



College of Nursing

VILLANOVA
UNIVERSITY

THE GRADUATE NURSE NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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The **Graduate Nurse Network** (GNN) is the graduate student organization in the College of Nursing with the goal of keeping the graduate nursing students informed while providing networking opportunities.

This format of the GNN Newsletter is to foster opportunities for networking by featuring a **Sharing Forum**. The **Sharing Forum** will highlight research, conferences, and rewarding experiences of which the master's and doctoral students wish to share. If you would like to learn more about the students' experiences, you may contact the students via e-mail.

Many fellow students reported that their semester was busy and they didn't have much news to report. But, here is what some of us have been doing:

Michele (Dougherty) LaMora (MSN Education) and her husband Andy welcomed their first child, Eva Sophia, in July. Michelle is anticipating a December graduation from the program, and is currently carrying out her research proposal, titled "The Experiences and Perceptions of Adult Dwarfs about Health Care."
michele.lamora@villanova.edu

Jennifer Ross (2nd Year PhD) On September 3, 2008 at 6:54am, she and her husband welcomed their first child, Sophie Ann to the world. She was 7 lbs 15 oz and 20 inches long. Now, at 2 months old, Sophie amazes them every day with her smiles and coos. Jennifer continues to pursue her doctoral course work on a part-time basis as well as continues to work as adjunct faculty one day per week. Adjusting to motherhood and balancing school, work, and family has been a challenge, but she is loving every moment of it!
jennifer.ross@villanova.edu

Linda Napieralski shares some great suggestions about how to manage graduate school and a career: "It is stressful doing this but honestly, blocking out time and making lists is my sanity saver. I just set time aside to do my work for Villanova and it's worked fine. I am teaching 2 courses at my job and taking 2 courses this semester and it's not as bad as I thought. My advice is that yes it's stressful but not as bad as I thought. Try and take some time for yourself too."
linda.napieralski@villanova.edu

Gary Guldin (MSN, Education) submitted a proposal to the State Board of Nursing and was given approval to start a practical nursing program at PSU-Berks campus. They hope to have 20-25 students start in January 2009. The program is an 18 month, part time, evening and weekend program for practical nursing.
gary.guldin@villanova.edu

Ierubino (MSN, Education) is working on creating a new tool to recreate fetal monitoring sounds to use during simulation. She is working with Paul Lecat, inventor of the Ventrilo-scope. After graduation in December she will be an adjunct faculty member for Villanova during the spring semester.
jane.ierubino@villanova.edu

Lisa Wetzel-Effinger (MSN, Nursing Education)
How quickly the last two years have flown by! After completing her MSN in December, she will both continue as a clinical instructor for Delaware County Community College and working as a staff nurse at Lankenau Hospital. She will also be working as a Project Director at Villanova with Dr. Kim Trout on her study "Perinatal Outcomes with Carbohydrate Restriction for Gestational Diabetes." Dr. Trout received an Academic Research Enhancement Award through the National Institutes of Health through 2011 and will include eighty participants in her study.

Betsey Romeo (PhD) is currently developing her Independent study for next semester. Her area of interest involves characteristics of nursing students and their relationship to first time NCLEX-RN passage. One of the specific characteristics of interest is the degree of critical thinking and NCLEX-RN results. She plans on attending the Mosby's Faculty Development Conference in Orlando Florida in January. She will be working with Dr. Heverly from a statistical perspective to outline the methodology for her dissertation. She is also planning to submit an abstract for the 2009 Center for Nursing Research-Alpha Nu Research Conference that will be held at Villanova in March of 2009. She continues as a full-time PhD student this semester and as a full-time faculty member at Gwynedd-Mercy College School of Nursing.

Cari Rogerson (MSN, Adult Nurse Practitioner) has been studying a lot! She is a Cardiac Care Associate with the American College of Cardiology and has been since 2003. She is also a member of Preventative Cardiovascular Nurses Association, American Association of Cardiac and Pulmonary Rehabilitation, and the National Lipid Association.

Peggy Briggs (MSN, Education) is looking forward to graduation next month and searching for a teaching position. She attended an excellent conference on pain and chemical dependency recently in Philadelphia (International Conference on Pain & Chemical Dependency- aka ICPCD) Addiction medicine has become an area of interest for her. She thinks there is a great need for education among health care providers on the subject of substance abuse and its treatment. Her independent study project was entitled "Pain management issues in patients with a history of opiate addiction".
margaret.briggs@villanova.edu

Johanna McNally (MSN, Education) is in her first semester in the graduate nursing program and is attending Villanova part time. She works part time at Bryn Mawr Hospital in the CCU. She also works part time as adjunct faculty at a local college. She is married and has four children -my greatest accomplishments."

Debbie Abraham (Post master's in Adult Primary Care) has been volunteering at Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Deschapelles, Haiti since 2002. Deschapelles is located in rural Haiti about 70 miles northeast of the capital, Port Au Prince. She spent the month of April there as well as a few weeks in August this year. She provides patient care on the hospital wards as well as in the dispensaries (clinics). Additionally, she provides professional development and other training classes. These classes have included train the trainer for CPR, leadership course for the head nurses, diabetes education, chest tubes, physical assessment, and shock.

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Stephanie Jeffers (First year doctoral student) works at Paoli Hospital on a Telemetry unit and teaches clinical part time for Villanova. She is currently waiting to start her first research study: "Influence of End of Life Education on Attitudes of Nurses Caring for the Dying Patient and Family". She has IRB approval from two hospitals and only needs to finish her IRB application for Villanova. It is a slow work in progress. So in addition to all of that, she is still trying to find time to be mom to my two boys! BUSY BUSY!

Stephanie.jeffers@villanova.edu

Nicole Coultres (Second year Anesthesia) was recently married. You may have known her as Nicole Jiulianti. She doesn't have any projects in the works right now because she is so busy with school.

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Meggie Greene (MSN, Adult Nurse Practitioner) continues to work for Campus Ministry, while attending school. She lives in Caughlin Hall with the freshmen. In December she will graduate with her Adult NP degree and will continue on with her post masters in Education. She hopes to do travel nursing or work with the less fortunate. She looks forward to the holidays when she can "go home to my home state of Georgia" to visit with family and friends.

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Kelly Nestor (MSN, Adult Nurse Practitioner) has managed to survive . She spent fall break in Connecticut with friends. She gave a talk about heart failure and hospice at Bryn Mawr Hospital's Pain and Palliative Medicine Nursing Fellowship Conference in October. She attended the Pre-Med Conference in Philadelphia with Laura Bowen, Melissa Bradley and Laura Rivera. She has accepted a job in an internal medicine practice and expects to start in February. She has been doing her clinical at this site since January. She was at World Series game 5 when the Phillies won the World Series!!!!

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Sarah Klein (MSN Adult Nurse Practitioner) is both excited and nervous to begin clinical next semester. One of her sites will be Penn at Radnor and the second site is yet to be determined. She is taking Assessment in which she is trying to keep her head above water. She is working per diem at Lankenau, and working as a Graduate Assistant. Her husband started a new position at Upper Darby teaching high school math, and her 16 month old son is starting to sing. Life is good!

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FALL NETWORKING EVENT

Please join us during the week of November 17th in the Holy Grounds for cookies.
Our goal is to encourage socializing and networking.

INFORMATION:

For information regarding the Graduate Nurse Network, or general questions on graduate programs, feel free to contact the members of the GNN Executive Committee:

Michele LaMora (Nursing Education) - michele.lamora@villanova.edu

Jane Ierubino (Nursing Education) - jane.ierubino@villanova.edu

Lisa Wetzel-Effinger (Nursing Education) - lisa.wetzel.effinger@villanova.edu

OPPORTUNITIES:

The College of Nursing will have several Tuition Scholar and Graduate Assistant positions available for spring semester, 2009 as well as, various opportunities for educational funding.

If interested, contact Dr. Marguerite Schlag, EdD, RN, Assistant Dean and Director,
Graduate Nursing Program

GNN OFFICERS

President:	Lisa Wetzel-Effinger
Vice President:	Sarah Klein
Secretary:	Janey Ierubino
Treasurer:	Michelle LaMora
Sharing Forum Chairperson:	Janey Ierubino
Member-at-Large:	Stephanie Jeffers
Faculty Advisor:	Dr. Patricia Haynor