

NURSING

At HUNTER

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Hunter-Bellevue Addresses Critical Nursing Shortage with Help of NYC Funding

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing has launched an intensive 14-month nursing program to help stem the critical shortage of nurses in New York City.

At a press conference at Bellevue Hospital on July 27, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn lauded the Hunter program – the Hunter-Bellevue Accelerated Second-Degree Pathway (A2D) – and announced a \$500,000, five-year grant to CUNY nursing programs. The money will help fund A2D as well as other initiatives.

Hunter President Jennifer J. Raab pointed out that every year hundreds of students want to become nurses, yet Hunter-Bellevue has been unable to meet the demand. She called the new program a “great idea that now makes it possible to move career changers into nursing in a relatively short period of time.”



Hunter nursing students thank City Council Speaker Christine Quinn for her support.

Photo: William Adriscie

Kristine Gebbie, dean of the School of Nursing, called the new program a boon to Hunter as well as the field of nursing, saying that the grant “will allow us to expand Hunter’s programs.” She pointed out that “as these adult learners become RNs, they increase our ability to meet the nursing needs of the city and elsewhere.”

Designed for professionals changing careers, the A2D program is a 14-month baccalaureate nursing program rather than the traditional 22-month program. Candidates must have a baccalaureate from an accredited college with a minimum 3.0 GPA and have completed all science prerequisites.

[Meet three Hunter students who chose nursing as a second career on page 5.](#)

In announcing the \$500,000 grant, Quinn stressed that there is an “urgent need” to address the nursing shortage. It is estimated that New York City will need 7,000 more nurses by 2020, yet 575 CUNY nursing applicants were turned away last year because of a shortage of nursing teachers. Another problem is that the nursing workforce is aging and must be replenished. Seventeen percent of New York’s 63,000 nurses are 55 or older.

Inside...



3 Donors Give in Memory of a Beloved Professor



4 Faculty Research Raises Standards of Nursing Care



7 Rudin Foundation Endows Chair



Message from the President

It has been just a year since the School of Nursing became freestanding within Hunter College and since Kristine Gebbie became the acting Joan Hansen Grabe Dean. This new independence and leadership reflect Hunter's commitment to easing the serious shortage of nurses in New York City and elsewhere. I am pleased to report that, even in this short time, the School, under Dean Gebbie's strong leadership, has taken important strides toward fulfilling that commitment.

One step, as you will read about in this issue of *Nursing At Hunter*, is our new program to place students who leave other professions to study nursing on an accelerated track, allowing them to earn degrees in just 14 months. Three of these students are profiled on page 5 to give you a better sense of what an important and life-changing innovation this is.

The School's ability to undertake such a pioneering initiative grows out of its long record as a leader in the education of nurses – and it continues to reach new heights. With a pass rate of 92 percent, Hunter led all CUNY and SUNY nursing programs in the 2008 National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. In 2008-09, the Nursing School received the highest-ever number of research grants from external sources as well as a record number of grants from the Professional Staff Congress of CUNY.

You will also read in this newsletter about the creation of a high-tech classroom that will provide access for students and faculty to the latest medical technology. This classroom was made possible by a series of generous gifts; the initial \$10,000 gift came from the widower of the late Professor Margaret Magnus, and the balance was from a matching alumnus contribution. The new classroom is a welcome advance, but what strikes me as most significant is how quickly so many people came forward to show support. That kind of generosity speaks volumes about the quality of the Nursing School experience and the loyalty it inspires.

The School has embarked on an exciting new chapter in its long and distinguished history. All of us at Hunter appreciate your interest and we welcome your continuing involvement and support.

Jennifer J. Raab
President, Hunter College



Message from the Dean

Hunter's School of Nursing has entered its 55th fall semester, with 100 juniors on their way to becoming professional nurses. We have 17 A2D (Accelerated Second-Degree) students beginning their second semester, 15 students studying in the new Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL®) Program for master's degrees, 94 new RN Pathway students, and more than 100 new graduate students. There are now more than 700 students studying nursing at Hunter!

Numbers aside, this promises to be an exciting year. We've welcomed a stellar group of new faculty, cut the ribbon on the Magnus Technology Classroom, and cut the virtual ribbon on the electronic hospital that houses the digital records for our programmable electronically simulated patients in the nursing laboratory. The new A2D Pathway moves motivated, qualified students who already have one bachelor's degree into a compressed program suited to these adult learners, allowing more new nurses to graduate each year. At the graduate level, our partnerships with practice sites across New York City will become even stronger with the CNL® option. And, the first students in the joint Queensborough/Hunter AD/BS option have enrolled this year at Queensborough.

By educating outstanding nurses, we increasingly complement the contributions to nursing knowledge generated by faculty scholarship. New grant projects are being undertaken by faculty, individually and in partnership with our Weill-Cornell Clinical Translational Science Center colleagues. Through this partnership, core and supplemental funds are helping us to expand knowledge as well as recruit more high-quality individuals into nursing careers. Funding from research grants and training support are at a new high. Publications and presentations at professional meetings are almost too numerous to mention.

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the body that accredits our programs, will conduct an October site visit. Helping to assemble the materials for this process has deepened my appreciation for this School, all it stands for and how it has grown since the last CCNE visit in 1999. I am convinced that our potential is limitless. Though the challenges to our next generation of Hunter nurses will be complex, the education gained here more than prepares them for whatever lies ahead.

If you haven't been to see us recently, this is a great year for a visit to Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing! I look forward to seeing you here.

Kristine Gebbie, DrPH, RN
Joan Hansen Grabe Dean

Beloved Professor Honored with Memorial Gift



(l. to r.) Magnus' daughter, Tanya Hoos, Manuel C. Co, Jr. (BSN '89, MSN '97), and Joseph Magnus (seated)

Joseph Magnus, widower of beloved Nursing School Professor Margaret Magnus, posed a special challenge to the school last spring: He would donate \$10,000 in honor of his late wife if the school would match the gift.

The responses came swiftly. Saying that he had been inspired as a student by Professor Magnus, Manuel C. Co, Jr. (BSN '89, MSN '97) matched the entire \$10,000. Seventeen other alumni also made contributions to the Margaret Magnus Memorial Gift.

The Magnus Memorial Gift will be used to create a high-tech classroom outfitted with plasma screens and interactive web and video, allowing students and faculty to take advantage of the latest advances in modern medical technology.

In explaining his generosity, Co said, "My gift is one way of thanking Professor Magnus and expressing my gratitude for the excellent education I received from Hunter College." He added, "Professor Magnus was not

only a respected member of the nursing informatics community but a special mentor. A technology classroom dedicated to her will keep that memory alive."

Magnus, who died in 2007, taught at Hunter from 1970 to 1995 and was associate dean from 1982 to 1983. She was a pioneer as well as a highly respected instructor in the field of informatics, which melds computer science and information technology with the theories and practice of nursing.

Co credits Magnus with inspiring him to pursue a career in the field. He is now director of nursing informatics at New York University's Langone Medical Center and an adjunct lecturer at Hunter-Bellevue.

Joseph Magnus said he initiated the gift to carry on his wife's legacy. "She loved the school, she loved teaching, and she loved her students," he said.

"She was a remarkable woman," recalled Sue Neville (BSN '68, MSN '72), a former student. Neville, who taught at Hunter from 1972 to 2005 and was undergraduate director of nursing from 1998 to 2005, is currently the chair of nursing at New York Institute of Technology.

"She had great insight into the relationship between research, theory and practice in nursing," Neville said. "She was ahead of the game."

Kristine M. Gebbie, the Joan Hansen Grabe Dean of the School of Nursing, called the Magnus family gift and the matching donations from Co and other alumni a great benefit to the school.

"They allow us to honor a greatly respected member of the Hunter faculty," Gebbie said. "The 21st century demands nursing education that is technologically savvy and uses the best of what is available to prepare students.

"Dedicating this contribution to technology honors Dr. Magnus and extends our capacity to educate nurses for the future," said Gebbie.

\$1M Grant Will Strengthen Innovative Training Program

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing won a \$1 million federal grant for its pioneering Clinical Nurse Leader program. The CNL® program is designed to strengthen nursing care in safety-net settings – hospitals and healthcare facilities that treat the uninsured and under-insured. The three-year federal grant will enable the School to hire additional faculty and staff to oversee the training of a new generation of nursing leaders.

The program is partnering with two of New York City's largest hospital systems: the municipal Health and Hospitals Corporation and the U.S. Veterans Administration. The program, which leads to a master's degree, will consist of 500 hours of clinical training in the hospitals where the nurses who enroll in the program work.

The fact that the CNL® candidates will be educated in their workplaces is a break from the usual practice, according to Professor Kathleen Nokes, director of the program. Associate professor Mattia J. Gilmartin serves as the graduate specialization coordinator for the CNL® program, providing on-site workshops for clinical partners, advising students and ensuring the curriculum is in accordance with the guidelines of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the developer of the Clinical Nurse Leader concept.

"Our goal," Nokes and Gilmartin explained, "is not just to prepare Clinical Nurse Leaders, but to also improve the quality of care in healthcare settings. Structuring the program so that it takes place in the nurses' hospitals allows us to do both. They get practical, hands-on training, and their patients get improved care. It's a win-win situation for everyone."

Research Pushes the Boundaries of Care

The School of Nursing's dedication to raising standards of care is reflected in the wide-ranging research pursued by faculty members. Three current projects hold out the promise of medical breakthroughs.

Challenging Stereotypes Of Depression in Koreans



The prevalence of depression among Korean immigrants in New York is disturbingly high – nearly twice that of the general U.S. population – according to a study led by Dr.

Kunsook Bernstein, assistant professor and coordinator of Hunter's Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Program.

Dr. Bernstein's survey was the first scientific look at this subject in nearly 10 years, a significant gap in light of the upswing in Korean immigration to New York during the past decade. The city is second only to Los Angeles among American cities in the size of its Korean community.

The incidence of depression among Koreans was 13.2 percent, compared with 7.06 percent in the general population. The finding – while consistent with past surveys – has prompted Dr. Bernstein and her team to plan further studies on barriers to acculturation, and potential interventions.

The results also indicate that many past theories about depression in Korean Americans are incorrect. For example, there was no significant correlation between age and depression, a finding at odds with previous claims that depression occurs more frequently in older Asian immigrants.

The study was funded by the Beautiful Foundation USA, a Korean organization, and the Clinical Translational Science Center, a multi-institutional consortium that is based at Weill Cornell Medical College and includes the Hunter College

School of Nursing and the Hunter Center for Study of Gene Structure and Function.

A Potential Breakthrough For At-Risk Hispanic Women



Trying to prevent HIV infection among Hispanic women between the ages of 15 and 22 is a daunting challenge, but a

10-year-long research project led by Professor Carol Roye may have found a key.

Among the biggest hurdles to protecting this vulnerable population, Roye reports, is that effective education involves interventions by clinicians, but workers in busy clinics have little time for personal sessions.

Roye, who is director of Hunter-Bellevue's Center for Nursing Research, developed a video to teach young women that they must insist on condoms even if they used another form of birth control. She then researched whether the video alone was enough. Not surprisingly, the video without counseling was not nearly as effective as the video with it. Still, Roye notes, "The counseling demanded too much provider time to be practical."

Next, a counseling segment was added to the video – and that appeared to make the difference. In fact, a pilot clinical trial found that "the enhanced video was more effective at promoting condom use than the original video plus counseling."

Roye has applied to her funder, the National Institute of Nursing Research, for

a grant for a full clinical trial. If the early results hold up, she says, "Clinicians and health educators will have a brief, effective intervention to promote condom use by sexually active adolescents."

Study May Point the Way To Nursing Home Reform



Why do some nursing home populations suffer from higher rates of pressure ulcers – skin wounds

caused by lying in bed for prolonged periods? Professor Steven Baumann is using a \$2,600 CUNY grant to analyze a national nursing home data base and find out why.

Baumann has a theory that, if supported by the study's results, will make a major contribution to the quality of nursing home care.

He is looking not only at the physical condition of patients who suffer from pressure ulcers, but also their mental state. "Depression may be the key," Baumann says. "People with positive outlooks get up and do things. Bored, depressed people just lie in bed, and that's when the ulcers develop."

Baumann will apply next year for a \$150,000, three-year grant to run a full study. His results may have a big impact on the growing national movement to change nursing homes from large, impersonal institutions into small, home-like settings where patients are encouraged to pursue life-enhancing activities like growing flowers, keeping birds and caring for pets.

Why Three Students Chose the Fast Track to Nursing

The School of Nursing's new Accelerated Second-Degree Pathway – which puts people who have decided to enter nursing as a second career on a 14-month fast track to their degrees – is drawing students from a variety of backgrounds into its life-changing program.

Jason Wong, for example, who started out as an operations analyst at JPMorgan Chase, soon discovered that his job was terribly stressful. "The money was good," said the 27-year-old, "but the quality of life wasn't there." Joking about making such a switch at a relatively young age, he said, "I had a quarter-life crisis."

What led Wong to nursing was a motivational speaker's description of "the rocking chair test." Imagine yourself, the speaker said, as an 80-year-old sitting in a rocker, reflecting on the past. Will you be able to say you led the life you wanted to live? The question touched Wong's deep desire to help others, and it was only a short step from that realization

to Hunter's accelerated program.

Rebecca King graduated from Hunter with a degree in anthropology in 2001 and began working with the city's medical examiner to pursue a career in forensics. But healthcare, it seems, was in her blood. Her paternal grandmother, older sister and sister-in-law are all nurses. In addition, several family members are firefighters and medical technicians, so the call to help those who are sick or in need was strong. And that is why, as Dean Kristine Gebbie remarked at a recent press conference, King gave up working with cadavers "to work with the living."

"I knew Hunter and I were a good fit," King said. "I am very excited about being able to finish in 14 months and become a nurse next September."

Ama Otto discovered her love of nursing much earlier in life and in a far different place. She was six and living in her native Ghana when she realized that she was fascinated by watching

medical personnel treat wounds. "That yellow cream they put on your cuts, and the bandages – even the swabs they used," she says now. "I always knew I wanted to do that."

Otto came to the United States in 1988, and, at her father's urging, earned a degree in accounting from the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. After that came marriage, two children and a move to New York. But once her youngsters were in school full time, she knew that even at the age of 48 it was not too late to pursue her lifelong dream of becoming a nurse. The accelerated pathway that she will enter next year will let her pursue what she calls "my passion."

The Accelerated Second-Degree Pathway is expected to have an important impact on the city's critical shortage of nurses. But just as important, it is going to give hundreds of people who might otherwise miss the opportunity a chance to experience a job that can indeed become "a passion."



Jason Wong left a lucrative Wall Street career to pursue nursing, inspired by a desire to "make a difference."



Rebecca King tells a press conference at Bellevue Hospital that she looks forward to becoming a nurse in 14 months.



Ama Otto waited decades before she could pursue her dream of becoming a nurse.

Meet Our New Faculty

The Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing is pleased to welcome seven new faculty members this fall. These individuals bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise with them, and have been named to a number of key appointments.



Iyabode Alfred

After teaching at Hunter-Bellevue as an adjunct professor for the past year, Iyabode Alfred has been appointed an assistant professor starting this fall. She has been with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York for the past six years, serving most recently as staff development and quality manager. In that capacity, she was responsible for the design and implementation of clinical initiatives and training programs — mainly to enhance the ability of home care intake nurses to transition patients from temporary healthcare settings back into their communities.

Alfred has extensive professional nursing experience, as a managed care/HMO specialist, a nursing supervisor for a nursing home and a home care intake nurse. She received her MSN from the University of Phoenix and her BSN from New York University.



Christine Cutugno

Christine Cutugno joins Hunter as an assistant professor. Most recently, she was administrative director of a large critical care division at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in Paterson, N.J., where she was responsible for four ICUs and three step-down units.

She earned a PhD in nursing from NYU, an MEd in nursing from Columbia University Teachers College, and a BSN from Cornell University. She frequently contributes to a monthly column in *The American Journal of Nursing*.



Mattia J. Gilmartin

Mattia J. Gilmartin joins the Hunter-Bellevue faculty as associate professor. She returned to the United States after holding a post-doctoral appointment at Cambridge and a faculty post at INSEAD's Healthcare Management Initiative in France. She has published in leading nursing and health care management journals, including *Nursing Administration Quarterly*, *Healthcare Management Review*, the *Annals of the Academy of Management*, and *Leadership Quarterly*.

Her academic credentials include a PhD in nursing administration from the University of Virginia and an RN and MSN/MBA degrees from the University of San Francisco.



David M. Keepnews

David M. Keepnews, an expert on healthcare systems and health policy, joins the faculty of Hunter-Bellevue as an associate professor after serving as editor-in-chief of the quarterly journal *Policy, Politics & Nursing*. He previously taught at Adelphi University, the University of Washington and the University of Massachusetts-Lowell, and has worked extensively in the healthcare industry and for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Keepnews earned a PhD from Brandeis University's Heller Graduate School, a JD from Hastings College of the Law, an MPH from the University of California-Berkeley and a BS in nursing from the University of San Francisco. He was awarded the prestigious New York State Nurses Association's 2009 Media Award, which he received in October.



Bill LaRock

Bill LaRock comes to Hunter as an assistant professor, having spent the past four years in the mostly rural areas of Rwanda and South Africa, training nurses in the care and treatment of people with HIV/AIDS. For most of his career, he has worked with underserved homeless and indigent populations in urban settings in the United States and Africa. LaRock will teach in the graduate division, working specifically with adult nurse-practitioner students.

He holds a DNSc from Columbia University and an MSN from the University of California-San Francisco. He is a member of numerous professional nursing organizations as well as the HIV Academy of Medicine.



Patricia J. Moreland

Assistant Professor of Nursing Patricia J. Moreland joins Hunter from Western Connecticut State University, where she taught in the undergraduate pediatric program from 2004 to 2009. She is also a consulting professor for the Catholic University of Ghana.

Her extensive international experience includes doctoral dissertation research on HIV-positive women in Rwanda and a year providing medical care in rural Guatemala.

Moreland is currently a doctoral candidate in the DNSc Program at Columbia University. She received her MSN from Columbia and her BSN from Western Connecticut State.

Diana Mason Named the Rudin Professor of Nursing — a Newly Endowed Chair

Hunter is pleased to welcome Diana J. Mason, the new Louis and Rachel Rudin Professor of Nursing, an endowed chair, to the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing. Dr. Mason will also serve as the director of the Center for Health Media and Policy at Hunter, a new initiative. The Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation is a leading supporter of medical and nursing education in the New York metropolitan area and nationwide.

Mason joins Hunter from the *American Journal of Nursing*, where she was editor-in-chief for the past 10 years. Under her leadership, the journal received awards for editorial excellence and was selected in 2009 by the Specialized Libraries Association as one of the 100 most influential journals of the century in biology and medicine — the only nursing journal to receive this distinction.

Recently, Mason was appointed to the National Advisory Board of the Kaiser

Health News (KHN) organization, sponsored by the Kaiser Family Foundation. KHN provides in-depth coverage of health policy, news stories, interviews and multimedia content through its website. For over 20 years, Mason has been a producer and moderator of "Healthstyles," a popular live weekly radio program that airs on WBAI in New York City.

Mason is the lead co-editor of the award-winning book "Policy and Politics in Nursing and Health Care," now in its fifth edition, and has written a number of other books as well as peer-reviewed articles and research studies published in nursing and health-related journals.

The recipient of many awards and honors, including an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Long Island University, Mason holds a PhD from New York University, an MSN from St. Louis



University, and a BSN from West Virginia University School of Nursing.

President Jennifer J. Raab said, "We are deeply grateful to the Louis and Rachel Rudin Foundation for endowing this chair and making it possible for Hunter to acquire the extraordinary talents of Diana Mason. The Rudins are one of New York's great families, and the support the Rudin Foundation gives to medical and nursing education is making a profound difference in healthcare in New York and across the nation."

Three Nursing Alumni Named to Hunter Hall of Fame



Jane Jeffrie Seley (MSN '98), a nurse practitioner at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center, is a nationally recognized leader in diabetes education and clinical management. She was appointed in 2006 to the National Academies of Practice as a Distinguished Practitioner of Nursing. She has mentored countless nurses and teaches at New York University and Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing.



Maureen O'Shaughnessy Kennedy (BSN '71) worked in Bellevue Hospital's Emergency Department after graduating from Hunter. Through the years, she has worked as a clinical nurse specialist, taught as an adjunct, and developed educational programs and conferences. She is now editorial director for the *American Journal of Nursing*, the leading nursing journal worldwide. Under Kennedy's leadership, the publication has won many distinctions.



James Winkler (BSN '78) has demonstrated leadership as a clinician, administrator, and entrepreneur. After a stint in the military, Winkler was a New York City firefighter during the 1970s. He entered the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing and went on to the burn unit at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. Over time, he has specialized in burn care, published scholarly papers, and presented at academic conferences globally. Winkler and his wife, Mary, operate a health care data-processing business.

Alumni Reminisce at Reunion '09



Graduates of the Class of 1974 reunite at the Hunter Alumni Birthday Luncheon.



Class of '69 (l. to r.) Ronnie Scheder Weber, Kathleen DeLuca, JoAnn Barreggine, Diane Vigliarolo, and Maureen Murphy Goodwin remember their days as Hunter nursing students at their 40th reunion. They are joined by Hunter President Raab.



Donna Nikitas (l.), graduate specialty coordinator of the Dual Degree MS/MPA Program and President Raab (center) join nursing school alumnae (l to r) Jane Jeffrie Seley (MSN '98) Tracey M. Sharpe (BS '84, MS '88), Florence Morgan (BS '89, MSH '92) and Kora Vaughns (BSN '84), seated.

1950s

Eileen Barton Augento (BSN '59) retired from Long Island University School of Nursing and has moved to Las Vegas. She teaches a course on diabetes at the Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Nevada.

Cathy Burke Duffy (BSN '59) has worked in medical, neurological and GU units as a staff nurse and nurse manager in psychiatry. She has traveled extensively for over 45 years, living in seven different states. She recently returned to New York.

Rosemarie Finn (BSN '59) is retired, but volunteers in many capacities at hospitals and in church and town activities.

Barbara Bigolski Johnston (BSN '59, MSN '77) recently moved from Lubbock, Texas, where she was associate dean of graduate programs at Texas Technical University. She now lives in Manchester, N.J. and is the Hess Endowed Chair in Nursing Education at Monmouth University.

Carol Chandross Leoski (BSN '59) has been retired for more than two years. During her career she worked in public health.

Cynthia Mindheim Lieberman (BSN '59) has held many jobs over her career, including staff and charge nursing and teaching at SUNY Plattsburgh.

Sylvia Martin (BSN '59) is a retired professor from Kingsborough Community College and a member of the Gospel choir at Marble Collegiate Church in Manhattan.

Elizabeth Reilly (BSN '59) is working at a school for paramedics, helping with clinical site rotations.

Patricia Patrizio Sumers (BSN '59) works once a week as a nursing supervisor at Lenox Hill Hospital. She was part of the planning committee for the 50th anniversary of the class and is planning to do it all again for the 60th reunion.

Sandra Turner (BSN '59) is a child psychiatrist at Harlem Hospital. She attended medical school in Mexico after working for 14 years as a nurse in New York City.

1960s

JoAnn Barreggine (BSN '69) is coordinator of the Certified Nursing Assistant Program at Westchester Community College at the Ossining Extension Center. She earned her master's in health education from Lehman.

Kathleen DeLuca (BSN '69) is a nursing faculty member at Westchester Community College. She earned her master's degree in nursing from NYU and a post-masters degree in nursing education from Mercy College.

Maureen Murphy Goodwin (BSN '69) is an educator for the Montgomery County Public Schools in Maryland.

Virginia D'Aloia O'Halloran (BS '60, MS '66) teaches at Cape Cod Community College's Department of Nursing.

Diane Vigliarolo (BS '69) is the education coordinator for the Visiting Nurse Service of New York. Her son, David Bauer, is a 2005 graduate of Hunter College High School, a 2005 Intel Science Award winner, and a 2009 Rhodes Scholar.

Ronnie Scheder Weber (BSN '69), a retired nurse practitioner in women's health, continues to work on a per diem basis.

1970s

Jane Ellen Cleary Barr (BSN '74) is director of wound healing at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Theresa Ratanski Burke (BSN '74) is a geriatric nurse practitioner with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York.

Susan Carr (BSN '74) works for Take Care Health as a nurse manager of an employee health unit with over 3,000 employees.

Sarena Felicitta Chisick (BSN '74) is a nurse manager at Putnam Hospital Center's Emergency Department in Carmel, New York.

The *South Florida Hospital News* celebrated Nurses Week in May and honored **Jessie M. Colin** (BSN '74, MSN '80) in its salute to nurses across the United States. Colin, a registered nurse, professor and director at Barry University's College of Health Sciences, was appointed by former Governor Jeb Bush to the Florida Board of Nursing and currently serves as vice-chair of the Board and chair of the education committee of the Board of Nursing.

Robin Gallay Fremer (BSN '71) recently retired from teaching at Ohio State University following a stroke.

Barbara LoCascio Guy (BSN '74) is a board-certified nurse informaticist at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Kathleen Hanrahan Heslin (BSN '74) is a board-certified occupational health nurse, case manager, and a certified legal nurse consultant.

Eva Johnson Keaveney (BSN '74) works at Queens Hospital Center as a nurse manager in a maternal child health program.

Elizabeth Lee (BS '70) completed her doctorate in nursing at the University of Connecticut in May 2009.

Marie-Helene Mahen Lofland (BSN '74) is an adult nurse practitioner at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in pre-surgical testing. She previously was the nurse leader in the ICU. She is a past president of the NYC-ANCC Chapter and treasurer of the Greater New York Organization of Nurse Executives.

Denice Lugten (BSN '76) has spent over 33 years in healthcare and is board certified in advanced nursing administration. In 2002 she was selected as the executive director of the Nurses Association of the Counties of Long Island, District 14 of NYSNA. She is also the legislative district coordinator for NYSNA to Assemblyman Robert Sweeney. She has received numerous awards, including the Distinguished Community Health Service Award and the 2007 Nurses Association of the Counties of Long Island's Presidential Citation Award.



Update from the Alumni Association President

I hope you all had a good summer. I'd like to share with you the following message about our recent 50th anniversary celebrations from Dr. Diane Rendon, former director of the School of Nursing and newly elected vice president of the Alumni Association.

The 50th anniversary of the first graduating class of the School of Nursing was celebrated at two major events this past spring: the HBSON annual Spring Forum and the Hunter College Alumni Luncheon at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

The Spring Forum, held April 1st at the Brookdale campus, was attended by students, alumni, former faculty and representatives of our clinical partnerships. Presentations focused on the history and plans – present and future – for the school. In addition, research posters by faculty and students were on display and a festive reception for more than 200 people followed.

The Hunter College alumni luncheon was a great success, attended by many 1959 class members as well as a large group celebrating milestone anniversaries. The afternoon concluded with President Raab's presentation of a commemorative plaque to Dean Gebbie.

A presentation with wonderful photos of the first graduating class and faculty from throughout the years was shown at both events. The CD of the presentation will provide many hours of enjoyment and can be purchased for \$10. To obtain a copy, please send a check to me, made out to the Alumni Association of Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, at Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing, 425 East 25th Street, New York, NY 10010.

– Dr. Diane Rendon

Three nursing alumni were inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame: Maureen O'Shaughnessy Kennedy (BSN '71), Jane Jeffrie Seley (MSN '98), and James Winkler (BSN '78). Their work is outstanding and it is being recognized. Congratulations from all of us at the School of Nursing!

We look forward to an exciting year.

Kathleen Nokes
President, Alumni Association

Mary Buckley McCormick (BSN '74) is a school nurse in Paterson, New Jersey. One of her two daughters is also a nurse.

Karen Wojcik O'Kane (BSN '74) is vice president of continuing care at Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center. She serves on the board of Directors of the Home Care Association of New York State.

Lois Antman Steckler (BSN '74) works full time as a neonatal nurse practitioner at Greenwich Hospital.

Mary Baranowshi Walsh (BSN '74) is vice president and CNO at Beth Israel Hospital. Last year she was inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame.

1990s

Geraldine Tumminia Jack (MSN '96) is retired from practice but volunteers with Birthright of Peconic, a non profit organiza-

tion providing services to pregnant women in need. She attends the Center for Creative Retirement at Long Island University.

Diane Maydick-Youngberg (MS '97), a student at Teachers College, Columbia University, is completing her doctoral research on quality of life in individuals with permanent ostomies.

Catherine Farrell Smith (MS/PNP '99) is working in a family-practice office, but will be relocating to western New York State to be close to her grandchildren.

2000s

Raymond Zakhari (MSN '04) has started his own web-based business that allows patients to make appointments, get referrals, request prescription refills, ask questions, obtain results, and pay their medical bills.

Tell us what
you've been up to.

Did you get a promotion,
find a new job,
start your own business,
or retire?

Send your news and
updated e-mail address to
Rhena Montero at
rmonter@hunter.cuny.edu.

**Hunter-Bellevue
School of Nursing**

425 East 25th Street
New York, NY 10010

Five from Hunter Win Top Summer Internships

Five Hunter nursing students were chosen from more than 400 national applicants as winners in the prestigious Alex Hillman Family Foundation Nursing Scholars Program. The students— Ian Anderson, Wa Chan, Edwine Etienne, Anthony Ferrara and Man Yin Choi, who all graduate in June '10 – joined 21 other students from across the country as summer interns at Lenox Hill Hospital.

The Hillman program gives its scholar-interns a two-month opportunity to practice intensive, hands-on nursing. Their clinical work is supplemented by lectures on topics ranging from diabetes and cardiac medications to navigating the job market after graduation. The students usually work three 12-hour days each week to prepare them for the shifts they may work as full-time nurses.

Ian Anderson was assigned first to the Ambulatory Post-Anesthesia Care Unit and then the Cardio-Thoracic ICU. He was responsible for assessing patients, checking vital signs and helping post-op patients with eating



Clockwise from top left: Anthony Ferrara, Wa Chan, Ian Anderson, Edwine Etienne; Center: Man Yin Choi

and regaining mobility. “This was a very, very valuable experience,” he said. “You can’t come close to working with patients like this in a school setting.”

Wa Chan spent the summer in the medical-surgical unit learning some valuable practical lessons while sharpening her bedside skills, from how to manage her time in a hectic workplace to the most effective ways to interact with nurses, doctors,

technicians and patients. One lesson that stands out: “Sometimes with patients, you have to be very firm.”

Edwine Etienne also worked on the medical-surgical floor, taking part in the admission and discharge process and administering IVs and other surgical follow-up procedures. She called the Hillman internships “an excellent program,” adding, “The nurses really prepare you for working in the field.”

Anthony Ferrara worked in the Cardio-Thoracic ICU, his first choice. He was impressed with the appreciation the hospital showed for the Hillman Scholars. “The individual attention I received from the nurses and the breadth of this experience will make a dramatic difference in my adjustment to whatever job I get after graduation.”

Man Yin Choi spent her first four weeks in the post-cardiac catheterization unit, and her second four weeks on a general medicine floor. She called it “an eye-opening experience” that “taught me things I could never learn from any textbooks.”