Adelphi Renews Doctoral Program in Nursing

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DEAN’S COLUMN

Renaissance, by definition, is a rebirth or revival. It is appropriate, then, to say that the School of Nursing is undergoing a renaissance, with the revival of our Ph.D. program and the rebirth of our school in many new directions. Recently, we have hired new faculty; introduced new programs; brainstormed new ideas; and adopted a new cutting-edge approach to educating nurses. I am very proud of what is being accomplished here and you, our friends and alumni, should be too.

Adelphi’s School of Nursing has come a long way, but we continuously strive to move forward with new ideas, research, and programs that meet the needs of the rapidly changing health care world. You have helped to make that happen. In our last edition of Illuminations, we asked for your input on a survey and we received many valuable and thoughtful responses. I thank you and appreciate your input and encourage you to keep us informed.

When I was a student at Adelphi, my classmates and I were told by the faculty that we would be the leaders of the next generation of nurses and that everyone who graduates from Adelphi was a leader in their own right. I have never forgotten those words and as dean of the School of Nursing, I have worked diligently to move our school forward to create that next generation of leaders. Our slogan, “Leading to New Horizons in Nursing,” is not just a slogan, but a mantra that I live by. It is my enduring mission and that of the School of Nursing to mold competent clinicians, educators, administrators, and scholars.

As you read this edition of the newsletter, you will see how our education of new leaders is enriched with faculty scholarship, state-of-the-art technology, alumni leadership, and partnerships with clinical facilities and more. Please take a moment to read about the recent accomplishments from nursing students, faculty, and alumni, and be sure to keep us up-to-date with your own achievements. We are proud of our alumni and friends. Without them, we would not be able to accomplish what we do or lead anyone to greatness.

As Walt Disney once said, “The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.” Here at Adelphi’s School of Nursing, we’re doing!

Until next time,

Patrick R. Coonan
Ed.D., R.N., C.N.A.A.
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing
In keeping with its commitment to preparing leaders, the School of Nursing has reestablished and revised its former doctoral program in nursing, the only one offered on Long Island.

The Ph.D. program puts the School of Nursing on a “different plateau,” said School of Nursing Dean Patrick R. Coonan. “You’re turning out leaders in the field and being held to a higher standard,” he said.

Adelphi’s 54-credit doctoral program, which is focused on research with an emphasis on nursing education, was created to prepare a new generation of scholars to address the national nursing faculty shortage, said Associate Dean for Research and Director of Graduate Programs Jane White, who oversees the doctoral program.

The program requires two years of full-time course work on topics such as health policy leadership, ethics in healthcare, and philosophical foundations in nursing science, followed by the completion of a dissertation. Students may enroll in the program on a full-time or part-time basis. They proceed through the program in “cohorts,” taking all classes as a group.

The first class of Ph.D. candidates is composed of seven working professionals, most of whom have prior teaching experience. They attend classes one day a week at the Garden City campus.

The students were attracted to the program at Adelphi because of the faculty’s infectious enthusiasm and the program’s focus on research.

“The faculty was a very important part,” said Richardenea Theodore, a Ph.D. candidate and network director of nursing education, research, retention, and special projects for the North Bronx Healthcare Network in Bronx, New York.

The students agree that obtaining the terminal degree in nursing will help them achieve their career goals.

Deborah Hunt, a Ph.D. candidate and full-time instructor of nursing at the College of New Rochelle in New Rochelle, New York, said she has both personal and professional reasons for pursuing a doctoral degree.

“I am teaching already, so it will help me to (receive) tenure and to develop personally,” she said.

By offering a Ph.D. in nursing centered on research and education, the School of Nursing hopes to cultivate scholars who will contribute to the field’s body of knowledge, said Dr. White.

“I really want (graduates) to publish and continue their scholarly work,” she said. “That’s my goal. Without that, the discipline will not grow or be strengthened.”

To learn more about the doctoral program in nursing, contact Jane White at (516) 877-4540 or email white@adelphi.edu.
The rescue crew arrived a few moments after the call came in reporting a collapsed chamber maid in one of the resort’s suites. The maid had inadvertently mixed together two cleaning chemicals, creating a toxic gas cloud that filled the suite. After donning full HazMat protective clothing, the rescuers made their way to the unconscious victim. They performed a rapid patient assessment, secured the victim’s airway with an endotracheal tube, and began the decontamination process, as three hundred observers looked on.

The onlookers were not merely voyeurs, and the maid was never really in any grave danger. Last summer, eight members of Adelphi University’s School of Nursing faculty, along with nursing professors, EMS educators, and hospital staff development specialists from across the Northeast attended a Simulation User Group (SMUG) training conference held at Foxwoods Resort in Connecticut to learn more about SimMan.

Sim, as his friends refer to him, was the maid in the toxic cloud case. He is an anatomically correct simulation mannequin manufactured by Laerdal. Not only does Sim breathe and speak, but he can also be adapted to look like a diabetic patient with foot ulcers, a trauma patient, or a post-surgical patient. Virtually every human vital function can be simulated on Sim using a laptop computer and the SimMan control software.

The School of Nursing recently purchased a SimMan that resides in the simulation laboratory in Alumnae Hall. SimMan systems are expensive and require intensive training to operate. The SMUG conferences, such as the one held last summer, provide a forum for educators to learn more about SimMan.

The days of practicing on a lifeless dummy have passed at Adelphi. SimMan allows students to practice their assessment and treatment skills in a dynamic interactive environment. Students interact with Sim by touching him, speaking with him, and viewing the bedside monitor, which can be configured to display all of Sim’s vital functions. The touch-screen display monitor can also provide relevant medical history, as well as X-rays, EKGs, and laboratory results.

Simulation training is not merely a passing fad. The practice has existed for decades in other industries, but only recently found its way to healthcare. Commercial airlines, NASA, and the military have used simulators for many years. Simulation is the logical tool to bridge the gap between classroom theory instruction and direct practice.
Most people only visit hospitals on those rare occasions when dire necessity leaves them with no other option.

Then there are individuals like Assistant Professor of Nursing William Daniel Roberts, who can barely remember a time in his life when he wasn’t surrounded by the familiar sights and sounds of a hospital.

“Both of my parents were hospital folk,” he said. “My father was the maintenance man and my mother was a ‘candy stripers,’ which is how they met. While my mother stayed at home to raise a family, my father continued his work in hospital maintenance in a small community hospital in rural southern Georgia.”

A young Dr. Roberts and his brother served as his father’s “assistants,” helping with tasks such as changing oxygen cylinders, repairing broken laboratory equipment, and keeping the water-chilled air conditioning unit running.

“Needless to say, I learned all about the different areas of a hospital and how each worked in concert to function as a healthcare organization,” said Dr. Roberts.

It was only logical, then, that Dr. Roberts decided to pursue a career in healthcare. He received his bachelor’s in nursing from the Medical College of Georgia, and a master’s in Acute Care NP from the University of South Florida.

Frustrated by the less than user-friendly nature of healthcare technology he relied on during his years as an acute clinical nurse, Dr. Roberts decided to pursue a doctoral degree in biomedical informatics at Columbia University.

His research in the field of informatics is paying off. Dr. Roberts was recently awarded a silver medal prize at the International Nursing Informatics Conference in Seoul, South Korea, for his paper, Knowledge Content of Advance Practice Nurse and Physician Experts: A Cognitive Evaluation of Clinical Practice Guideline Comprehension.

Q: What is your primary area of research?
A: My primary area of research interest is in the translation of human comprehension into computer knowledge structuring. Currently, healthcare is involved in a dynamic change from static data sequestered on paper forms to usable data freely exchangeable within electronic records. One requirement necessary for the transformation is to understand how users (comprehend) and use information so that we can, in turn, make the information computable. My immediate research project seeks to develop a simulation module of variable critical care data. This project will require multidisciplinary expertise in biomedical informatics, computer science, and systems engineering.

Q: How did you become interested in this discipline?
A: I had always been interested in technology and how technology was utilized in healthcare settings. However, I was more interested in the human response to technology and human use to inform technology. After a dozen years as an acute care nurse, I had enough negative experiences with healthcare technology intended to reduce my stress and workload, (which) only increased both. I knew more user-friendly systems could be achieved by user involvement during design.

Q: What are the biggest challenges in the field of nursing?
A: Nurses today are inundated with technology and choosing among technologies. Not only must they adapt to and be competent in using biomedical electronic devices, but they must also function in systems that are highly technical. It’s no longer enough for us to teach nurses to use technology. We must teach them the evidence behind the technology.

Q: What is Adelphi doing to deal with these challenges?
A: The School of Nursing recently approved a course in informatics. This introductory core course will introduce all master’s students to the central concepts and tenets of informatics: data, concepts and terminologies, healthcare systems, decision support, and knowledge structuring.

Q: What is your favorite aspect of teaching?
A: Being in class, sitting with the students, and hearing the ‘ah-ha’ moment. Many concepts are taught to nursing students from many different courses and often times these concepts (do not) cross paths until much later in the clinical setting or a synthesis course…. When the student gets it, you see it, you hear it, and I know that in some way I contributed to their learning.

Q: Any advice for students who wish to enter a health-related field?
A: Not all nurses work at a bedside with the typical House, M.D., or ER dramatised patient. The healthcare field is very broad now and is attractive to all types of degrees other than the typical patient-focused fields of nursing, medicine, social work, or physical therapy. The healthcare sector is now seeking out biochemistry, computer science, and systems managers.
WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Jacqueline Brandwein
Clinical Assistant Professor
Jacqueline Brandwein has served as a faculty member in the School of Nursing for numerous years. She has clinical expertise in pediatric and obstetrical nursing, as well as teaching experience in a variety of programs. Ms. Brandwein holds a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Post-Master’s Certificate from Hunter College; an M.A. from New York University; and a B.S.N. from Columbia University.

Nancy Cole M.S. ’75
Assistant Dean
Besides her new role at Adelphi, Nancy Cole also serves as director of nursing for Gift of Life International, a philanthropic organization that provides cardiac surgery and post-operative care to children from underdeveloped countries. A registered professional nurse, Dean Cole was previously director of academic programs at the College of New Rochelle School of Nursing, and associate executive director for two major divisions of the Catholic Medical Center of Brooklyn and Queens, Inc. She holds an M.S. in nursing from Adelphi University, and a B.S. from Boston College. Dean Cole also has an ANA certification in continuing education and staff development, and is a certified C.C.N.E. trainer in end of life curriculum.

Xiaomei Cong
Assistant Professor
A registered nurse in Ohio, California, and China, Xiaomei Cong was named Outstanding Instructor at Beijing Medical University and has clinical practice experience in neonatal intensive care and post-operative units. Dr. Cong has served as principal investigator on four grants and has collaborated on multiple refereed publications. She also has two articles currently being reviewed. Dr. Cong holds a Ph.D. from Case Western University, an M.S.N. from Chiang Mai University, Thailand, and a B.S.N. from Beijing Medical University, China.

Diane Dembicki
Assistant Professor
Diane Dembicki, who has spent the last few years in allied health, paramedics, and exercise physiology, has a wealth of teaching experience. She has participated on three grants, has several refereed publications, and has made numerous presentations. Dr. Dembicki holds a Ph.D. from Colorado State University, an M.A. from Indiana University, and a B.A. with high honors from SUNY New Paltz. She also has certifications in massage therapy and integrative yoga therapy teacher training.

David Keepnews
Associate Professor
David Keepnews, who was previously director of the Office of Policy Development at the New York Academy of Medicine, has taught at a number of nursing schools nationwide and served in a variety of capacities at several hospitals. His publications include commentaries and editorial, peer-reviewed journal articles, and a peer-reviewed book chapter. Dr. Keepnews is currently editor-in-chief of Policy, Politics & Nursing Practice. He holds a Ph.D. from Brandeis University, a J.D. and an M.P.H. from the University of California, and a B.S. from the University of San Francisco. Dr. Keepnews is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.

Robert Kerner ’89
Clinical Assistant Professor
Robert Kerner, a registered professional nurse, has taught as an adjunct faculty member at Adelphi since January 2005. With experience in both medicine and law in various hospital settings, Mr. Kerner is licensed to practice law in New York State and federal courts, and also holds numerous certifications in areas including emergency nursing and advanced life support. He holds a B.S. cum laude from Adelphi and a J.D. cum laude from New York Law School.

Myrtle-Denise Pollard
Assistant Professor
Myrtle-Denise Pollard, a registered nurse, has worked full-time as a pediatric nurse practitioner, a clinical preceptor at North Shore Long Island Jewish Health System, and an instructor at Columbia University. She also has a NCBPNP/N certification and a DEA registration. She holds a D.N.Sc and an M.S. from Columbia University, an M.P.H. from Hunter College, and a B.S.N. from Adelphi.

William Daniel Roberts
Assistant Professor
Board certified as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner, William Daniel Roberts also holds NP and R.N. licenses. Dr. Roberts has published four journal articles and has presented at several conferences. He holds a D.N.Sc from Columbia University, an M.S. from the University of South Florida, and a B.S.N. from the Medical College of Georgia.
Publications (Journal Articles)


Publications (Journal Articles—continued)


Sanders, L. (October, 2006). Celebrate Midwifery Week with Free Depression Screens for All Women. *Quickening Newsletter.*


Books/Monographs/Chapters: Authors


SCHOOL OF NURSING FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP (continued from page 7)

Presentations (Invited and Peer Reviewed; National and International)

Cohn, E., Greenfield, S., Coonan, P., Eckhardt, P., and Whelan, B. Poster Presentation: Building Bridges Between Academia and Service Using Clinical Pathways as a Teaching Tool in Medical Surgical Nursing. AACN Baccalaureate Education Nursing Conference, Buena Vista, Florida, November 2006


Cohn, E., Skopicki, H., Sackner-Bernstein, J. Presentation Scientific Session: To Educate and Compare Heart Failure Outcomes. Eastern Nursing Research Society 18th Annual Meeting, Cherry Hill, New Jersey, April 2006

Cohn, E. Paper Presentation: To Educate and Compare Heart Failure Outcomes Sigma Theta Tau, Third Annual International Evidence-Based Nursing Conference, Hawaii, June 2005


Coonan, P.R. Poster Presentation: Succession Planning: Implementing an Effective Program in a Health Care Organization. AONE National Meeting, Orlando, Florida, April 2006

Coonan, P.R. Poster Presentation: Public and Private Collaboration to Facilitate Nurse Recruitment. AONE National Meeting, Orlando, Florida, April 2006

Coonan, P.R. Invited Speaker: Nursing Leadership and Applying Appropriate Management Styles. NYSGOER (New York State Governors Office of Employee Relations), October 2005

Greenfield, S. Paper Presentation: Medication Error Reduction, Clinical Decision Making and the Use of PDA Technology. Drexel University Nursing Education Institute, Providence, Rhode Island, June 10, 2006

Greenfield, S. Poster Presentation: Use of PDA Technology to Reduce Medication Errors. National League for Nursing Educational Summit, Baltimore, Maryland, September 2005

Greenfield, S. Poster Presentation: The Use of PDA Technology to Reduce Medication Errors. 13th Annual Conference for Nurse Educators in Practice Settings and Schools of Nursing, Kennebunkport, Maine, May 2005


Klainberg, M. Poster Presentation: Assessing Needs of the New Traditional Student: Students in Transition. Drexel University Nursing Education Institute, Providence, Rhode Island, June 2006


Ryan, M., Ewing, B., and Zarco, E. Poster Presentation: An Evidence-Based Intervention to Reduce Alcohol Consumption on Campus, Caring for our Patients and Ourselves. 10th Annual Conference presented by The Institute for Health Care Education and Connecticut Nursing Research Alliance, Hartford, Connecticut, October 3, 2006
SCHOOL OF NURSING FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP (continued from page 8)


Sanders, L. Poster Presentation. Factors Associated with Depression Screening by Certified Nurse Midwives/Certified Midwives. Sigma Theta Tau 16th International Annual Research Conference, Waikoloa, Hawaii, 200


Valas, J. Presentation: Barriers and Conflict of Public Health System Change in an Age of Bioterrorism. National Association of Local Boards of Health Annual Conference, San Antonio, Texas, July 2005


Presentations: University and Local

Coonan, P.R. Invited Guest Speaker Caregivers Award Luncheon Long Island Chapter of the New York State Association of Health Care Providers, November 2005


Coonan, P.R. Keynote Speaker: The Leadership Challenge. Adelphi University School of Nursing and Alpha Omega Chapter. Sigma Theta Tau International Leadership Conference, May 2005

Coonan, P.R. Guest Speaker: Men in Nursing Seminar. Molloy College, School of Nursing, March 2005

Coonan, P.R. Invited Speaker: Creativity and Contingencies: Avoiding Frontline Catastrophes. Nassau Suffolk Hospital Council and Stony Brook University Hospital Elevating Frontline Leadership Conference, January, 2005

Dembicki, D. Speaker: Nutrition and Weight Control, Keys to Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle: Helping Senior Citizens Make Smart Life Choices. Adelphi University Adult Fitness Program, September 21, 2006

Greenfield, S. Paper Presentation: Clinical Decision Making and the use of PDAs. 2nd Annual Adelphi University School of Nursing and Alpha Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Leadership Conference, Adelphi University, May 2006

Flynn, K., Greenfield, S., and Pepper-Sanello, M. Presentation: Teaching Effectively to Large Classes for Senate Committee on Teaching and Advisement. Adelphi University, December 6, 2005

Greenfield, S. Poster Presentation: A Standardized Educational Approach to Reduce Medication Errors. 1st Annual Adelphi University School of Nursing and Alpha Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Leadership Conference. Adelphi University, May 2005

Kathryn, E. Presentation: Findings of the Nurses’ Insights to the Study to Understand Prognoses and Preferences for Outcomes and Risks of Treatment (S.U.P.P.O.R.T.): Under the Radar. Sigma Theta Alpha Omega Meeting Adelphi University, 200

Kathryn, E. Presentation: The Science in the Art and Caring of Nursing. Sigma Theta Tau Alpha Omega Induction Adelphi University, April 2005
SCHOOL OF NURSING FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP (continued from page 9)

Klainberg, M. Panel Presentation at the First Annual Leadership Conference, Adelphi University School of Nursing and Alpha Omega Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, Adelphi University, May 2005

Klainberg, M. Presentation and Discussion of the Book The Namesake, Literature and the Human Condition, Adelphi University, School of Social Work, November 2005


Ryan, M., Ewing, B., and Zarco, E. Poster Presentation: An Evidence-Based Intervention to Reduce Alcohol Consumption on Campus. Fifth Annual Partnerships in Health Conference: Campuses, Communities, and Schools Working Together to Improve the Health of Youth, Adelphi University, March 24, 2006

Ryan, M., Ewing, B., and Zarco, E. Poster Presentation: An Evidence-Based Intervention to Reduce Alcohol Consumption on Campus. Third Annual Research Conference: Expanding the Boundaries of Learning Through Research. Adelphi University, April 26, 2006

Ryan, M., Ewing, B., and Zarco, E. Poster Presentation: An Evidence-Based Intervention to Reduce Alcohol Consumption on Campus. Second Annual Nursing Leadership and Research Conference, Every Nurse is a Leader, Adelphi University School of Nursing and Alpha Omega Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International, Adelphi University, May 12, 2006

Sanders, L. Oral Presentation: Successful Grant-Writing Strategies, Adelphi University Parenting Conference, June 2006

Sanders, L. Paper Presentation: Factors Associated with Depression Screening of Women by Certified Nurse Midwives/Certified Midwives, Adelphi University and Alpha Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau Annual Leadership Conference, May 2005

Awards

Mary Hickey Sigma Theta Tau Alpha Omega Chapter, Research Award Funding for Study Entitled: “A Study of Preceptors Views of New Graduates Readiness for Practice,” May 2006


Marybeth Ryan 2006 Spectrum Nurse Educator Award, for New York-New Jersey Region

Sue Greenfield 2005 Adelphi Distinguished Faculty Excellence Award, awarded by 2006 Senior Class

SCHOOL OF NURSING OFFERS M.S. IN NURSING EDUCATION

Adelphi University School of Nursing recently received approval from New York State to offer a new Master of Science degree in nursing education that will train nurses to serve as faculty, which is a critical measure in addressing both the nationwide nursing faculty and nursing shortage.

Due to a lack of qualified faculty to teach students, nursing schools across the country have been forced to turn away potential nursing applicants. Adelphi’s new 39-credit program offers courses in areas such as curriculum development, assessment and measurement, and instructional design. The program also pairs a graduate student with a seasoned faculty member for a semester in order for the student to gain firsthand exposure to teaching.

Students may enroll in the program on a full- or part-time basis. Adelphi also offers a 21-credit post-master’s certificate in nursing education for individuals who already have an M.S. degree.

For more information, contact program director Marybeth Ryan by email at ryan@adelphi.edu, or visit the School of Nursing Web site at http://nursing.adelphi.edu.
This past September, the School of Nursing hosted faculty from the College of New Rochelle, Farmingdale State University of New York, Molloy College, Nassau Community College, Queens College, and Suffolk Community College for the first of three lectures in the new Buckley Visiting Scholar Lecture series.

Attendees convened to hear Mary McDonald, a prominent nursing educational consultant, speak about improving confidence in classroom multiple-choice exams. The Buckley Visiting Scholar Lecture series is sponsored by the Adelphi Buckley Institute for Faculty Development.

The goals of the Adelphi Buckley Institute for Faculty Development are to provide three yearly symposia featuring a scholar in nursing education, serve as a community venue for nursing faculty from other colleges and universities to explore best practices, and to showcase and reward best practices in nursing education.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

Dawn Felice was honored with the Mildred Montag Award.

Philip DiBennedetto was honored with the Moji Ayinde Annual Clinical Excellence Award.

Ann DeSimone was honored with the NACLI Nursing Award.

Michelle Perry and Ruth Gupta were honored with the SNAP Award.

Junior Brenda Sporn was honored with the Peggy Ann Burleigh Award.

Juniors Jenna Wrzesc and Amanda Bloom were awarded the B. Loretta Guoner vomLehn Memorial Scholarship.

Junior Lily Kam was awarded the Ruth Woodroffe Gangel Memorial Scholarship.

Junior Janet Maracic was awarded the Patricia Keene DeGeorge Memorial Scholarship.

Master's student Thamara Rajeev was honored with the Gertrude B. Ujehly Scholarship Award.

Master's student Mary Perry was recognized for an Outstanding Master's Project.

Master's student Mary McDonald was honored with the Dean's Award for Leadership.

In addition, 51 new members were inducted into Sigma Theta Tau and 38 students graduated with Nursing Honors.
This past October, Sharon Grosser, executive director of the Roslyn Savings Foundation, visited Adelphi to meet with three recipients of the foundation’s scholarship and to tour the School of Nursing’s new facilities.

In March 2006, The Roslyn Savings Foundation donated $25,000 to establish The Roslyn Savings Foundation Endowment. This endowed scholarship will help to provide the necessary funds in perpetuity for students attending the Adelphi University School of Nursing.

The School of Nursing celebrated the re-establishment of the Ph.D. in nursing with a cocktail reception at Alumni House on Friday, November 3, 2006.

Dubbed the Nursing Renaissance Reunion, the festive evening brought current nursing doctoral students and alumni together to reminisce about old times and to celebrate this exciting new chapter in the University’s history.

Adelphi President Robert A. Scott, School of Nursing Dean Patrick R. Coonan, and nursing administrators, faculty, and staff were on hand to toast the School of Nursing’s continued successes.
The power of persuasion is one of the hallmarks of a truly effective and visionary leader. Few people epitomize this principal more than Dianne Cooney Miner Ph.D. ’96, founding dean of the Wegmans School of Nursing at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, New York.

Not only did Dr. Cooney Miner make a convincing argument to the Wegmans Foundation in Rochester that led to an $8 million gift to create a school of nursing at St. John Fisher, but she has also set her sights on tackling a much bigger obstacle—the law.

Joining forces with members of the State Board of Nurses to write a position paper on the importance of baccalaureate nursing education, Dr. Cooney Miner and her colleagues proposed a measure that would require all nurses licensed with an associate’s degree in New York State to obtain a bachelor’s degree within 10 years, or their license would become inactive. The paper is now a bill making its way through the New York State Senate and the Assembly. Although Canada has moved to an all-baccalaureate nursing workforce, the New York State bill is the first of its kind in the United States, said Dr. Cooney Miner.

Is Dr. Cooney Miner just an innate orator, you may ask, or did she hone her locution skills somewhere along the way?

She credits her Adelphi education, particularly a philosophy of science class taught by Dr. Stephen Greenfield, with teaching her how to craft convincing arguments and strategies. “We learned how to put together a sound argument, and that’s the skill that I use more than any other in my role as an administrator,” said Dr. Cooney Miner.

Dr. Cooney Miner has enjoyed a lengthy and successful career in the field of nursing, holding faculty and administrative positions at various institutions throughout the state, in addition to working as a clinical specialist.

Not one to accept the status quo, Dr. Cooney Miner has now set her sights on her next endeavor: developing a doctorate in nursing practice at St. John Fisher College.

She sees the development of a clinical doctorate akin to an M.D. as the future of nursing.

“I think where we are headed in the profession is that we cannot lose sight of the fact that nursing is a practice, so our focus in education, research, and administration should be centered around the patients, families, and communities that we serve,” said Dr. Cooney Miner.

She and her staff are currently developing a curriculum for the clinical doctorate program, and would like to have it in place by spring 2008.

For those looking to dedicate themselves to a meaningful career, Dr. Cooney Miner would highly recommend nursing as a profession.

“I have never doubted that what I know and do as a nurse have made a difference in people’s lives,” she said. “That’s a privilege. I would say that you must be a person who is not afraid of a rigorous field of study and is committed to lifelong education, because (the field) is constantly changing and evolving.”

DIANNE COONEY MINER PH.D. ’96: HEALTHCARE’S HARBINGER OF CHANGE

From left: Marybeth Ryan, associate professor and director of the master’s program in nursing education; Jane White, associate dean for research and director of graduate programs; and Patricia Donohue Porter M.S. ’78, Ph.D. ’87, assistant professor at Molloy College and Adelphi Ph.D. alumna.

RENAISSANCE REUNION A ROUSING SUCCESS (continued from page 12)

From left: Nursing student Michele Ronco ’10, alumna Geraldine Valencia-Go ’89 Ph.D., and nursing student Marlee LiButti ’10.
RESUSCITATING HEALTHCARE: KATHLEEN GALLO Ph.D. ’94, M.B.A. ’97

Kathleen Gallo Ph.D. ’94, M.B.A. ’97 is the person you want to go to in an emergency, whether it’s the life-threatening variety or if your company needs a new strategy for organizational learning.

Dr. Gallo, a 2005 Adelphi School of Nursing Hall of Fame inductee, is as adept at resuscitating an organization’s transformation efforts as she is at nursing a patient back to health. In her pioneering role as senior vice president and chief learning officer for the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System in Great Neck, New York—the first position of its kind nationwide in healthcare—Dr. Gallo forged a strategic alliance between North Shore-LIJI, General Electric, and Harvard’s School of Public Health to create the largest corporate university nationwide in healthcare.

Since assuming her post in 2001, she also revamped the department of human resources at North Shore-LIJ into a strategic business partner for all of the system’s other business units and developed a system-wide service excellence strategy, which uses a measurement system to improve patient satisfaction at a national level while transferring proven best practices from other industries into the field of healthcare.

Besides handling the demands of a busy career with aplomb, Dr. Gallo has also been married for 29 years to Len Gallo and is the mother of Thomas, 27, and Matthew, 26.

Q: How did obtaining both your Ph.D. in nursing and your M.B.A. from Adelphi help you to achieve your career goals?
A: I think a Ph.D. prepares you well to be an independent scholar and to conduct research in an academic center. The M.B.A. provides you with a skill set to manage a business and is also transferable to any industry. I really have the best of three worlds—the clinical piece, the business piece, and the academic piece. I have options across multiple industries, and that’s why I made the investment in educating myself early on.

Q: Describe a typical day on the job.
A: I report to the CEO and I’m part of the senior staff, so I might be meeting and collaborating with the senior executives to discuss strategies, execution plans, and goals. Or I may be getting the voice of the customer, meeting with employees throughout the health system. I may be meeting with my direct reports: the vice president of human resources, the vice president of the Center for Learning and Innovation, and the director of the safety institute. Part of a senior executive’s job is making sure that your staff has everything they need to get the job done and to also move all barriers out of their way.

Q: What are the most rewarding aspects of your job? What are the most challenging?
A: (The most) rewarding is having people that work for me become highly successful and providing opportunities for them to develop into the next level, so that they advance their careers. A key role of any senior executive is identifying, mentoring, and coaching the next group of leaders. The most challenging aspect is managing the cultural change that is taking place in the organization as it moves to the next level. Healthcare is very competitive and our goal is to become a national leader in healthcare.

Q: What lessons did your Adelphi education teach you that you utilize daily?
A: I would say looking out into the marketplace, listening to your customers, and identifying what strategies we need to bring into an organization that are best in breed. Also, the ability to build a compelling business case for new programs that will advance the health system.

Q: What are your fondest memories of Adelphi?
A: My classmates. There’s a handful of us that all stuck together. I think whenever you’re in a rigorous program, to go through it with people in similar situations—working, family, etc.—it just makes it more achievable. We had a lot of laughs!!

Q: Where do you see the field of nursing going in the next five years? 25 years?
A: As healthcare changes, the workforce competencies will change. Nursing will always be at the center of patient care delivery. We are with the patient 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. As technology advances and is adapted, hopefully it will lead to more time the nurse has with the patient and less time performing administrative functions. I also envision nurses becoming key leaders in healthcare organizations, that is...the CEO role. There will be a need for additional business education required for these roles, but appropriately prepared nurses are ideal for the number one job.

Q: Any advice for students who wish to enter the field of nursing?
A: Anyone who is going to enter nursing must know that it is a professional career. We need smart, compassionate people who possess intellectual curiosity and an ongoing desire to learn, combined with an attitude of providing an exceptional patient experience. There are many wonderful career opportunities for nurses who choose to pursue them.
The Results Are In…

We would like to thank those of you who took the time to respond to last issue’s reader survey.

An overwhelming number of survey respondents want greater coverage of lectures, conferences, and other events, as well as more news on what your fellow alumni are up to. Nearly half of those who responded said they would like to see more coverage of Alumni Class Notes in the newsletter, so be sure to submit your notes and we will include them in an upcoming issue of Illuminations or Adelphi University Magazine.

As always, we appreciate your feedback on Illuminations, and we will keep doing our best to bring readers the information that you crave about the School of Nursing.

Here’s what some alumni had to say about Illuminations and the School of Nursing:

“It is great to see that the School of Nursing is thriving and has the support of the University.”

“The appointment of new faculty is encouraging and promising—let’s hope for more.”

“Very informative. Good hearing about the unbelievable changes in the program and the field of nursing since my time on campus.”

“So nice to know [the] School of Nursing is doing well and getting new equipment… I am always proud to say I am an alum.”

Calling all Nursing Alumni!

We would like to hear from you

Keep track of your former classmates by reading the latest issue of Illuminations. Share news of your accomplishments and activities by filling out this brief survey. Or, keep in touch with former classmates and keep up-to-date on upcoming alumni events via Adelphi’s new online community. Visit www.alumni.adelphi.edu and click on “Alumni Directory” to register today.

Name:_________________________________________ Degree and Year of Graduation:_________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone:_________________________________________ Email:________________________________________

Work Address:____________________________________________________________________________________

Work Telephone:_________________________________________ Work Email:________________________________

Please tell us about your professional activities, special projects, or personal news in the space provided:

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Thank you for taking the time to respond. Please return the form to:

Adelphi University
Office of Alumni Relations
One South Avenue
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Garden City, NY 11530-0701