

# THE capsule

Newsletter for alumni, friends, faculty and staff.

FALL 2009

CAPSTONE COLLEGE OF NURSING



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**ALABAMA**

# CONTENTS

2

DEAN'S MESSAGE

3

NEWS AND EVENTS

6

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

10

ALUMNI PROFILES

11

ANNOUNCEMENTS

14

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

18

FACULTY AND STAFF

20

EVENTS

*The Capsule is published by:  
The Capstone College of Nursing*

*Dr. Sara Barger, Dean  
Shelley Jordan, Director of Advancement  
Lisa Tynner, Editor*

*Information in this publication is gathered from sources considered reliable. The Capstone College of Nursing cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions in this publication.*

## Dean's Message

While fall is always a special time at The University of Alabama, at the Capstone College of Nursing, this is indeed a very special fall. If you have driven down University Boulevard lately you have seen our new building under construction at the entrance to the campus. It now has the frame in place for three floors and will gain a roof in October. We are still on schedule to occupy the building in June 2010.

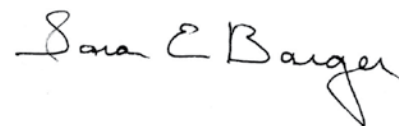
The Alabama Nursing Hall of Fame recognizing nurses and others who have brought honor and fame to the nursing profession and to the State of Alabama will induct six new members on October 15th. Dr. Jeanette VanderMeer, in our college is among the six nurses being honored.

Of course it would not be fall without homecoming. October 17th will see alumni, faculty and students gather for one last barbecue on the lawn at Russell Hall. Our students are busy designing their float and planning how they can once again capture the much sought after Spirit Award.

We also celebrate the success of our 99 May graduates, a record number for our college, and their 97% pass rate on the N-CLEX, the national licensure exam for registered nurses. They encountered a slightly different job market due to the economy and the closure of one Birmingham hospital. Experienced RNs who had planned to retire, decided to stay a little longer in the workforce and some nurses decided to increase their hours. The result was that our graduates were not always able to secure their first choice of location or specialty. Despite these temporary conditions, health care continues to be the one area of the economy anticipating significant growth.

This fall also continues our unprecedented enrollment growth, with 1334 undergraduate students and 170 graduate students including those in our MSN Case Management and Clinical Nurse Leader Tracks, our Doctor of Nursing Practice students and our EdD for nurse educators in collaboration with the College of Education.

It is clear that our college is growing on many fronts. We invite you as alumni and friends of the college to participate as a member of our Alumni Association, our Board of Visitors, or by offering your wisdom and financial support. With your help, we will continue to thrive. ❖



*Sara Barger  
Dean, Capstone College of Nursing*

### ABOUT THE COVER

*NUR 422 Community Health students with Dr. Melondie Carter, Big Al, Dr. Alice March and Christy Copeland at the Employee Health Fair.*

## News and Events

# WELCOME CHIBA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Chiba nursing students enrolled in the Transcultural nursing exchange course arrived in Tuscaloosa February 2009. They spent two weeks with Capstone College of Nursing students in the classroom and in clinical settings. Students were introduced to the American culture and health care system and also took English classes at UA's English Language Institute. Students spent time with an American host family over the weekend.

Seventeen nursing students, and their advisor, Hiroshi Yamada, from Chiba University in Japan attended the Transcultural Nursing Program at CCN from February 22–March 6, 2009.

The program included nursing classes taught by CCN faculty, informal seminars, clinical tours, and daily English classes at the English Language Institute. Clinical tours included DCH Regional Medical Center, DCH Northport Medical Center, and Capstone Village. As usual, Hiroko Smith, who is from Japan, did a stellar job of guiding the tour at DCH Northport Medical Center.

Social activities included dinner at the Cypress Inn, dinner at Dean Barger's home, a trip to Wal-Mart, and a Farewell Ceremony held at the Museum of Natural History. At Dean Barger's the CCN ambassadors and the Chiba students shared cultural dances and songs. All of the students were hosted in homes of families in the community over the week-end. At the Farewell Ceremony all of the participants were recognized and given a certificate of attendance. Justin Oliver, singer and son of Dr. Jo Ann Oliver provided entertainment of special American songs.

CCN ambassadors were involved throughout the program. Ambassadors participating were Kathleen Benak, Tyler Keenum, Katherine McGiffert, Anna Davis, Alicia Wright, Kelly Lovell, Claire McClenny, Spence Handley, Lauren Perkins, Johnnie Tice, Amber Miles, Elizabeth Wright, Nick Lemaster and Kenzie Walden. Student assistants involved in the program were Ashley Williams and Megan Pyper.



A special thanks to CCN faculty and staff who assisted with the program: Dr. Linda Dunn, Dr. Marilyn Handley, Dr. Michelle McKay, Dr. Mary Umlauf, Mr. Tom Little, Stephanie Wynn, Dr. Ann Kelley, and Deborah Holloway. Monica Gragg and Olivia May assisted Dr. Susan Gaskins in coordinating the program. ❖

*Left: Dr. Barger learning Japanese dance from Akiko Matsuzaka.*

*Below: Senior nursing student Megan Pyper with Yuki Kato and Satomi Ogino.*



## News and Events

### NURSING PROFESSOR HONORED IN JORDAN

In June 2009, Dr. Mary Umlauf, RN, PhD, Professor at the Capstone College of Nursing, was an honored guest at the 25 anniversary of the School of Nursing at Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) in Irbid, Jordan. Dr. Umlauf has a long history of providing faculty development support to nursing faculty at JUST and across Jordan. Her work dates back to her first visit in 1991 and her subsequent Fulbright Award in 1995-1997; totaling more than a dozen extended visits. Dr. Umlauf has mentored many of the faculty by providing editorial support for manuscripts and consultation for research projects. The JUST nursing program has grown from just a handful of faculty and a few hundred students to well over a thousand undergraduate nursing students and a new masters nursing program. At this most recent visit, Dr. Umlauf was honored by receiving recognition from the Royal Patron of Nursing, HRH Princess Muna, mother of King Abdullah of Jordan. ❖

*Breads In the market.*

*Ruins of the city of Decapolis in northwest Jordan.*



*Detail from an ancient mosaic floor in Madaba, Jordan.*



*Spices In the market.*

## News and Events



A view (right to left) of Golan, Lake Tiberius (historically, Sea of Galilee) and Israel taken from the ruins of one of the ancient Roman cities of the Decapolis, Umm Quais, located in extreme the northwest corner of Jordan.

Dr. Umlauf (left) with Dr. Fariba Al-Darazi, Regional Adviser, Nursing and Allied Health Personnel, WHO/EMRO, and Dr. Marianne Hattar of Azusa Pacific University.



Below: Dr. Umlauf with the mother of the king of Jordan, Princess Muna (conveying the award plaque).



Dr. Umlauf (center) and two former students: Drs. Huda Gariabeh (right) and Suzanne Ahmed (left). The framed photos in the background are of the reigning King Abdullah (right) and his late father King Hussein (left).

# Student Highlights

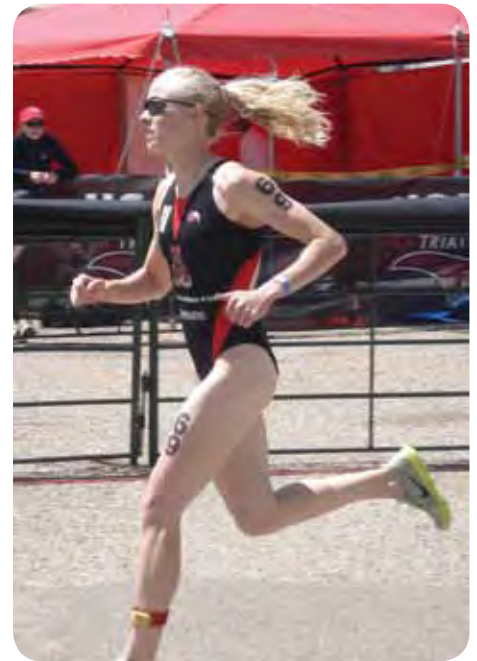
## NURSING STUDENTS DO MORE THAN GIVE SHOTS

Imagine running the length of the Bryant-Denny Stadium football field 109 times, but only after completing a one-mile long swim and a bike course that is almost 25 miles long. As impossible as this may seem, it is a challenge that is regularly faced and conquered by the members of the Alabama Triathletes including Junior nursing students **Alex Woodard** from Columbus, Mississippi and **Meredith Tyler** from Birmingham, Alabama.

Alex, who started competing in triathlons in 2005, has already participated in 35 sprint and Olympic-distance events. He doesn't believe in skipping classes or missing training. "I train every day and do a little bit of everything each day. I swim in the morning, bike around lunch and run in the evening," he said. Alex begins train-

ing about 5 a.m. and also trains between classes. He said balancing sports and school is nothing new to him. He was on the cross-country and swim teams in high school and was already training on a daily basis. He ran his first triathlon during his senior year in high school. "Training for a triathlon is similar to cross-country in that it takes regular daily training," he said. "You may not have to run as far, but you're swimming and biking every day." While he has little leisure time, Alex said he plans to do triathlons as long as his body will let him. "It's addictive seeing how fast you can go and what good shape you can get in," he said. "And it's a great way to travel around the world."

Alex's career as a triathlete began on a borrowed bike in August of 2005. "My



uncle was a triathlete and talked me into competing in an event in Guntersville," he said. "And I figured since I was already swimming and running cross-country in high school, I might as well go for the tri-fecta. "So he let me borrow his bike and I finished fifth in the beginner's division out of like 200 people, and I have been hooked since then."

Meredith grew up as a competitive gymnast. After graduating from high school she decided to retire from gymnastics and try something new in college. Originally looking for a fun sport to keep in shape and meet new people, she had no idea triathlon would become such a huge part of



Alex Woodard (left) and Meredith Tyler (right) after a race in March.



## Student Highlights

her life. Meredith currently trains at least twice a day. A typical day usually starts around 5:30 a.m. with a swim or run, and ends with either a bike, run, or a combination of all three. "Triathlon takes a lot of discipline and dedication, but UA has a great team, and we all work together to stay motivated," she said. They have four races as a team each semester and she races on her own during the summer. Meredith is currently ranked first in the SECTC for 2009, and was second in 2008. She raced in a national championship race this summer and placed eighth, which qualified for world championships in 2010. Currently in the first semester of upper division nursing, Meredith finished last semester with a 4.0. "Upper division will be challenging, but I hope to continue to succeed with both grades and triathlons."

Although the Alabama Triathletes have only been an established club for five years, the team is already making a big impact on intercollegiate triathlon competition. For the past four years they have been the overall team champion and had the overall female and male champions in the Southeast Collegiate Triathlon Conference.

Beginning in the spring, Alex and Meredith will have to add something else to their list of things to juggle. They will begin clinicals in the hospital with their second semester of upper division nursing.

Good luck to them and the entire UA team. ❖



*Alex rides through the bike stage at the USAT Talent ID Triathlon in Lubbock, Texas, in April.*



# Student Highlights

## DREAM JOB AT CHILDREN'S PAYS OFF FOR RECENT GRAD

CONSWELLA C. BENNETT FOR THE DUNWOODY CRIER

**L**ike most, **Megan Brischler** was thrilled to land her dream job soon after graduating from the University of Alabama in December 2007, but she never dreamed that she would come away with more than job satisfaction.

She put her nursing degree to use by landing a job at the only hospital she had imagined herself working - Children's Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite.

"I knew I was going to work at Children's Healthcare," Megan said with a knowing smile. "I had a bunch of friends and family who work there, and I heard it was the place to be for pediatric nursing."

And while it can be heartbreaking and stressful, Megan added, that the emotional whirlwind of a career brings her joy when she is able to help sick children.

After only 5 months on the job, while working the night shift, Megan, who had crossed paths with a number of children with various degrees of illnesses and injuries during their short stays met a patient who would become special -Carlyle Rollins.

Megan, a native of Gwinnett County who calls Dunwoody home, met 9-year-old Carlyle, the daughter of Danielle and Glen Rollins, of Atlanta in July. Carlyle's leg was crushed just below the knee after an accident on a go-cart. After spending time in the pediatric ICU, Carlyle was placed on the second floor where she met Mega.

"I was her night nurse," Megan recalled. After seeing each other during her work nights, they quickly formed a special bond. The chemistry was so noticeable that Megan said co-workers described their relationship as 'older sister, younger sister'.

The two shared a passion for the American Girl dolls and often during breaks Megan would spend time with Carlyle. The two would sometimes spend time in Carlyle's bed playing with the dolls and their accessories or simply watching TV.

For Danielle Rollins, who watched her daughter fight through the near-death experience and multiple surgeries and procedures —Megan and the other nurses and doctors had become like a family. Carlyle would spend a total of 3 months in Children's, both Scottish Rite and later, Egleston, where she was placed on a ventilator after suffering from a secondary infection.

Danielle said it was something special about Megan, who she described as "young and very beautiful. They hit it off."

Every night she came to work, Danielle said Megan was always, "so chipper. She's just a sweet person."



*Patient Carlyle Rollins (left) and her friend, nurse Megan Brischler reunited last week at a special luncheon to raise funds for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta.*

Every evening, Carlyle said she eagerly checked the board to see if Megan was on the schedule. "She was just nice," Carlyle said who she describes as 'Megan, my very, very special nurse friend.'

It was a difficult 3 months for the Rollins family, Danielle said she thought of times when she wondered if she would leave the hospital with her only daughter alive, and praised the work of the staff at Children's where the family still visits for checkups and treatments. Carlyle now has an external fixture on the leg that they once thought would have to be amputated. She has two more surgeries to undergo.

Through it all, Carlyle and Megan grew closer. And when she had some rough nights, Megan was there to help comfort and reassure her.

When she had to return to the ICU, Megan visited during her breaks. And, when Carlyle was transported to Egleston, she visited her there.

"Some of the time, she didn't know I was there," Megan recalled. Like Carlyle's parents, she was happy when Carlyle was released from Egleston to her home. "She went from a wheelchair to a walker and now she can walk," she said. "She has this amazing spirit, and I'm proud of her accomplishments."

The two stay in contact via email, cell phone text messaging and every few months they get together for a girl's day outing. A few weeks ago, they went to Build-A-Bear Workshop and had lunch at the American Girl Bistro.

"You can pay someone to do a job, but you can't pay someone to love the job. It's more than a calling," Danielle said of Megan and the Children's staff passion as Carlyle was undergoing physical therapy.

Although nursing can be a hectic and stressful career, Megan said, "It's worth it. Nursing school is extremely hard, but it's definitely worth it in the end. It's an emotional career but you get so many rewards...the biggest reward is helping people." ❖

## Student Highlights

### NURSING: THE OLDEST ART

I grew up in Signal Mountain, Tennessee, before moving to Tuscaloosa in 2002.

Despite living in Tennessee for 17 years, I somehow managed to become an Alabama fan. I always knew the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa was where I wanted to further my education. In fact, I applied nowhere else; so I am fortunate I was accepted.

While growing up and trying to find a favorite pastime, I dabbled in a variety of activities such as softball, horseback riding and arts and crafts. Swimming, however, became my first love. In middle school, I was fortunate to be able to attend Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga. This private school is known for challenging girls in all aspects of life, not just academically. I found a second home on the school's swim team, my initial reason for applying GPS. I loved the school until ninth grade when the excess estrogen on campus began to annoy me. For the sake of avoiding female cattiness and drama, I became

very isolated and searched for the positives the school had to offer me. Since swimming had become my life before and after school, I learned that the outstanding art and science departments were the two places inside school where I could truly express myself. Although I didn't think I had talent for art, somehow I managed to win several awards at GPS. Science classes, especially those with labs, were extremely interesting to me.

When it was time to apply for college, I knew where I wanted to go, but the decision concerning a degree was uncertain. Since I did have some artistic talent, I decided to become an art major. To my dismay during the Christmas holidays of my freshman year, my father lovingly told me he didn't want to pay for a hobby. I knew I wanted an exciting career in which I would be able to make a difference in the world, so I considered nursing and began the pre-nursing courses. The following Christmas I had no money to spend on presents, so I painted pictures for my family. They turned out really well, and my father encouraged me to look for a way to combine both my passion for helping others with my creative mind. Considering the detailed



Abby Vaughn

nature of my artwork, he strongly pressured for plastic surgery to be my goal; so the major was changed yet again to pre med!

Unfortunately, pre-med courses did not involve the cool anatomy and physiology courses I found so intriguing. To me, chemistry and physics were ridiculously boring. I changed to biology for a while, later drifted to psychology, and briefly courted theatre. A little over a year ago, I realized that my parents' advice is always supportive and valuable, but sometimes they just don't know my heart. I have now come full circle and ended right back where my heart has always led me. I am happier than I have ever been. I am fascinated by the magnificence of the human body and am humbled that I will be able to help others while making a decent living. I still have the thought of becoming a plastic surgeon in the back of my mind, and I will always nurture my love for sports and art. I am honored to be a nursing student at the Capstone College of Nursing. My goal for now is to say I will become a proud graduate of the program and represent the Capstone well wherever I go. ❖

*Some of Abby's artwork displayed on the Adult Health bulletin board at the college.*



# Alumni Profiles

## STEVE GALVEZ, CLASS OF '90



**Present Job:**  
Nurse Practitioner  
working with  
West Alabama  
Emergency  
Physicians at  
Northport DCH  
Emergency Dept.  
and West Alabama  
Family Physicians,  
P.C. at First Care.

**Personal Info:**  
When able to get  
off from work, I  
love the outdoors.

I look forward to the fall/winter time for bow hunting. Spring time brings out the bass and crappie poles. Then there are always the great UA sports to follow. I am active with West Alabama Nurse Practitioner Association and currently serve as Vice President.

**Favorite Memory of CCN:** Starting my first clinicals with Dr. Marsha Adams in Centerville, AL. Being there and providing the basic care that was taught to me and my classmates----then seeing that you can make a difference.

**Last Book I Read:** Multiple journals with health care. I try to stay up-to-date with the field of Advance Practice Nursing.

**Last Movie I Saw:** Star Trek

**Favorite Quote:** Don't worry about the past; just know tomorrow you can do better.

**Advice to Graduating Seniors:** Unfortunately you are coming out in one of the worst economic times many have never seen. Though times look bad, your need is great. Be able to market yourself and what you have achieved from CCN. ❖

## STEPHANIE MASSEY, CLASS OF '98 BSN/'04 MSN



**Present Job:**  
OEF/OIF Program  
Manager –  
Tuscaloosa VA  
Medical Center  
(operation  
enduring freedom/  
operation Iraqi  
freedom)

**Personal Info:**  
Married to Kenny,  
daughter Hillary  
age 16, son  
Houston age 11.

**Favorite Memory of CCN:** My favorite memory is due next year... a new building for CCN!

**Last Book I Read:** who has time to read???

**Last Movie I Saw:** Ghosts of Girlfriends Past

**Favorite Quote:** Not to engage in the pursuit of ideas is to live like ants instead of like men.

**Advice to Graduating Seniors:** The nursing field has so much to offer, never work some place where you are not happy. If you get no sense of fulfillment, your patients will be the first to notice! ❖

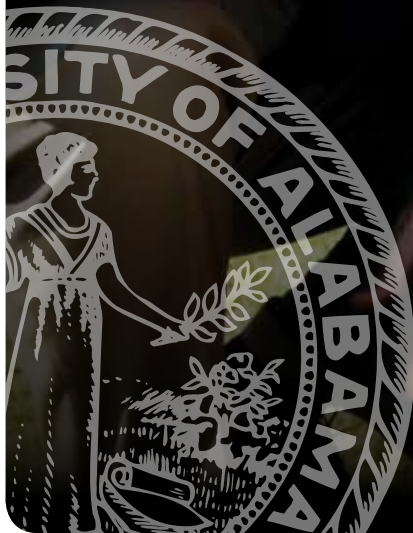


## TOPPING OUT PARTY

On Friday, October 2, Doster Construction invited CCN and friends to join the construction crew at a “Topping Out Party” at the new building. A “Topping Out Party” is thrown for the workers when the actual structure is complete. Everyone was able to walk through the building, and blue prints were on site so everyone could locate their offices. Thank you to everyone working so hard on our new building! ❖



INVEST *in a legacy.*



A TRADITION OF WINNING,  
*A legacy of giving*

When you establish a Donor Advised Fund at The University of Alabama, you are forever opening doors. For college students dreaming of making a positive difference in the world. For public charities focused on enriching lives. You choose how to direct your gifts. In return, you receive immediate tax advantages. And instant gratification.

*To learn how the Donor Advised Fund can work for you, call (888) 875-4438 or visit us online at [daf.ua.edu](http://daf.ua.edu).*

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA | *The Donor Advised Fund*

# Faculty Highlights



**Dr. Marsha Adams** was selected as a University of Alabama Leadership Fellow and a Southeastern Conference Leadership Fellow. The mission of the Leadership Academy is to prepare University faculty and staff for senior leadership positions at the University and other flagship universities.

Dr. Adams along with Dr. Theresa Valiga, edited *Achieving Excellence in Nursing Education* which was published by the NLN and continues the NLN's long tradition of championing excellence in nursing education. Dr. Adams is editor and contributing author to another NLN publication, *Excellence in Nursing Education*. She also contributed the chapter, "Educator Perspective on Transitioning Clinicians into the Academic Faculty Role," in *Clinical Nursing Education: Current Reflections*.

In addition, Dr. Adams and Dr. Sara Barger were recognized by Governor Bob Riley for the college's work with KidCheck. The KidCheck initiative is based on the partnership model developed by Dr. Adams and the Bibb County Child Caring Foundation. A special thank you goes to the CCN

Fundamentals faculty and students who make this project such a success!

Dr. Adams, Dr. Ann Graves, Dr. Angela Collins and Ms. Becky Edwards presented

"Making Simulation Real" at the Alabama League for Nursing Annual Meeting Pre-Conference Workshop at the Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama. ❖



(Left to right) Barbara Terry, RN, Bibb County School System, Governor Bob Riley, Dr. Adams and Dr. Sara Barger at KidCheck recognition ceremony.



(Left to right) Ms. Becky Edwards, Dr. Adams, Dr. Ann Graves, Dr. Angela Collins making conference presentation.

# Faculty Highlights



Dr. Marietta Stanton and the Capstone College of Nursing recently bid farewell to two graduate program faculty.

**Dr. John Blakney** has served as the Faculty Mentoring Coordinator for the last year and a half.

**Dr. Carol Lammon** has retired from full-time teaching, but will remain with the college part-time. We wish them all the best.



## NEW FACULTY



**MICHELE MONTGOMERY**  
PHD, MPH, RN  
Assistant Professor

## FACULTY MILESTONES



**OLIVIA MAY**  
5 years



**SUSAN MITCHELL**  
5 years

## NEWLY PROMOTED FACULTY

**HALEY STRICKLAND,**  
MSN, BSN, RN, CCRN  
Instructor



**DR. MARIETTA STANTON**  
10 years



**DR. JEANETTE VANDERMEER**  
25 years

## Faculty Highlights



**Dr. Jeri Dunkin** received a standing ovation from the participants at the technical workshop for the DON HRSA grants on September 16 and 17 in Rockville, Maryland. There were about 200 representatives from schools of nursing all over the country. During the director's opening remarks, she gave an outstanding summary of Jeri's work as a pioneer with nurse managed clinics and the acquisition of FHQC status.



**Dr. Angela Collins** and **Dr. Ann Graves** had their manuscript entitled "Developing an Interactive Microsimulation Method in Pharmacology," accepted for publication in the *Journal of Nursing Education* as an Educational Innovation article. Dr. Collins was also promoted to Clinical Professor. She is the first to hold this rank in Alabama.



**Dr. JoAnn Oliver** received a Department of Defense grant entitled "A Prostate Cancer and Screening Educational Intervention among African-American Men Dwelling in the Rural South." Dr. Oliver has just been appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of *The Journal of Cultural Diversity*.



**Dr. Linda Dunn, Dr. Jeri Dunkin** and **Dr. Marilyn Handley** published "The Provision of Spiritual Care by Registered Nurses on a Maternal Infant Unit" in the *Journal of Holistic Nursing*, March 2009.



**Dr. Ruby Morrison** has been certified as a Clinical Nurse Leader by AACN and was promoted to Professor.



**Dr. Mary Umlauf** has completed the certification requirements for Adult Nurse Practitioner from the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.



**Dr. Marilyn Handley** and **Dr. JoAnn Oliver** passed the NLN's Certified Nurse Educator exam.



**Dr. Ann Graves** and The Capstone Rural Health Center has been awarded \$17k from the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham (CFGB) to help fund the Walker Area Resources and Needs (WARN) Project! This award is only \$500 short of the proposed CFGB contribution and WARN is one of the few proposals that received anything near the total amount requested.



**Dr. Roy Ann Sherrod** wrote the article “Male Infertility: An Exploratory Comparison of African American and White Men” which was accepted for publication in *The Journal of Cultural Diversity*.



**Dr. Susan Gaskins** wrote the chapter “The Person with HIV/AIDS: Nursing Perspectives,” published in *HIV Infection in Women*. Dr. Gaskins has been appointed to the Research Committee of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care, an international organization.

### GASKINS RECEIVES GRANT FROM NINR

African Americans (AAs) are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS, accounting for 47% of all adults living with HIV/AIDS and their death rate from AIDS is 10 times greater than whites’ (CDC, 2004). AA men have the highest rate of HIV infection in the country and AIDS cases are growing most rapidly in the rural South. Conservative cultural norms in the rural South result in stigmatization and shunning, making people with HIV/AIDS reluctant to tell others about or disclose their disease. People who do not do so are less likely to have the knowledge and skills to manage their disease, less likely to use health care services and potentially are more likely to infect others. Disclosure of being HIV+ is a difficult and important decision, but it is key to accessing supportive resources and services necessary for positive health outcomes. However, there are potential negative consequences to disclosure such as rejection, discrimination, shame, fear and even physical violence.

Dr. Susan Gaskins has received a grant from the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) to study the decisions and experiences of rural AA men related to disclose being HIV+. Dr. Pamela Foster, Deputy Director of the Institute for Rural Health Research is co-investigator on the study and Dr. Richard Sowell, Professor and Dean at College of Health and Human Services at Kennesaw State University, a widely recognized scholar and researcher in HIV/AIDS, is a consultant on the study. Dr. Karl Hamner, Director of Scholarly Affairs at the Capstone College of Nursing, worked with Gaskins and Foster in developing the NIH grant application.

The study will address how rural AA men with HIV/AIDS describe disclosure decisions and experiences with partners and family members. Gaskins and Foster are interested in what helps or inhibits sharing their status with others, as well as the consequences for themselves, their partners and their families. Findings from the study will be used to develop interventions and programs to assist rural AA men in their decisions about telling others that will most likely lead to support, care, positive outcomes and decreased transmission of HIV.

The study will include 40 rural Alabama AA men with HIV/AIDS aged 19-49. Participants are being recruited from AIDS Service Organizations and clinics that serve rural populations (West Alabama AIDS Outreach, Selma AIR, and the 1917 Clinic at UAB). The men will be interviewed individually about their personal decisions and experiences related to telling others about their disease. The agencies involved in the study acknowledge that disclosure of HIV/AIDS is an issue that affects all of their clients. The goal of the study is better understand HIV/AIDS disclosure in this high risk population in order to develop and refine services, decrease HIV transmission, and enhance disease management for HIV infected individuals. ❖

*(Left to right): Dr. Karl Hamner, Dr. Susan Gaskins and Dr. Pamela Foster.*



# Faculty and Staff

## ADMINISTRATION

**SARA BARGER**, DPA, RN, FAAN, Dean 348-1040

**DONNA PACKA**, DSN, RN  
Associate Dean for Academic Programs 348-1044

**MARIETTA STANTON**, PhD, RN, C, CMAC, CNA, BC, CCM,  
Director Graduate Programs 348-1020

**MARSHA ADAMS**, DSN, RN, CNE  
Director, Undergraduate Programs 348-7156

**JEANETTE VANDERMEER**, DSN, RN  
RN Mobility Coordinator 348-9873

**JERI DUNKIN**, PhD, RN,  
Saxon Chair, Director Practice and  
Community Partnerships 348-9877

**KARL HAMNER**, PhD  
Director of Scholarly Affairs 348-0129

**SHELLEY JORDAN**, MSN, JD, RN  
Director of Advancement 348-9876

## SUPPORT STAFF

**JOHN BLAKNEY**, RN, MSN  
Faculty Mentoring Coordinator 348-8163

**LINDA COX**  
Program Assistant, RN Mobility Program 348-2826

**DEBORAH HOLLOWAY**  
Office Associate 348-6642

**PAMELA HORNE**  
Program Assistant, Practice and  
Community Partnerships 348-7429

**PAT MCCULLAR**  
Recruitment and Graduate Retention Liaison 348-8163

**PRISCILLA PAYNE**  
Executive Secretary to the Dean 348-1040

**VICKIE SAMUEL**  
Office Associate 348-3071

**KAREN SILLIMAN**  
Administrative Secretary to the Associate Dean 348-1044

**JANET THOMPSON**  
Manager, Fiscal Affairs 348-6637

**LISA TYNER**  
Program Assistant 348-7156

## OFFICE OF NURSING STUDENT SERVICES

**REBEKAH WELCH**  
Director 348-2616

**VALERIE MILLS**  
Academic Advisor 348-2613

**KATARA SMITH**  
Mentoring and Recruitment Coordinator  
RN Mobility Program 348-8858

**CYNTHIA MORRIS**  
Records Specialist 348-6829

**BRITTNEY DAVIS**  
Receptionist 348-6639

## LOWERY LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

**MICHELLE MCKAY**, PhD  
Director Technology and Distance Education 348-9498

**TOM LITTLE**  
Manager, Area Computing Services 348-6629

**PATRICK MCINTYRE**  
Computer Lab Assistant 348-4032

**REGINA ANDREWS**  
Learning Resource Specialist 348-7260

**ANDREA FOWLER**  
Human Patient Simulator Support Specialist 348-7260

## CAPSTONE RURAL HEALTH CENTER 205-686-5113

**RHONDA BLACK**, LPN **LINDSEY GANN-TODD**, CRNP

**SHARON HAYGOOD**, LPN **TAMMY SNOW**, LPN  
Receptionist Office Manager

**DAVID JONES**, CRNP **MONICA MILLWOOD**  
Associate Medical Director/  
Assistant Executive Director Medical Assistant

**Nancy Smith**, RD, CDE

**KIM KEY**, RN **Stacie Allred**, RN  
Receptionist Case Manager

**MATTHEW MAULDIN**, RN **Kayla Franklin-Short**  
Manager Area Eligibility Coordinator  
Computer Services

**PEGGY MCGRAW**, RN  
Nursing Coordinator

# CAPSTONE COLLEGE OF NURSING ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Promoting the profession of nursing and quality nursing education requires commitment. Membership in the University of Alabama Capstone College of Nursing Alumni Association is one way to demonstrate your commitment to the University of Alabama's Capstone College of Nursing. Your membership is an important way to help provide scholarships, reward student excellence, and increase the financial base that allows us to engage in activities beyond day-to-day operations. If you have any questions about the University of Alabama Nursing Alumni Association, call us at (205) 348-6639 or write to us at the address below.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
first middle last

If you are UA alumnus/a, please indicate the following:

Date Degree was awarded \_\_\_\_\_ (month/year) Last name at graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
city state ZIP

Employment \_\_\_\_\_ Employer's Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse's Employer \_\_\_\_\_

My annual membership gift is as follows:

- ( ) ..... \$60 – \$99 Support Group Membership
- ( ) ..... \$100 – \$249 Century Circle
- ( ) ..... \$250 – \$499 Crimson Circle
- ( ) ..... \$500 – \$999 Ivory Circle
- ( ) ..... \$1000 – \$4,999 Denny Chimes Circle
- ( ) ..... \$5,000 – \$9,999 Capstone Circle
- ( ) ..... \$10,000 – and above: The 1831 Circle

Family memberships are encouraged:

- ( ) Minimum of \$75 .....UACCNAA Alumni Association Family Membership

## Matching Gifts Program

Matching gifts are an excellent way to double your support to the College.

Does your or your spouse's employer have a matching gift program? ( ) yes ( ) no

If yes, please provide the name and address of the organization:

Make checks payable to the University of Alabama Capstone College of Nursing Alumni Association Fund and mail to The University of Alabama, Office of Advancement Services, Box 870101, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0101. (Your gift is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. You will receive an official receipt of your donation by the end of the calendar year from The University of Alabama Office of Advancement Services.)

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE CAPSTONE COLLEGE OF NURSING!**

THE **capsule** CAPSTONE COLLEGE OF NURSING

Newsletter for alumni, friends, faculty and staff.

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**ALABAMA**  
N U R S I N G

Box 870358  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0358  
<http://nursing.ua.edu>

## EVENTS

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>OCTOBER 15</b> | <b>ALABAMA NURSING<br/>HALL OF FAME</b> |
| <b>OCTOBER 16</b> | <b>BOARD OF VISITORS MEETING</b>        |
| <b>OCTOBER 17</b> | <b>HOMECOMING ON THE LAWN</b>           |

---

To contribute to the Capstone College of Nursing's scholarships, programs, and activities, email [sdjordan@bama.ua.edu](mailto:sdjordan@bama.ua.edu) or call (205) 348-9876.

---