



Partners in Practice

Radford University School of Nursing

VOLUME III, ISSUE II

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Living and Giving

As most of you (29) transition into the DNP program and are back in school, what does living and giving have to do with your current state in life. What does living and giving now have for those of you completing the program? Think about it. Remember passing NCLEX and those NP Certification exams and getting that indescribable feeling that: "I made it." I am certain many of you did not think that being an RN or an NP or MSN would have ushered you into a career that would be non-stop giving of self, of talent, of competency and skill where your critical thinking would save lives.

Let me share with you some personal thoughts on living and giving while a student. It was 1978 when I entered an MSN program having had 6 children. My husband was on a corporate ladder to be a VP and suggested that I go to school full time (2 years). He did not know how long we would still be in New Jersey. I had full tuition, with a government subsidy, to be a Geriatric Nurse Practitioner (GNP) when NPs were not accepted by state Medical Boards. We shared the children and he was a real loner giving baths to the children and doing household routines in the evening. I can recall Saturday's and him saying, "Come on kids we have to go out while Mommy does her homework". Do these comments sound familiar? I just want you all to set your priorities and know that this DNP affects your life at home and those who love you. Set aside time for them. That living was real loving for me to its greatest extent. Someone else accepted me as a true partner in marriage and parenting. He had acquired an MBA the year prior. There were no computers, only typewriters. He did become a VP and we moved to New Orleans where I could not practice as an NP except in the VA which was not under state law. The giving to Veterans was so rewarding as well as giving to students as a faculty member at Louisiana State University School of Nursing. I still enjoy giving to all of you in different and individual ways. Love yourselves too and know that you have an important role to play in the future of nursing. Never stop giving as you will literally shrivel up and lose your identity.

While your professors press hard and rigorously, you will be taxed to the max but know that we are giving of ourselves to you. You will follow us and carry on the living and giving. If for any reason you are not in this, living and giving, framework, maybe you need to reassess because you cannot give if you have little left of self. Your faculty are here as a major resource, lean on us and we can and will support you in many ways. Give to us by communicating in a professional manner and let us know what you are thinking – but always be that professional nurse.

Welcome to the 2013-2014 year.

Dr. Ginger





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Letter from the Director

August always brings about the excitement of new school year, often thought of as a fresh start. We have many students returning this semester but we also have a new cohort of 25 excited students.

Regardless of where you are in your program of study, be prepared to stretch your brain. Doctoral study is not easy or many nurses would do it. You are unique and you have committed yourself to this wonderful journey of knowledge attainment. Your job is to stay focused on the prize at the end.

Mike Magee, MD wrote in his *Book of Choices*: "None of us is perfect. We have cracks, some more visible than others. But that does not mean shouldn't try to

reach the stars, that we intentionally sell short ourselves...Commit to pursuing your highest aspirations."

As you begin or continue your DNP journey, keep the words of Dr. McGee at the forefront of every decision you make. If you think you cannot write, seek help. If you are struggling in a course, seek help.

Your entire faculty and the many wonderful support people on our campus are able and willing to assist you toward your highest aspirations. When the going gets tough, dig deep, stay committed, and remember that you were chosen for this program because you want to reach for the stars. Have a wonderful semester.

Tony Ramsey

Coordinator's Comments

This August we have twenty nine newly enrolled students in the DNP program and we launched our new Nurse Executive Leadership Concentration. We have had a busy summer at RU and have hired two new faculty members: Melanie Parks DNP FNP-BC as an Assistant Professor and Kathleen Cox, PD who will be the Associate Director. They are very talented nurses and you will be hearing about them in the future. This year (2013) we will have had 17 graduating from the DNP Program. It has been a success for your faculty to see you all participating in conferences, publishing and translating research into practice. Your commitment is to be praised. As you begin a new semester, please be assured that your faculty are here to serve and that we expect you to continue your excellent performance. I do not think that is an unreasonable trade off.

Students

Joining Burggraf on the online list of top 20 medical and nursing professors in Virginia is **Hadley Sporbert**, a nursing instructor at Longwood University and a candidate in the RU's Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

Linda Ely has submitted her Capstone project: *Primary Care Nurse Managed Clinics: Barrier, Benefits and Sustainability* to the Journal of Nursing Economics.

DNP student, John Philips, received the Outstanding Faculty Advising Award at the RU Convocation on August 22, 2013.

Kate Brennan, Instructor at Radford University School of Nursing, wins Daisy award, Spring 2013. Kate, nominated by her peers, impressed both her students and fellow faculty members with her dedication to teaching and the future of nursing



Faculty

Welcome to the School of Nursing:

Dr. Kathleen Cox, Assistant Director

Dr. Cox joins the RUSON faculty family this fall. She comes to us from the University of Virginia (UVA) School of Nursing where she held the position of Coordinator of Health Systems Management. She received her BSN from the College of Mount St. Joseph, Cleveland, Ohio, her MSN from Indiana University, Indianapolis, Indiana, and her PhD from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), Richmond, VA. She has published extensively in the areas of rural nursing and conflict resolution. She will undertake the position of Associate Director of RUSON.

Dr. Melanie Parks DNP, RN-BC. FNP-BC

Dr. Parks received her BSN from Husson University, ME, her MSN FNP from Radford University School of Nursing (RUSON) and her DNP from Case Western Reserve, Ohio. She has held many positions and most recently at Carilion Clinic Saint Albans Hospital. She has taught on-line for Waldren University and Grand Canyon University. She has been an adjunct for RUSON. We welcome her into our faculty family as an Assistant



The following is a citation for my recent publication. Birx, E. (2013). A comparative concept analysis of centering vs. opening meditation processes in healthcare. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 69, 1895-1904. doi: 10.1111/Jan.12032

Dr. Lisa Onega has been awarded an \$40,000 grant through the 2013-2014 Commonwealth Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Research Award Funds (ARDRAF) to study: *Bright Light Therapy for Individuals with Dementia*.

Dr. Burggraf was named a top college professor in Virginia by Online Schools Virginia and as one of the International Top 100 in the April 2013 edition of International Top 100 magazine.

In addition: Dr. Ginger Burggraf received, at the RU Convocation on August 22, the One Million Dollar Circle award for having achieved over a million dollars of external funding in her career at the Radford University School of Nursing.

Dr. Eunyoung Lee was awarded fellowship in the American Heart Association. . **Lee, E.** Medication Review Table-PLUSs (Pathopharmacologic Learning Utilization to Study Smarter). Student Supplements for Textbook: **Adams, M.P., Holland, Jr. L.M., & Urban, C.Q. (2013).** "Pharmacology for Nurses: A Pathophysiologic Approach, 4rd Ed. *Published*.



Alumni

SALUTING SCHOLARSHIP

Edythe Boitnott received the VDH Nurse Educators scholarship in April for the second year. In addition spoke on public TV about sleep apnea and presented at the VCNP local chapter about sleep apnea.



Carey Cole, Detta Compton, Faye Lyons, Katie Katz have all written chapters: Diabetes, Heart Disease, Skin Cancer and End of Life respectively in the textbook: Burggraf, V., A. Knight & K. Kim (Eds.) (2014). *Health Aging: Principles and Clinical Practice for Clinicians*. Philadelphia, PA; Lippincott Williams and Wilkins/Wolters Kluwer

Dr. Harvey and I (Dr. Lee) submitted a manuscript to a journal, *Clinical Simulation in Nursing* in May and in the process of revision based on the reviewer for publication.

Harvey, E., Echol, S., Clark, R., Lee, E. A comparison of traditional and simulation TeamSTEPPS training methods on progressive care nurse performance related to failure-to-rescue. Submitted to *Clinical Simulation in Nursing* in May, 2013. In process of minor revision.

Please follow this link to find out what other wonderful things Dr. Harvey is doing:

<C:\Users\nurs-web\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\4NXF7SF9\For August Newsletter- Ellen Harvey.mht>



Amy Johnson, recent August graduate, has submitted her Capstone project: *The Importance of a Comprehensive Database to Prevent Agricultural Injuries* to the *Journal of Agriculture Safety and Health*.



Katie Katz has published in the August edition of *Senior News*: *Are you ready for "The Talk?"*



The 2013 RU BSN to DNP class with Guest. From left: Dr. Ginger Burggraf, Susan Martin, Meredith Drew, Jerusalem Walker, Provost Sam Minner, Nichole Hall, Rebecca Biersbach, Amy Johnson & Tony Ramsey, Director, School of Nursing.

Dates to Remember : Fall 2013 Semester

Last day to withdraw with a full tuition refund.....	Sept 9
Last day to Add/Drop for GR students	Sept 9
Last day to Drop with full refund.....	Sept 9
Last day for Graduate students to apply for Fall Graduation..	Sept 9
Last day to withdraw from classes with a grade of “W”	Nov 12
Last day of classes for Fall semester.....	Dec 6

Tell others about our DNP Open House on Wednesday,

Dec. 4 from 6 PM - 8 PM in Heth 014

**contact Pam Moore at 540-831-7741, if they are interested
in attending.**