also interested in working for a Hillside Health Care International clinic in Belize.

Kelly (Sensenig) Janke and husband, Bryan, welcomed their second child on November 7, 2007. Benjamin Thomas joins his 22-month-old sister, Olivia. Kelly is in her second year of medical school at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Cyndi Brewer was in India from June 26 through August 9, 2007, doing an organizational analysis and outcomes evaluation of several NGOs based in Dehli and Jaipur that have HIV/AIDS programs. Cyndi is working on her graduate degree at UCSF

'05

Julia Schatz married Justin Gregory on February 16, 2007. Julia works at Kaiser Permanente in Honolulu. She and Justin live in Haleiwa, Hawaii, on the north shore.

Sarah Horvath is working at Riverside Methodist Hospital on the Surgical Trauma Intermediate Unit. She volunteers at a free medical clinic through her church and has started graduate study at OSU to become a family nurse practitioner.

GIVING TO NURSING DURING JULY 1, 2006 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007

Chatlos Nursing Scholarship Awards

The Chatlos Foundation, Inc.

Lynda Gochnauer Nursing Endowed Scholarship

Lynda J. Snyder '92

Margaret McCormick Endowed Scholarship

McCormick Family Foundation

Nursing Department — Annual Fund

Kathleen A. Bolden '95
Brian and Valerie Diane '99 Coakley
Patricia D. Kissell '64
Troy and Julie J. '97 McNair
John J. and Laurin B. '86 Mooney
Glenn and Lynette Newkirk
Paul and Karen M. '81 Nyirjesy
Ivan J. and Martha J. '50 Rohrer
William B. and Eloyce A. '77 Spong
Richard L. and Fonda M. '70 Stewart

Nursing Development

The Wells Foundation

Nursing Education Scholarship — (In Memory of Peggy S. Walters)

Gordon S. and Carolyn Cochrane
Charles R. and Renee L. '86 Comrey
Marti G. Derr '80
Jeffrey K '89 and Deborah E. '88 Herr
Kay L. Huber
Wilford L. and Carol A. Walters

In the current fiscal year a new scholarship was created by Joseph '49 and Lois (Hilsher) '48 Brechbill to give immediate aid to nursing students in memory of Van Buren and Anna Hilsher and Albert and Cora Brechbill. Also, over \$3,000 has been added to the Nursing Education Scholarship through Emily K. Hayes '04 memorial gifts. Another recent scholarship fund that was created at the end of 2007 was the Christy Stark Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Students experience medical field in Africa during their alternative senior practicum

by Wanda Thuma-McDermond



January term 2008 in Zambia is almost a vague memory by now due to the busyness of the spring semester. For the second year, an alternative senior practicum has gone to Macha Hospital in Zambia, Africa. Ten senior nursing students (Laura Badaracco, Dreonna Burris, Anna Frodigh, Amber Grove, Chelsea Hodum, Leanna Kuperus, Hannah Serafini, Christen Shiebler, Lindsay Tennis, and Leah Walters) with Wanda Thuma-McDermond, assistant professor of nursing, were in Zambia from January 3 to January 24, 2008.

The trip started off with an adventure as Zambia has experienced a very rainy season this year. Therefore, traveling from Lusaka, the capitol city, to rural Macha, which is only accessible off the main (tarred) road via forty miles of dirt road, became an

extra long adventure. There were multiple flooded low-level bridges to ford, two major episodes of sticky, wheel-clogging mud, not to mention several other swampy areas. Critical thinking was especially apparent at the first flooded bridge when the students suggested that since the water was rushing from the left, we should open the windows on the left side of the bus — so we could crawl out quicker when the bus capsized! However, through it all, the Zambians kindly helped by pushing, and the students coped magnificently, even at the thought of sleeping the night on the bus, and toileting in the bushes.

Two weeks at Macha Hospital provided opportunities on all the “wards,” interacting with Zambian staff, nursing students, and patients. All had the chance to observe procedures in “theatre” as well as other areas of the hospital complex, including the outpatient department, primary care department, and malaria research. Outreach for primary care in village areas is usually a busy but fun day with experience in maternal-child care, including immunizing babies — sometimes

outside under the closest tree. HIV/AIDS has affected the lives of many Zambians, and Macha Hospital is an antiretroviral (ART) medication provider. Along with the ART clinic is community outreach involving local leaders and volunteers who work with AIDS orphans and widows in their villages.

It is always difficult to know the full value of such an experience. As much as we want to share with the Zambians at Macha, we probably learn so much more from them than we are able to give in return.



Let your classmates and friends hear about your activities. Clip this form and mail to *Nursing News*, Messiah College, P.O. Box 3031, One College Avenue, Grantham, PA 17027, or e-mail: nursing@messiah.edu.

LAST NAME ATTEND NAME FIRST NAME CLASS YEAR

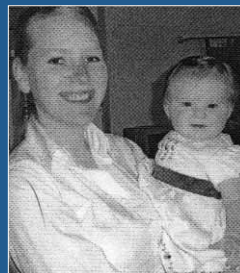
STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE

ZIP

HOME PHONE SPOUSE NAME CLASS YEAR

NEWS

IN MEMORIAM: Emily Hayes '04



The Department of Nursing is very saddened by the passing of Emily Hayes, nursing alumna, class of 2004, in February 2008.

Emily died from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. She was born in Phoenixville, Pa., and was a graduate of Owen J. Roberts High School. Emily was very active in the band and served as drum major her senior year. She was also very active in church activities and volunteered for two mission trips to Kentucky. After she graduated from Messiah College, Emily took a job at Phoenixville Hospital where she worked as an RN on the 4th floor telemetry unit. Emily was liked and respected by the nursing and medical staff at Phoenixville Hospital. We will miss Emily, but know she is in God's loving arms. Emily's family have designated that any memorial gifts be donated to the Nursing Education Scholarship. If you wish to make a gift, make the check payable to Messiah College, and write the designation in the memo section of the check.

Please send any contributions to: Messiah College, Office of Development, Box 3013, One College Avenue, Grantham, PA 17027

Nursing Student Association

Allison Heermance '09



Students and faculty at the SNAP Convention — (back row): Adele Bonfanti, Allison Heermance, Martha Solomon, David Ben-Avraham, and Karen Celenza; (front row): Kirstyn Adams, Hilary Smith, Carolyn Kreamer, Bonnie Player, and Jenny Perry.

The theme of the Nursing Student Association (NSA) for the 2007–2008 school year was professional development through mentorship.

In the fall, NSA invited three 2007 Messiah nursing graduates who are employees at Hershey Medical Center, to share their experiences at Messiah College, to give advice about how to succeed in the nursing program, and how to transition smoothly from life in college to life in the real world. Other NSA fall activities included attendance at the annual convention of the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP) in Scranton, Pa., in November. Allison Heermance '09 served as chair of the Nominations and Elections

Committee for SNAP during the convention and oversaw the elections for the 2008 SNAP BOD. Eight other students, Martha Solomon, and Carolyn Kreamer were also in attendance at the convention. At the awards banquet, Allison Heermance was awarded a student scholarship and the Dr. Rena Lawrence Memorial Award for outstanding achievement and commitment to nursing excellence.

In the spring, NSA had a full calendar of events. Speakers included Sandy Orke from the Career Center, who presented a nursing-tailored résumé and interview workshop; Emily Peters who presented an inspirational, scripture-based message, and Professor Debra Loop who shared her personal journey in nursing. Professor Carolyn Kreamer spoke at the April meeting about opportunities in advanced practice nursing and doctorate level nursing. We also welcomed representatives of SNAP and NSNA to our general meetings to promote membership in the state and national student nursing organizations. In May, the meeting focused on opportunities in medical missions. The SNAP LEAD Workshop, held at Pinnacle Health in Harrisburg, welcomed some of the underclassmen officers for a

weekend of leadership training and organizational development.

The year, with a focus on mentorship, was a huge success. Not only were the speakers and meetings focused on promoting professional development through networking with nurses and recent graduates, but there was also success in mentorship within the membership and BOD. Upperclassmen were able to encourage underclassmen and help them through challenging times in the semester. Stronger, more experienced leaders within the BOD were able to help develop the leadership skills of the less experienced members of the BOD.

Board of Directors, 2007–2008:

Allison Heermance '09, *president*
Bonnie Player '09, *vice president*
Hilary Smith '09, *treasurer*
Jamie Madson '08, *secretary*
Kim Eikenberg '09, *chaplain*
Lindsay Tennis, *senior representative*
Adele Bonfanti, *junior representative*
Kirstyn Adams, *junior representative*
Jenny Perry, *sophomore representative*
Erin Gallagher, *first-year representative*
Christie Kelly, *first-year representative*
Martha Solomon, *faculty advisor*

Sigma Theta Tau — Lambda Kappa Chapter

The Lambda Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau continues promoting and recognizing leadership and scholarship in nursing practice, education, and research. On April 14, 2007, four nurse leaders and 16 undergraduate nurses from the senior class of 2007 were inducted into the Lambda Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau. The undergraduate inductees were Megan J. Bennicoff, Nona A. Bitner, Lindsey N. Fessler, Lisa R. Jinks, Meredith A. MacKenzie, Emily K. McMillen, Natasha J. Miller, Kelly A. Mummau, Allison G. Pra, Lisa E. Smeiles, Kelly R. Smith, Sara L. Stevens, Lisa G. Tremonte, Stephanie A. Whitney, Melissa S. Wible, and Ashley R. Worden. The nurse leaders inducted were Joye A. Gingrich, Joy C. Malunda, Deborah Miles, and Laurene F Stepp.

Carolyn Kreamer was awarded the Excellence in Nursing Education Award for her work in and support of evidence-based nursing research. She was instrumental in the development of Research Roundtable, a collaborative hands-on approach to research between senior nursing students and advanced practice facilitators and practicing nurses at Pinnacle Health System.

A variety of chapter activities occurred during the past year. In addition to the chapter induction ceremony and dinner, the chapter co-sponsored a research day with PinnacleHealth System in April 2007. On November 1, 2007, a general meeting and program were held featuring Betsy Snook, executive administrator for the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association, who presented "Nursing and the Prescription for PA." In November 2007, Ngoc Godshall and Michalena Levenduski represented Lambda Kappa as delegates at the biennial convention of Sigma Theta Tau International in Baltimore, Md. On December 2, 2007, the members of the Lambda Kappa chapter participated in a gift wrapping service project at Capital City Mall to benefit United Cerebral Palsy.

The 2006–2007 Lambda Kappa officers include: president, Nina Schneider, MHA, CAN-BC, RN; vice-president, Michele Campbell, MSN, RN; recording secretary, Kim Heisey, MS, BSN, RN; corresponding secretary, Cathy Druckenmiller, BSN, RN; treasurer, Martha Solomon, MSN, RN; leadership succession chair, Michalena Levenduski; and faculty counselor, Louann Zinsmeister, DNSc, RN.

Student Achievements

Graduating seniors earn top awards

Meredith MacKenzie was chosen by the nursing faculty to receive the Faculty Award for Excellence in Nursing, based on her outstanding care of patients in the hospital and in the community. She was also selected to receive the Academic Excellence in Nursing Award. She graduated with a GPA of 3.95.

Megan Bennicoff received the Leadership Award from District 15 of the Pennsylvania State Nurses Association.

Student Accomplishments

Allison Heermance '09 received the Pauline Thompson Nursing Education Scholarship from the Nursing Foundation of Pennsylvania.

Department of Nursing College Honors Program Participants

Thirteen nursing students are participants in the College Honors Program:

Laura Badaracco '08
Rachel Baker '11
Elizabeth Caprio '10
Elyse Dailey '11
Linda Deddo '08
Christin Hitz '11
Melissa Lewis '10
Candice Martin '11
Anne McClary '11
Hillary Snyder '11
Bridgette Todd '11
Kristen Todd '11
Kristine Williams '11

Nominee's for Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities:

Linda Deddo
Kathleen Ellis
Adele Bonfanti
Kristol Detweiler
Katie Neer
Allison Heermance
Anna D'Amato
Laura Schroyer
Britney Hagen
Natalie Moore
Chelsea Hodum

Congratulations to the following alumni who graduated in May 2007:

Summa cum laude 3.90–4.0 GPA:

Meredith MacKenzie

Magna cum laude 3.60–3.89 GPA:

Megan Bennicoff
Susanna Damgaard
Lindsay Fessler
Lisa Jinks
Emily McMillen
Natasha Miller
Kelly Mummau

Allison Pra
Lisa Smeiles
Kelly Rohrer Smith
Sara Stevens
Lisa Tremonte
Ashley Worden

Cum laude 3.30–3.59 GPA:

Nona Bitner
Maria Bonanni
James Cagliostro
Joseph Cagliostro

Emily Carleton
Bethany Cross
Lindsay DeVries
Melissa Grove
Gillian Laughlin
Caitlin Meaney
Lindsay Spencer
Kara Tilghman
David Want
Stephanie Whitney
Melissa Wible
Alyce Zerbe



Political Action

Students in NURS 496 Senior Seminar visit the Pennsylvania General Assembly. This experience provides senior nursing students with an opportunity to interact with elected public officials who are responsible for health care policy legislation that affects professional nursing practice and public health. Left are pictures of two student groups with representatives from the PA House of Delegates.

Top photo (left to right): Lisa Jinks '07, Representative James Casorio, and Emily Carleton '07. Bottom photo: Emily McMillen '07, Kara Tilghman '07, Lauren Brooks '07, Representative Mark Keller.

SUPPORT NURSING THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

YES! I want to support nursing education at Messiah College through an endowed scholarship. Please direct my gift to:

- The Nursing Education Endowed Scholarship, given to nursing students who demonstrate financial need.
- The Janelle Joy Nisly Memorial Scholarship, for students in nursing or pre-med who are affiliated with either the Mennonite Church, Church of the Brethren, or Brethren in Christ Church.

My tax-exempt donation is enclosed for:

- \$1,000 \$500 \$100
 \$50 other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Please make check payable to:
MESSIAH COLLEGE.

Please clip this form and return it to the Messiah College Office of Development, Box 3013, One College Avenue, Grantham, PA 17027.



Nurses Christian Fellowship

Kristen Stambaugh '09, co-president

This past year was very exciting for Nurse's Christian Fellowship (NCF). We are a branch of an international organization that meets weekly for Bible study, fellowship, and prayer. This past year we have had about 15 nursing majors at each meeting. In the fall semester we worked through a devotional book on the importance of caring in the nursing profession, which focused on the importance of caring from a Christian perspective. The authors examined different aspects of caring based on scripture, such as Luke 10:25-42, the parable of the good Samaritan, and the story of Mary and Martha and the different ways that each one served Jesus. We each take turns preparing devotions for the week, reading the selected passage for the week together, and then working through some questions about the passage. The questions often highlight the implications of being a Christian nurse, and how we can apply scripture to our lives and to our careers as nurses, both now as we are preparing to be nurses, and in the future, when we are practicing in the clinical setting.

In the fall semester we held several activities throughout the semester. In September we had our annual kick-off picnic for all nursing majors by the Yellow Breeches. We had a fellowship activity in October and spent the afternoon at a corn maze and apple orchard in Dillsburg. Several members attended a breakfast hosted on campus for NCF, community nurses, and Messiah nursing alumni. We had our most successful fundraiser since my involvement in the club;

parents were asked to purchase Finals Week Care Packages for their nursing major children. It was very successful for the club, but even more importantly, for the students who received the packages. No matter what year of nursing one is in, the extra encouragement at that stressful time is always appreciated.

Plans for the spring included continuation of the weekly meetings and working through a book on hope. We arranged to have a special speaker talk about a medical mission trip that the speaker participated in during summer 2007, and we planned a fellowship activity in mid-March for an evening of relaxation and encouragement. On Messiah's Service Day in April, we headed to Hoy Towers and the Wellness Center in Steelton to clean apartments, which we have done for the past several years. In 2007 we were able to help clean about 10 apartments. At the end of the year we had a picnic at our advisor's home. Any leftover funds at the end of the semester will be used to support nursing majors participating in mission trips over the summer.

It has been a very enjoyable year, and a great opportunity to get to know other nursing majors, as well as an amazing opportunity to learn more about ourselves as Christians preparing to work in the nursing profession. Good luck and best wishes to the graduating seniors!



DEPARTMENT OF NURSING

One College Avenue
Grantham, PA 17027

Address Service Requested

NURSING NEWS

is published once a year (spring) for the Department of Nursing alumni, students, and friends. Address corrections should be sent to:

Nursing News
Messiah College
P.O. Box 3031
One College Avenue
Grantham, PA 17027-0800.

E-mail: nursing@messiah.edu
Editor: Martha Solomon