Graduates (L to R) Sarah Vaughan, Erika Penney, and Kyung-Hee Lee celebrate in their academic robes while waiting to process.

1999 GRADUATION AND ALUMNAE/I WEEKEND ISSUE
My first year as Dean is concluding as I write this letter for the August, 1999 issue of the Yale Nurse. I owe thanks to so many of you who have offered extraordinary support during the year. The faculty, staff, and students of YSN worked diligently to prepare a self-study and conduct a successful site visit in support of our accreditation by the Center for Collegiate Nursing Education. We owe special thanks to the leadership team who directed this effort, Dr. Cassy Pollack, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Chair of the Master's Program. With this responsibility behind us, Cassy has asked to relinquish her administrative responsibilities and return to her teaching and research activities. I am pleased to share that effective July 1, 1999, Dr. Paula Milone-Nuzzo assumed the position of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

During the course of the year I have had the opportunity to meet many Yale alumnae/i. As I noted in my last column, these visits have accelerated my understanding of the history of YSN and educated me about the hopes and concerns of YSN graduates. And I have made some incredible new friends. Many alumnae/i have expressed an interest in knowing more about the ongoing professional activities at YSN. In response, and based on our own sense that we have a story to share with the larger community, we will soon launch a magazine about YSN. Our intent is to complement, rather than duplicate, the contents of the Yale Nurse. Expect the first issue to follow shortly and please be liberal with your feedback.

I owe a particularly significant debt to Nina Adams '77 who has chaired the annual giving effort during the 1998-1999 year. Nina and I recently met to review the work of our first year together and have agreed to implement some small changes for the coming year. First, we will try to keep you better informed about Alumni Fund contributions and the uses of these gifts. We plan to offer greater public acknowledgment for your annual gifts and to more clearly share our needs for special gifts. Through the Yale Nurse we will share news of special gifts we have received and tell you the story behind these gifts. In doing so, we hope to promote alumnae/i knowledge of one another, as well as respond to your request for more information on the needs of the School. Let there be no mistake: Our greatest need is for student financial support. This is why your support of the Alumni Fund is so critical to us. Thanks for contributing $130,000 this year.

I am headed to Philadelphia in September and look forward to meeting more alumnae/i on that visit. I love hearing from you. Stay in touch.

Catherine Lynch Gilliss, DNSc, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor
• Reunion Weekend 2000 is scheduled for June 1-3. Make this one of the highlight events of the new millennium!

• Remember to contact the Alumnae/i Affairs Office at YSN with address changes and be sure to include new phone numbers. We like to keep track of you, especially with the new alumnae/i directory scheduled for production in 2000!

• Printed on the inside back cover of this issue is the "What's New" form. Please fill it out and send it to the Editors with news that you'd like to share with classmates and others! It is also a convenient way to update your address information if you have recently moved. YSN's mailing address is P.O. Box 9740, 100 Church Street South, New Haven, CT 06536-0740.

• The Student and Alumnae/i Affairs Office, under the direction of Barbara Reif, is eager to assist you in any way. If you need a class list; or wish to receive an application packet for a friend or colleague; or need a transcript or form filled out; or just want to find out what's going on at the School, please contact us at (203) 785-2389. We would be pleased to help you in any way that we can.

On May 6, 1999 YSN was privileged to have Sister Carol Taylor, CSFN, RN, PhD, Senior Research Scholar, Center for Clinical Bioethics and the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, and Assistant Professor of Nursing, Georgetown University, speak to faculty, students, and staff on, "Caring from a Moral Perspective." Sister Carol was in New Haven as part of National Nurses' Week and spent time at both Yale-New Haven Hospital and YSN. A reception followed her presentation. Sister Carol posed with Associate Professor Cassy Pollack '83 (L) and GEPN Director Linda Honan Pellico '89 (R).
For the second year in a row (unheard of!) the weather gods frowned on Yale's commencement exercises. Nonetheless, excitement and celebration went undiminished, as rain poured down on YSN's ceremony under the tent in the park. Having held off during the main campus portion of the day's events, a torrential downpour started just as the 1999 graduates began the procession from 100 Church Street South to the tent across the street where family and friends cheered and clapped enthusiastically. Led by Faculty Marshall Margaret Grey '76, Banner Bearer Per-Erik Johansson '99, and Student Marshals Mary Bartlett '00 (Certificate Candidates), Brigid Andrew '99 (Master's Candidates), Raymond Lenox '99 (Post Master's Certificate Candidates), and Sharon Eck '99 (Doctoral Candidates), the Class of 1999 processed to the music of The William Street Chamber Players. Dean Catherine Gilliss welcomed all and introduced David W. Hennage, Executive Director of the American Nurses' Association, who delivered the commencement address. Margaret Povilonis '99 gave the student address, followed by the presentation of the class gift, a donation to the Downtown Evening Soup Kitchen in New Haven, a community outreach program that YSN students have been supporting for years in an effort to provide education and some basic health services to the homeless in New Haven. The gift was presented by Jennifer Donelan '99 and Virginia Morrison '99.
One of the highlights of commencement each year is the awarding of prizes to several outstanding graduating students who have distinguished themselves while at YSN, and to the faculty member, voted on by the graduating class, who excels in teaching and characterizes all that is exemplary. This year the Annie W. Goodrich Award for Excellence in Teaching was awarded to Helen Varney Burst '63 by nurse-midwifery student Katherine Plummer '99. Sharon Eck, DNSc '99 received the Anthony DiGuida Delta Mu Research Prize. Elaine Alpern '99 was honored with the Charles King, Jr. Memorial Scholars Aid Prize and Michelle Davis '99 received the Milton and Anne Sidney Prize for her research work with institutionalized Romanian orphans.

Deborah Chyun '82, President of the YSN Alumnae/i Association, presented each graduating master's student with a Yale pin, engraved with the student's initials and the year of graduation. This gift from the Association has become an honored tradition over almost a decade and symbolizes the pride with which all YSN graduates welcome the newest alumnae/i to their ranks.

A lovely reception followed the awarding of degrees and despite dripping caps, bedraggled robes, and limp hair, the Class of 1999 radiated pride and a real sense of accomplishment as they applauded themselves and each other. Student speaker Meg Povilonis captured the spirit of the day when she remarked, "As we leave here today, armed with our diplomas, our knowledge, and our good intentions, we will go forth in many different arenas to meet the challenges that face us. But we will not be alone, and we must remember that with each individual person we help 'make whole,' we help heal the whole human spirit."
Annie W. Goodrich Award for Excellence in Teaching: Helen Varney Burst

This year's recipient of the Annie Goodrich Award for Excellence in Teaching is outstanding in multiple aspects of her career and a potent inspiration for all nursing students. She is an educator, historian, and one of the best lecturers it has been our privilege to hear.

She graduated from Yale's Maternal-Newborn (Nurse-Midwifery) Program in 1963, and went on to spearhead the development of the nurse-midwifery profession in this country. She launched a nurse-midwifery program at the University of Mississippi which became a model for nurse-midwifery education and which generated the development of countless other programs through her students across the nation. She is author of numerous journal articles, and the first and only authoritative text on nurse-midwifery published in the US. She has served as President of the American College of Nurse-Midwives for two terms, in addition to having directed the Yale Nurse-Midwifery Program.

Her effect on students has only begun to be realized.

Only now do we understand the clarity of her thinking and ability to precisely lay down the structure, concepts, and practice of nursing for those who are learning. Varney's Midwifery, which methodically characterizes the practice of nurse-midwifery as distinct from every other part of health care, truly is an accomplishment for the profession. She never forgets what is at the heart of nurse-midwifery: women, babies, and families. Her focus on that core characterizes everything she does as a teacher and writer.

She never forgets that students are people with complex lives and is kindly encouraging even as she demands excellence.

Always available and supportive to students — whether as thesis advisor, clinical instructor, or simply as a friend — she is a mentor in the truest sense, seizing on the teachable moment in every interaction.

Her warmth, humanness, and focus on nurse-midwifery is a testament to her power and strength as a role model — a source of wisdom, pride, and clarity.

Charles King, Jr. Memorial Scholars Aid Prize: Elaine Conner Alpern

This talented woman is greatly admired by both faculty and students. Considered a friend, role model, leader, and advocate by her peers, she serves as a source of both emotional and intellectual strength for others.

She is dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge — exemplified not only by her commitment to her own course work, but also by her extraordinary efforts to teach others, often on her own time and without compensation. Innumerable students have gained from her skill, patience, and thoroughness. For tutorial sessions before exams, she made copies of her own meticulous review notes so others could benefit from her organized summaries. Nursing, medical, and physician associate students were all helped by her teaching talents as she guided them on the performance of gynecologic exams with skill and respect.

Considered a superb clinician, she has a rare combination of superior intellect, true concern for the well-being of others, and excellent communication skills. Whether in the Primary Care Center at Yale-New Haven Hospital, a private OB/GYN practice, or in the Emergency Department at Hartford Hospital, her patients reap the rewards of such a special nurse.

She is committed to providing better care through in-depth scholarly research. She challenged herself by extending her already rigorous program and taking extra courses in women's health, HIV care, and advanced statistics. Her research on infection in women who are HIV+ is original and groundbreaking.

Her commitment to YSN is inspiring. She was always willing to take on those extra responsibilities that inevitably arise as part of graduate school life; she never hesitated to help.
Anthony DiGuida Delta Mu Research Prize: Sharon Eck

Her enthusiasm for learning and love of nursing are infectious. From the very beginning of her experience at the Yale School of Nursing, her positive attitude and supportive nature set a tone for her classmates—that doctoral study is about teamwork and collaboration. Faculty report that she was a joy to have in class—prepared, energetic, and questioning.

Her dissertation reflects her intellectual depth, exquisite thoroughness, and excitement for research. The complexity of the work and the skill with which she completed it are awe-inspiring.

Motivated by the pervasive restructuring of hospital staffing, in which professional nurses were replaced by unlicensed aides, she designed an extremely intricate study to examine the effect of professional nursing on patient outcomes and costs. Using a rigorous analytic method, she found that this restructuring was associated with a higher incidence of patient falls, an increase in length of stay, and—surprisingly—no change in costs. She disseminated these potentially politically volatile findings with both clarity and sensitivity.

She approached this rather daunting project with an unwavering passion, high energy, and an extraordinary love of learning. She seized every learning opportunity that arose during the process and mastered the new knowledge and skills with painstaking thoroughness.

This dissertation will advance nursing knowledge in many ways. Most importantly, it will re-energize the discussion about the role of nursing in the care of hospitalized patients. Thus, it will not only promote better patient care, it will lead the charge.

Milton and Anne Sidney Prize: Michelle Rene Davis

Described as a brilliant piece of scholarship, this thesis is a shining example of the very best of nursing’s ideals and clinical sensibilities. This student had an idea and pursued it with incredible perseverance, energy, and a single-minded purpose. To carry out this very complex study, she gained the cooperation of numerous individuals from around the world and received a highly competitive Downs Fellowship for International Study.

She was interested in the terrible situation of Romanian orphans, abandoned primarily due to economic circumstances. She studied development and coping in 170 children in five different institutions and daycare settings in Romania. She found that institutionalized children were significantly more delayed developmentally, engaged in more self-stimulating behaviors such as rocking, and exhibited less developed play and social interaction skills compared with children from the daycare settings. Her extraordinary commitment to excellence resulted in a thesis that is exceptionally well written and of a quality seen only rarely in master’s work.

Her work contributes to our knowledge of the effects of institutionalization on coping and resiliency, and will be useful to Romanian officials in improving the plight of the many Romanian children still residing in institutions. More broadly, her findings are applicable to the nursing care of all children whose coping is taxed for a multitude of reasons—whether because of institutionalization, disability, or illness.
Yale School of Nursing Researchers Help People with AIDS Benefit from Drug Therapies by Meeting Them Where They Live

By Colleen Shaddox

Imagine needing to take 20 or more pills a day, some with food, some on an empty stomach, some that cause nausea, some that have nearly identical names, but different purposes. You'll need to take these pills exactly on schedule, even if you happen to be in a meeting at work, playing with your kids, or at your cousin's wedding. And -- oh yes -- if you don't take your pills exactly as directed, they will likely make you even sicker than you were before you went on medication.

Such is the challenge faced by people with HIV/AIDS. New drug therapies can dramatically extend and improve their lives, but the regimens are exacting, and failure to follow those regimens can cause drug resistant strains of the virus to develop. Ann Williams '81, a faculty member researcher at YSN, is directing a $1.8 million, three-year study, funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research, to help people with AIDS master and therefore benefit from their drug regimens. Ann will use her years of experience as an AIDS researcher to help her design a sensible intervention. Perhaps even more importantly, she'll use her wisdom as a practicing clinician, which tells her that it's what happens after the patient leaves the office that really matters. "People don't take their pills in the clinic; they take them at home," she says. "The gulf between the exam room and people's daily lives is just enormous."

The trial has been dubbed the ATHENA Project. While the acronym ATHENA states the mission of the project (Adherence Through Home Education and Nursing Assessment), the representation of the goddess Athena of Greek mythological legend is not unintentional. Legend tells us that Athena, the daughter of Zeus, emerged fully grown, clad in armor, from her father's head. She was fierce and brave in battle, but only warred to defend the state and home from outside enemies. She was also the goddess of wisdom, the city, handicrafts, and agriculture. She was the embodiment of intelligence, reason, and purity, and patroness of art, science, and learning. At times, Athena filled the role of goddess of health. It is Athena, more than any other goddess, who personifies the Greek ideal representing to all courage, boldness, and the will to victory, not just through simple action, but through action directed by response.

Karina Danvers, an outreach worker who has collaborated with Ann on other AIDS research projects, said that the barriers to medication compliance she sees in people's homes are enormous. "When you say, 'Please show me all the medications you're taking,' there is this mad dash all over the house, because the pills are in different locations, sometimes to keep them away from children, sometimes to hide them from the rest of the family if the patient is keeping the diagnosis a secret," she says.

Ann will send teams of nurses and peer educators to patients' homes to help people with AIDS work out strategies to make the demands of their medication schedule fit better with the demands of their lives. She will adapt a model developed by Paulo Freire, a Brazilian educational theorist who worked on adult literacy during the 1960's and 1970's. Freire's work centers on the idea that education should be a dialogue between teacher and learner in which together they identify barriers and supports to success. "For a lot of women, those supports are their kids," says Ann. "Many women set goals around their children. They want to live to see them graduate, start preschool, or achieve some other milestone."

Families can also be a barrier, Ann comments, remembering an older man who hid his pills in the basement rather than let his family know about the virus. Ideally, if a patient's family members are aware of the illness, they can offer valuable support, but disclosure is not always possible. "People do lose their social support. People do get thrown out of the house, and cut off, and not allowed to see the nephews and nieces and grandchildren," Ann says. "It's getting better, but it does still happen."

The Freire orientation wouldn't dictate to a patient, "Tell your family, and this will get easier," but would help him or her decide on the best course of action. The intervention differs from straight education in that it is not a top-down dissemination of information, but a partnership. Williams and her associates have found that traditional education is not always effective.
Karina Danvers said that often, even when the physician is an excellent patient educator, misunderstandings arise. She recalled one women, told to finish all her medications by the end of the month, who simply mixed all the pills together and took them bit by bit. Technically, she was following the physician’s directions. Yet another patient was very compliant during the winter months, but stopped taking her medications when spring came. It made no sense, until Danvers visited the patient’s house and found that she had no refrigerator, though her medication needed to be kept in a cool place. “It never dawned on me. You assume everybody has what you have in your own house,” said Karina.

Home visits allow not only for the provider to gain factual information, but foster a new level of intimacy and trust. Ann, whose patients tend to be inner city men, has seen the benefits of home visits. "The whole nature of the relationship with them changed. The patients were flattered, where I'd feared they’d find the home visits intrusive. There are such differences between me and my patients, in terms of class, race, and gender, but they were very welcoming. The patients’ lives were suddenly in three dimensions, in a way they couldn’t have been in the clinic, and that made it easier for them to talk." The quality of the relationship between provider and patient is one of the predictors of medication compliance. Other factors often thought to be significant, such as income, education, gender, age, and race, are not predictors of compliance. The bottom line is that compliance for anyone, given the complexity of AIDS drug regimens, is not easy.

"This intervention is not cheap; we know that," Ann says. "But there are several important issues to look at. First and foremost, the health of the patient and the danger posed to the individual patient by the development of a drug resistant strain. There's also the public health concern of drug resistant strains being transmitted. We know what a serious issue that is from our experience with antibiotics. Finally, these are expensive medications, often paid for with public funds. Shouldn't we make sure that people are really benefitting from those medicines?"
Hospice Care in the United States: A Conversation with Florence S. Wald

By M. J. Friedrich


In the last century, medical and technological advances have provided new and better ways to keep death at bay. But while the ability to prolong life is welcome in many cases, in patients who are terminally ill, it can turn the issue of how and when to die into a technical decision in which the patient and family have little say.

To redress this situation, hospice care was introduced to the United States 25 years ago. A hospice team consisting of physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers helps terminally ill patients and their families come to terms with issues of death and dying. They provide palliative care for the patient and support for the family through the patient’s illness and bereavement counseling for family members after the patient’s death.

The modern hospice movement, which was founded by British physician Cicely Saunders, who established St. Christopher’s Hospice in London in 1967, was imported to the United States in the early 1970’s. Instrumental to this effort was Florence Schorske Wald, MSN.

Wald received a master’s degree from Yale School of Nursing in 1941. After serving in the U. S. Army Signal Corps during World War II, she taught psychiatric nursing at Rutgers University and Yale. In 1958, she was named acting dean and, later, dean of the Yale School of Nursing. She stepped down in 1967 to explore the idea of introducing hospice care to this country. With an interdisciplinary group from Yale and New Haven, Conn., she established the first US hospice, the Connecticut Hospice in Branford, which began providing home care in 1974 and in 1980 added an inpatient facility. In 1998, the National Hospice Organization reported that there were more than 3000 working or planned hospice programs in the United States.

In recognition of her contributions to the hospice movement, Wald was inducted into the National Women’s Hall of Fame in 1998, and this month [May, 1999] she will become a member of the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame.

JAMA: How did you become interested in hospice work?
Mrs. Wald: At Yale, as acting dean I was working with the faculty to develop a new curriculum for the school, and I was focusing on issues patients faced and how nurses could address and alleviate patient concerns.

One of the main problems at the time was that the patient had no choice in terms of the care that was given. Doctors essentially didn’t recognize that patients should participate in the decision making about care. Physicians would sometimes forbid nurses to answer questions from a patient about his condition. This was happening in the 1960s, when the idea of questioning authority was everywhere, including the authority of the physician. This led to an opening up of the roles physician and patient played.

There were some wonderful doctors at Yale who were open to the nurses’ concerns about the lack of patient involvement. One was Ray Duff, MD, a pediatrician. Duff and August Hollingshead, PhD, a medical sociologist at Yale, wrote Sickness and Society (1968) in which they examined the state of communication between doctors and patients, families, and nurses in various situations.

This was the situation in 1963, when Cicely Saunders came to Yale to speak to the medical students. In a slide presentation, she showed patients at St. Christopher’s and the problems they and their families were going through. The issues illustrated by the slides — those of communication, symptom management, making choices — were the same ones we were dealing with. When I saw that she had forged a way to handle some of the problems we were dealing with — not including the family and not permitting the patient to have a choice — that was very appealing to me. I got hooked at that point, and by 1965 I had decided to get into hospice care.

JAMA: How did the plan for the Connecticut Hospice unfold?
Mrs. Wald: After returning from St. Christopher’s in 1969, I received a small grant from the US Public Health Service to conduct a 2-year study of the dying patient. We put together an inter-disciplinary team to study terminally ill patients. We kept diaries about patient care and recorded their conversations, thoughts, and feelings to help identify the components of care that were in place and those that
were missing. A physician we treasured in this work was Ira Goldenberg, MD, an oncologic surgeon at Yale. And Ray Duff, although he wasn't part of the study, was an important advisor to me. He took not just the patient but the whole family into consideration, which was rare.

Another important part of the study was the problem of pain control. Often doses that were prescribed were inadequate. I was startled to learn that 5 mg of Demerol was considered an adequate dose and morphine was a no-no. We struggled with this, not only with the physicians but also with the nurses who were carrying out these orders. The breakthrough came when the hospital hired a research pharmacist, Arthur Lipmann, PhD. Once he came on, he was able to help physicians take a new look at medications, something we nurses were unable to do. Pain management became a very important part of the hospice program.

JAMA: Why did you decide an inpatient facility was needed?

Mrs. Wald: I was aware of how decisions are made in a university health care center and in medical schools, and I knew that it was a hard struggle to establish humanistic care, such as midwifery, in the medical center. It seemed to me that this organizational structure would also present impediments to hospice care.

All through the time we were doing the study and into the time when...
the hospice movement began to burgeon, Cicely was advising us constantly. When I was at St. Christopher’s, I recognized the freedom they had in this autonomous institution to go about their business. Also, those of us planning the hospice wanted to draw from all hospitals and all home care agencies in the area, not just one institution.

JAMA: Did differences between British and US health care systems present challenges to establishing a hospice in the US?

Mrs. Wald: A major problem was and is that we do not have universal health care in this country. There had to be some kind of bargaining with Medicare, and there also had to be winning over private insurance coverage to include hospice care. But even so, the hospice care in England is not fully covered. They rely on private fund-raising, as we do here. In both countries, people who have been through the hospice experience know its value, and as a result family survivors contribute tremendously. Obituaries often say, "Instead of flowers, make contributions to hospice."

I’m interested in how many things we’ve taken from English and Canadian medicine, rather than the other way around. I know in this country we are tops in technology, but these other countries are able to take the patient as a person into account. This is something I feel we can definitely learn from.

JAMA: What is involved in making a decision to choose hospice care instead of active treatment of disease?

Mrs. Wald: First, a realization that the way we’re treating the patient is not getting the results we want. People come to that recognition at different stages. Patients come to that realization differently. There are critical points that come up through the illness that help people arrive at a point of clarity. One problem in the United States is that if a patient chooses hospice care, he abrogates his right to intensive treatment. That cuts right through the principle that hospice care should be an alternative available to the patient from the beginning of the illness and throughout.

The medical economists can’t see that. They’re afraid the system is going to be abused. This puts increasing pressure on the physician to predict when a patient is going to die, to decide when it is no longer necessary to have intensive treatment. Because of this situation, the patient often isn’t referred for hospice care until extremely late stages of the disease, when death is imminent. At this point, though, the patient and family will benefit from hospice for only a short time.

JAMA: What are some of the major issues in treating a terminally ill patient?

Mrs. Wald: We asked hospice nurses in 1985 what the greatest difficulty was for them, and they said it was not knowing if they did the right thing. It’s never a black and white situation. But just to know that the question exists so globally is helpful in terms of looking at it objectively.

Managing symptoms of a hospice patient is what I like to call a ‘delicate titration.’ Keeping a patient awake, pain free, and comfortable enough to interact with the family requires expertise, and those who do this well are as skillful in their own way as a surgeon who repairs a delicate blood vessel.

JAMA: I imagine there are people who are resistant – or even hostile – to the hospice point of view. How do you counter this opinion?

Mrs. Wald: There are patients who believe you have to fight, and I believe their choices are important to respect. So hospice care is not for everybody. At a recent conference entitled “A Peaceful Death” in North Carolina, I had an interesting discussion about the idea that not everyone wants a peaceful death. Some want to keep fighting until the very end.

JAMA: What are your thoughts on physician-assisted suicide?

Mrs. Wald: I’ll tell you the way I see it, and I know that I differ from Cicely Saunders, who is very much against assisted suicide. I disagree with her view on the basis that there are cases in which either the pain or the debilitation the patient is experiencing is more than can be borne, whether it be economically, physically, emotionally, or socially. For this reason, I feel a range of options should be available to the patient, and this should include assisted suicide.

I also feel that right now, society is going through changes and the laws related to physician-assisted suicide are being tested. What we are seeing now is not what we’ll be seeing in 10 years. I think there will be much more openness to the idea as time goes on.

We had an experience last year of a friend who had Parkinson’s who went to Dr. Kevorkian, although she didn’t tell us about her plans. We felt that the Parkinson’s wasn’t that crippling for her, but she felt she couldn’t face incontinence. Now, incontinence can be dealt with easily, but people’s feelings about it vary. For her, it was unacceptable. It wasn’t until later that I learned that her father had Parkinson’s, and so having been through that may have influenced her decision.

JAMA: Tell me about your recent work with hospice programs in prisons.

Mrs. Wald: I was involved in researching care for terminally ill inmates in Connecticut, taking a survey of what their needs are and
what the resources are. I worked on the project for about 18 months and finished last June.

Prison hospice programs bring hospice to a completely different population, a group that dies young because of high-risk behavior. Unlike many of the patients a typical hospice serves – those who’ve had successful lives – this group faces the end of life realizing they have not been successful. This experience in prisons has opened my eyes and other people’s eyes to this population that, until this time, we had not focused on.

At a national convention last December, a film of the hospice program in Angola Prison in New Orleans was shown. Unlike the usual stony faces of prisoners, the faces of inmates acting as hospice volunteers were alive. The prisoners looked and spoke with confidence. It shows that even in this terrible situation, something good can happen, a sense of possibility emerges.

**JAMA:** What does hospice care offer society?

**Mrs. Wald:** Hospice care for the terminally ill is the end piece of how to care for patients from birth on. It is a patient-family-based approach to health care that belongs in the community with natural childbirth, school-based health care, mental health care, and adult care. This idea came home to me very much in the prisons. What an opportunity to teach people to take care of themselves.

As more and more people – families of hospice patients and hospice volunteers – are exposed to this new model of how to approach end-of-life care, we are taking what was essentially a hidden scene, death, an unknown, and making it a reality. We are showing people that there are meaningful ways to cope with this very difficult situation.

Kathleen Knafl, PhD, Executive Associate Dean, College of Nursing, University of Illinois, Chicago, presented the 1999 Sybil Palmer Bellos Lecture entitled, “Understanding Family Response to Childhood Chronic Illness: Research Adventures and Outcomes.” Her talk was followed by the traditional Wisser Tea. This lecture was established in the name of Sybil Palmer Bellos ’27 when she retired as Director of the Northern Westchester District Nursing Association in 1964.
Haiti’s Health Care Needs Abound

Barbara Weaner ‘91 recently returned from a medical mission to Haiti and wrote about her experience.

For the past 23 years, a few doctors and nurses and assorted interested folks from Elkins and Clarksburg, West Virginia, and Warranton, Virginia have taken medical missions to the same village in Haiti about three times a year. This has been done with a sense of giving, to promote good will, and improve the health of Haitians unable to pay for medical care. All care and medicines have been provided free of charge. There is a hospital in the town of Fort Liberte where we went, but it requires cash in hand before entry is permitted, no matter how serious the ailment. With 90% unemployment, most Haitians never meet a doctor or nurse and receive no care. Small groups make the journey to Fort Liberte; they usually consist of one physician, one NP or PA, nurses, and assorted lay people with an interest in health, children, or third world issues who come along to function as assistants, "pharmacists," crowd control, laborers, and tutors. The town has about 8,000 people, including those in the outlying countryside, who live in extreme poverty in very primitive conditions. Fort Liberte is located on the northeast coast of Haiti about 15 miles from the Dominican border. It took us two and a half hours to travel 32 miles from the nearest airport in Cap Haitian, a city of nearly one million people.

Haiti is a beautiful country with extreme economic, political, and
Barbara irrigates an infected wound.

environmental problems. I think many Americans are aware of the political unrest over the past 20 years or so, with the Duvaliers, Aristede, and numerous subsequent political turnovers. Corruption abounded, political torture and murder were common, and the seven-year embargo by the United States from 1991 through 1997 almost starved the population to death. The rain forest was clear-cut, and erosion and organic pollution are rampant. Since that embargo was lifted, food and medical relief have been forthcoming and the country is recovering; Haitians are talking about the improved atmosphere. Throughout this political and social unrest, volunteers from West Virginia and Warranton continued their trips to Fort Liberte and a strong bond developed, with gratitude running deep.

We stay at a small mission, comprised of a church, a school for 150 children, and an orphanage for 22 children. Over the past years, the mission house has been improved with donations from the "Friends of Fort Liberte," who organized themselves into a non-profit group. The mission house now is above the standard of living for most Haitians, including cold running water, flush toilet with septic system, and a generator for limited electricity. We took over three classrooms at the school to use for the clinic; however, there is no running water, electricity, or window screens there. We brought 13 duffel bags full of medications and medical supplies rounded up from donations from individuals, drug companies, and an international medical mission organization.

I went with my boss, Sam Roberts, MD, who is the physician who has been traveling to Haiti over the last four years; a nurse named Judy Marino (her fourth trip); a man who used to be our county agricultural agent, now insurance salesman, who wants to set up a cooperative agricultural project on 40 acres of church land to improve nutrition for residents; and five college students. Four of them are from Hollins College, Virginia, and want to become doctors. The other is a young man from Middlebury College whose mother is a neurologist in Elkins, and he has an inter-
est in third world development.

The medical experience was fascinating and challenging. We used “empiric medicine,” based on a history, physical exam, and intuition. We had no testing or laboratory services available. We saw and treated everything from common respiratory diseases to horrendous skin infections, HIV, hepatitis, sexually transmitted diseases, parasitic infections, and we even performed minor surgical procedures. Most Haitians speak Creole and French, and I had a wonderful translator for the entire ten days.

The work was rewarding and exhausting, but I was completely recharged twice a day by marvelous singing in the church which was about 20 feet from the mission house. Every morning all year, except Sundays, an informal singing and prayer group meets in the church to sing and pray from 4:30 to 6:30 am. The music is very inspiring—a gorgeous blend of African rhythm and harmonies, and French Creole language and gospel music, all in a spontaneous stream of solo, small group, and congregational song. There is no leader of the service, although each day a different person comes to the front in the middle of the session to read a verse from the bible and give a short sermon on it. They were young and old, male and female. The prayer was composed of quiet and loud personal, simultaneous, velvet mumblings; it was music in verbal form. The service took place in the dark, except for two kerosene lanterns that shed a golden glow and illuminated the dark faces.

In the evening around 5:30 pm, people would gather again in the church for more prayer and great singing, followed by choir practice. A young choir director presided over groups every night—children, teenagers, young women, young men, older women, older men, and mixed groups. On the alternate nights when choirs did not meet in the church with Guercy, the director, they would practice in one of many classrooms across the courtyard from the church in the primitive school. One is free to wander from space to space, listening to all of this simultaneous music. All of this was awe-inspiring. I had the flash that while many Americans might imagine a wail of poverty emanating from Haiti, what actually goes out across the Atlantic to our shores is a blanket of brown, velvet serenity twice a day. I have thought of that blanket each day, sunrise and sunset, since arriving home, and find myself complaining less.

The public schools in Haiti closed this year due to lack of funds from taxes. The only functioning schools are church-supported ones, mostly Catholic, some Protestant, and a few colleges and trade schools. The small school in Fort Liberte had almost no supplies except for a chalk board, chalk, and benches. We brought crayons and paper and the kids were overjoyed and made beautiful drawings with great enthusiasm. There is a beautiful tradition of Haitian painting, but materials are in short supply.

I would lie awake at night thinking of the empty American factories that used to produce textiles and goods, having since closed, moving work to Asia and South America, thus leaving able workers idle and hungry. I thought of the stark classrooms and the hungry bellies at the clinic that day, and of the beautiful voices and faces, and the gentle nature of my patients and the people on the street. I thought of the innumerable problems I had seen each day, many of which would not have occurred with a clean water supply, sanitation, and a small amount of public health, hygiene, and nutrition education. I thought of how easy it was to teach five college students to be our assistants for ten days and how there were high school students sitting in classrooms next door we could have taught as well, but for a language barrier.
All of this percolated in me for about five days, as I meditated in the cool dark of night, kept awake by the day's work and the sounds of evening. Roosters crow all night in Haiti, and dogs start their singing when the people stop. This was not insomnia as I had experienced it in the past. My body was totally relaxed, my mind relaxed but alert, without restlessness; very restful, but full of Haiti. When sleep came, it was deep and full as well, until waking at 4:15 am to the daily sounds of a fanatic evangelist peddling a bicycle with a loudspeaker, preaching up and down every street in Fort Liberte, singing and shouting praises and some message.

On the sixth morning I awoke with three ideas for this church and school, to help bring some money for school supplies and clean water: an art project, a music project, and a clinic project. For the art project, the purchasing of supplies would allow children to create paintings that could be exchanged for donations from Americans to help support the school and purchase more supplies. I think this would give the children a sense of responsibility and hope and give them an opportunity to continue their artistic creativity. To support a clean water project, perhaps the choir groups could record their music with some support from American historians looking to obtain field recordings for research and archival purposes. Proceeds from the sales of CDs and tapes could be used to improve public health awareness in Fort Liberte. To improve the clinic space and supplies, we would solicit donations and I would love to establish a Yale/Friends of Fort Liberte connection where YSN nurse practitioner and midwifery students come to Haiti for a clinical experience. I hope that these projects will be self-sustaining eventually and that they will give birth to other initiatives there.

If any YSN alumnae/i are interested in learning more about the medical missions and projects, Barbara can be contacted at sweaner@newmedia.net, 304-478-2123, or Route 2, Box 96, Montrose, WV 26283.

At the end of each clinic day, it is always good to have some "down time" with the local people.
By Kate Stephenson '94

This year's Reunion Weekend marked the end of Dean Catherine Gilliss's first year at YSN. Kicking off the weekend was the usual Thursday evening informal supper in the Student Lounge and Commons. Returning alums chatted and enjoyed the display cases filled with memorabilia from YSN nurses' work overseas, from Europe to China.

In the tradition of years past, an informal discussion with the Dean rounded out Thursday evening's welcome. After supper, Catherine asked attending alums to speak about memorable moments from their years at YSN. Many spoke about the strict rules students had to obey, ranging from uniform cleanliness to not being allowed to run while in uniform, to threats of expulsion for smoking cigarettes, to socializing with, and marrying, medical students. From the stories of hospital life, it became apparent that YSN students gained much knowledge and experience through bedside nursing, since it was traditional for nursing students to staff the hospital in the 1940s, usually on the night shift. Dean Gilliss expressed her appreciation for the shared memories and history of YSN.

Saturday morning program participants (L to R) Linda Schwartz, Shirley Samy, and Sally Pullman.

Debra Nichol '79 seated on a lovely marble bench which she donated to YSN in memory of her father Charles F. Harrison.
Although she was meeting many alums for the first time, Catherine had met some in her travels over the past year. One of her objectives as dean is to travel and meet with alums across the country, keeping them informed of YSN and current advanced practice nursing issues as we enter the new millennium.

Friday of Reunion Weekend traditionally is comprised of the Alumnae/i College, with this year's theme being international nursing; the State of the School Address by the Dean; and the Banquet, including awards and class reports. The 42nd Annual Alumnae/i College, "YSN... Spanning the Globe," began with Ann Williams '81 who gave the keynote address entitled, "YSN in the World: Past, Present, Future." She spoke of the world community in terms of nursing, public health issues, and disease, and particularly how the AIDS pandemic has developed over the past 20 years.

YSN's State of the School Address was delivered by Dean Gilliss. She summarized the transition of deanships and laid out the organizational plan for the School over the next five years. Student enrollment is on the increase, while faculty has not increased proportionately, noted the Dean. Goals include increasing the number of faculty and perhaps housing at the school an historical collection of nursing holdings. Space is already becoming an issue. The doctoral program continues to grow and YSN has steadily increased its number of funded grant applications over the past five years.
The College continued with various breakout sessions under the umbrella theme of, "Leadership in International Nursing." Contributions to educational and professional efforts in nursing were addressed by Donna Diers '64 and Ramon Lavandero '79. Donna spoke of Australian nursing practice issues and her experience "down under," while Ramon discussed his role in strategic planning, as well as the greater goals for Sigma Theta Tau, International. Denise Guaglianone '92, Sheri

Kanner '92, DNSc '02, and Carrie Klima presented their contributions to practice around the world in Nicaragua, Colombia, and Belize respectively. Denise was part of a cardiothoracic surgical team with Cardiostart, an organization dedicated to providing medical assistance to people in underserved areas of the world. Sheri has traveled to Colombia with a volunteer medical mission team that performs plastic/reconstructive and craniofacial surgery on children. Carrie offers an independent study opportunity for students to travel to Belize to learn about the health care system and to provide some primary care support to poor communities in that country.

Jane Burgess and Pamela Minarik discussed the YSN-China collaboration, which has been an ongoing project with a number of YSN faculty. Several students discussed their international experiences and thesis research. Michelle Davis '99 studied institutionalized orphaned children in Romania, looking at

Distinguished Alumna Citation

Cheryl Tatano Beck '72

She is described as one of the country's finest clinical nurse researchers. Her work has been published in every major nursing research journal; her findings, presented at national and international meetings.

Her knowledge of qualitative research methods, especially phenomenology, has made a significant contribution to nursing research methods. Her work also stands as an elegant example of how to integrate findings from qualitative and quantitative methodologies, each building upon the other. Her work with meta-analysis and psychometric testing have an international audience. She has developed a program of research that has added to the body of literature concerning postpartum depression. The Postpartum Depression Screening Scale that she has developed and her findings have had a major impact on the care of women throughout the world.

She has had a series of distinguished faculty appointments, and her students describe her as a wonderful teacher and mentor. Her classroom has an atmosphere of trust and collegiality. She carefully guides her doctoral students, not only in the conduct of their research, but in its dissemination. Her work as a consultant has assisted others in developing their programs of research in areas as diverse as seniors' experience with self-medication, survivors of breast cancer, and contraceptive use. She has also shared her knowledge and expertise through her service as manuscript reviewer, editorial board member, facilitator of qualitative research special interest group, and a member of the International Speakers Bureau for Johnson & Johnson.

She has received many honors over her career including the Outstanding Research Award by the American College of Nurse-Midwives, the Distinguished Researcher Award by the Eastern Nursing Research Society, and a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.
Distinguished Alumna Citation

Arne B. Beltz '42

From the tropics to remote Alaska towns, she has been driven by a passion to deliver excellent and accessible health care. As a clinician and as a policy maker, she has always kept her focus on the patient and served with intelligence and unwavering dedication.

She began her career as a public health nurse in the Bronx, New York. Her service as an officer in the Army Nurse Corp brought her to the Philippines. Upon her return to civilian life, she worked as a public health nurse in rural Georgia. At a time when few people could imagine visiting the territory of Alaska, she moved to Wrangell, a small town in the southeast corner, where she was employed by the United States Public Health Service. She continued her public health nursing work in Native Alaskan territories and eventually moved back to "the city" of Fairbanks, where she met her husband.

When her husband became a legislator for his home community of Unakleet on the western coast, she returned to rural Alaska. She worked as an itinerant nurse, providing care to people in their own villages. After several years, she was asked to become the supervisor of public health nurses in Anchorage and worked for the local health department for the next 20 years, ending her career there as the Director of Physical Health. During all of this time, she was an active member of the American and Alaska Nurses' Associations. She was President of the Alaska Nurses' Association for several years. Upon leaving her position with the health department, she taught a nursing history course at the University of Alaska.

She helped to shape the public health system in Alaska. Her contributions as an itinerant nurse, and as a manager in the health department led in 1990 to recognition by Anchorage, when the city named the building that houses the Municipal Department of Health and Human Services in her honor.

She remains an activist in state and community affairs, and is known for collecting signatures in support of her latest cause. In her poetry, she has written about "Coming into Eighty."

If I do speed up at 80 perhaps I will be able to go out at night once more and still rise at 8 a.m. bright and cheerful. I might attend the dances at the Senior Center and whirl around with a handsome courtly male. I might play bridge until midnight and no longer be the party-pooper who wants to quit at 9:20 p.m. I might take up running and embark on a career of marathons. Speeding up to 80 is something to look forward to that is true unless I am deceiving myself and it is only time that is speeding.

She exemplifies the best of Yale nursing. She has seen need and in a moment flown across a continent to fill it. She has given her all to her patients, serving their interests at the bedside and in the halls of power.
global developmental delays. Many children there are abandoned due to extreme poverty and inaccessibility to health care. Virginia Morrison '99 spent time in Thailand at a Cambodian refugee camp looking at reproductive health issues in Khmer women. Jae Patton '99 traveled to Changsha, China and compared Chinese and American CCU nursing practices.

This year's banquet was held at the Quinnipiac Club in New Haven. Reunion classes were from the years ending in 4 and 9. YUSNAAA President Deborah Chyun '82 presided over the evening's ceremonies, which included class reports and ended with the presentation of Distinguished Alumnae Awards to Arne Bulkeley Beltz '42, Cheryl Tatano Beck '72, Poolsook Posyasvin Sriyaporn '73, and Linda Spoonster Schwartz '84. It was a lovely evening!

Saturday's half-day program began with breakfast and the Class Agents Meeting run by Nina Adams '77, Chair of Annual Giving. Outgoing chairperson, Mary Jane Kennedy '68, graciously participated. Next on the agenda was the Annual Meeting of YUSNAAA, run by President Deborah Chyun. Carol Ann Wetmore '94 is president for the next two years. Wrapping up the weekend was a program entitled, "Profiles in

Distinguished Alumna Citation

Linda Spoonster Schwartz '84

Armed with deep conviction and impeccable science, she advocates forcefully on behalf of veterans. She has been particularly effective in securing health care for women veterans and life-changing assistance for homeless veterans.

After serving as an Air Force nurse in the Vietnam War, she enrolled at YSN. While still a student, she was elected president of the Connecticut Nurses' Association. She not only united various warring groups of nurses in the state, but organized them into a coalition that won legislation to expand third-party reimbursement for nurses.

She organized "Stand Down," an annual event to connect homeless veterans with housing and health care systems. She was single-handedly responsible for the incorporation of homeless veterans into the Rocky Hill Veterans Hospital and raised their services to responsible standards of practice. She helped create residences for chronically mentally ill veterans treated at the West Haven VA Medical Center and a sheltered workshop to support them as they move toward independence. One of

the few women leaders in the Vietnam Veterans of America, she has helped make the organization a force for military women's issues.

Leading the drive to recognize women among the veterans' memorials in Washington, DC, she saw her work culminate in a statue of nurses assisting a wounded soldier, a breathtaking tribute to women veterans. She also wrote the germinal article, copied and hand-ed out endlessly, defining the issue of the invisibility of women's service in Vietnam.

Her doctoral dissertation as a student in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Yale was the first rigorous study of the effects of Vietnam service on women's health. She discovered that while not in battle, women were nevertheless exposed to dioxin (Agent Orange), perhaps even more than combat soldiers. Her present work to extend the study places her in partnership with Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro, Senator Joseph Lieberman, and Senator Thomas Daschle.
Distinguished Alumna Citation

Poolsook Sriyaporn '73

In a quarter of a century dedicated to community health nursing, she has advanced nursing, advocated for women and children, and created myriad opportunities for international cooperation among health professionals.

Through the sponsorship of the Rockefeller Foundation, she completed her MSN at Yale and then returned to her native Thailand. She has since served as the senior faculty member of the Community Nursing Division at the Rama School of Nursing at Mahidol University in Bangkok. Her academic responsibilities spanned clinical practice, educational programs, and research. Her humanitarian vision has focused on the health needs of women and children in the urban and rural settings of her homeland. Her study of child development record-keeping by Thai mothers continues to have international importance. This study resulted in the modification of the Denver Developmental Screening Tool to use pictures, enabling mothers who cannot read to assess the growth and development of their own children. The applicability of this manual has been lauded for use by other countries, such as China and India. Her follow-up research has evaluated the reliability of Thai mothers in assessing their children’s gross motor development using this manual.

As her institution’s Associate Director for Foreign Affairs, her accomplishments have been far-reaching. She first developed an exchange program between the Rama nursing faculty and the departments of public health in Beijing and Shanghai. She then promoted this exchange program between schools of nursing and/or public health at universities in America, Canada, Australia, Norway, the Netherlands, and India. Her collegial relationship with the dean of a Canadian school of nursing inspired that nursing leader to personally give Rama nurses six months of instruction in English. The goal was to improve their communication with nurses coming to Thailand from foreign countries and to increase their chance of selection for advanced scholarship in the United States at highly selective schools. Indeed, one of her protégées has the honor of being one of the first recipients of the Doctor of Nursing Science degree at Yale and has herself returned to Thailand to become a faculty member at Rama.

Her international efforts facilitated the Rama School of Nursing becoming a World Health Organization Collaborative Center for nursing and midwifery training and development. In 1998 she assisted with the Global Network Conference held in Korea, and she returned to Yale for the first time since graduation as the Thailand delegate to the 1998 Association of Yale Alumni Fall Assembly. She voiced her desire to be the bridge between Yale and Thailand and hailed Yale nurses as leaders around the world.

As an advocate, pragmatist, mentor, humanitarian, and visionary, she has worked to empower those whom she serves. She has maintained a professional persistence and a caring commitment, virtues befitting a Yale nurse dedicated to the well-being of people worldwide.
Courage." Linda Schwartz '84 gave the keynote address. She told the story of a nurse who gave up a leave to go on an airlift of Amerasian children. The plane crashed, and Mary Theresa Plinker was trying to rescue a child from the aircraft when it exploded. "Mary Theresa was just doing what a good nurse would do. I can tell you about these heroes, but I look around this room and I see heroes," said Schwartz. "Nursing, like no other star in the constellation, transcends all the political and social boundaries that we have and touches what is human in all of us. And that is the great beauty and the great power of what we do as nurses."

Panelists who joined Linda for the Saturday morning program included Sally Hitchcock Pullman '44 who spoke of her experience as a nurse in the Southwest Pacific during World War II, and Shirley Samy '96 who served in the Gulf War.

Thanks go to the YSN students who served as School tour guides for visiting alumnae/i, and to SGO representatives and officers who sold YSN clothing throughout the weekend. Gratitude goes, as always, to Barb Reif, Barb Larkin, and the YUSNAA Board for planning and overseeing the weekend festivities.

The Class of 1949 had a great turnout, pictured here with Dean Catherine Gilliss (front row, center).

1989 classmates (L to R) Susan Bonini, Linda Pellico, Stacey Young-McCaughan, and Anne Aquila surround former Medical-Surgical Nursing Program Chairperson, Dorothy Sexton (C).

Kate Stephenson (L) and Mary Pat Lamberti celebrate their 5th!
The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Deborah Chyun, President of the Association.

- Janice Davey '76 gave the Treasurer's report.
  - Total expenditures for 1998-99 were $211,112.63.
  - The Association has been able to fund several important activities:
    - Student scholarships in the amount of $121,731.
    - Yale Nurse publication costs at $26,554.08.
    - Activities sponsored by the Board to increase its visibility among currently enrolled students including a box lunch at fall orientation, a career workshop for graduating students, a "welcome back from spring break" breakfast, and a pizza social, amounting to approximately $2000.
    - The purchase of pins awarded to graduating students at $4042.50.
    - Contribution to graduation activities of $10,727.43.
- Nina Adams '77, Chair of Annual Giving, reported that the Association is "right on target" for the annual drive. YSN has the highest percent participation (46%) within the University, but has set a goal of 50%. Reunion classes have a 76% participation rate and the Class of 1951 is at 94%, thanks to the efforts of Justine Glassman, 1951 Class Agent.

- There was no Old Business.

- Under New Business, it was announced that a revised Alumnae/i Directory project is underway and the new book should be available in 2000. The directory is published every five years and University Publishing Corporation is overseeing the project.

- It was suggested that a list of "lost alums" could be printed in Yale Nurse, so that friends and classmates who know their whereabouts could help update Association records.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Deirdre Murty Marcus '94
Secretary
Alumnae/i Weekend, continued

YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING ALUMNAE/I ASSOCIATION
Slate of Officers and Directors for 1999-2000
Voted on and Approved by the Association

The following alumnae/i have committed themselves to serve the Association and fulfill the duties inherent in the various positions.

Continuing:

Directors, 1998-00
1999-01
Beth Ann Collins '93
Curtis Harmon '94

Treasurer, 1997-99
Janice Davey '76

Nominating Committee, 1999-00
Robin Pooley Richards '93, Chairperson
Kathryn Griffey '93
Rebekah Mull Wilmes '96

AYA Representatives, 1997-00
1998-01
Catherine Forrest '71
Linda Demas '89
Kate Stephenson '94

Co-Editor, Yale Nurse

Newly Nominated:

President, 1999-01
Carol Ann Wetmore '94

Vice President, 1999-00**
Linda Pellico '89

Secretary, 1999-01
Ann Cocks '98

Director, 1999-00**
Janet Parkosevich '85

Directors, 1999-01
Deborah A. Chyun '82
Deirdre Murty Marcus '94
Sally Richards '97

AYA Representative, 1999-02
Doris Foell '88

**To complete unexpired term of Board member

Mary Jane Linnehan '95
(L) and Michelle Desisto from the Class of 1994
Sigma Theta Tau Research Day, April 15, 1999

The Connecticut chapters of Sigma Theta Tau International held their Eighth Annual Research Day at Avon Old Farms Inn in Avon, Connecticut. The keynote address was given by Peggy Chinn, RN, PhD, FAAN, Professor of Nursing at the University of Connecticut School of Nursing.

YSN faculty and alums were a strong presence. Donna Mahrenholz, Nursing Management and Policy Specialty Director, presented, "A Descriptive Study of Research Protocols Reviewed by a School of Nursing." Carol Shieh, DNSc '98, presented, "Women's Health in Taiwan: An Analysis of Research between 1965 and 1994." Deborah Chyun '82, presented, "Mortality and Readmission for Congestive Heart Failure and Myocardial Infarction Following Acute MI in Elderly Patients with Diabetes Mellitus," and Carrie Klima, Assistant Professor in the Nurse-Midwifery Specialty, presented, "The Meaning of the International Health Care Experience." Anne Carr '97, Deborah Chyun '82, Debra Innes '96, Sue Langerman '99, and Julianne Seymour '96, collaborated on, "Relationship of Depression, Recovery, and Long-Term Mortality in the Elderly after Coronary Revascularization."

Poster presentations included: Carmen Adams DNSc '00, "The Lived Experience of Latinas with Type 2 Diabetes;" Marge Allende '94, DNSc '00, "Serious Mental Illness and the Treatment Experience;" Kerry Rausch '94, "The Effect of Alcohol on Quality of Life in Alcoholics and Their Family Members;" Cheryl Chen '99, DNSc '03, Deborah Chyun '82, Ophelia Empleo-Frazier '99, Alice Foy '00, and Kimberly Lacey '97, DNSc '01, "Diabetes Mellitus and Cardiac Risk Factor Management in the Elderly."

Annual Sigma/YSN Research and Policy Forum

YSN's Annual Research and Policy Forum, in association with the Delta Mu chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, was held at YSN on May 6, 1999. The following MSN '99 students presented their research:

Nicole Bidlingmaier, "Diagnosis-Related Knowledge and Behavior of Adolescents with Congenital Heart Disease."

Cheryl Chen, "Nutritional Status in Hospitalized Elders with Diabetes and Coronary Heart Disease."

Michelle Davis, "A Comparative Study of the Development and Coping-Related Behaviors of Institutionalized Children in Romania."

Ophelia Empleo-Frazier, "Evaluation of a Melanocentric Skin Assessment Technique for Stage I Pressure Ulcers in Black and Hispanic/Latino Elders."

Per-Erik Johansson, "Characteristics Associated with Chronic Illness (COPD): Normalization and Quality of Life."

Susan Langerman, "The Relationship of Depression, Recovery, and Long-Term Mortality in the Elderly after Coronary Revascularization."

Jennifer McInnes, "Weight Gain and Quality of Life in Women Treated with Adjuvant Chemotherapy for Early Stage Breast Cancer."

Virginia Morrison, "Availability and Barriers to the Use of Modern Methods of Contraception in Khao Phlu Refugee Camp, Thailand."

Janice Naum, "Differences in the Initial Emergency Department Presentation of Cardiac Symptoms between Patients with and without Diabetes."

Loral Patchen, "Risk of Vertical Transmission of HIV among Women and Infant Pairs."

Erika Penney, "Living with Diabetes: Adolescent Stressors and Compliance Challenges Reported in Coping Skills Training."

Kathleen Raffloer, "Midwives on the Oregon Trail."

Heidi Sweeney, "Peripheral Arterial Catheters: Frequency and Magnitude of Drift in a Pediatric Population with Abbott-Transpac IV Transducers."

Mary Ellen Rousseau Honored

The ACNM Award for Excellence is given annually to one member from each region who has demonstrated an outstanding contribution to midwifery. This year's recipient from Region I was Mary Ellen Rousseau, Associate Professor at YSN. Mary Ellen exemplifies the ideals of midwifery to her community where she has been an active member in numerous ways. She was the first Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) in private practice in Connecticut and although she ended her private practice affiliation in 1986, she testified before the Connecticut State Legislature in 1995 on the establishment of private corporations by nurse-midwives. She is also one of the first nurse-midwives to focus on mid-life issues for women, reflected in a variety of presentations, screening services, and research activities. Well respected in the community of women’s health care providers at Yale-New Haven Hospital where she maintains a practice at the Women’s Center focusing on the mid-life needs of underserved women, Mary Ellen has also been instrumental in the effort to incorporate primary care into the curriculum of nurse-midwifery education at YSN. She is a role model for her students and colleagues and a leader in the field.

YSN students (L to R) Robin Adams-Plescia ’00 and Stacey Hebner ’00 took a break from meetings to enjoy some social activities at the Convention.

Mary Ellen Rousseau at the ACNM Convention, surrounded by YSN faculty colleagues (L to R) Kim Updegrove, Lynette Ament, Mary Ellen, Helen Burst, Heather Reynolds, and Carrie Klina.
Nurse-Midwifery Accomplishments Recognised at ACNM Convention

YSN faculty, students, and alumnae were in the limelight at the recent ACNM Annual Meeting held in Orlando, FL, May 28-June 3, 1999. Elizabeth Sharp ’59 received the prestigious Hattie Hemschemeyer Award. First presented in 1977, it is the highest award that ACNM bestows. Previous YSN-affiliated recipients have been Ernestine Wiedenbach in 1979, Helen Varney Burst ’63 in 1982, Armentia Jarrett ’59 in 1992, and Joyce Cameron Foster ’61 in 1996.

Myriam Castro Decasta ’55, Judith A. Flanagan ’72, and Helena McDonough ’75 were inducted as Fellows of the American College of Nurse Midwives. Previous YSN-affiliated Fellows include Helen Varney Burst ’63, Sarah Dillian Cohn ’73, Charlotte Cram Elsberry ’65, Alice Forman ’45, Joyce Cameron Foster ’61, Betty Hilliard ’58, Charlotte Houde-Quimby ’72, Carol Howe ’74, Armentia Jarrett ’59, Jan Kriebs ’83, Heather Reynolds ’80, Jo-Anna Rorie ’78, Sharon Rising ’67, and Elizabeth Sharp ’59.

The Yale-China Association hosted a delegation from the Ministry of Health of the Peoples Republic of China on July 13, 1999. The delegation, led by Vice Minister Dr. Peng Yu, visited the Schools of Nursing and Medicine, as well as Yale-New Haven Hospital. The purpose of the visit was to learn about professional education and training for health care providers and medical researchers at Yale. In China, the Ministry of Health controls health and medical education, as well as the public health system and the policies that regulate it. Seen in the YSN reception area are (L to R) Yu Xiucheng, Division Director, Department of Science, Technology, and Education; Faun Wang, Program Associate, Yale-China Association; Li Mingzhu, Program Officer, Department of International Corporation; Qi Guoming, Director General, Department of Science, Technology, and Education; Peng Yu, Vice Minister; YSN Dean Catherine Gilliss; YSN Professor Ann Williams ’81; Chenghui Watkins, Nursing Liaison, Hong Kong Office, Yale-China Association; YSN Associate Professor Paula Milone-Nuzzo; and Ge Lijun, Deputy Director, Department of International Corporation.
Alumna Profile
From YSN to the Front

By Kate Stephenson

Sally Pullman '44 was interviewed recently for an article in The Hartford Courant (June 2, 1999) about her nursing experience during World War II in the southwest Pacific. She has published a book entitled, Letters Home: Memoirs of One Army Nurse in the Southwest Pacific in World War II (Olivieri the Quick Print Center, Inc., Granby, CT, 1998) which she wrote from the letters and cards saved by her parents during the War. She also spoke about her tour of duty, taking vignettes from her book, at Alumnae/i Weekend this past June. Since the Courant article printing, she has received numerous calls and letters from people who had traveled or served with her, which she said was an unexpected but delightful outcome of her interview.

Sally Hitchcock Pullman enlisted in the Army after graduating from YSN in 1944. The War was on, and she desperately wanted to serve her country and "help the boys" who were fighting. After all, many of her friends were in the service, and her brother was a flyer in Europe. She reported for active duty on June 21, 1944 at Fort Devens, Massachusetts for basic training. In August, she was on a train bound for San Francisco, although she was unaware of her final destination. She and 32 other nurses, including classmate Shirley Munson Stiles '44, boarded a converted cruise ship, the Willard A. Holbrook, with nearly 2,000 soldiers. The nurses traveled in cramped, but first-class quarters, "while the men slept on the decks." They sailed for a month before arriving at their initial destination, New Guinea. Two other classmates also enlisted: Selma Droznin Falloon '44 and Anne Gladding Stern '44, although they were not assigned to the same theater of operations, with Selma going to Europe and Anne to Hawaii.

Sally has just received her orders to return home on November 26, 1945 when this photo was taken! Sally tells stories of taking antimalarial medication, Atabrine, which caused her to be jaundiced. A frightening incident took place during the trip when what appeared to be a submarine along-side their ship turned out to be nothing but a whale! They landed in jungle terrain on the beaches of New Guinea where they lived in tent villages while their first station hospital was arranged. They moved about among different medical units, caring for injured soldiers transported from the Philippines. Sally usually worked the day shifts, from 7 am to 7 pm, and "we were terribly short of nurses." At one point in her service, she worked for three straight months without any time off. Everyone was continually muddy and exhausted.

Sally recalls feeling grateful for her YSN education and training, particularly the surgical aspects. "I had never pulled bullets and shrapnel out of people before, but I remembered the plastic surgeons' techniques." On Christmas Eve, 1944, a hospital ship unloaded over 80 injured men from battle in the Philippines. Within 48 hours they received orders to leave for the Philippines. They were given 30 minutes' notice! On January 3, 1945, they arrived. The next several months were spent caring for more wounded soldiers. In April, Sally became very ill with amoebic dysentery and was unable to work for a full month. She recalls Roosevelt's death on April 12, 1945, and she and the other nurses "didn't know a thing about Truman," as they wondered what course the War would take. In May of 1945, the War ended in Europe. In June, Sally received orders to be transferred to Japan. She was instead transferred to dif-
ferent medical units within the Philippines, and in August the War ended in Japan. Her final posting was on the beach, "where we had a little TLC, with our tent opening up onto a lovely beach."

Sally was relieved of duty on November 26, 1945. She sailed home over rough seas on a small naval ship everyone referred to as "a bucket of bolts." Due to mechanical difficulties, they stopped overnight in Hawaii. She recalls the night on the town, with a stroll down Waikiki Beach, "...but it looked too narrow, just a strip of sand!" and a glimpse of Diamond Head. She recalls more specifically that she and her fellow nurses "got dolled up" and wore skirts for the first time in over a year. (They had to wear trousers and long-sleeved shirts in the Pacific to prevent mosquitoes from biting.) They sailed into San Diego, since Los Angeles was too full with ships and service men and women arriving from the Pacific theater. "It was such an exodus that they had been putting bodies from the Philippines on anything that floated! And they just left such equipment on the beaches—jeeps, all sorts of medical equipment—it was such a shame. I took a blanket home with me."

The first thing she and her friends did when they disembarked was to get a glass of milk and then they went to see a movie, The Lost Weekend. She telephoned her parents, which was no easy feat with hundreds of people in line for the operator to place calls. After a temporary holdover at Camp Anza, she was fortunate to be number twelve on the list of people to go home. This meant that she rode in the private car of William Jeffers, the president of the Union Pacific Railroad, on the back of a troop train. "We lived it up and had anything we wanted. Who knows what the ride was like for those in the rest of the train." They transferred in Chicago and she arrived at Fort Dix, New Jersey. All of her colleagues were immediately discharged, but she had to remain for three days' worth of medical evaluation for her amoebic dysentery, which developed complications of hepatic abscesses. She arrived home in Vermont on December 31 to a beautifully decorated Christmas tree and her brother safely home from Europe.

Sally ventured back to New Haven Hospital for a nursing position that had been promised to her and others who went into the service. However, "because I had had no civilian experience since graduating, I was not allowed to take the position." She pursued a varied career at the VA in Newington, CT, and then she enjoyed public health nursing in the New Haven area. She taught nurses' aides in the Army and for the State of Connecticut, and taught LPNs at Hartford Hospital. She also worked on a program devised as a Medicare experiment looking at the cost-effectiveness of caring for the elderly in the home instead of an institution.

Sally married John S. Pullman and raised three children: son John, an engineer; daughter Sal, a physician; and son David, a farmer. She has five grandchildren. Her husband died four years ago. She remains in close contact with her friend, Shirley Stiles '44, in San Francisco.

If any alumnae/i are interested in contacting Sally regarding her book, please write to her at 10 Wells Road, Granby, CT 06035.

YSN Student is American Heart Association Scholar

Jill Speckhart '01, a student in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty, has been named a Student Scholar by the American Heart Association. The scholarship will support her work, under the direction of Marjorie Funk '84, to explore the relationship between age, gender, and atrial fibrillation in patients following cardiac surgery.

Atrial fibrillation is a potentially dangerous dysrhythmia that frequently occurs after cardiac surgery. Age is a known predictor of atrial fibrillation in the immediate post-operative period and some studies report men are more likely to have the dysrhythmia, but it is not known if age and gender matter as the recovery period continues. Using portable monitors to detect atrial fibrillation in patients who have returned home, Jill will explore whether age or gender are significant predictors of atrial fibrillation in the later post-operative period. Her study is part of a larger ongoing research project by Marge which examines the use of portable monitors to detect atrial fibrillation in patients after discharge from the hospital following cardiac surgery.

Jill is a registered nurse in the John Dempsey Hospital adult intensive care unit. She is at Yale studying to be an acute care nurse practitioner and plans to pursue doctoral study in nursing for a career combining practice, teaching, and research. She is a 1996 magna cum laude graduate of the University of Connecticut, where she was a University Scholar. Through the University Scholar program, Jill was able to do research in the Dominican Republic on post-operative pain. She is a member of the American Heart Association's Council on Cardiovascular Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau, and the Golden Key National Honor Society.
Yale School of Nursing Graduates Take Skills to Developing World

By Colleen Shaddox

For Michelle Davis '99, it started in high school, when she saw a magazine picture of row upon row of cribs in a Thai orphanage. "I thought, I'd love to be able to work with those kids," remembers Michelle, whose Yale School of Nursing master's thesis was a developmental study of children in Romanian institutions. While she was collecting data in Romania, her classmate Virginia (Ginny) Morrison '99 was working in a Cambodian refugee camp researching women's and men's contraceptive needs. "It's exhausting work," said Ginny, a former Peace Corps volunteer. "It's something that consumes your entire person, but it's really excellent work, too." Both women were drawn to nursing in part by the opportunities that it offers to work in the developing world. Both graduated from YSN on May 24 and plan, after a brief period of honing their clinical skills in the US, to devote themselves to overseas work. "That's where my heart is," Michelle said recently, "health care in the developing world."

Ginny's Yale research, funded by the Population Council's Robert H. Ebert Program on Critical Issues in Reproductive Health and the Yale Council on Southeast Asia Studies, took her to a Cambodian refugee camp just over the Thai border. Though the refugees had access to birth control pills and injections, as well as to condoms through services provided to them by the American Refugee Committee, many women feared side effects and preferred to be surgically sterilized or simply not use contraception. During the time that Ginny was doing her research, requests for birth control increased at the refugee center. She suspects that the patient education she did may have contributed to that change.

Cultural factors also affect decisions about birth control. The group that Ginny was working with had lived in an area of Cambodia that has had little communication with the central government, which may have contributed to an overall conservatism. Many men interviewed believed that their wives should not obtain birth control without first consulting them. Contraception was seen as unacceptable for unmarried women and commercial sex workers. Some of the people Morrison interviewed feared that contraception would encourage women to have more than one partner. Despite these views, virtually all camp residents stated that due to war and uprooting, there was both more need and more demand for contraception since they became refugees.

Ginny's career plan is to work with refugees and she is particularly sensitive about imposing her values on another culture. "You're bringing in a lot of attitudes of your own into a population that's already in danger of losing their own culture," she said. At the same time she fully supports a United Nations initiative to provide better reproductive health care to refugees who are at high risk for rape, unintended pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and complicated childbirth.

Like Ginny, Michelle also encountered complex problems in her international research that presented no easy solutions. Under a Yale University Downs Fellowship, she visited five settings in Romania, a conventional day care center, a center where children stayed overnight during the work week and returned to their parents on the weekends, and three live-in institutions commonly called orphanages. Actually orphanage is a misnomer, as most of the children there have living parents who simply cannot afford to take care of them.

Davis found that developmental problems increased as the amount of individual attention the children received decreased. The children in the daily day care situation fell within what would be considered a normal range in the United States. Those in the overnight day care had more problems. Those in the institutions fared the worst, particularly in one very understaffed institution. There she saw cribs shaking violently as children thrashed about inside to relieve their own boredom. "Nobody held them," said Michelle. "There was no eye contact. It was like nothing I've ever seen."

Michelle did her work in settings designed to care for children from birth to three. They progress to different levels of institutions as they age, until they reach 18 and are expected to live independently. But institutional life has ill-prepared them to fend for themselves. "The streets of Romania are filled with adolescents and adults with multiple psychiatric problems who have never attached to anyone, are unemployed and begging," she said. "Then they have children of their own and the cycle starts again."

Many things could be done to improve the conditions in Romania's institutions, Michelle said, including increased staff, regularly scheduled social activities, and the introduction of smaller group homes. But ultimately, she asks if the government would not do better to simply give direct aid to parents in the hope that more children could be kept at home to be raised in a family setting.
By Kimberly Lacey ’97, DNSc ’01

Before we know it the next academic year will begin and the Doctoral Program is flourishing! There were 15 applicants to the Doctoral Program this year and six will begin full-time study in September. Four DNSc degrees were awarded at Commencement on May 24. Recipients were Karen Baranowski, Sharon Eck, Linda Juszczak, and Susan Sullivan-Bolyai! Congratulations to them! And, they are already putting their degrees to work!

Karen continues with her work focusing on health perceptions and barriers to health in women marginalized by socioeconomic status. Her research has not only increased community awareness surrounding the problems faced by these women, but also has resulted in the establishment of more services for them. Karen’s efforts were influential in obtaining “start up” funding for a full-time school nurse position in the Adult Learning Center in Nashua, New Hampshire where she gathered data for her dissertation. She also wrote a grant which was funded for a demonstration project in which a nurse practitioner will serve as a liaison between vulnerable women and social services agencies. Karen teaches at Rivier College in New Hampshire.

Sharon’s dissertation, “The Effect of Change in Nursing Skill Mix on Patient and Organizational Outcomes in One Teaching Hospital,” will be invaluable to her as she moves into a new administrative position as Director of Women’s Health at the University of North Carolina Hospitals at Chapel Hill. She will also be an adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina School of Nursing.

Linda’s research, “Use of Health and Mental Health Services Among Adolescents Across Delivery Sites,” offered some important insight into how this vulnerable group of children accesses care and the importance of school-based health clinics. Linda is well known for her work related to the promotion of school-based clinics and will likely increase her visibility in this area as a result of her dissertation. It will be no surprise to those who know her to see her contributing to the development of policy related to school-based clinics. Her dissertation is an important source of data.

Susan explored, "The Experience of Parenting a Young Child with Type 1 Diabetes." She recently presented her data at the Sigma Theta Tau International Conference, a grand accomplishment for her, and quite an honor for YSN. After presenting at the conference which was held in London, she continued on to Ireland for a long needed vacation! Susan hopes to expand her research in post-doctoral work. She was supported in her dissertation work through a National Research Service Award and has applied for similar funding for her post-doctoral work. Good luck!

The work of each of these women is very impressive! They are an inspiration for us all! Again, congratulations and warm wishes as they enter the next phase of that never-ending pursuit of truth in inquiry!

Note: Are you a doctoral student at YSN or perhaps a graduate of the YSN Doctoral Program? If so, let me know what you are up to these days. You can reach me via email kim_lacey@snet.net or the Student Affairs Office, (203) 785-2389.

AYA Spring Assembly Pays Tribute to Yale Faculty

Ted Gray ’72, Chair of the Spring, 1999 Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) Assembly, noted that, ".....teachers are the most important link in the academic world’s network of information preservation and dissemination." Building on that premise, he and his committee put together a stimulating program that answered the questions: Who makes up the Yale faculty today? What is unique about teaching at Yale? What is the strategy to boost the number of women and minorities in Yale’s faculty ranks? How do professors balance the tension between teaching and research? An overview of teaching at Yale, including profiles of outstanding faculty, set the stage for the Assembly and was followed by a panel of Deans, including YSN Dean Catherine Gilliss, who discussed the opportunities and obstacles confronting professional school faculties. In addition to faculty teas, small discussion groups, and brief talks on current research, a performance by Yale’s exceptional music faculty rounded out the weekend.

YSN’s AYA Representatives are Linda Demas ’89, Doris Foell ’88, and Catherine Forrest ’71.
Faculty Notes

Tish Knobf '82, Associate Professor in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty and Coordinator of the new Oncology Nurse Practitioner Track, has been named an American Cancer Society Professor of Oncology Nursing for the period July, 1999 through June, 2002. This is a very prestigious award, given in recognition of Tish's accomplishments and promise in the field.

Courtney Lyder, Associate Professor in the Adult Advanced Nursing Specialty, has been elected to fellowship in the American Academy of Nursing. He will be inducted in Fall, 1999.

Douglas Olsen, Assistant Professor in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Specialty was named an Assistant Editor of Nursing Ethics: An International Journal for Health Care Professionals. Doug also serves as Chairperson of YSN's Human Subjects Committee.

Last June New Haven once again hosted the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, part of which was a "sprawling interactive display" on the New Haven Green. YSN sponsored one of the tent exhibits within the display, under the creative guidance of Linda Honan Pellico '89, GEPI Director and architect of Have Bones, Will Travel, a community enrichment program she takes to public and private schools in the area. Have Bones, Will Travel promotes health and teaches children about their bodies and how they work. This was also the theme of Linda's tent exhibit which was one of the most interactive sites in the program and one of the most popular. Children of all ages listened to their heart rate, registered their blood oxygen level, carefully handled human skeletal bones, and learned how long the small intestine is. A number of GEPN students helped Linda out with this important community outreach opportunity. Last Spring Linda also organized a one day conference, Update on Pain Management, which was co-sponsored by Yale-New Haven Hospital Department of Nursing and the Connecticut AIDS Education and Training Center. The conference took place in March and was designed to increase registered nurses' knowledge of acute and chronic pain management. In addition to traditional means of pain control, alternative therapies such as Reiki and hypnosis were discussed.

Professor Dorothy Sexton has agreed to chair the Admissions Committee, effective July 1, 1999, taking over from Deborah Chyun '82 who has been at the helm for a number of years. Debbie's exceptional leadership has resulted in the ongoing enrollment of outstanding students. Dorothy's extraordinary commitment to YSN and her willingness to serve will make the transition a smooth one.

Martha Swartz, Associate Professor in the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Specialty, presented a poster on the Yale University Urban Health Program at the Annual Meeting of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) in San Francisco, CA on April 17, 1999. Marty also was co-recipient, along with YSN Program Instructor in Nursing, Nancy Banasiak, and Yale-New Haven Hospital (YNHH) nurse, Bruna Banyas, of a clinical scholarship award from Delta Mu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau for the development of patient education materials for families who receive care at the YNHH Primary Care Center.

At the June, 1999 Scientific Sessions of the American Diabetes
Marty Swartz (far left) with other YSN faculty who attended the NONPF Annual Meeting, (L to R) Cate Moffett, Elaine Gustafson ’86, Clarice Begemann ’90, Ivy Alexander, and Susan Cohen. YSN Dean Catherine Gilliss is seated in the foreground.

Association, held in San Diego, CA, YSN faculty members Margaret Grey ’76, Associate Dean for Research Affairs; Gail Melkus, Associate Professor; and Geralyn Spollett, Associate Professor, presented at various workshops and symposia. They all are involved in diabetes research and/or clinical practice with diabetic patients. A number of YSN faculty, staff, and one recent graduate attended the First Pan-Pacific Nursing Conference, "Promoting Nursing Excellence in the 21st Century: Sharing Innovations in Practice," held in Hong Kong in June. The conference was sponsored by the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The following papers were presented by YSN affiliates and their Hunan Medical University colleagues:

Cardiac Nursing in China and the United States
Marjorie Funk ’84, Jill Patton ’99, Zhang Qiong, and Liu Shaohui

Improving the Community’s Health in Changsha: The Chia Family Fellowship
Li Lezhi, Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Yang Min, and Jane Regan ’98

A Cross-Cultural Approach to Holistic Nursing: Comparison of Holistic Nursing in the United States and the People’s Republic of China
Jane Burgess, Li Lezhi, Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Yang Min, Pamela Minarik, Jill Patton ’99, and Zhang Qiong

Collaborative HIV/AIDS Education for Chinese Nurses
Jane Burgess, Zhou Chang Ju, Chenghui Wu Watkins, and Ann Williams ’81

Paula Milone-Nuzzo and Linda Honan Pellico ’89 also traveled to Changsha in Hunan Province to consult with nurses at the hospital there.

Enjoying Hong Kong are (L to R) Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Jane Burgess, Ann Williams, Jill Patton, Pamela Minarik, Linda Pellico, and Marge Funk.
Margaret Grey is Selected as Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow

YSN's Associate Dean for Research Affairs and Independence Foundation Professor of Nursing Margaret Grey '76 has been selected as a Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow. A recognized authority on children with diabetes, Margaret is one of only 15 nurses nationwide to win this prestigious fellowship this year. Through mentorship, seminars, and an independent learning plan, the three-year program allows nurse executives to develop as leaders in preparation for major roles in shaping the health care system. Grey's research and clinical work has led her to work toward a new model of health care that supports patients and families coping with chronic illness.

"The current health care system, based on an acute care, limited cost model, is patently inappropriate for my patients -- children and adolescents with diabetes -- and for many others with long-term, relatively stable chronic conditions," said Margaret. "These people would be best served by a system that does not exist: A system that allows for smooth movement of patients across treatment settings, with an emphasis on community-based services and a ready access to appropriate providers and information." Margaret plans to explore the use of technology, particularly the Internet, to offer more and better services to people living with chronic illness. She will also spend the next three years building coalitions among various health care professions to create a network of chronic care that is accessible, affordable and high in quality. ■

Ann Williams '81 and Qun Meng, Director of the Division of Continuing Medical Education, Department of Science and Technical Education, People's Republic of China (PRC), signed a formal letter of intent, on behalf of the Yale-China Association, to collaborate with the Ministry of Health, PRC, in establishing a program for faculty development in leading Chinese schools of nursing. The initiative is expected to begin in the fall of 2000 and will bring approximately 50 Chinese nursing professors to Yale over a five-year period to receive intensive training. The photograph was taken in Beijing.
YSN faculty member Sally S. Cohen '80 has been appointed to the Connecticut State Board of Examiners for Nursing by Gov. John Rowland. The State Board of Examiners for Nursing oversees the educational preparation, scope of practice, and discipline of all RNs, LPNs, and APRNs in the state. It is comprised of 12 volunteers appointed by the governor. Assisted by the Department of Public Health, though completely independent from it, these eight nurses from all facets of the profession and four consumer members focus on public safety in the rendering of nursing care.

Sally is an Assistant Professor at the School and directs YSN’s Center for Heath Policy. She has published widely on health policy issues, particularly child care, the political development of nursing, and the effect of managed care on advanced practice nursing. Her forthcoming book, Championing Child Care (Columbia University Press) examines the politics of federal child care legislation. Her writing is frequently honored. She won the Ellen Rudy Clore Excellence in Writing Award in 1998 for, "Promoting the nurse practitioner role in managed care," which she co-authored for Journal of Pediatric Health Care.

Sally received her master’s degree from YSN and her PhD from Columbia University. While at Columbia, she received the Marisa de Castro Benton Prize, for outstanding dissertation in Sociomedical Sciences. She also is an elected fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

This past March the Reference Room was reconfigured to better utilize storage space and create a Multi Media Room for student and faculty use. Workmen accomplished the task quickly and with good humor! As a side note, Reference Room Manager Mary Angelotti resigned from YSN at the end of July to take a position at the Yale Medical Library. We will miss her greatly and wish her the best as she continues serving the University’s library system.
Elizabeth McGann, DNSC '00, YSN doctoral student and Academic Coordinator and Assistant Professor of Nursing at Quinnipiac College in Hamden, CT, had an article published in AJN, March, 1999, Vol. 99, No. 3, 45-46 entitled, "Medication compliance in adults with asthma."

Heather Wilcox, DNSC '01 received the 1998 Award for Excellence in Practice from the Mu Chapter (University of Connecticut) of Sigma Theta Tau.

Stephanie Schilling '00 received the Leonard Marmor Surgical Arthritis Foundation Award for 1998-99. This award, in the amount of $1000, is given to an outstanding student who has demonstrated leadership ability and a desire to contribute to the nursing profession. In support of her nomination for the award, faculty evaluations stated, "She is an independent student and theoretically based thinker who will progress and excel in all areas!" Stephanie (L) is seen here with YSN Financial Aid Officer Lillian Hale.

Melissa Prodis '00 shows skill with paint and scissors!

Constance Pierce, artist and Research Fellow at Yale Divinity School and the Institute of Sacred Music, was invited to YSN to participate in a workshop with students and faculty. A member of Yale's Humanities in Health Care Committee, along with GEPN Director, Linda Honan Pellico '89, and YSN Director of External Affairs, Colleen Shaddox, Constance teaches people with no art background to combine text with monotype, collage, and other techniques to create highly personal expressions of art. Sheila Geen '01 (L) and Brian Arey '01 participated in this unusual, but delightful opportunity to "get in touch with their creative selves!"
AAPN Students Present Change Projects

In May final year students in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty participated in a poster presentation around the change projects they worked on as part of their clinical practice course. Poster titles included: A Critical Pathway for Patients Undergoing Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery (Odile Anderson); Chemotherapy Guidelines: A Manual for Nurses (Rebecca Edwards); Implementing a Cardiac Rehabilitation Program (Rina Hui); Complementary and Alternative Medicine: A Guide for Oncology Nurses (Jennifer McInnes); Implementation of a Protocol for the Outpatient Administration of Inotropic Infusions in the Advanced Heart Failure Population (Elinor Muller); and Management of Cardiac Transplant Recipients after Surveillance Endomyocardial Biopsy and Right Heart Catheterization at Yale-New Haven Hospital (Ming-Feng Tsai).

For their class project, students in the 1998-99 Advanced Concepts in Home Care course (L to R) Eva Gallegos, Rebecca Edwards, Elizabeth Esselman, and Laura Ippolito prepared a policy analysis of the need for a hospice Medicaid benefit in Connecticut, one of only seven states in the country that does not have one. They worked with the Connecticut Association for Home Care (CAHC) with Sonya King, their preceptor, and presented findings to the CAHC.
Florence S. Wald ‘41 was inducted into the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame on May 5, 1999. The Hall of Fame’s mission is to honor and give public recognition to Connecticut women, past and present, who have broken new ground or have emerged as leaders in their fields of endeavor. Florence was recognized for her work in establishing hospice care in the United States.

Virginia Brown ‘50 received a Master of Arts degree in museum studies, costume, and textiles, from the State University of New York.

L. Ann Traub ‘75 is practicing as a clinical nurse specialist at Connecticut Valley Hospital with forensic patients in their transition to community treatment and residence.


Carol Curtiss ‘81 received the 1999 Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Roche Laboratories, Inc. Distinguished Service Award at the Society’s 24th Annual Congress held April 28 to May 1. The award recognizes an oncology nurse who has made outstanding contributions to ONS. Carol is a CNS in cancer care and pain and symptom management in Greenfield, Massachusetts and also serves as adjunct faculty at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst) School of Nursing. Carol has served as president of ONS from 1992-1993 and president-elect from 1991-1992. Since joining the organization in 1980, she has served in other roles, including reviewer, task force and committee member, chair, and board member.

Bernice Coleman ‘83 received her PhD in nursing in June from UCLA. Her dissertation is entitled, "Elevated serum IgA: An indicator of immune dysregulation in advanced heart failure patients evaluated for cardiac transplantation." She is considering postdoctoral study and currently resides in southern California.

Margaret Garrison ‘89 is working as a clinical nurse specialist doing ER crisis intervention at Hartford.
Deirdre Murty Marcus '94 and her husband, Geoff, added a baby boy, Weldon Kane, to their family on May 5. He weighed 9 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long. He joins older sister, Hayes, now two and a half years old.

Effie Shu '94 and her husband, Jason Kahn, welcomed Alison Shu on October 13, 1998. She weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 19 inches. Alison joins older brother, Evan, who is nearly five.

Elizabeth Boland '95 presented a paper at the Society for Pediatric Research meeting in San Francisco, CA in May.

Karen Klein '95 is Project Coordinator and Senior Trainer with the Youth Development Training and Resource Center of a Yale community collaborative called the Consultation Center. She trains people who work with youth state-wide and heads a project to make state programs more beneficial for youth. Karen received the Nurse Practitioner of the Year Award in 1998 from the Connecticut Nurse Practitioner Group. Her citation read in part, "Karen's work exudes the commitment she has to the health of children, their families, and the community in which they live."

Raymond Lenox '95 (and ACNP Post Master's '98) is working as a nurse practitioner at the West Haven VA Connecticut Health Care System and is a program coordinator. Connecticut has been chosen as one of 30 sites nationwide where Gulf War Syndrome will be studied, and the West Haven location is a clinical trial site where investigators will test veterans to see whether exercise and behavioral therapy improve physical function. Ray looks forward to the program, since it is the first study where symptom-related therapies will be administered.

Mary Jane Linnehan '95 has completed her National Health Service Corps commitments on an Indian reservation in Alabama where she practiced for the past three years. She accepted a school nurse practitioner position in New Jersey earlier this summer.

Jim Schwendinger '96 and his wife, Lisa, had their first baby, Mara Joan Mae, on April 1. Jim and his family have moved to Atlanta, Georgia where Jim will be working part-time in order to be with Mara. Lisa, who is a physician (Yale Med '92), has accepted a position at the CDC.

Kirsten Asmus '98 has moved to Oregon and is working at the Salem Women's Clinic, Inc. The practice is the only all-female provider group in town, and business is great. She follows her patients who birth at Salem Hospital. She lives near the office and has discovered a great farmer's market nearby.

Lizanne Backe '98 is enjoying life and her sports medicine job at Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dean Dellay '98 was recently acknowledged in the Yale-New Haven Hospital Bulletin, the hospital's biweekly flier. A patient's wife wrote to express how impressed she and her husband were with Dean's professionalism, outstanding care, and enthusiasm for his job.

Wantana Limkulpong, DNSc '98 received an award from the World AIDS Foundation to develop and evaluate a program in Thailand to train nurses to teach family care givers the skills needed to provide care for family members with AIDS. Until recently most AIDS care in Thailand has been provided in
infectious disease hospitals, but that will no longer be feasible as the number of people requiring care grows. Ann Williams '81 and Jane Burgess at VSN will also participate in the program which was adapted from a similar program developed by Ellen Rubin '80 for the VNA of South Central Connecticut.

In April, 1999 Kerry Milner, DNSc '98 won the outstanding presentation of student research award at the Eastern Nursing Research Society. Her doctoral research centered around gender differences in presentation of cardiac symptoms in the emergency department.

Elizabeth Steinmiller '98 wrote a guest editorial for Clinical Nurse Specialist, (vol. 13, no. 2, 1999) about job search strategies as a newly graduated advanced practice nurse. She currently holds a mental health CNS position at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sharon Eck, DNSc '99 has accepted the position of Director of Women's Health at the University of North Carolina Hospitals and Adjunct Assistant Professor at the UNC School of Nursing. A new Women's Hospital is scheduled to open in September, 2000, solely dedicated to the holistic care of women. Sharon will lead the nursing services for in- and outpatient care, satellites, home care, and women's health program development at the new hospital.

Per-Erik Johansson '99 and his wife, Barbara Andrews, who is the Vice President for Policy Research at the Connecticut Association for Not-for-profit Providers for the Aging, gave a presentation entitled, "Smoking and Seniors," at the annual New England Conference of Not-for-profit Providers in Portland, ME, June 3, 1999. The goal of the presentation was to give some general clinical and management signposts for navigating the complexities of creating smoke-free long-term care environments. Per-Erik, a GNP graduate, provided the clinical perspective, while Barbara presented the legal, insurance, liability, and policy aspects.

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<th>IN MEMORIAM</th>
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<tr>
<td>Catherine Spaulding '26 died in September, 1984.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Bidwell Harris '35 died in September, 1988.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Martin Jones '43 died May 30, 1999.</td>
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<td>Aura E. Kepler '27 died December 11, 1996.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lois Ream Severy '46W died December 7, 1998.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delia T. Smith '30 died in February, 1996.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Rich Bell '36 died in March, 1999.</td>
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<td>Phyllis Church Beard '54 died March 27, 1999.</td>
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<td>Evelyn M. LaFlesh '63 died March 11, 1999.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Upchurch Huntington '32 died February 1, 1998.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Beaglher Wells '36 died June 27, 1995.</td>
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<td>Yale Nurse has learned of the death of Mary Clark Rockefeller on April 21, 1999. Mrs. Rockefeller was a great friend of the School and was key in helping to obtain financial support during Donna Diers's deanship. Mary's son, Rodman, recently wrote to Dean Gilliss that, 'Her [Mary's] support and love of nursing was a constant over many years.'</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruth Vrooman Nassif '33 died July 30, 1996.</td>
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<td>Beatrice Lindsay Clark '38 died February 15, 1999.</td>
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<td>Katharine Ketcham '39 died April 9, 1999.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara M. Landauer '41 died in April, 1999.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rachel Bechdel Glike '42 died December 31, 1998.</td>
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YSN Alumnae/i Association wants to hear from you. Has your name or address changed? Do you have some news to share with your classmates? Would you like to contribute an article to *Yale Nurse*? Photos are welcome and encouraged. Also let us know of any "lost alumnae/i" who aren't receiving *Yale Nurse*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Name</th>
<th>Name at Graduation</th>
<th>Year of Graduation</th>
<th>Degree(s)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home Address</td>
<td>Check if new address</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Employer</td>
<td>(Organization)</td>
<td>(Position)</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Professional News:**

**Personal News:**

**Classmates’ Updates / Alums not receiving *Yale Nurse*: (include address):**

Check if interested in:  

- Ambassador Program  
- Participation in YUSNAA Board events  
- Guest authoring an article  
- Topic

Please return completed form to: Editors, *Yale Nurse*, YSN Office of Alumnae/i Affairs, P. O. Box 9740, 100 Church Street South, New Haven, CT 06536-0740. FAX (203) 737-5409. TEL (203) 785-2389.