



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. In the past, the GNN, has prepared a Newsletter to provide information about programs, activities, and services here at the College of Nursing. This information is now included in the spring and fall letter you receive from Dr. Marguerite Schlag, Assistant Dean and Director, Graduate Nursing Program.

This new 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.

## SHARING FORUM

**Bonnie Altieri**, (PhD), has begun a new position at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School as Executive Assistant to the Dean. She is also the current president of the Yale School of Nursing Alumnae Association Board. ([bonnie.altieri@villanova.edu](mailto:bonnie.altieri@villanova.edu))

**Talin Bakalian**, (Education), is working on her independent study this semester. Her topic is "The Relationship Between Perception of Quality of Life and Subsequent Medication Adherence in Diabetics". ([talin.bakalian@villanova.edu](mailto:talin.bakalian@villanova.edu))

**Susan Berryman**, (Education), is working on her independent study project this semester. The title of her project is "The Use of Role Play as a Creative Teaching Strategy to Facilitate Active Learning in Undergraduate Nursing Education". With a teaching goal in mind, Susan developed this project to enhance her own knowledge and background to prepare herself for her future experiences. ([susan.berryman@villanova.edu](mailto:susan.berryman@villanova.edu))

**Teresa Conte**, (PhD), will present "Did you say CANCER? Oncology Review for the Pediatric Nurse," at the Pediatric Nursing Conference in Philadelphia in July. She is an invited guest lecturer on Pediatric Palliative Care and Pediatric Brain Tumors at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing Oncology Seminar. Teresa recently authored, "Blood Beyond the Basics: A Transfusion Guide," a module that will appear in the Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses' forthcoming book, "Hematology Core Curriculum". ([teresa.conte@villanova.edu](mailto:teresa.conte@villanova.edu))

**Ruth Crothers**, (PhD), is doing her dissertation research on “Examining the Development of Organized Continuing Education for RN’s in the United States from 1957-1975”. The study aims to describe how nursing as a maturing profession has coped with the challenge of continuing education within a historical context. Knowledge gained from this study will serve in the development of models for providing quality continuing professional education for nurses. ([ruth.crothers@villanova.edu](mailto:ruth.crothers@villanova.edu))

**Deatrah DuBose**, (PhD), presented “Using High Fidelity Patient Simulators to Teach Care of the Patient in Cardiac Arrest” at the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual International Nursing and Computer Conference, in Toronto. She also presented “Using a High-Tech Patient Simulation to Enhance the Clinical Knowledge for Nursing Students” at the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial North American Learning Resources Centers Conference, in Philadelphia. ([deatrah.dubose@villanova.edu](mailto:deatrah.dubose@villanova.edu))

**Janet Fogg**, (PhD), has the following publication in press: “Dermatologic concerns, ophthalmologic disorders, and substance abuse”, in R.L. Watson (ed.), Core Review for Neonatal Intensive Care Nursing (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders Company. ([janet.fogg@villanova.edu](mailto:janet.fogg@villanova.edu))

**Ann Fronczek**, (PhD), will present her poster, “Visible Facial Disfigurement in Persons with Head and Neck Cancer: An Integrative Review,” at the ENRS Scientific Sessions in Providence, Rhode Island, in April. She also presented it in March at the Villanova University College of Nursing Research Conference. ([ann.fronczek@villanova.edu](mailto:ann.fronczek@villanova.edu))

**Margaret Hattori-Uchima**, (PhD), will present "Marginalization and Health Disparities" at the Guam Nurses Association Annual Conference this May. She has been reappointed to the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners and re-elected Vice-Chairperson. ([margaret.hattori-uchima@villanova.edu](mailto:margaret.hattori-uchima@villanova.edu))

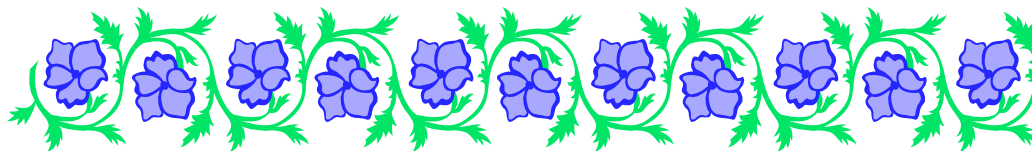
**Catherine Heilferty**, (PhD), was recently appointed to the full-time faculty at Holy Family University. ([catherine.heilferty@villanova.edu](mailto:catherine.heilferty@villanova.edu))

**Shelley Hickey**, (Education), is working with Dr. Mary Ann Rizzolo and Dr. Terry Valiga at the National League for Nursing (NLN) for her independent study this semester. She became interested in working with the NLN after attending the NLN Research Conference last spring. Her study involves surveying program directors of graduate and doctoral programs in the United States to evaluate how the NLN Nurse Educator Competencies are being utilized within these programs. Her goal is to present the findings of the survey in the NLN’s journal, *Nursing Education Perspectives*. The NLN will welcome further project ideas that would benefit both the NLN and the graduate student. ([shelley.hickey@villanova.edu](mailto:shelley.hickey@villanova.edu))

**Cynthia Hoens**, (PhD), is presenting her paper, “Food Allergies in Schools,” at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pediatric Nursing Conference in Philadelphia in July. She will present her paper, “Food Allergies in Children: When Food is the Enemy” in October at the ACNP National Clinical Conference in San Antonio. ([cynthia.hoens@villanova.edu](mailto:cynthia.hoens@villanova.edu))

**Jane Ierubino**, (Education), and her family spent spring break in Costa Rica this March. Jane enjoyed her week away from school with surfing, canyoneering, and a canopy tour in the mountains. ([jane.ierubino@villanova.edu](mailto:jane.ierubino@villanova.edu))

**Kelly Kuhns**, (PhD), was re-elected to the PA Nurses Cabinet on Practice and Professional Development. Kelly was also reappointed to the PA Nurse CE Reviewer Unit. ([kelly.kuhns@villanova.edu](mailto:kelly.kuhns@villanova.edu))



**Ruth McDermott-Levy**, (PhD), successfully defended her dissertation proposal on December 18, 2006. ([ruth.mcdermott-levy@villanova.edu](mailto:ruth.mcdermott-levy@villanova.edu))

**Amy McKeever**, (PhD), presented a poster, “Knowledge of Human Papillomavirus in College-age Women: An Integrative Review” at the Villanova University College of Nursing Research Conference. ([amy.mckeever@villanova.edu](mailto:amy.mckeever@villanova.edu))

**Jacqueline Meyer**, (PhD), is Counselor for Pi Kappa Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International. She is President-Elect of the Iowa League for Nursing. Jacqueline has also authored half of the on-line case studies to accompany the Nies Community Health Nursing text, which was published in Fall 2006. ([jacqueline.meyer@villanova.edu](mailto:jacqueline.meyer@villanova.edu))

**Jo Ann Platko**, (PhD), has been accepted as an On-Site Reviewer for the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Education Programs. She also has been recently appointed as a Grant Reviewer for the Health Resources and Services Administration. Jo Ann also accepted a reappointment as the District Z President for the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists. ([joann.platko@villanova.edu](mailto:joann.platko@villanova.edu))

**Cindy Rubenstein**, (PhD), will be presenting a doctoral student poster presentation entitled “Preventing Obesity in Preschool Children: An Integrative Review” at the ENRS conference in Providence this April. ([cynthia.rubenstein@villanova.edu](mailto:cynthia.rubenstein@villanova.edu))

**Anne Vitale**, (PhD), published “The effect of Reiki in pain and anxiety in women with abdominal hysterectomies: a quasi-experimental study”, with Priscilla O’Connor. This appeared in *Holistic Nursing Practice*, 20(6), 263-272. Anne has also completed the Certificate in Distance Learning Program through Thomas Edison State College. She will present her poster, “The Effect of Reiki on Pain and Anxiety in Women with Abdominal Hysterectomies,” at the ENRS Scientific Sessions in Providence in April. ([anne.vitale@villanova.edu](mailto:anne.vitale@villanova.edu))

**Lisa Wetzel-Effinger**, (Education), achieved Level III Clinical Nurse status on her telemetry unit at Lankenau Hospital. ([lisa.wetzel.effinger@villanova.edu](mailto:lisa.wetzel.effinger@villanova.edu))

*Congratulations to everyone on all your achievements!*

—The Graduate Nurse Network



**VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY**

**COLLEGE OF NURSING**

**GRADUATE NURSE NETWORK OFFICERS**

President:	Susan Berryman
Vice President:	Lisa Wetzel-Effinger
Secretary:	Jane Ierubino
Treasurer:	Shelley Hickey
Sharing Forum Chairperson:	Michelle Dougherty
Member-at-Large:	Suzanne Foley
Faculty Advisor:	Dr. Patricia Haynor



**REMINDER:**

Practicum and Independent Study Applications for Spring of 2008 are due by **October 1, 2007**.

Graduation applications for those graduating in August of 2007 are due by **July 15, 2007**.

Graduation applications for those graduating in December of 2007 are due by **November 1, 2007**.

Submit your stories and accomplishments for the Fall issue of the Sharing Forum to Michelle Dougherty (michelle.dougherty@villanova.edu) by **September 14, 2007**

**OPPORTUNITIES:**

The College of Nursing has graduate assistant and tuition scholar positions available for next semester, as well as, various opportunities for educational funding. If interested, contact Dr. Marguerite Schlag, EdD, RN, Assistant Dean and Director, Graduate Nursing Program ([marguerite.schlag@villanova.edu](mailto:marguerite.schlag@villanova.edu))

**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:

Michelle Dougherty (Nursing Education) - michelle.dougherty@villanova.edu

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

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