

UAB School of Nursing Dean's Update

May/June 2008

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Message from the Dean

Subject for thought: Teamwork and team spirit are supported.



Dr. McBride at UABSON Nurses' Week Luncheon

Summer's here! The UAB School of Nursing continues its momentum in advancing its vision and mission. We celebrated Nurses Week during May with our Visiting Scholar, Dr. Angela McBride, Dean Emerita and Professor, University of Indiana School of Nursing, and a wonderful Alumni reception with the 2008 Distinguished Alumnae, Dr. Patricia Thompson, Executive Director, Sigma Theta Tau International. We also welcomed two graduate nursing inaugural classes in May. These are the Doctor of Nursing Practice Program and the Accelerated Masters Entry Pathway for individuals with a bachelors degree in a fields other than nursing.

June will also offer opportunities with Visiting Scholar, Dr. Marita Titler, RN, PhD, FAAN, Senior Assistant Director at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Director of Research Quality and Outcomes Management, and Clinical Professor University of Iowa College of Nursing. Dr. Titler joins us the week of June 2 as the Jean Kelly Endowed Lecturer. Dr. Titler will meet with students, faculty, alumnae and our nursing colleagues to share her research on translation science, interventions to improve outcomes of adults with chronic illnesses, and dissemination of evidence-based practice guidelines for the elderly. She will discuss the highly relevant "Improving Healthcare Quality" in the Endowed Lecture.

The Nu Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) will celebrate its 50th Anniversary at a Luncheon at The Club on June 21st, featuring Anita Smith, longtime medical writer for The Birmingham News and author of the History of the UAB School of Nursing. Anita will highlight how Margaret Millsap, first president of Nu Chapter and pioneer of nursing in Alabama, exemplifies the incredible potential in the chapter members then and now.

UAB SON students and faculty will be traveling to study abroad in Honduras from July 13 to July 21 with Drs. Karen Saenz and Lygia Holcombe. This study abroad experience will focus on health education and social welfare in the small city of Santa Rosa in De Copan. Students will be learning about nursing and health care in rural communities and working with an NGO to develop health education projects for women and children.

The quarterly Town Hall Meeting will be held for students on June 24, 2008 at 12 noon in the SON auditorium. A light lunch will be served.

Lastly, this is the first of two Dean's Newsletters that will be published this Summer. During the Summer semester, the Newsletter will publish a May/June issue and a July/August issue. I hope our students, faculty and staff enjoy some reflective and restorative time this summer, so necessary.

Faculty, please mark your SON calendars for the following important events:

- Jean Kelly Lectureship, June 5th-6th
- Academic Leadership Group meeting June 9th from 9:00-11:00 am
- Sigma Theta Tau luncheon June 21st
- Faculty Organization Meeting June 23rd from 12:00 noon – 3:00 pm
- Town Hall Meeting, June 24th from noon–1:00 pm in the School of Nursing Auditorium
- Academic Leadership Group meeting July 14th from 9:00-11:00 am
- Faculty Organization Meeting July 21st from 1–4:00 pm
- Senior Recognition Ceremony August 8th

A special thanks to all of you for making UAB "The Best"!

Dates to Remember

Visiting Faculty

- **June 16 & 17** MSN Program with Dr. Chuckie Hanson
- **July 16-18** Accreditation consultation with Dr. Linda Hodges

Events

- **June 24** Town Hall Meeting from noon–1:00 will be held in the School of Nursing Auditorium
- **July 4** Independence Day Holiday – UAB SON is closed
- **Sept 30** Town Hall Meeting from noon–1:00 (location to be announced)

Karen's Corner

Our Family/Child Health and Caregiving Department faculty and staff have moved into their new offices on the 4th floor and can enjoy their new views! This phase of our building upgrade has been completed with the exception of a few punch list items here and there. It is such a pleasure to walk off of the elevators onto the new floors. Come by and enjoy a stroll through the beautiful space.

Please welcome the following to their new roles or positions!

- Joy Deupree, MSN
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
- Peter Tofani, MS
Director of Student Affairs
- Charlene Bender, MPH
Program Manager Student Affairs
- Jennifer Lacey, BSN, RN
Clinical Skills Lab Coordinator, Skills Lab
- Michelle Smith, BSN
Laboratory Assistant
- JoeAnn Kennedy
OAll - Doctoral Programs Support
- Cheryl Brown
OAll - Pre-licensure Programs Support
- D'Ann Somerall, MSN
Instructor -Adult/Acute Health
- Wayne Skipper
AV Technician - LRC
- Vanessa Fisher
Work Study - Clinical Simulation & Technology

Fond Farewells and Wishes to the following as they move to new directions in their careers and lives:

- Pam Autrey, PhD
Community Health/Student Affairs
- Lindsay Zannis
Student Affairs
- Linda Hooper, MSN
LRC
- Barbara Moore, DSN
Adult/Acute Health

