



Elizabeth Courtney

Nursing student Brandy Bryant, left, works with Patty Elmer, a nurse at Regina Continuing Care Center.

Federal grant

Nursing students gain experience in geriatric care

The School of Nursing and Health Professions has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Nursing, to help prepare nursing students to care for patients in long-term care facilities.

The grant for \$24,923 includes clinical experiences for 10 students each semester at Regina Continuing Care Center in Evansville. Participants are seniors enrolled in either the nursing management course or a course on the nursing of chronically ill children and adults.

Dr. Martha B. Sparks, associate professor of nursing, said the goal of the program is to increase the number of registered nurses who accept positions in nursing homes and to prepare them to function well in those posi-

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Graduate program prepares health-care administrators

Internet delivery is convenient for working professionals

Carol Meese of Evansville had been looking for a graduate program that would enhance her skills while allowing her to continue to fulfill her responsibilities as director of strategic planning for St. Mary's Health Care Services. Abdul Alboloshi of Toronto sought the same thing — a graduate program that would develop his skills as a health-care administrator while he works full time as a health records administrator at Sunny Brook Health Science Centre in Toronto.

Both Meese and Alboloshi found the program they need. They are members of the first class of 14 students pursuing a Master of Health Administration degree through the School of Nursing and Health Professions.

The M.H.A. program is offered to meet an expressed need for health-care administrators with enhanced analytical and decision-making skills.

Most of the instruction is delivered on the Internet. Students will come to campus several times during the semester for Friday evening and Saturday sessions, a format that allows them to fit the graduate program into their professional lives.

Carol Hermes, program director of health services, said a customer-sensitive approach is one of the major goals of the new graduate program, along with intellectual

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Elizabeth Courtney

Members of the first class in the graduate program for health administration are, from left, Tonya Heim, Jeanne Melton, Mary Edwards, Wayne Hurlock, Patricia Maxwell, Tony Schmidt, Carol Meese, Emily Eckert, Mary Bruins, Josh Scheller, and Lisa Gish.

Dean's Notes



Dr. Nadine Coudret

Serving the region and building global awareness

True to our University's mission, the number-one focus of the School of Nursing and Health Professions during the past year has been the education of health-care professionals to meet regional workforce needs. We have done this by adding new degree programs (sonography, Master of Health Administration, and Master of Occupational Therapy) and by offering Internet certificate and continuing education programs at the national level for practicing health-care professionals.

Our success in teaching scientific understanding, technical competence, and excellence in professional practice is reflected in our graduates' superior performance on national registry examinations and high employer satisfaction.

Another important goal of our programs is teaching our students compassionate caring. A simple but useful definition of compassionate caring is "the art of treating patients and families as we would wish to be treated." During the past several months, a number of individuals in the community have taken time to report that new USI nursing and health professions graduates have shown caring in a way that has distinguished them from other new graduates. These reports are the inspiration that move a dean and faculty to work even harder to be sure that the value of caring is incorporated in all our programs. The faculty, staff, and students' inclusion of compassionate caring in their practice is an important contribution to the quality of health care.

Consistent with the goal of caring and respect for the individuality of patients, the school is providing opportu-

nities to increase our students' awareness and experience with the global community. Nursing students and I accompanied a Deaconess Hospital team to the interior of Jamaica and gave care to more than 300 Jamaican inpatient and clinic patients.

In addition, graduates of the Master of Science in Nursing program presented papers along with faculty at the International Council of Nursing in Denmark this summer. Finally, using Harlaxton College (owned and operated by the University of Evansville) as a study center, 15 students in undergraduate nursing, health services, and graduate nursing spent two weeks of the summer in England learning about the British system of health care.

Global learning activities planned for this year include student-faculty trips to Jamaica and an expanded summer learning trip to England. Cooperative planning with USI's Office of International Programs and Services will provide additional global learning opportunities in the coming year.

During this year we will continue to develop our on-campus, cyberspace, and international educational programs to meet the increased health-care workforce needs. Program development and the continued emphasis on preparing competent caring practitioners will occur because of the outstanding teaching team of school faculty, staff, and clinical preceptors who are committed to teaching excellence and student learning.

Health administration

Continued from page 1

and creative rigor. The campus meetings will include sessions with nationally recognized speakers, networking opportunities, and team-building activities.

Hermes said, "The on-site portion of the curriculum will integrate Internet learning into realistic simulations of the business environment."

Meese said she expects the program to formalize the skill set she has used on the job for 12 years. "I'm already in health care," she said, "and what's being taught validates what I

do." Her job involves data and research to identify community need and design appropriate services.

Alboloshi learned about the program through the USI Web site when he was enrolled in the Case Management Certificate Program offered by the School of Nursing and Health Professions. The distance education format expands educational opportunities outside the Tri-State.

The curriculum includes 39 semester hours of credit. Courses range from health-care finance to operations research to health-care law and ethics to marketing and strategic planning. In their last semester of

study, students will complete an administrative residency.

Courses are offered year-round. Students may enroll on a part-time or full-time basis.

All coursework has been designed to meet the demands of the Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration (ACEHSA). Attaining ACEHSA accreditation is a priority over the next few years.

Applicants for the program must hold a bachelor's degree. Hermes said that most candidates have some work experience in the health-care field, although that is not a requirement.

Program Notes

Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene

Orientation

Sigma Phi Alpha Dental Hygiene Honor Society and junior students in the dental hygiene program sponsored a picnic during orientation to welcome new students into the program. Twenty-four students are enrolled in the sophomore class, 23 students return in the junior class, and 11 students are returning to complete the bachelor's degree in dental hygiene education.

National exam — 100%

All students in the Class of 2001 successfully completed the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination.

Annual meeting

Amber Bernard, junior dental hygiene student, represented the University of Southern Indiana as a student delegate at the Indiana Dental Hygienists' Association Annual Session in Indianapolis in May.

Professional presentation

Two graduates of the Class of 2001, Kimberly Freeman and Kimberly Hite, presented a scientific table clinic titled, "Radiation Induced Xerostomia" at the annual session of the American Dental Hygienists' Association in June in Nashville, Tennessee. They developed the table clinic as students in the dental hygiene program.

Clinical service

Junior dental hygiene students are continuing their clinical service to the community by providing treatment to clients at Impact Ministries Dental Clinic.

Health Services

Nutrition minor

A minor in nutrition is now available through the health services program. Three of the five required courses are offered this semester. These courses are principles and applications in

nutrition, nutrition for fitness and sport, and dietary supplements and herb use in nutrition. Two additional courses—nutrition through the life cycle and community nutrition—will be offered in the spring. Along with these five courses, a chemistry or biology class is required.

The minor, open to all students, regardless of major, offers an opportunity to explore an area of growing importance to health care. Contact Dr. Julie McCullough, assistant professor of nutrition, or other health services faculty for information.

Nursing

Preceptor recognition; Pain management

Clinical teaching associates and preceptors were recognized by the nursing program during a conference held September 6 in Mitchell Auditorium of the Health Professions Center.

Clinical teaching assistants and preceptors are staff nurses, nurse managers, nurse practitioners, and physicians who provide clinical learning opportunities for USI nursing students. Faculty hosted a luncheon in their honor during the conference.

Titled "Pain: the Fifth Vital Sign," the conference program was designed to prepare nursing students to understand and manage pain. The content provided an overview of ethical and clinical issues. Featured speakers were Jeannine M. Brant, a pain consultant and oncology clinical nurse specialist with St. Vincent Hospital and Health Center in Billings, Montana, and Patrick J. Coyne, clinical nurse for palliative care and pain management at the Medical College of Virginia Hospitals/Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. They addressed pharmacologic, nonpharmacologic, and innovative treatments.

The pain management program was sponsored by Purdue Pharma and supported by the Nancy Day Farmer

Pain Management Endowment Fund, which has provided funds for pain management education and research since the School of Nursing and Health Professions was established.

Occupational Therapy

Graduate program

Classes in the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy program may begin as soon as spring semester. The Indiana Commission for Higher Education approved the curriculum at its March 9 meeting.

Radiologic Technology

Eight-year accreditation

Faculty of the radiologic technology program recently were notified that the program has been awarded the maximum eight-year accreditation period by the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The next review by the on-site visitation team will be in winter 2009.

Annual meeting

The third-year students in the radiologic technology program attended the annual meeting of the Indiana Society in Radiologic Technology October 4-5 in Warsaw, Indiana.

Respiratory Therapy

Academic competition

Respiratory therapy students Renita Able, Sonoma Clampit, Angela Helming, and Nick Schapker finished second in an academic competition at the Region II Respiratory Care Conference in Covington, Kentucky, in April.

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Faculty Notes

Deborah L. Carl, program director of dental hygiene, attended the National Dental Hygiene Program Directors' Conference in Dana Point, California, in June. She was co-chair of the conference and will serve as chair of the 2002 conference in Cancun, Mexico.



Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the School of Nursing and Health Profession, and several faculty members participated in the International Congress of Nursing in Copenhagen, Denmark in June. **Dr. Judy Halstead**, director of instructional services and resources and associate professor of nursing, and **Victoria Kelley**, special projects director, presented a paper entitled, "Sexual Health Education and Behaviors of Incarcerated Women." **Dr. Gayle M. Roux**, assistant professor of nursing, and **Mary S. Rutherford**, instructor of nursing, presented, "Health Beliefs and Practices in Rural El Salvador."



Gale Hoehn, instructor in nursing, attended a course sponsored by the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC). The intense three-day program designed specifically for bac-

calaureate and associate-degree nursing faculty was held in June in Cleveland, Ohio. ELNEC is a comprehensive three-and-half year national project to improve end-of-life care by nurses. Nursing faculty who participate are committed to integrating end-of-life care into the nursing curriculum at their schools.



As a member of a national committee for the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, **Dr. Sheila K. Melander**, professor of nursing, participated in rewriting scope and practice materials for the critical care clinical nurse specialist. This year the committee will review the document describing the scope and practice of the acute care nurse practitioner.



Dr. Aimee J. Luebben, program director of occupational therapy, was elected secretary of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) in March. During the three-year leadership commitment, she will serve on the executive board and will be a voting member of the representative assembly, the legislative body that sets policy for the profession.

Luebben made presentations in April and June at professional meetings in Reno, Nevada, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In the spring she was named the Integra Bank 2001 Distinguished Professor for the University of Southern Indiana. She received a grant from Integra Bank, will select a student to receive a scholarship in her name, and will deliver the Distinguished Professor lecture during the academic year.



M. Sammie Rutherford, instructor in nursing, and **Dr. Melissa Vandever**, program director of graduate nursing, provide volunteer clinical services and health-care education at Patchwork Central in downtown Evansville.



Dr. Martha Sparks, associate professor of nursing, published an article titled, "Assessment and Management of Alzheimer's Disease" in the summer 2001 issue of *Topics In Advanced Practice Nursing*. In addition, she recently facilitated a workshop on managing Alzheimer's disease for the continuing education program of the USI School of Nursing and Health Professions.

Program Notes

Continued from page 3

The USI team competed against seven other teams representing programs from Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio.

Recognition

Renita Able, Sonoma Clampit, Angela Helming, Nick Schapker, and Jamie Yarber were honored August 17 at a graduation reception following the completion of their final clinical internship. Internship sites included Evansville, Jasper, and Indianapolis, Indiana, and Austin, Texas.

Club officers

Officers of the 2001-02 Respiratory Care Club are Chris Bowlin, Misty Hoke, Melissa Fetter, and Shawn Merkel.

Grant

Continued from page 1

tions. Students in the program apply knowledge about chronic illness, document assessment of older adults, collaborate with family members and others in planning care, evaluate the effectiveness of care, incorporate knowledge of regulations and reimbursement requirements, and manage and delegate care to unlicensed personnel. In assessing residents, students are becoming familiar with the Minimum Data Set, the federally required assessment tool for long-term care.

Sparks said the fastest-growing segment of the U.S. population is

the group 85 years and older. She is coordinating the grant for the School of Nursing and Health Professions along with Dr. Ann White, program director of nursing; Judi L. Kuric, instructor in nursing and health professions; and the staff at Regina.

Sparks said that this partnership between the school and a health-care business allows the students to apply knowledge to the clinical setting, resulting in better prepared graduates who will promote quality care.

The grant is for the 2001-02 academic year. Sparks said the school may reapply next year for a similar grant.

Adjunct faculty

Attorney helps health-services students understand laws affecting health care

Attorney R. Thomas Bodkin brings more than 25 years' experience in the area of health-care law to the classroom as an adjunct faculty member. He designed and teaches a course on the ethical and legal issues affecting health care for the undergraduate program in health services.



Bodkin

"Health-care professionals cannot claim professionalism unless they have a good familiarity with the laws and regulations that control them on a daily basis," Bodkin said, "While it has historically been necessary to know something about the law in the field, it is now imperative as the law has grown so quickly and controls so many of the day-to-day activities of the profession."

Some of the "hot-button topics," especially to the consumer and the media, are the costs of care, debates about managed care, and reinventing the delivery of health-care services, he said.

"Within the profession, I believe there are hotter topics that are far more difficult to solve, including issues surrounding the development of new treatment modes through genetic research and the ethical issues that are inextricably intertwined with such advances," he said.

Bodkin believes that none of the monumental progress in health care

over the past 60 years could have been made without knowledgeable and dedicated health-care professionals focusing their talent and energy on one object—the best interest of the patient.

"Whether physician, nurse, or billing clerk, that object cannot and should not change," he said.

An interest in health-care issues has been a part of Bodkin's life since his college days. "My wife Penny is a registered nurse so I have virtually lived with medical issues every day since we started dating in 1964!" he said. Though he chose law over medicine as a career, he continued to maintain a strong interest in medicine. Bodkin earned a B.S. from Indiana University in 1967 and a J.D. in 1973 from Indiana University School of Law.

Bodkin is a partner in the Evansville law firm of Bamberger, Foreman Oswald & Hahn, LLP. He was selected recently for membership in the International Association of Defense Counsel, the oldest international organization of attorneys representing corporations and insurers.

He is the attorney for the Town of Newburgh and also has served as both Warrick County Attorney and attorney for the City of Boonville.

He is a member and past chairman of the St. Mary's Warrick Hospital Foundation, a past member of the board of trustees of the Evansville Day School, and a past member of the board of directors of the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra.

Nursing alumni hold first annual meeting

The nursing program held its first annual alumni gathering October 23. Called "Return to the Heart of Nursing," the event in Carter Hall included an evening meal; a presentation by Dr. Michael Bleich, a nationally known educator; and the presentation of the first Distinguished Nursing Alumni Award. The School of Nursing has more than 1,000 graduates.

Program for inmates cited for innovation

A health-education program provided by the School of Nursing and Health Professions for inmates of Vanderburgh County correctional facilities has received the Innovative Program Award from the Indiana Public Health Association.

During the spring semester, graduate nursing students presented inmates with information on HIV/AIDS and fetal alcohol syndrome.

One-hundred eighty inmates were tested for sexually transmitted diseases and 45 were screened for breast and cervical cancer. The award called the program a "unique collaboration" with the Vanderburgh County Department of Health to serve at-risk populations.

The health education provided by nursing students is a part of the nurse practice arrangement (NPA), funded by a grant to the School of Nursing and Health Professions from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Nursing. The NPA provides nurse practitioner services to inmates and offers learning experiences for students.

Thank you, donors! *You make things possible*

The faculty, staff, and students express appreciation for gifts designated to the School of Nursing and Health Professions. Through the USI Foundation, many friends and alumni make programs possible which could not be funded without private support.

If you are interested in contributing to an individual program or activity in the school, please call 812/465-1151.

School announces seven faculty appointments

The School of Nursing and Health Professions has announced the following appointments:

- **Claudine Bentley** is instructor of radiographic and imaging sciences and coordinator of the new sonography program. She earned a degree in sonography from West Kentucky Technical and Vocational College and degrees in radiologic technology and health services from the University of Southern Indiana. Bentley has practiced at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville and at Ferrell Hospital in Eldorado, Illinois. She was previously an adjunct faculty member for the School of Nursing and Health Professions.

- **Dr. Barbara A. Davis**, associate professor of nursing, previously worked as an associate professor and professor of nursing at Marshall University and as an assistant professor of nursing at Murray State University. Prior to her academic career, she worked in emergency and critical care nursing. She holds a B.S.N. and

M.S.N. from the University of Kentucky and a Ph.D. from Texas Woman's University.

- **Dr. Elizabeth G. Johnson**, associate professor of nursing, previously worked as chair of the Department of Nursing at Kentucky Wesleyan College. She holds a B.S.N. from Murray State University, an M.S.N. from University of Evansville, and a D.S.N. from University of Alabama-Birmingham.

- **Nancy McCleary**, instructor of nursing, earned B.S.N. and M.S.N. degrees from the University of Evansville. She served as a flight trauma nurse and was nursing director of the Welborn Hospital Trauma Services. Her most recent position was as director of emergency services at St. Mary's Medical Center in Evansville.

- **Dr. Eileen Morrison**, associate professor of health services and health administration, received a B.S. degree and Master of Public Health from the University of Tennessee and a doctor-

ate from Vanderbilt University. She has held health-related administrative positions and most recently was a professor of health administration at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, Texas.

- **Kevin Valadares**, assistant professor of health services and health administration, earned a Bachelor of Social Sciences from the University of Ottawa and a Master of Health Administration from St. Louis University. He is a Ph.D. candidate in the health-care ethics doctoral program at St. Louis University. He has teaching experience and most recently served as director of the St. Louis University hospital admissions services.

- **Mara Beth Womack**, instructor of dental assisting/hygiene, earned an associate degree in dental hygiene and a B.S. at USI. She has worked as a dental hygienist in Kentucky and was previously an adjunct faculty member in the dental hygiene program.



Bentley



Davis



Johnson



McCleary



Morrison



Valadares



Womack

Calling all Alumni

We welcome comments from our alumni and friends regarding accomplishments, career activities, and special events in your personal life (marriage and births).

Return form to
 School of Nursing and Health Professions
 University of Southern Indiana
 8600 University Boulevard
 Evansville, IN 47712-3593

Name _____ Your student record name _____

Degree/Year of graduation _____ Major _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Current Position _____ Employer _____

Your news _____

News

Summer study program available in England

The School of Nursing and Health Professions will offer undergraduate and graduate courses at Harlaxton College in England.

Tentative dates for the summer study program are June 16-30. While abroad, students will visit health-care facilities in England and learn about the British health-care system. Opportunities to tour England and surrounding countries will be available.

Carol Hermes, program director for health services, and Dr. Ann White, program director for undergraduate nursing will teach the courses.

The school's first courses abroad were taught at the Harlaxton campus last summer. Theresa Marcotte, a graduate nursing student, said, "It was an extremely valuable experience. It has helped my practice and enhanced my knowledge to see how other countries offer health care."

In addition to Marcotte, students in the 2001 summer program were Veda Ball, Gina Burnett, Carrie Gwaltney, Sara Hamilton, Emily Holscher, Victoria Kelley, Carrie Koch, Nichole Oster, Lois Stallings,

Stefanie Torzewski, and Kim Westbrook. They were accompanied by Dr. Nadine Coudret, dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions; Dr. Judith A. Halstead, director of instructional services and resources; and Dr. Gayle Roux, assistant professor of nursing.

In addition to attending classes on the history and politics of the United Kingdom, the group made trips to places of interest, including the Nightingale Museum, St. Thomas' and Guy's Hospitals (London), Nottingham City Center, the Queens Medical Centre, and Cambridge University.

Owned and operated by the University of Evansville, Harlaxton College is located north of London in the town of Grantham.

Special events planned for theme housing

Thirty-nine students who have declared a nursing or health professions major are living on the same floor of Newman Hall. Scheduled events throughout the semester are giving them a chance to get to know one another and to meet and work with the faculty.

Abi Noe, a nursing major, has been named theme floor coordinator. She helps coordinate efforts such a

tutoring, stress management programs, self-defense classes, and advising.

Nadine Coudret honored by St. Mary's Foundation

Dr. Nadine A. Coudret, dean of the School of Nursing and Health Professions, has received the Steward of St. Vincent de Paul Award presented by St. Mary's Foundation in Evansville.

Announced October 20 at the St. Mary's Cornette Ball, the award recognizes an honoree's character, service, and contribution to the St. Mary's Health Care Services and the community of Evansville.

In making the award, officials of St. Mary's said, "From the early years of her career, as an instructor with St. Mary's School of Nursing, Dr. Nadine Coudret has devoted her life to helping budding health-care professionals learn the art and science of nursing. As the dean of the University of Southern Indiana's School of Nursing and Health Professions since 1988, this gifted educator and administrator generously shares her talents with a myriad of civic and professional organizations locally, regionally, and nationally. Her leadership and passion for the allied health professions is a model for others to emulate."

Employers recruit at Career Expo

More than 40 health-care organizations recruited University of Southern Indiana graduates and students in the Health Professions Career Expo October 22 in Carter Hall. Health-care employers from Evansville, Bloomington, and Indianapolis, Indiana; Louisville, Owensboro, and Madisonville, Kentucky; and from Southern Illinois were among the participants.

Students and faculty of the School of Nursing and Health Professions studied and traveled in England last summer. From left are Stefanie Torzewski, Nichole Oster, Victoria Kelley, Judith Halstead, Angie Halstead, and Gayle Roux.



Check your calendar

Nursing and Health Professions Continuing Education

Workshops and Conferences

Healing Touch Level IIA, Friday 7 p.m.-10 p.m., Saturday/
Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., February 8-10, Carter Hall,
University Center

Healing Touch Level I, Friday 7 p.m.-10 p.m., Saturday/
Sunday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., April 12-14, Carter Hall,
University Center

The Heart of Cardiovascular Nursing, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.,
March 7, Carter Hall, University Center

**Sixth Annual Research and Health Care Issues
Conference**, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., April 17, Carter Hall,
University Center

Eighth Annual Case Management Conference, 8 a.m.-
4 p.m., May 9, Carter Hall, University Center

**Fourth Annual Advanced Practice Nursing
Conference**, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., May 17, Carter Hall,
University Center

Programs

Radiology for Dental Auxiliaries, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.,
May 17-18, Health Professions Center

Certificate Programs

Anticoagulation Therapy Management, six-week
Internet-delivered program, dates to be announced

Case Management, six-week Internet-delivered pro-
gram, begins January 21 and April 15

Health Promotion and Worksite Wellness, 10-week
Internet-delivered program, January 21-April 1


Lipid Management, six-week Internet-delivered pro-
gram, begins January 28 and April 22

Chronic Heart Failure, five-week Internet-delivered
program, begins February 4 and April 29

Customized programs

For programs tailored to meet
the specific needs of your organization, contact
Peggy Graul, Coordinator of Continuing Education
School of Nursing and Health Professions
University of Southern Indiana
pgraul@usi.edu or 812/465-1161

Registration information: Contact Extended Services, 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600; http://health.usi.edu/cont_ed/contined.htm


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Dr. Nadine Coudret, Dean
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