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Yale School of Nursing

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Maureen O'Keefe Doran '71 (L) and Saundra Thomson Bialos '71 were awarded the newly established Yale School of Nursing Medal at an AYA dinner held at YSN on February 1, 2002. Please see article on page 15.

Yale School of Nursing Partners with Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation and ConvaTec to Develop New Wound Care Program

YSN Hosts AYA Dinner

East Timor Through My Eyes

New PNP Director Shares Her Vision for the Specialty
From the DEAN

With the celebration of the Tercentennial behind us, the YSN faculty and I have turned to questions of the future. Mindful of our honored traditions and proud accomplishments, we have taken time to focus on our next set of challenges. To guide us, we have developed the working document, As YSN enters the fourth century, which paths lead to excellence?

Inspired by a 1997 talk by Yale President Richard C. Levin that led to the University’s 4th Century Plan, the YSN faculty have set forth plans for maintaining YSN’s strengths, developing new areas of academic distinction, and ensuring YSN’s leadership in the 21st Century. The cycle of renewal began by a re-examination of our commitments, our mission, our world, and our aspirations. Our commitment of resources to launch a doctoral program in 1994 has resulted in a successful academic program and a thriving research enterprise that attracts faculty scientists and supports doctoral students. Declaring victory, we have turned our attentions toward faculty practice and teaching.

We are establishing a competitive Clinical Innovations fund that will enable our faculty to design and establish YSN “branded” services that meet the needs of the public and demonstrate excellence in advanced practice nursing. Our newly established women’s health practice at Griffin Hospital has been described in Yale Nursing Matters (Fall, 2001/Winter, 2002). A search is underway for the newly established position of Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs, a position designed to offer leadership in practice development, evaluation, and scholarship.

The “Reinvesting in Teaching” Initiative was launched at our February meeting of the full faculty. The faculty intends to re-examine the curriculum and their own pedagogy to ensure that the master’s program is the best it can be. Additionally, our work with clinical preceptors is under review, in hopes of determining how we can support their teaching activities and create closer linkages with the School.

And we are thinking globally. Consistent with Yale University’s priorities, international interest, and that of our own students and faculty, YSN is developing more international partnerships to support education, practice, and scholarship. This summer GEPN students will study in Jamaica. Having initiated our partnership with Hong Kong Polytechnic University in which YSN faculty members are teaching in a family nurse practitioner program, we are exploring educational partnerships in Gambia, India, and several US sites on reservations belonging to Native Americans. In Fall, 2002, we will host two visiting scholars from the People’s Republic of China. By then, I hope to name the first Director of International Studies and Exchanges at YSN.

The cycle of renewal continues. Maintaining our leadership position requires continuous, thoughtful examination of what we do, what we can do, and given our mission, what we should do. Our work continues in service to improving the health of all people.

Catherine Lynch Gilliss
Dean and Professor
EDITORS’ CORNER

- YSN’s Web site can be found at www.nursing.yale.edu. Log on and find out what’s going on at the School.

- The Student and Alumnae/i Affairs Office is building an address book of alumnae/i email addresses. Please email your address to barbara.larkin@yale.edu.

- Any faculty, student, or staff member at Yale University can be contacted by email using the standard format, firstname.lastname@yale.edu, e.g., catherine.gilliss@yale.edu

- Please be sure to send any change of address, telephone number, and/or email address to the Student and Alumnae/i Affairs Office, P.O. Box 9740, New Haven, CT 06536-0740 or barbara.larkin@yale.edu. Transcript requests and forms should also be sent to this same P.O. Box. Transcripts are $5.00 each. A transcript request form can be downloaded and printed from the YSN Web site.

- Comments and questions about Yale Nurse and the activities of the YSN Alumnae/i Association are invited and should be directed to the Editors, Yale Nurse, P.O. Box 9740, New Haven, CT 06536-0740 or to Barbara F. Reif, Director of Student and Alumnae/i Affairs, (203) 785-2389 or barbara.reif@yale.edu.

- The Editors are always interested in printing articles of all kinds submitted by our alums. If you have an idea for an article, please contact either Kate Stephenson (StephKN1@aol.com) or Barbara Reif (barbara.reif@yale.edu) who would be happy to discuss it with you. Any idea is a good one! Just remember that Yale Nurse is your newsletter and is a vehicle for sharing and communicating with your fellow YSN alumnae/i.

- The launch of the Yale Online Alumni Directory has been delayed as a result of some unanticipated technical and administrative challenges. Progress is being made, but additional testing is needed.

- CORRECTION: On page 6 in the December, 2001 issue of Yale Nurse, there was a reference to Gail Melkus’s research in the box entitled, “Deborah Chyun.” The title of Gail’s study was omitted and should have been, “Self-Management Interventions for Black Women with Type 2 Diabetes.” Apologies.

Reunion Message from the President

As June draws near, I am looking forward to another Reunion Weekend as President of the Yale University School of Nursing Alumnae/i Association! Your Board has worked hard to plan a program, The Helix of Healing Relationships, that we hope will appeal to everyone and there are a number of additional highlights that you won’t want to miss...

- Silver celebration of the Graduate Entry Program and the Medical-Surgical Nursing Program

- Celebration of Donna Diers’s career at YSN

- Dean Catherine Gilliss’s vision for the future

Every year reunions are special at YSN! Come and make 2002 a VERY special year.

Carol Ann Wetmore ’94
Yale School of Nursing Partners with Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation and ConvaTec to Develop New Wound Care Program

The treatment of pressure ulcers and other chronic wounds is about to be revolutionized with the founding of the Program for the Advancement of Chronic Wound Care at YSN. The program, announced on February 20, 2002 and planned for development over the next three years, represents a $1 million investment by Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation and ConvaTec, the company's ostomy and wound care products business.

The first academic program of its kind for wound care, this effort will address an unmet need in the rapidly growing older adult population, the group most at risk for developing chronic wounds. Equally importantly, it will provide statistically valid evidence for the best protocols of care for chronic wounds, from both a clinical and an economic perspective. Accordingly, it is expected to be influential in driving policymakers to adopt these protocols to benefit patients and reduce cost of care.

"The potential impact of this project to change the world view on how chronic wounds are prevented and managed is significant," says Dr. Courtney Lyder, Director of YSN's Adult, Family, Gerontological, and Women's Health Specialty, who will direct the new wound care program. "The most exciting aspect of this project is the potential to influence policies from a local to federal level based on scientific data. Clinicians have been looking for evidence-based protocols from an objective source for many years. Thus the ability to finally meet that clinical need is a dream come true."

Dr. Lyder is widely known for his work as an educator, researcher, and practitioner in wound care and minority aging. David Johnson, senior vice president, ConvaTec, Americas, says, "The Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation's financial commitment towards Yale, a leading academic institution, and Dr. Courtney Lyder, a respected lead investigator, will potentially benefit millions of Americans who suffer from chronic ulcers in the future."

One of the first initiatives of the program will be to invite three major academic centers in diverse geographic locations in the United States to participate in a one-year, 600-subject prospective study on best protocols of care for chronic wounds. Senior investigators from participating centers will gather major literature on best practices and design the study to compare these protocols to current practice.

"To my knowledge, this is the largest undertaking of its kind to better understand best practices in wound care," says Linda Pruitt, ConvaTec's director of Medical Education, Americas, who has worked as the initiative's facilitator on the ConvaTec side. "The initiative will be comparing best practices to real world practice. The study will include participants from hospitals, nursing homes, wound care clinics, and home health care."

The study will also address the issue of cost, another "real world" approach that will help practitioners and reimbursement sources adopt new best practices established by the study. As Joseph Rolley, ConvaTec's director of Outcomes Marketing, Americas, puts it, "It will offer the policy makers something to hang their hats on."

Vincent Chiodo, vice president, Marketing, Americas, emphasizes the place that the new wound care program has within the context of Bristol-Myers Squibb's priorities and mission. "Given the aging population in this country, identifying best practices for wound care is an imperative. Partnering with the Yale School of Nursing on this initiative is an example of how Bristol-Myers Squibb responds innovatively to the changing needs of the people it serves."

Dr. Margaret Grey, Associate Dean for Research Affairs at YSN, explains how YSN's mission is being carried forward in the new wound care program, which will be housed in the Research Affairs Office. "This project is part of YSN's ongoing efforts to improve the health of people through research. YSN's collaboration with Bristol-Myers Squibb and ConvaTec will improve the quality of life for millions of patients by facilitating best wound care outcomes."

(L-R) YSN Dean Catherine Giliss; Yale Deputy Provost Stephanie Spengler; Courtney Lyder, Principal Investigator; Linda Pruitt, Director, Medical Education, Americas, ConvaTec; Gary Restani, President, ConvaTec; David Johnson, Senior Vice President, Americas, ConvaTec
The Annual Convocation of the Center for Excellence in Chronic Illness Care took place on Tuesday, February 12, 2002 in the Lecture Hall at YSN. Sally Thorne, RN, PhD, Professor and Associate Director of Graduate Programs and Research at the University of British Columbia School of Nursing, delivered the keynote address titled, "Communication in Chronic Illness Care." Dr. Thorne has over 20 years of experience working with chronically ill patients as a clinician, educator, and researcher.

An important part of the program was the presentation of the 2002 Excellence in Caring in Chronic Illness Awards to Karin Nystrom '95 and Joanne Walsh, two consummate advocates for the improvement of patient care in our community. Karin is a Clinical Nurse Coordinator for the Heart Failure and Transplant Cardiology Program at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She has developed numerous innovative approaches to the provision of compassionate care for heart failure patients and their families. Joanne Walsh is the President and CEO of the VNA of South Central Connecticut. Joanne is an ardent defender of patients’ rights and a strong home care voice in the policy arena who will be stepping into the elected role of President of the Connecticut Association for Home Care in the fall of this year.

An art exhibit entitled, "Resources of the Mind," on loan from the Alzheimer's Resource Center, featuring artwork created by individuals who are being treated for Alzheimer's Disease and related dementia, is on display at the Yale School of Nursing as part of the CIC Annual Convocation program.
New PNP Director Shares Her Vision for the Specialty

By Martha Swartz

It is hard to believe that YSN has been a home for me for over twenty years. I originally entered the nursing profession in much the same way as our GEPN students do - at the graduate level. While at Oberlin College, I majored in psychology. I then entered a nursing program for college graduates at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH, and received my BSN in 1977. I remained in Cleveland for two more years at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital (University Hospitals), working on a toddler surgical floor and also in the pediatric intensive care unit where I was a charge nurse. In 1981, I received my MS in Parent-Child Nursing from the University of Michigan, and came to Yale shortly afterwards. While in Ann Arbor, I had worked at a pediatric walk-in clinic and as a pediatric nurse practitioner at a community health center.

A perpetual student, I am currently in the doctoral program at the University of Connecticut School of Nursing. I have now completed my course work and hope to finish soon with general exams. One of my areas of clinical and research interest is the care of children with asthma. For my dissertation, I plan to pursue a study of the relationship between family management styles and health-related quality of life in children with asthma. I'm excited about pursuing this line of research, because I feel it articulates well with my clinical work as a pediatric nurse practitioner at Yale-New Haven Hospital (YNHH) Pediatric Primary Care Center (a joint appointment with YSN).

Last July, I was fortunate to be able to assume the directorship of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Specialty, a program that for the past few years has been rated fifth in the nation by US News and World Report. This has provided a wonderful opportunity for me to incorporate my clinical interests into a broader academic role at YSN.

Prior to assuming the directorship of the Specialty, I taught courses in health promotion in children and primary care of the newborn. I also coordinated and precepted for two major clinical courses taught in the first year of the Specialty. In my role as Director, I now have an expanded opportunity to connect with students throughout their YSN career, initially as applicants and finally as alumnae/i. This role has also afforded me the opportunity to cast a broad look on the changes in pediatric health care that are occurring throughout the country, and to think creatively about how the PNP Specialty may assume a greater leadership role within this broad national context.

There are a number of conceptual threads that run throughout the pediatric curriculum and clinical course offerings. The first thread is an emphasis on the broader family context. When providing health care for a child, the practitioner is also working with a family, however that family is configured. Much of our philosophy and course content is geared toward educating students to provide pediatric care that is family centered and relationship based. Another thread relates to adaptation and coping, both for the individual child as well as the family. These broad concepts help to inform the didactic and clinical components of our curriculum, with the goal of educating students to provide high quality, holistic care that promotes child health and empowers families.

Within the clinical sequence, students provide health care to children of all ages ranging from newborn through adolescence. The number and diversity of our clinical sites reflect this wide age range and varying levels of intensity. Our clinical sites range from YNHH newborn special care unit to the student health services at the Yale Health Plan. Students practice in hospital-based clinics, community health centers, private pediatric practices, school-based clinics, inpatient and specialty-based pediatric sites. With the growth of the elective concentration in the care of children with a chronic illness, we have also extended clinical arrangements beyond YNHH to the other large tertiary care pediatric centers in the East, including Connecticut Children's Medical Center, Boston Children's Hospital, and Egleston Children's Hospital at Emory University, Atlanta, GA.

I consider myself extremely fortunate to be working with what I might call a "dream team" of pediatric faculty. Both Lois Sadler '79 and Angela Crowley hold doctorates in the field of family studies. Lois's area of research is on adolescent parenting and pregnancy prevention, while Angela is interested in child health care consultation. Kathy Knafi is a social scientist whose academic career has been in nursing, and her particular area of expertise is in family management styles for children with chronic illness. Margaret Grey '76, YSN Associate Dean for Research Affairs, is herself an alumna of the YSN PNP program and has conducted ground-breaking research on helping adolescents cope with diabetes. The work of Sheila Santacroce, coordinator for the concentration in chronic illness care of
children, focuses on aspects of survivorship for children with cancer, parental uncertainty, and post-traumatic stress.

The clinical faculty in the PNP Specialty all hold joint appointments and provide the grounded clinical expertise and wisdom that is essential for providing top clinical experiences for our students. Nancy Banasiak and Mikki Meadows '98 are both jointly appointed at Yale-New Haven Hospital, as is Alison Moriarty-Daley '94 whose expertise is in adolescent health care. Elaine Gustafson '86, coordinator of our School Based Health Care Concentration, shares her appointment with Fair Haven Community Health Center, and Patricia Ryan-Krause '81 is also appointed in a private pediatric practice in Hamden, CT. Beyond the pediatric faculty, we also actively collaborate with faculty and students in other specialties, particularly those in the FNP Track, the Nurse-Midwifery Specialty, and the Child Psychiatric/Mental Health Track.

By far, the best and brightest of this dream team are our students. For RN and GEPN students alike, I am continually impressed by their intelligence, motivation, and commitment. Their sense of clinical inquiry and stories of their own interactions and relationships with children and families are profound and illuminating.

As the market place continually changes, alumnae/i of the PNP Specialty begin their careers in advanced practice pediatric nursing within a widening array of clinical sites and positions. We find that while many of our alumnae/i work in primary clinics, managed care organizations, and private practice, an increasing number of our graduates work in pediatric specialty care practices and hospital-based services. These trends reflect what is happening national-

A recent survey of alumnae/i of six PNP programs (including Yale’s) revealed that our graduates are increasingly called on to provide care to children with complex care needs in non-primary care settings.

Our challenge for the future is to prepare pediatric advanced practice nurses for a wide scope of practice in a myriad of settings, while also preserving the essence of clinical scholarship in which practice is family-based and relationship-centered. In addition to our current elective concentrations in school-based health care and chronic illness care, we hope to some day offer an elective concentration in adolescent health care that will build on our current strengths in this area. We may also look ahead towards offering a concentration in care of acutely ill children. Yale has a rich tradition of excellence in pediatric health care, and I am thrilled to be a part of that process!

Martha (Marty) Swartz
East Timor
Through My Eyes

By Christina Kim '99

Informally interviewing in Atlanta last fall for international opportunities, I serendipitously learned about the opportunity to work in East Timor on "health programs." A few months later, I found myself negotiating a consultant's position with the World Health Organization and took a two-month assignment in Dili, East Timor from January through early March, 2002. The objectives of my consulting were to assess and analyze the current health care professional situation and then create policies and programs that matched the needs assessment. I was technically in an advisory position to work with the transitional Ministry of Health.

To give context to my job and to determine where exactly in the East Timor political structure I would work, I spoke to a number of different people who had recently worked or were currently working there, as well as researched other United Nations reports and websites. (A very big thank you to Angela Rogers '03 who has spent time in East Timor, most recently during her GEPN Community Health rotation last summer.) East Timor is located on the eastern half of Timor island, northwest of Darwin, Australia and is the most southern point of Indonesian territories. East Timor was a former Indonesian territory, but West Timor is still part of Indonesia. There are currently 780,000 people there with more than seven different languages in use. The country is divided into thirteen districts with Dili as its capital in the northwest part of the island and Oecussi being located in the north central part of West Timor. The national language is Portuguese; the working language is Tetum or Bahasa Indonesia. Epidemiological statistics are "guess-timates" at best, as there is still only a syndromic surveillance system in place, but during Indonesian times, East Timor had the region's worst health care indicators for IMR, MMR, and overall mortality rates. On an economic level, the US dollar has been in place since the United Nations has been there. This has created an enclave economy and severely devalued the Indonesian rupiah, as well as neighboring Australia's dollar.

To summarize a very tortured and complicated history of colonization and military rule, the recent history of East Timor includes an international sell-out to the Indonesians by the United States, Australia, and other western powers in the mid-1970's. For the next twenty-five years, East Timor was subjected to genocide and human rights abuses rivaling (and some say surpassing) Cambodia's Pol Pot reign of terror and lost nearly one third of its population. During this time, many people fled to the mountainous regions or became internally displaced immigrants. Rebel factions formed to fight against Indonesian military rule. In 1999, after the Indonesian government bowed to international pressure, a referendum was passed to grant East Timor independence. What followed a record voter turnout for independence from Indonesia ended in one of the most destructive and bloodiest periods committed by Indonesian rule. As a result, the United Nations sent peacekeeping forces and established a transitional government to assist with development and rebuilding.

While the health system during Indonesian rule was functional, the conflict which followed the referendum in East Timor in 1999 led to the destruction and looting of 77% of health facilities. An exodus of Indonesian health professionals, management, and administrative personnel also left large gaps in the health care delivery system. Today in East Timor, there are 34 national physicians, but only 22 actually work either in the hospital setting or as administrators. Furthermore, of these 22 doctors, only 14 actually deliver direct health care services, with half of those physicians working at Dili Hospital. With these figures, the ratio of physician to population is approximately 1:63,800.

Unlike the low numbers of physicians, East Timor had an 80% retention rate of nursing and midwifery staff post-referendum, and currently has approximately 2000 nurses and midwives in the registries. Of these 2000, approximately 724 are currently employed at public health care facility levels, giving a nurse (currently working) to population ratio of 1:1,234. While the exact numbers are not known, many of the district and sub-district health centers appear to be staffed by nurses and midwives who are performing duties beyond their original scope of practice and training and without physician supervision. Given the dearth of practicing physicians in East Timor and the rural nature of the countryside outside of the capital, Dili, one of the needs assessments showed that a stopgap measure was desperately needed to address the health care shortage.

Currently, East Timor faces a multitude of major health challenges, primarily communicable diseases. These diseases include acute respiratory infections, diarrheal diseases, malaria, dengue fever, Japanese encephalitis, measles, leprosy, filariasis, malnutrition, and tuberculosis. What has complicated the health situation even further was the mandated expulsion by the East Timor government of all health NGOs in January, 2002. The exit of the health NGOs emphasizes the lack of human resources for all levels of clinical care and management. During my brief visit there, the lack of support and infrastructure took its toll, as I was involved with diarrhea, cholera, and measles outbreaks, as well as international physicians quitting their positions and the local physicians and nurses going on...
strike for a few days at Dili Hospital because of poor pay. Doctors make approximately $380 (US) per month and a nurse $160 at best. Reconstructing the health infrastructure in East Timor is, for obvious reasons, a huge undertaking and is currently in the early conceptual stages.

I spent my first few weeks orienting to the health crisis situation, visiting different districts and their health centers, and meeting with Ministry of Health officials and other key hospital and management people. Because the WHO office in Dili is comprised of other international consultants (Reproductive Health Advisor, Public Health Officer, Epidemiologist, etc.), we often found ourselves collaborating and multi-tasking to strategize and pray that we could meet our goals. While I had many frustrating meetings with the Human Resources Development Advisor from Bangladesh regarding health care policy and structure, I found camaraderie with the Public Health Officer and Health Promotions Advisor, both from the Philippines, where sometimes we could simply agree about the bleakness of the tasks at hand and then just figure out another way to approach a problem. But implementing solutions and even creating frameworks for problem-solving are far in the future, especially with upcoming presidential elections (April) and the celebration for independence and pullout of the United Nations (May).

From the outcomes and recommendations perspectives, my report included a program development plan to focus on the existing nurses and midwives and upgrade their skills, so that they could function on a safe level in the health districts. I created a curriculum modeled after the public health nursing and nurse practitioner models that were implemented, tested, and evaluated in the Western Pacific regions by WHO. The problem-solving involved with a new curriculum was also included and focused on policy development to guide implementation and sustainability. Part of my report also focused on policy and regulation measures that targeted the immediate development and implementation of a drug formulary, standard of treatment guidelines, and practice standards.

Some of my observations when I reviewed records in the health districts were that the nurses and midwives were blindly prescribing whatever antibiotic was most abundant at that time. For example, a visit to the UNHCR transit center for refugees showed for one morning period, four pediatric cases all treated with erythromycin for "cough," "fever," "sore throat," or "rash." When the staff was questioned about their prescribing and treatment guidelines, one nurse answered, "I learned everything in school." Another said, "I use the Red Book," (from the 1982 Indonesian standards) and another nurse truthfully admitted that he, "sometimes didn't know what the problem was," but had more erythromycin than anything else and then showed me a large bottle.

While I did leave East Timor in early March, I am still in contact with the WHO office and Ministry of Health regarding my report. Implementation for the Public Health Nursing Program will supposedly take place post-elections; the regulatory standards and guidelines are still "pending," according to the Ministry of Health. Admittedly there were many frustrations with my experience in East Timor, but writing this piece about it exemplifies how much I learned from working there. The insights I gained from befriending locals who lived through horrific times and survived, the opportunities to meet politically active and dedicated people working in East Timor, and the experiences of travelling to friends' villages have made indelible marks on my mind and soul....all of these experiences from what seemed like a serendipitous opportunity for short term consulting work, as well as a break from the National Health Service Corps!

Mary Starkes Harper

The Yale School of Nursing celebrated Black History Month with a fascinating talk by Mary Starkes Harper, PhD, RN, FAAN. In a presentation titled, "The Tuskegee Syphilis Experience and the Implication for Participation in Making Health Policy," Dr. Harper shared the experience of her involvement with the Tuskegee Syphilis Study, a federally-funded study which infected unknowing black men with syphilis and then withheld treatment, and how this study helped shape the beginning of human subject review committees in the United States. Dr. Harper is the last living health care member associated with the study. She is known nationally and internationally as a patient care advocate who has spent 60 years working to improve patient health through her many public policy posts in federal government. Last year, Dr. Harper was named 'Living Legend' by the American Academy of Nursing.

(L-R) Dr. Harper, Dean Gilliss, and former Dean Florence Wald.
MLK Day Program Features Grey as Keynote Speaker

Faculty, staff, and students across Yale, as well as members of the community, joined the YSN Dean's Committee on Diversity on Wednesday, January 23, 2002 to celebrate the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. Two individuals, a corporation, and a local health clinic were honored for their contributions to the elimination of health disparities in diverse populations. The honorees were the Bayer Corporation; the Fair Haven Community Health Center; Karina Danvers, Connecticut AIDS Education and Training Center; and Dr. Forrester A. "Woody" Lee, Assistant Dean of the Office of Multicultural Affairs at the Yale School of Medicine.

The keynote speaker at the awards ceremony was Dr. Margaret Grey, YSN Associate Dean for Research Affairs and the Independence Foundation Professor of Nursing. Dr. Grey, an advocate for the elimination of health disparities spoke on the topic, "Lessons Learned from Research in a Multi-Ethnic Community."

Dr. King once wrote, "One day we will learn that the heart cannot be totally right and the head totally wrong. Only through bringing together of head and heart - intelligence and goodness - shall we rise to the fulfillment of our true nature." In her opening remarks, Dean Catherine Gilliss explained how Dr. King's beliefs unfold in so many of YSN's education, research, and clinical practice activities. "Here at YSN, we have set a course to join our hearts and heads," said Dean Gilliss. "In particular, we have set about to increase the diversity of our profession and of our student body through the development of our Yale Howard Scholars Program. And for our mission driven agenda of improving patient care for all people, we have launched a research agenda to help unravel the mystery of health disparities. We believe that through leadership in science and education we can, in fact, improve the health of all people."

Following the awards ceremony, the audience was entertained by the Career Regional High School Choir.

YSN Brings Holiday Cheer to the Community

Partnering with our neighbors to improve the community is very much a part of the Yale School of Nursing's mission to improve patient care for all people. "The tragic events of September 11th have caused many of us to think especially hard about how we can play a more proactive role in strengthening the bonds with our community and aiding those who need our help the most," said Sharon Sanderson, YSN Director of Student Recruitment. "It has been wonderful to see this cohesiveness of thought and action among YSN faculty, students, and staff."

YSN has contributed to a number of charitable initiatives over the holiday season. The Dean's Office collected toys for the "Angel Project" to benefit the Boys and Girls Club. Cutouts of angels stamped with the age and gender of a child were given to YSN faculty and staff, each of whom then brought in a wrapped present for their designated "angel," to be distributed to area children at the December Boys and Girls Club Holiday Celebration. YSN students collected unwrapped toys at their first annual Holiday Ball on December 6 to benefit the Toys for Tots program.

Additional unwrapped toys were collected in collaboration with the Office of New Haven Affairs.

Partnering with our neighbor, Sacred Heart/St. Peter's School, YSN has started a year-round collection to purchase gym uniforms for those Sacred Heart students who cannot afford them. YSN will also stock their school store with supplies that are given out to students all year as part of their "merit points system."

Throughout the year, YSN students and staff will continue their volunteer work at Career Regional High School as mentors to Career High seniors who are preparing for entry into college. A number of YSN faculty will also volunteer this spring, educating and inspiring Career High seniors to pursue careers in nursing science.

"I believe that we have made a difference in the lives of our neighbors this year," said Sanderson. "But we will not stop here. Community building is a life-long process, and YSN will continue to seize new opportunities for improving the quality of life for all people."
Giving Back

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Some things have changed, including the winters in New Haven. There has been very little cold and much less snow this year.

But some things don’t change. Applications to YSN arrive by the hundreds and, once again, YSN attracts individuals of outstanding academic caliber. Unfortunately, we sometimes lose these promising applicants to other schools when YSN is not able to provide adequate financial support. Our Annual Fund gifts are a major source of these scholarships and are essential to the continued quality of the Yale Nurse of tomorrow.

I am so happy to announce that this year our Annual appeal is out-distancing all previous appeals. Our goal for 2001-2002 is $155,000 and a 50% participation rate. Look at the comparison (as of March 10, 2002) of this and last year.

And while we are proud of our results, we also know that the process can be confusing. For those of you who are in contact with class agents, you probably realize the invaluable resource they are for maintaining communication and giving. But the role of class agent has been changing and some classes don’t have agents. Most of you get letters from the Alumni Fund but some of you get only a letter from the Dean in the fall and others get phone calls. How and why did this system arise? Do we miss any alumnae/i? Are there better and more systematic ways to stay in touch?

We are beginning a project to improve the system, first reviewing the role and selection of class agents, then considering new methods to stay in contact and ways to include you, separated by geography, in YSN affairs. We will be working on this over the next months, but I would love to have your comments and ideas at any time. Please get in touch. You can reach me by mail, by email and by phone.

My best to all of you,

Nina R. Adams ’77
Chair, Class Agents
YSN, 100 Church Street South, PO Box 9740, New Haven, CT 06536-0740
nina.adams@aya.yale.edu
(203) 785-7920 (c/o Lisa Hottin, Development Director)
From the Development Office...

"I would like to make a gift to YSN to support our students. Is there a way I can do that other than through scholarships?"

I have received a number of inquiries from alumnae/i who want to do something to help our students, but cannot afford to create a scholarship endowment. Of course, funding scholarships is a high priority at YSN, but there are other ways an alum’s dollars can be invested to help students.

The following describes just three of the many opportunities to help our students directly for which we are seeking support from alumnae/i, friends, foundations, and businesses.

**Student Journal Award:** First year

GEPN students are required to keep a journal of their experiences during the initial year in the program. Many of these journal entries are incredibly moving descriptions of first impressions of nursing. An annual monetary award would recognize the best of these journal entries. What better way to celebrate this year’s 25th anniversary of the first graduating class of the GEPN program!

**Student Conference & Professional Development Fund:** Students are encouraged to attend professional conferences throughout the year. A fund would defray some of the out-of-pocket costs incurred for travel, lodging, and meals.

**International Clinical Rotations:** An ever-increasing number of students are interested in doing their clinical rotations outside of the United States. YSN is developing working partnerships with preceptors in Thailand, People’s Republic of China, Guatemala, Nepal, India, Haiti, Japan, Vietnam, and other countries. A fund to assist students with travel and living expenses during their rotation would alleviate the additional financial burden these students assume in order to pursue their professional interests.

Other Student Development Opportunities include:

- **Student Placement Services Seminars**
- **Dean’s Student Teas and Dinners**
- **Class Picture Fund**
- **Student Government Organization Fund**

There are many more ways your gift can help students. A gift to support any of these opportunities can be structured to make it as easy as possible for the donor and to maximize the tax benefits. I encourage you to contact me to explore how you can help. I can be reached at (203) 785-7920 or by email at lisa.hottin@yale.edu.

Student Journal Award Program

"We encourage you to keep a journal during your GEPN prespecialty year that describes your feelings, pre-clinical and post-clinical. It will serve as a record of your journey this year. We ask you to describe a day in the clinical life of a GEPN student. Tell us your story. It can involve themes of assessment (“looking is not seeing”), intimacy, pain, or any significant event.”

With these instructions, first year students enrolled in the Graduate Entry Prespecialty in Nursing (GEPN) program embark on a journey that will be a defining period in their professional nursing career.

In 1977, YSN graduated its first class of students enrolled in a unique program, originally called the Three-Year Program for Non-Nurse College Graduates. It is known today as the Graduate Entry Prespecialty in Nursing or GEPN. It is one of the most accelerated programs in the nation and is both grueling and exhilarating for the students and teachers.

GEPN students acquire almost 700 hours of clinical and are required to successfully manage 40.9 credit hours in their first 11 months! It is in this first year that the foundation of nursing art and science is laid, providing the framework for advanced practice nursing.

Simply put, during the GEPN year students learn to become a nurse. They begin to care for patients by the end of their second week at school, because this program models adult learning principles, that is, make it real and they will remember and perform more quickly. When taught in the clinical context, it is real.
Their first nursing course is Medical Surgical Nursing and one of their assignments is titled, "Written Communication Assignment." Students journal and, through their writings, drawings, and poetry, experience their OWN metamorphosis. Faculty witness their metamorphosis and with their permission, anticipatory guidance is provided for future classes.

Student journal entries are given broad visibility through the YSN web site, as well as at lectures and art exhibits throughout the University. Their thoughts and words are important because they provide us with an opportunity to see how our program, our profession, and the institutions in which we work are viewed and perceived. It is a unique opportunity to view our work with a "virgin lens," one that provides us with the impetus for innovation, creativity, and change.

The following is an excerpt from the journal of Francine Buckner ‘02.

For The Women Who Sang Me "Danny Boy"

I spent two sweet, sad days with a woman whose thoughts flee. She had had a CVA and was barely verbal. It’s not that she couldn’t physically form the words. It’s more that the elements that made words, sentences, ideas, were scattered. She had a look, a presence about her of having recently lost something precious to her and not only had that object been misplaced, but she cannot seem to remember exactly what that object is. She knows it’s precious. She knows it’s lost. When I’d ask her a question, even an apparently “simple” one, like, “Where were you born?” she would try to answer and her expression would go through a gamut of changes. I pictured her standing in a pond, trying to catch little shiny fish with her hands. Through the gloom she’d see a flash and grab through the dark water and the slick little fish would slip quickly through her fingers. She could see it retreating in a quick glint and then she’d see another flash and it would begin again, until with great sadness and confusion she would meet my eyes and say, in one way or another, with words or eyes, “I can no longer catch the fish.”

YSN would like to establish an endowed fund to recognize the outstanding creative expression of our first year GEPN students. For more information about the Student Journal Award, please contact Lisa Hottin, Director of Development at (203) 785-7920 or lisa.hottin@yale.edu.

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**Author Unknown**

When an old lady died in the geriatric ward of a hospital near Dundee, Scotland, it was felt that she had left nothing of value. Then the nurses, going through her possessions, found this poem. Its quality so impressed the staff that copies were made and distributed to every nurse in the hospital. One nurse took her copy to Ireland. The old lady’s sole bequest to posterity has since appeared in the Christmas edition of the News Magazine of the North Ireland Association for Mental Health.

**A Poem**

What do you see, nurses, what do you see, what are you thinking when you’re looking at me? A crabby old woman, not very wise, uncertain of habit, with faraway eyes.

Who dribbles her food and makes no reply when you say in a loud voice, "I do wish you’d try!" Who seems not to notice the things that you do, and forever is losing a stocking or shoe.

Who, resisting or not, lets you do as you will with bathing and feeding, the long day to fill. Is that what you’re thinking? Is that what you see? Then open your eyes, nurse; you’re not looking at me.

I’ll tell you who I am as I sit here so still, as I use at your bidding, as I eat at your will. I’m a small child of ten with a father and mother, brothers and sisters, who love one another.

A young girl of sixteen, with wings on her feet, dreaming that soon now a lover she’ll meet. A bride soon at twenty-my heart gives a leap, remembering the vows that I promised to keep.

At twenty-five now, I have young of my own who need me to guide and a secure happy home. A woman of thirty, my young now grown fast, bound to each other with ties that should last.

At forty my young sons have grown and are gone, but my man’s beside me to see I don’t mourn. At fifty once more babies play round my knee, again we know children, my loved one and me.

Dark days are upon me, my husband is dead; I look at the future, I shudder with dread. For my young are all rearing young of their own, and I think of the years and the love that I’ve known.

I’m now an old woman and nature is cruel; ’tis jest to make old age look like a fool. The body, it crumbles, grace and vigor depart, there is now a stone where I once had a heart.

But inside this old carcass a young girl still dwells, and now and again my battered heart swells. I remember the joys, I remember the pain, and I’m loving and living life over again.

I think of the years - all too few, gone too fast - and accept the stark fact that nothing can last. So open your eyes, nurses, open and see, not a crabby old woman; look closer-see ME!!

Remember this poem when you next meet an old person. We will hopefully all be there one day, too.
YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF NURSING

Policy #13

Regarding Access to Alumni Records

Location of records: In Yale University Archives (records up to the class of 1958) or Office of Student and Alumnae/i Affairs (from 1959 on).

Custodian: Director of Student and Alumnae/i Affairs.

Contents: Five years after graduation, files will be weeded to conserve file space. Five years was chosen because recent graduates change positions and may need to have references written by faculty who need to have access to the complete file. Thus, after five years, the files will contain the admissions application and supporting documents and correspondence pertaining to the student’s experience while enrolled, the research praxis grade sheet, final transcript, and final summary.

Access: Graduates may have access to their records, as specified above, upon request, allowing for the convenience of the custodians in pulling the files. Copies will be made upon request. Faculty and staff may be allowed access for legitimate educational purposes such as reference writing and confirmation of degree.

Challenge procedure: All alumnae/i who challenge the accuracy of material contained in the file should bring it to the attention of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. It is understood that an alumna/us may challenge the accuracy of records but may not challenge the grades themselves. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may contact any faculty person involved in producing the alleged inaccurate or incomplete or misleading statement, if available. If, through these conversations, the challenge is not resolved, the file will be sealed and no information other than “directory information” will be sent out at any time.

Informing graduates of change in access to student records: This policy will be printed in the alumnae/i newsletter once per year in the spring issue. It will also be added to the previous policy on access to student records so that students may know what happens to their records when they graduate.
YSN Students Take to the Trail for a Good Cause

By Kipp Bovey '03

Five YSN students are taking the nursing shortage into their own hands, or shall I say, onto their own backs. Mica Muskat '03 (PNP) and Carrie Szejk '03, Molly Steele '03, and Kipp Bovey '03 (all Midwifery) are planning to hike 270 miles this June to raise money for a nursing scholarship.

Their trip will take them the full length of the Long Trail in Vermont. This 270-mile trail runs from the Massachusetts to the Canadian border along the ridge of the Green Mountains, up and down, up and down. The hikers will be carrying approximately 25% of their weight for the entire month of June, averaging ten to fifteen miles a day. The Green Mountain Club maintains the trail and shelters where the women will sleep. They plan to mail themselves food and have friends make food drops to keep the weight down, a common Thru-hiking trick. Favorite snack foods will be GORP (trail mix), Snickers, and dried fruit. Though mud season will be over, the students will have to endure the pesky deer flies and other large insects.

Money raised will go to a dedicated, hard-working student enrolled in the health track at Career Regional High School, a neighbor to YSN here in the “Hill.” Career High offers both health and business tracks to its students who already have an idea of what their future holds, and how they can shape it. Numerous students at Career High hold the hope of going to nursing school, but for many the deciding factor is access to tuition.

These hikers wish to assist one Career High student attain his or her goal of becoming a nurse.

The group is advertising, and plans to travel, under the name Mountaingales, a clever play on one of nursing’s notables! While it is customary for Thru-hikers to have trail names for shelter journal entries, they have not yet drawn straws for the handle of “Florence.”

The YSN students have been soliciting local businesses in hopes of getting support for their local students and, in turn, local health care. For a donation of $100, companies have been offered the opportunity to exhibit their logo on fundraising posters and T-shirts which will be worn by the hikers while training and on the trail. The Mountaingales also plan to ask the ANA and other nursing organizations, YNHH, and the Hospital of St. Raphael to support these future nurses. Apart from businesses and organizations, family and friends will be asked for donations, as well. Individuals and families will also have their names printed on the T-shirts. The group plans to send emails to students and faculty and hopes for large contributions from the “higher-ups.” (No pressure Dean Gilliss!)

The five women hope that as the word gets out and the success stories from the trip are circulated, another group of students from the upcoming class will carry the torch and make it a tradition. They are planning to bring a plethora of first aid supplies on the trail to offer assistance to their fellow hikers and to practice their newfound nursing skills. Only one of the five does not have a pre-existing knee injury!

So wish them luck, donate to the cause, and stay tuned to future issues of the Yale Nurse for Tales from the Trail.

Please contribute to the Mountaingale’s Nursing School Scholarship and help us send a deserving Career High School student to college. Send your donation to: Mountaingales, c/o Mica Muskat, Yale School of Nursing, P.O Box 9740, 100 Church Street South, New Haven, CT 06536-0740.

Standing (L-R): Kipp Bovey, Mica Muskat, and Carrie Szejk. Seated (L-R): Molly Steele and Ashley Weycer.
YSN Hosts AYA Dinner

By Kate Stephenson '94

The AYA Board of Governors held an elegant dinner at YSN on February 1, 2002 following their winter meeting. The event was hosted by Dean Catherine Gilliss and was attended by AYA staff and Delegates, including Doris Foell '88 and Kate Stephenson '94, as well as other YSN faculty, staff, and YUSNAA Board members. One of the highlights of the evening was the surprise awarding of the newly established Yale School of Nursing Medal to Maureen Doran '71 and Saundra Bialos '71. Dean Gilliss presented the awards in recognition of the time, resources, and talents that both have contributed to the betterment of YSN and to building stronger linkages between YSN and the University at large. Both will be included in the newly created YSN Hall of Fame.

Classmates and close friends, Maureen is currently the President of the AYA Board of Governors and Saundra is a past president. Jeff Brenzel, Executive Director for AYA, commented in his after dinner remarks on how impressive the alums from the School of Nursing are, as attested to by the extraordinary accomplishments of these two graduates.

Following a delicious meal, attendees were treated to a very poignant presentation by Linda Pellico '89, immediate past Director of the GEPN program, and several current YSN students. The presentation was an abbreviated version of a program Linda gave a year ago, "Marcus Welby, APRN: Paradigm Shifts in Today's Care Giving," sponsored by the Program for Humanities in Medicine at the Yale School of Medicine. Linda provided a very thoughtful and powerful definition of nursing, accompanied by details so rich that the audience felt the hands-on touch of bedside nursing. Five students, Julie Halker '04, Mary Patten '02, Anna Maria Speciale '03, Carrie Szejk '03, and Laura Thompson '03 read from their journal entries from their prespecialty year, revealing the awe, fear, appreciation, and uncertainty that accompany neophyte nurses, as they adjust to the privilege and privacy of the nurse-patient relationship. Everyone in the room was spellbound, as we were allowed to hear the very personal stories of these students. It is no wonder that we can boast two presidents of the AYA Board of Governors!

Kate Stephenson '94 and Tom Gilliss

Jeff Brenzel, Executive Director of AYA, enjoyed some levity with Maureen Doran after dinner.
Yale School of Nursing Medal, 2002, awarded to Saundra Thomson Bialos ’71

Service beyond the call to her profession, to her community, and to the Yale School of Nursing, has earned Saundra Thomson Bialos distinguished recognition by her Alma Mater. Through her tireless efforts, Sandy has brought the Yale School of Nursing closer to Yale University in spirit and in united goals. She has represented her Alma Mater to the greater University, serving as an Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) delegate, as a member of the Board of Governors, and ultimately as the first woman to Chair the AYA. Clearly, Sandy has established the finest example of the leadership Yale University could expect from a Yale Nurse.

Ever committed to her school, Sandy helped to lead the Yale School of Nursing’s efforts as Co-Chair of the “And for Yale...” Campaign. Under her leadership, the Yale School of Nursing entered a new phase of commitment to leadership, scholarship, and research. It is due, in part, to her unique gifts and her contributions in service that Yale School of Nursing and Yale University enjoy such a close partnership, bringing nursing and the vision of the University closer together.

For these reasons, on this the First Day of February, Two Thousand and Two, Yale School of Nursing awards Saundra Thomson Bialos the School’s prestigious Yale School of Nursing Medal and welcomes her to membership in the School of Nursing’s Hall of Fame.

Yale School of Nursing Medal, 2002, awarded to Maureen O’Keefe Doran ’71

In describing his father, a man once said, “A hand for every friend or foe, two hands for those in need.” These words, spoken by Maureen O’Keefe Doran’s father in honor of his own father, speak volumes about the service that Maureen has provided to the Yale School of Nursing and to the greater Yale University community.

Maureen has generously given of her extraordinary leadership talent and her time to this institution. YSN celebrates her accomplishments as Chair of the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA) during the University’s yearlong historic Tercentennial Celebration. In a year mixed with celebration and tragedy, Maureen’s sensitive leadership has crafted a more cohesive relationship between YSN and the University.

Distinguished from others by the balance with which she leads her life, Maureen is full of love and devotion to her family and the communities she serves. Whether climbing Mount Yale with the AYA, caring for her clients, or serving her Alma Mater, Maureen is fully engaged with her surroundings. She is present in heart and mind. Though we view ourselves as “friend” not “foe” and think we are not “in need,” we know Maureen has offered Yale “two hands.”

It is with great pride and distinction, on this, the First Day of February, Two Thousand and Two, that the Yale School of Nursing bestows upon Maureen O’Keefe Doran its highest award, the Yale School of Nursing Medal, and welcomes her to YSN’s Hall of Fame.
In the Public Eye

YSN has been very much in the public eye these last few months.

Winter, 2001
- Interview with Dean Catherine Gilliss on the subject of leadership in education featured in Connecticut Nursing News

November/December, 2001
- Article in the AYA newsletter, Blueprint, about YSN's success in alumni relations in 2001, including comments from Dean Catherine Gilliss and YSN Director of Development, Lisa Hottin

December 6, 2001
- Lecture: Families and Chronic Illness
- Sponsored by Yale's Program for Humanities in Medicine
- Speaker: Dean Catherine Gilliss

January, 2002
- Article: “Counting Nurse Practitioners,” about APRNet
- American Journal of Nursing

January 7, 2002
- Article: “Yale and Howard Universities Join Forces to Eliminate Health Disparities,” featuring the Yale Howard Scholars Program
- In Inner City News, an African-American weekly newspaper distributed throughout greater New Haven, Waterbury, and Bridgeport, CT

January 15, 2002
- Web broadcast by Associate Dean Margaret Grey '76, “Enhancing Coping in Youth with Diabetes”
- Rebroadcast on February 3, February 6, and February 10

January 21, 2002
- Article spotlighting Linda Schwartz '84, titled, “RN-Vet Advocates for Women’s Health,” in Advance for Nurses Magazine

January 31, 2002
- Second Annual Symposium on Collaborative Practice, “Payment Issues for Advanced Practice Nurses”
- Sponsored by the YSN Center for Health Policy and Ethics
- YSN participants: Lynette Ament, Jessica Covello '82, Donna Diers '64, Mariette McCourt '96, and Lynn Price '98

January/February, 2002
- Papers by Associate Professor Tish Knobf '82 and Postdoctoral Fellow, Robin Whittemore in Nursing Research

February, 2002
- Article on Florence Wald '41 being named “Living Legend” by the American Academy of Nursing
- Yale Today, newsletter distributed to over 45,000 Yale alumnae/i across the country

February 1, 2002
- Articles about the expansion of the Yale Howard Scholars Program and the YSN Exploratory Center on Self-Management Interventions for Populations at Risk
- “School of Nursing News,” Yale Bulletin and Calendar

February 23, 2002
- Article on Colleen Senterfitt and Yale Women’s Health and Midwifery Center in the Connecticut Post

February 25, 2002
- Lecture: “Are Teen Mothers Good Parents?”
- Sponsored by The Transition to Motherhood in Teen Mothers Project at YSN
- Guest Speaker: Professor Lorraine V. Klorman, DrPH, Visiting Professor, Brandeis University, and Visiting Professor, Dartmouth Medical School

February 27, 2002
- Presentation on how families of different ethnic groups manage Type 2 diabetes
- Guest speaker and consultant: Dr. Catherine Chesla, Associate Professor at the University of California, San Francisco

February 28, 2002
- Lecture, “Impact of Hospital Organization and Staffing on Patient Outcomes and Nurse Retention”
- Guest Lecturer: Linda Aiken, PhD, Professor of Nursing and Sociology, University of Pennsylvania
- Sponsored by YSN and Delta Mu and Mu Delta Chapters of Sigma Theta Tau International

March, 2002
- Article on Ann Williams’s '81 appointment to the Helen Porter Jayne and Martha Prosser Jayne Professorship, and Ruth McCorkle’s appointment to the Florence Schorske Wald Professorship at YSN
- Connecticut Nursing News

March 6, 2002
- Article in the Chicago Tribune about the nursing shortage and the portrayal of nurses in the media entitled, “Pink Collar Pressure”
- Featured comments by YSN Recruitment Director, Sharon Sanderson, who was interviewed by a reporter from the newspaper

March 26, 2002
- Panel presentation: The Nurses’ Code of Ethics: Can I Keep My Promises in Troubled Times?
- Guest panelists: Gladys White, PhD, RN, Director of the ANA Center for Ethics and Human Rights; Rev. Margaret Lewis, Chair of the YNHH Ethics Committee; Leslie Blatt ’97, CNS and member of the Ethics Committee at the Hospital of St. Raphael; and Elaine Gustafson ’86, PNP and Coordinator of the School-Based Health Care Concentration at YSN
- Sponsored by the YSN Center for Health Policy and Ethics
On October 24, 2001, Associate Dean for Research Affairs Margaret Grey ’76 participated in the symposium marking the 15th anniversary of the National Institute of Nursing Research. The symposium was a five-part series divided into two nursing emphases: health promotion and symptom management. A history of the Institute by its present and former directors and remarks by the NIH acting director, were included in this series. Margaret and the other presenters at the symposium demonstrated the significant positive impact of nursing research, a relatively new science, on the nation’s health.

Margaret’s presentation was titled, “Enhancing Coping in Youth with Diabetes.” Her research demonstrates that an intervention that adds coping skills training to the usual intensive medical therapy improves metabolic control and quality of life for teens with Type 1 diabetes. Her research underscores the need to address both the psychosocial and metabolic aspects of diabetes in these youth.

Gail Melkus, Associate Professor, published, “Primary Care Cancer and Diabetes Complications Screening of Black Women with Type 2 Diabetes,” in the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (January, 2002, Volume 14, Issue 1). Gail’s co-authors are Nancy Mailet ’95, Jennifer Novak Hayward ’94, Julie Womack ’94, and Annette Hatch-Clein ’94 who collaborated in the research during their time at YSN.

Linda Pellico ’89 and Paula Milone-Nuzzo had their article, “Graduate Programs in Nursing: A Rose By Any Other Name,” published in the December, 2001 issue of The Advisor.

Pamela Minarik, faculty in the Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing Specialty, is on sabbatical in Japan and enjoys extracurricular activities in addition to her teaching responsibilities. Here she displays her floral arrangement talents in her Ikebana Class. She recently graduated into the beginner class. Her teacher is the Ohara School of Ikebana Master Teacher in Aomori, who enjoys having a gaijin in her class and hopes Pamela will become an Ikebana teacher in the US.

At the Connecticut League for Nursing Annual Student Day, Kathleen Crawford '04 received the Peer Recognition Award and Michelle Sanford '02 was the recipient of a scholarship.

Courtney Marsh '03 and her husband, Peter, welcomed daughter, Abigail, on November 30, 2001, assisted by doula Tonja Santos '02. Abigail weighed 8 lbs, 12 oz and is, of course, the most beautiful baby ever born, according to her proud parents!

YSN Student Sibling Performs with Jazz Ensemble

The Program for the Humanities in Medicine's Subcommittee on the Arts presented a night of Jazz with the Yale Jazz Ensemble. It was an "open mike" evening which allowed students to join in the festivities. One of the participants was Austin Becker who is the brother of a YSN nurse-midwifery student, Kristen Becker-Talwalkar '02. Austin just turned 16 years old and is a freshman at Chatham High School in Chatham, NY. He has been playing the saxophone for four years, along with the piano. In addition to the regular high school band, he participates in a community jazz band and has gone to summer camps for jazz for the past two years. He's the youngest of five children and his parents drove him from upstate New York to join in the open mike event. The evening was so successful the Yale Jazz ensemble has agreed to host additional events.

Launching Your Career Workshop Another Success

Sally Richards '97 (seated) led one of the breakout groups that offered graduating students the opportunity to review their resumes and CVs at the annual Launching Your Career Workshop sponsored by the YUSNAA Board in February. Anne Aquila '89, Doris Foell '88, and Kate Stephenson '94 also presented a program designed to help students get started with looking for a job. As one evaluation stated, "The lecturers were well prepared, helpful, insightful, and empathetic to our situations... I truly appreciate this service." Sally is joined in the photo by (L-R) Lynette McCloy '02, Kim Hudson '02, and Violet Chrostowski '02, all enrolled in the Adult Advanced Practice Nursing Specialty.
Kathleen Crawford Earns CLN Award

Kathleen Crawford '04, a first year Graduate Entry Prespecialty in Nursing (GEPN) student at YSN, was awarded the Peer Appreciation Award by the Connecticut League for Nursing (CLN) and the Yale School of Nursing. The award was established by CLN to recognize an outstanding nursing student from each member school for the qualities of accountability, commitment, leadership, and nursing care.

"I am extremely honored to have received this recognition from my peers," said Kathleen Crawford, who had been an LPN for eleven years in Texas before coming to Yale. "I was attracted to the Yale School of Nursing because it is the oldest university-based nursing program in the country and a leader in nursing education," said Kathleen. "The opportunities at YSN are enormous. The access to faculty and to a tremendous variety of resources for research is essential for training graduate nursing students to become leaders in nursing science."

My passion and commitment to nursing education has been strengthened through my extensive experience in the field," explained Kathleen. "One factor contributing to the current nursing shortage is the lack of master's and doctorally prepared nurses available to educate and mentor future nurses. This is why, after receiving my master's degree from Yale, I intend to work both as a primary care provider and nurse educator in a baccalaureate program."

Like many YSN students, in addition to attending graduate school Kathleen also finds time to partake in community outreach. She is a volunteer coordinator at Project Reflections, an eating disorder awareness and education project that focuses on promotion of body confidence through peer education training, mentoring, and advocacy in local high schools. Kathleen also participates in the Graduate and Professional Student Health Advocates Program at Yale as a Peer Health Educator.

Amgen Supports Consultation on Cancer Survivorship

Two renowned experts on cancer survivorship, Dr. Linda Jacobs from the University of Pennsylvania Cancer Center, and Wendy Hobbie, from the Oncology Division of the Transition Clinic at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, visited the Yale School of Nursing in January, 2002. They met with YSN students and faculty and brought new energy to YSN’s commitment to understanding the issues facing cancer survivors and their families. The visit was made possible through a grant written by Dr. Sheila Santacroce, Assistant Professor in the PNP Specialty at YSN, from Amgen, a biotechnology company using science and innovation to improve people's lives. Jacobs and Hobbie led seminars at the School and grand rounds at Yale-New Haven Hospital’s Cancer Center.

Dr. Santacroce explained the need for survivorship research in childhood cancer. "We've made remarkable progress since the 70's in improving rates of long term survivorship after childhood cancer. But cure has a cost. Seventy percent of young people who survive childhood cancer experience at least one medical late effect. With eight out of ten children surviving childhood cancer, it is time to approach the prevention and amelioration of late effects with the same level of commitment and scientific rigor that we direct at diagnosing and treating cancer."

"The visit was enormously successful," said Santacroce. "It increased awareness of the need for research concerning the needs of people who have survived cancer, highlighting the work that has been done in pediatric oncology, and examining how that work can be used as a model for work with adult cancer survivors."

Santacroce hopes that the visiting professorship will pave the way to a program for clinical care, education, and research with people who have survived childhood cancers or adult cancers.

Participating in the Amgen funded project were (L-R) Rachel Goldberg '98, Pediatric Oncology, YNHH; Sheila Santacroce, YSN faculty member in the PNP Specialty; Linda A. Jacobs, University of Pennsylvania; Wendy Hobbie, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; and Marianne Davies Gallipoli '87, ACNP PM Cert '00, Yale Medical School, Section of Medical Oncology.
Jean E. Johnson '65 has moved to Wisconsin to be closer to family. She writes that she is well and looking forward to the challenge of starting a new phase in her life.

Adele Pike '84 recently received her EdD from Boston University. Her dissertation was entitled, “I Don’t Know How Ethical I Am: An Investigation into the Practices Nurses Use to Maintain Their Moral Integrity.” Del is currently the District Director at the VNA of Boston and has co-authored an article, “Advanced practice nurses in home care: Is there a role?” with YSN Associate Dean Paula Milone-Nuzzo in Home Health Care Management and Practice (August, 2001, Volume 13, Number 5).


Meredith Wallace ’93 is President of Life Haven, Inc, a homeless shelter for pregnant women and women with young children in the Fair Haven area of New Haven, CT.

Wailua Brandman ’94 has been appointed Chair of the Media Watchdog Committee for the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

Lena Horwitz Cerbone '94 writes from Albright, West Virginia where she has been working for the county health department performing gynecologic care. “Nice to be without a pager for a while!” She also is working on a research team for West Virginia University Department of Pediatrics to decrease HIV transmission among teenagers. On a personal note, she and her husband, David, welcomed with great joy their first baby, Henry Alexander Cerbone, born at home with the help of two wonderful midwives on September 1, 2001. He weighed 8 pounds and measured 20 1/2 inches long.

Kim Lacey ’97, DNSc '03 and Carla Giugno are the proud new parents of Jack Lacey Giugno, born on February 15, 2002.

Kelley Muldoon ’97 married Brian Rieger on September 29, 2001 in Rochester, NY. Angela Orsini Garry

‘97 was in the wedding party. Kelley currently lives outside Cleveland, OH and is a clinical consultant for Wang Healthcare which develops computerized medical records systems. She misses the contact with patients, however, and is looking for the perfect job, being a PNP in an office that uses the Wang system!

Angela Orsini Garry ’97 writes that she has left her school clinic position to be home for awhile with her two boys, Matthew (2) and Tyler (8 months).

Caroline Dryland ’99 writes from Ashland, OR where she and her husband, Dave, and daughter, Amelia, welcomed Alexander David Garcia, on December 5, 2001. He weighed 7 pounds and measured 21 inches. They are all well and very happy in Ashland where they have found a very “kid-friendly” and supportive community.
Cosima Lux ‘99 recently shared the news about the birth of twin daughters, Mila Sauge and Solene Loup, on August 20, 2001. She reports that the birth was what midwives (and she is one!) would call, “the midwifery sampler, but sooooo worth it all!” Cosima is teaching nutrition at the University of New Mexico and occasionally helps out at a teen clinic, but spends most of her time at home with her twins.

Jody Esselstyn ’00 and Jeff Aten celebrated the birth of their daughter, June Edith Aten (Edie), on December 12, 2001. She weighed in at a healthy 8 pounds, 9.5 ounces and began nursing voraciously after her 10:30 am safe arrival. Jody and her family are all well. Photos can be found at www.esselstyn.com/edie.

Gloria Chang Fallon ’01 was married in July, 2001. She is enjoying working in Boston with a Harvard Mental Health Fellowship at McLean Hospital.

YSN was solidly represented at the 15th Annual Conference of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association, held in Reno, NV, in October, 2001. Not only did Luc Pelletier ’82 receive the annual Excellence in Leadership Award, but also several YSN faculty and an alumnus were speakers and presenters at the conference. Judith Krauss ’70 delivered the keynote address, “Whatever Happened to the Therapeutic Relationship?” and Katherine Bailey and Sandra Talley from YSN’s Psychiatric-Mental Health Specialty presented a pre-conference course, “Understanding the Neurobiology of Psychiatric Disorders to Make Pharmacotherapeutic Choices.” Larry Scahill ’89 presented his pre-conference course on, “Recent Findings and Future Directions in Pediatric Psychopharmacology.” Waiwai Brandman ’94 presented a forum on, “Using Energy Fields in Psychotherapy or Integrating Alternative Therapy into a Traditional Practice,” and a poster of his YSN master’s thesis, “Symptoms as Symbols.”

Save the Date!

Ecological and Health Consequences of the Vietnam War
September 13 - 15, 2002
Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut, USA

This two and a half day symposium will focus on the interaction of war, environment, human health, and public policy as they pertain to military operations during the US-Vietnam Conflict.

This symposium will:
Assess the chemical, biological and physical agents utilized in military operations during the US-Vietnam conflict from an environmental health perspective

IN MEMORIAM

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Identify the human health effects of chemical, biological, and anti-plant agents, stressors of living in a war zone, and other exposures encountered in Vietnam
Discuss carcinogenic and non-cancerous conditions such as maternal health and reproductive outcomes, growth and development of offspring, diseases of the immune, hepatic, neurological, and metabolic systems, and post-traumatic stress disorder
Facilitate dialogue about the need for further research to study the ecological and human health issues associated with military operations in Vietnam

Contact Dr. Linda Schwartz for more information at 203-785-5414 or visit us on the web at www.nursing.yale.edu/nursing/news/vwsymposium.html

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