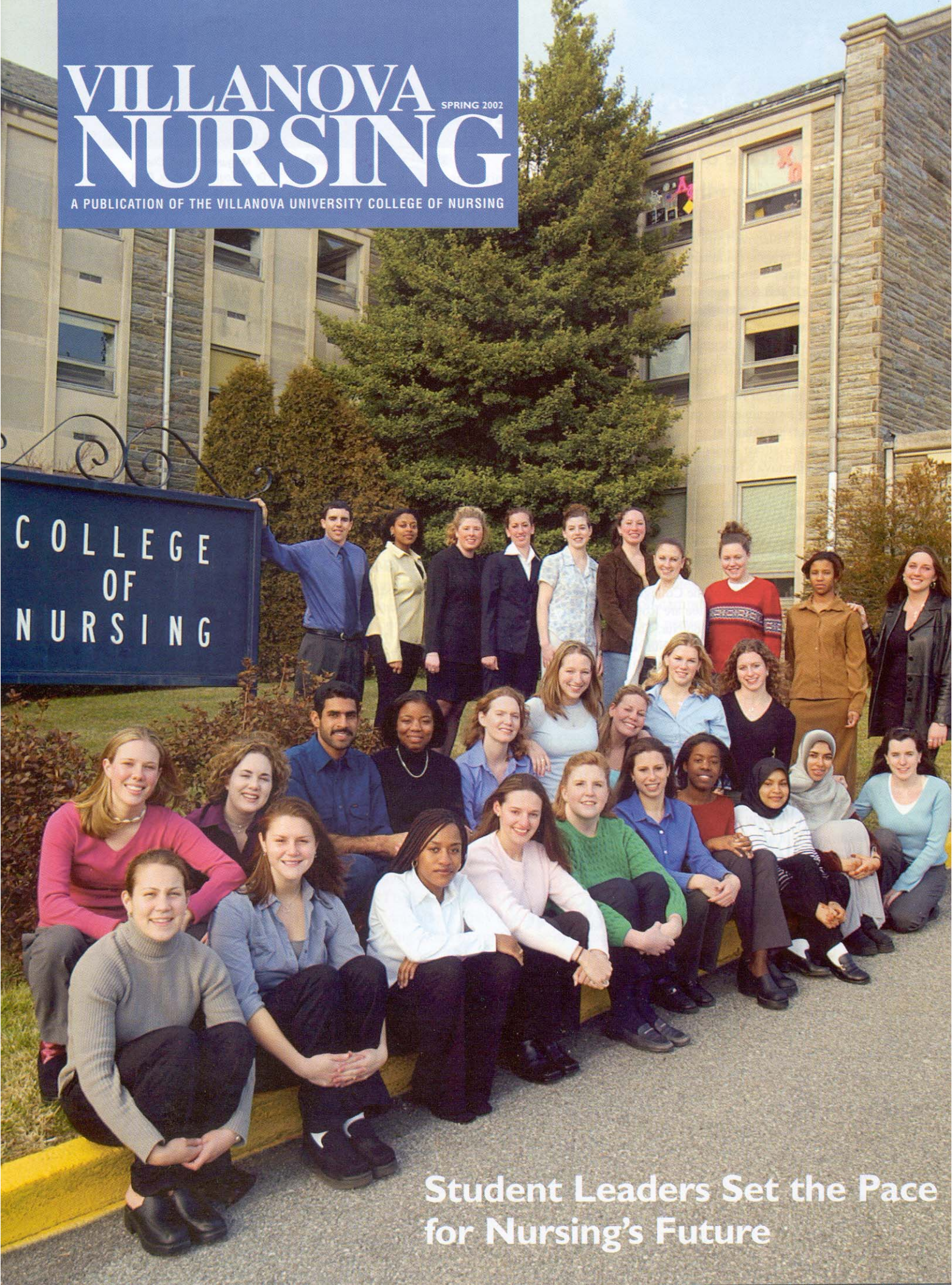


# VILLANOVA SPRING 2002 NURSING

A PUBLICATION OF THE VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING



COLLEGE  
OF  
NURSING

Student Leaders Set the Pace  
for Nursing's Future

# College of Nursing 50th Anniversary

## “Heritage of Distinction: Transforming Minds and Hearts”

In 1953, when Villanova University established a four-year baccalaureate program in nursing, the nursing students became the first full-time women students to attend the University. Fifty years and 5,000 B.S.N. and M.S.N. graduates later, the College of Nursing is recognizing our achievements and contributions to nursing by celebrating our 50th anniversary. The theme for this yearlong celebration, which begins next fall, is “Heritage of Distinction: Transforming Minds and Hearts,” reflecting our Augustinian mission.

Villanova’s College of Nursing was Pennsylvania’s first collegiate nursing program established under Catholic auspices and is the only nursing school at an Augustinian university. The accredited programs attract students from across the United States and the world. Villanova’s Nursing graduates excel as leaders in the profession.

To commemorate the accomplishments of the College and its graduates, the 50th Anniversary Planning Committees have been meeting over the past year and a half to organize several special events during the 2002-03 academic year.

The committees are composed of many distinguished graduates, faculty and friends of the College. Appointed as co-chairs of the Steering Committee are Rose O’Driscoll ’64 Nur., and Nicole M. Guerin, Esq., ’88 Nur. Chairing the Honorary Committee is Dr. Marguerite Schlag ’68 Nur., a member of the Villanova board of trustees.

Assistant Dean O’Driscoll is seeking memorabilia from the College’s history for use in exhibits (all items will be returned). If you have any photos (please I.D. people), a uniform of the 1950s or 1960s, nursing shoes, programs, freshman beanies, banners or other items, please e-mail her at [rose.odriscoll@villanova.edu](mailto:rose.odriscoll@villanova.edu).

Information regarding the 50th Anniversary gala events is posted on the College’s Web site: [nursing.villanova.edu/50thAnniversary](http://nursing.villanova.edu/50thAnniversary).



### 50th Anniversary Events

Please mark your calendars for the following events coming up next fall and next year. We invite you to join classmates, faculty and friends to celebrate the “Heritage of Distinction: Transforming Minds and Hearts.”

#### October 24, 2002

Student Celebration:  
A Retrospective of 50 Years  
of the College of Nursing  
*Connelly Center*

#### April 25-26, 2003

50th Anniversary Conference  
*Villanova Conference Center*

#### April 26, 2003

Anniversary Mass  
and Awards Ceremony  
*St. Thomas of Villanova Church*

Gala Celebration  
*Connelly Center*

#### April 27, 2003

Alpha Nu Chapter of  
Sigma Theta Tau  
*Villanova Conference Center*

### Planning Committees

#### Honorary Committee

Dr. Marguerite Schlag, *Chair*  
Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Dean, *Ex Officio*  
His Excellency Dr. Ali bin Mohammed  
bin Moosa Al-Moosa  
Dr. Tara Cortes  
Very Rev. John E. Deegan, O.S.A.  
Mrs. Joseph Denny  
Rev. John M. Driscoll, O.S.A.  
Francis J. Grey  
Dr. Nan Hechenberger  
Joan Huber, Capt., NSNCC (Ret.)  
Hazel Johnson-Brown, BG, USANC (Ret.)  
Rev. Francis X. N. McGuire, O.S.A.  
Mrs. Joseph McNamara  
Dr. Rosalie M. Mirenda  
Sister M. Margarella O’Neil, O.S.F.  
Douglas Peters  
Charles Pizzi  
Emily C. Riley  
Msgr. Timothy Senior  
Dr. Abigail Silvers  
Dr. Mariellen Whelan

#### Steering Committee

Nicole M. Guerin, Esq., *Co-Chair*  
Rose O’Driscoll, Assistant Dean, *Co-Chair*  
Yasser Al-Khatib  
Jodi Cantone  
Bridgette Carter  
Michele Damas  
Dr. Lynore DeSilets  
Dr. Mary B. Dressler  
Dimitra Georgelos  
Joanne Frances Gurney  
Patricia Harris  
Roseanne M. Hartigan  
Dr. Andrea Hollingsworth  
Dr. Anne P. Keane  
Claire Manfredi, Professor of Nursing  
Colleen Meakim  
Dr. Susan Slaninka  
Mrs. Lynette Miller Tucker

# VILLANOVA NURSING

Vol. 22, No. 1 Spring 2002

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### Cover Photo:

*The attraction of the nursing profession to a diverse group is evident in this gathering of College of Nursing students who hold leadership positions in the University Senate, the Nursing Senate and SNAP (see page 7). Photograph by Kelly & Massa.*

Published by the Villanova University College of Nursing, St. Mary’s Hall, Villanova, Pa. 19085-1690.

Visit our Web site: [nursing.villanova.edu](http://nursing.villanova.edu)

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Produced in cooperation with the Alumni Magazine Consortium, based at the Johns Hopkins University.  
AMC Editor: Donna Shoemaker.  
Designer: Kathy Vitarelli.

Standard class postage paid in Villanova, Pa. 19085-1690

# Vital Signs at the School



*“The future of nursing practice, education and research resides in our students. Our investment in them is our investment in American nursing for this millennium.”*

Dear Alumni and Friends of the College of Nursing:

**A**s we prepare for the College’s 50th Anniversary, which will commence with the 2002-2003 academic year, we are almost overwhelmed as we consider how far the College has come since its establishment in 1953. The College’s maturing and coming of age has been steady during each phase of its growth. In each period of its development, the College has focused on objectives relevant for Villanova University and reflective of the advances and trends in nursing education.

During the coming academic year, we will celebrate a milestone that has many significant components, each of which distinguishes our College as distinct, excellent and strong and positions us for the future:

- the high caliber of the students whom we have always attracted,
- the qualifications of our committed and well-prepared faculty,
- the rich array of health-care agencies in the Greater Philadelphia area that support clinical education,
- the outstanding performance of our graduates over 50 years, and
- our College’s unwavering commitment to the University’s Catholic Augustinian mission.

Indeed, there will be much to celebrate and to remember. The College of Nursing will be toasted for opening wide the gates to undergraduate women—the first full-time women undergraduates on campus. We will acknowledge the support of the Order of St. Augustine, and in particular, Villanova’s presidents who have encouraged the College’s development. We will enjoy the recognition we have achieved as a preferred school for Navy and Army ROTC and as a focus for international students. We will be cited as a respected provider of graduate and continuing education for more than 20 years.

Perhaps the most important aspect of this anniversary will be our embarking on a future full of possibilities and challenges. The future of nursing practice, education and research resides in our students. Our investment in them is our investment in American nursing for this millennium. Our students and you, our alumni, are nurses who have the intellectual capacity and the motivation to provide leadership and service that will continue to secure and advance our Nursing program and improve patient care. Villanova students and alumni will keep nursing practice and education vital long after my contemporaries and I have left the scene.

I believe that our students and young alumni are excited by the opportunities that nursing offers. They have the intelligence, commitment and enthusiasm to continue to bring credit to our College of Nursing and to promote the values that have shaped our College during these five decades.

Join us in preparing for this 50th Anniversary celebration and our entry into the future. Join us by renewing your commitment to nursing education at Villanova.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Louise Fitzpatrick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN  
Dean and Professor of Nursing

# Venturing Abroad to Serve and to Learn

Ireland, England or Peru? Villanova College of Nursing students may choose from a variety of international programs of study, as well as other opportunities for learning abroad. The College also welcomes international students to both the undergraduate and graduate programs.

## Bringing Supplies and Clinical Know-how to Peru

Nine seniors in the College of Nursing participated during Spring Break 2001 in an international health promotion clinical experience at the Augustinian mission in Chulucanas, Peru. This impoverished community has significant health needs; medical supplies are very limited, nutritional food is in short supply and educational opportunities are minimal.

The seniors were led by Elizabeth Keech '66 B.S.N., R.N., Ph.D., assistant professor of Nursing, and Karen McKenna '70 B.S.N.,

'84 M.S.N., R.N., clinical assistant professor of Nursing. At the same time in Chulucanas, six other Villanova students took part in a Campus Ministry experience led by Dr. Geraldine Lebaudy from Villanova's department of modern languages. Mary Beth Appel '81 B.S.N., a bilingual nurse practitioner, assisted the faculty and students as a nurse and interpreter.

The students took along medical supplies donated by the Villanova community to the mission. This spring, members of the Nursing Class of 2002 are traveling to Chulucanas for a health promotion community health experience.

## Seeing Britain's National Health Care Up Close

"It was the best experience of my life," observed junior Courney Crane about spending last year at the University of Manchester in England. "I learned so much from that year." This opportunity, established in 1999, enables Nursing sophomores to study in the north of England, focusing on the humanities and nursing. They return from Manchester

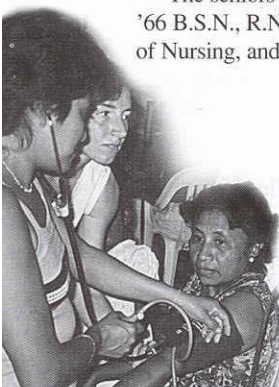
ready to begin their junior year of clinical experience at Villanova having gained an enriching education about another country's culture and health-care system.

At Manchester, Crane took courses in community health, health promotion, sociology and other areas. As part of her community placement, she visited patients in their homes, seeing a wide range of neighborhoods. She enjoyed her experience abroad so much that she returned to Manchester during Spring Break 2002 to renew those friendships.

## A Summer Experience in Dublin

For students interested in an international experience in Ireland in the early part of summer, the College is planning a three-credit study abroad program at University College, Dublin. The first part of the course will be a 12-hour orientation at Villanova during the Spring Semester. The students then will spend a week in Dublin, with classes at the University College School of Nursing and clinical observations at local hospitals. The program is open to juniors and graduate-level Nursing students.

For further information on these international programs, call (610) 519-4900 or visit the College's Web site at [nursing.villanova.edu](http://nursing.villanova.edu).



During their weeklong stay, the Nursing students offered a free health-screening clinic to the residents of Chulucanas, as well as a variety of health education programs.

## Villanova Honors Omani Minister of Health



At Commencement 2001, Dr. M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN, dean of the College of Nursing, presented His Excellency Dr. Ali bin Mohammed bin Moosa Al-Moosa, minister of health of the Sultanate of Oman (right). The Rev. Edmund J. Dobbins, O.S.A., '58, University president (left), conferred an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on Dr. Al-Moosa.

On May 20, 2001, at Commencement Exercises, Villanova University conferred an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree on His Excellency Dr. Ali bin Mohammed bin Moosa Al-Moosa, minister of health of the Sultanate of Oman. The College of Nursing had nominated Dr. Al-Moosa for the honor.

The health minister was recognized for the extraordinary leadership he has provided in advancing public health in his country and the entire Middle East, especially maternal-child health, infant mortality and diabetes. His forward-thinking agenda has provided scholarship assistance

to many Omani health professionals to study abroad in preparation for improving patient care in their country.

The collaborative program between Villanova's College of Nursing and Oman's Ministry of Health has significantly increased the number of Omani nurses prepared for leadership roles in their country. It has also enhanced the multicultural learning environment for Villanova students.

In addition to Dr. Al-Moosa's immediate family, the honored guests who attended the ceremony included His Excellency Fuad Al-Hinai, Omani ambassador to the United

Nations, and his wife; His Excellency Miles Stoby, assistant secretary general of the United Nations, and his wife; His Excellency Mohammed Al-Kusaiby, ambassador from Oman to the United States; and Yahya Al-Kiyumi, cultural attaché, and Salim Al-Ruzaiki, first secretary, from the Embassy of Oman in Washington, D.C.

Twenty-one students from Oman were awarded the B.S.N. degree at Commencement. Currently, there are 21 Omani students in the Nursing undergraduate program. Six of the seven Omani students currently in the M.S.N. program also received their B.S.N. degrees from Villanova; they returned to pursue graduate study at Villanova after a few years of practice in their country.

Oman, a small but highly progressive country in the Gulf, is a strong ally of the United States. The partnership with Oman and the leadership of Dr. Al-Moosa have been important to the development of nursing in Oman and the globalization of the College.

## In Copenhagen, Two Students Meet Nurses from Around the World

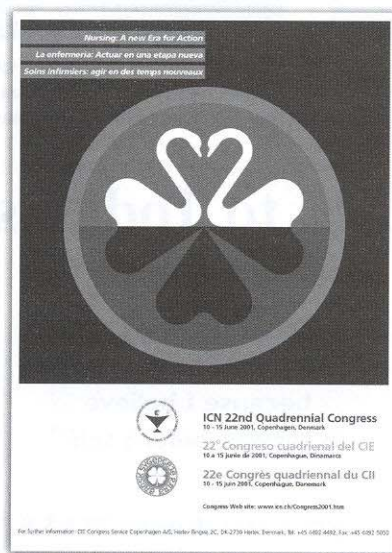
By Amy Gardner, Class of 2003 and Kelly Morgan, Class of 2004

Villanova University offers many unique opportunities for students to travel internationally to gain experience and knowledge, to serve and to share ideas with others. From June 10-15, 2001, we were selected, as Presidential Scholars in the College of Nursing, to represent Villanova at the International Council of Nurses' 22nd Quadrennial Congress, held in Copenhagen, Denmark. We had the opportunity to gain and share knowledge and ideas, and to more fully understand, and dedicate ourselves to, serving others as nursing students and, eventually, as professional nurses.

We spent most of the week listening to lectures and presentations from nurses all around the world, and also took part in the International Student Nurses' Congress. Surprisingly, there were very few other students from the United States, but we were fortunate to meet the president of the National Student Nurses Association, Michael Desjardins. Many students came from Scandinavia and Western Europe, and others had come from as far as Japan and New Zealand. The student delegates communicated in five languages: English, Spanish, French, Danish and Japanese. Despite the language barrier, we did our best to converse as much as we could about ourselves, our schools and our interests in nursing.

We learned that there are many similarities in the field of nursing in Denmark, the United States and other countries. However, there are some differences, too, that arise from political settings. For many international nursing students, their government pays for their education and they receive a stipend for living expenses. For Danish citizens, health care is free. These nurses do not spend the time that American nurses do dealing with the limitations of HMOs and PPOs, and this allows them to spend more time with their patients. We saw this as a real advantage but also learned that this advantage comes at the price of high taxes.

From the vast amount of information we learned about worldwide nursing, we came away feeling considerably lucky to be nursing students in the United States. After many conversations with students from diverse cultures, we felt grateful for the quality of interactions with faculty and nurses in the clinical agencies where we gain experience.



*"It was amazing and awe-inspiring to share a city for a week with thousands of professionals with an enormous amount of collective experience."*

We heard one example of how a culture can affect education when we met students from Japan. Some aspects of Japanese culture tend to place a formidable barrier between adults and young people, and these nursing students voiced their discomfort in approaching their professors when they needed help in clinical settings and classes. They were also frustrated with the lack of a unified national society or Web site for student nurses; they felt they would be unable to get support from administrators if they were to go to them about starting a student association.

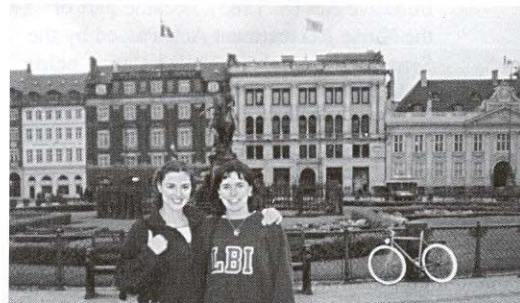
However, we did not spend the entire week in the convention hall. The conference offered tours through downtown Copenhagen as well as day trips to various historical sites in the beautiful Danish countryside; we took advantage of both opportunities. Among some of the rich cultural experiences we had during those tours was a visit to the Kronborg castle in Elsinore, known worldwide for its association with *Hamlet*. The castle is the site of an annual production of Shakespeare's tragedy

that draws thespians and theater buffs from all corners of the world.

Overall, we found the Danish people to be very friendly and accommodating. Copenhagen, where we stayed, is a very welcoming city, with a small-town feel and warm environment. During spare hours, we tried to blend in with the natives and explored a few of its far reaches on the free bicycles provided by the city. We visited Tivoli Gardens, the renowned amusement park and garden in the heart of Copenhagen, and also saw the royal palaces and the famous Royal Copenhagen porcelain gallery. And of course, we had to see the ever-popular Little Mermaid statue. We tried as many different foods as we could get our hands on, our favorite being the delicious Danish ice cream!

Overall, our trip was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that we are so grateful to have experienced. We gained a valuable sense of purpose; learning about nursing in other cultures gave us a new understanding and appreciation for our career choice. It was amazing and awe-inspiring to share a city for a week with thousands of professionals with an enormous amount of collective experience.

We returned with renewed passion for our education, and are excited about becoming nurses and joining the ranks of these phenomenal role models. As nurses and nursing students, it is imperative to be aware of and especially to learn from the practices and experiences of other nurses, and this conference provided both a focused and fun way for us to do that on a very large, exciting scale.



*When free time permitted, College of Nursing students Kelly Morgan (left) and Amy Gardner bicycled to some of Copenhagen's sights, including the ice rink in the harbor. The two Presidential Scholars represented Villanova at an international nursing conference.*



In February, then-Lt. Cmdr. Steven J. Wyrsh '86 B.S.N. was promoted to full commander in the Navy. His wife, Christine, and their three daughters joined him for the ceremony on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.



Tanzania offered "a fabulous opportunity to see an entirely different culture," notes Cmdr. Susan Cuff Herron '83 B.S.N., M.S.N., M.S.Ed. While there, she provided care to the Masai tribespeople.

## Welcome Aboard to Today's Navy Nursing

BY DONNA SHOEMAKER

**B**ioterrorism, Cipro, and a cordoned-off U.S. Capitol complex became workplace realities last fall for Cmdr. Steven J. Wyrsh '86 B.S.N., M.H.A., FAHM, CHE. At the time, he was working in the office of Sen. Joseph L. Lieberman (D-Conn.). Wyrsh was one of the first individuals from the Navy medical community to be selected as a Congressional Fellow.

During the anthrax crisis, he put his clinical skills to work by volunteering to test more than 2,000 people for exposure to the potentially deadly bacteria. But he's far more used to providing sophisticated business analysis. At the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Wyrsh was the primary architect of Navy medicine's Business Case Planning Tool and co-author of an analysis guide. As his résumé points out, Navy medicine worldwide uses those tools "to analyze business trends, assess the clinical and financial viability of programs (existing and new), and establish methodologies to identify the best clinical and business practices."

Wyrsh authored two Senate bills during his one-year fellowship. Provisions from one bill, the Hospital Based Nursing Initiative Act (S. 1585), became part of the Nurse Reinvestment Act. Passed by the Senate in December, this legislation helps address the nursing shortage, which gained even more attention after September 11. The second bill he wrote, the Vision for Quality Health Care in America Act, will be introduced this spring.

Now based in Falls Church, Va., Wyrsh is a senior program analyst at the TRICARE Management Activity, part of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs). The military "is responsible for 10 to 12 million beneficiaries," he notes. Each region of the country has managed care contracts with civilian organizations. "I am one of the liaisons between the

**"I chose the military because I believe in service before self."**

—Cmdr. Susan Cuff Herron '83 B.S.N.

military medicine headquarters and the lead agencies that deal with the contractors. I'm also working on statistical business models and analyses to help improve our business efficiency," he explains.

At Villanova, Wyrsh started out as a psychology major, but after his sophomore year transferred to the College of Nursing. Since graduation, he has served in the Navy, including directing quality management for the U.S. Naval Hospitals in Newport, R.I., and Signorella, Italy. In Navy Nursing, "You get a lot of experience quickly, not only in patient care but in training and managing others," says Wyrsh. The camaraderie, the respect, the "personal satisfaction" of helping others all add to the attractiveness of his career choice, he believes. "The Navy has been incredibly good to me. It's been a wonderful life."

### A World of Exciting Opportunities

"The Navy Nurse Corps is the pinnacle for nursing—it provides a tremendous sense of belonging. It's a small family in actuality," says Cmdr. Susan Cuff Herron '83 B.S.N., M.S.N., M.S.Ed. "I have utilized my professional skills in places you never would have dreamed of." In Africa, she provided medical care for the nomadic Masai and worked on a mass casualty plan for the Tanzanian government. In Spain, she helped organize the first-ever Foreign Service Trauma Nurse Symposium, held following the 1998 bombings of two U.S.

embassies in East Africa. She also took part in assessing what triage would be needed if a Space Shuttle mission had to abort in various transatlantic locales.

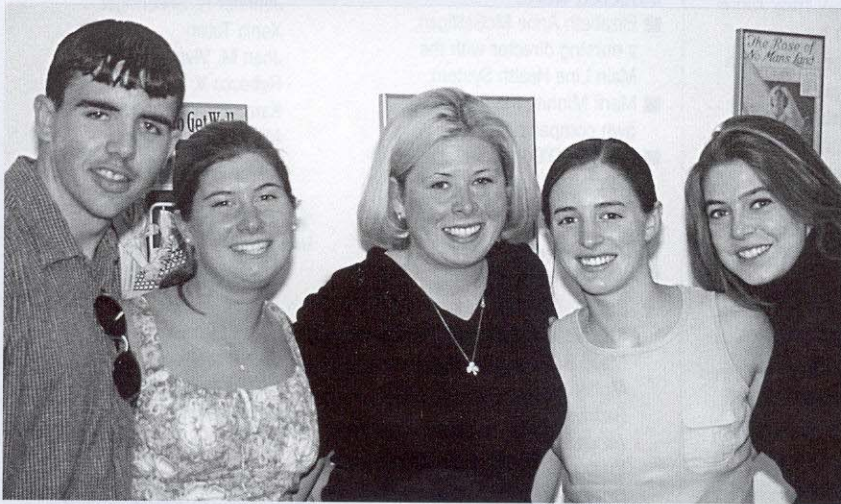
For the past two years, Herron has been director for academics at the Naval School of Health Sciences, located at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Va. The school graduates 300-400 annually and has 17 officer and enlisted training programs, plus Special Operations programs and medical correspondence courses.

No matter where her Navy career has taken her—to a ship, a medical center or a schoolhouse—Herron traces her path back to Villanova's College of Nursing. "My experiences at Villanova have driven most of the decisions I made in my life," the Boston native recalls. "Villanova is a strong faith-based education, whatever your faith. It's very much an institution that molds and guides you as an adult." In nurturing students today, she draws upon her Villanova foundation. It has helped her to integrate the art and the science, the theory and the application, in short, she says, "all those tools you take on with you as you move from responsibility to responsibility."

For Herron, the excitement of Navy Nursing comes through having so many avenues. "The Nurse Corps provides you with the opportunity to explore all the dimensions of nursing," she says. She credits her husband, Chris Herron '79 A&S, for encouraging her to pursue Navy Nursing. In December, they brought their two sons back to campus to show them where mom and dad went to college. In April, Herron returns again, this time to be honored with a College of Nursing medallion (see page 14).

*On the back cover, we feature three students who have chosen the NROTC program—an option not available to Nursing students when Herron and Wyrsh attended Villanova.*

# Students Stand out at SNAP



The officers of Villanova's SNAP chapter are (from left) Brian Peach, Katie Atkinson, Lauren DaMato, Katie Ryan and Jennifer Sneeringer.

## On the Leading Edge

"They definitely encourage leadership in nursing in this school. The teachers are very supportive of it. They bring in guest speakers, they encourage becoming involved in legislative rulings on health care and to stand up for nursing. Leadership means expressing how you feel about nursing, sharing your ideas with other people, being a good role model. Encouraging others to get involved is a big part of it."



—Jessica Wagner, junior

**W**hen it comes to providing leadership for the Student Nurses' Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP), Villanova's College of Nursing continues to be a power house. For the last 16 years, Villanovans have been winning election to the SNAP Board of Directors. At this year's convention, held in Harrisburg from November 14-16, 2001, the College continued to shine.

- Senior Chowan Bunch and junior Leticia Harrison completed their terms of office and were recognized for their contributions.
- All three Villanovans who ran for office were elected: sophomore Brian Peach (vice president), junior Jessica Wagner (Nominations and Elections, Western Regions) and freshman Schelly Snyder (greater Philadelphia region coordinator).
- Junior Bridgette Carter won a scholarship award for excellence.
- The College's SNAP chapter was honored with two of the state's highest awards: Outstanding Community Service Project and Outstanding Newsletter, which is edited by junior Jennifer Michelczak.
- Villanovans were active in many aspects of the convention, including registration, hospitality and monitoring sessions.

Forty three Nursing students and their adviser, Carol Toussie Weingarten, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor, attended the convention. Dr. Weingarten presented

a session on "Caring for Families of High-Risk Newborns."

Nursing students made good use of the opportunities for interviews with many of the 100 exhibitors. As a result, several Villanovans came back with their "first choice" job offers for externships or jobs after graduation. All who attended had excellent opportunities for networking.

Exhibitors, advisers and convention attendees commented on the overall excellence and professionalism of Villanova's students. The College's large delegation represented the University well and worked together effectively. Villanova's chapter members continue to serve as mentors for new students and for students at other programs.

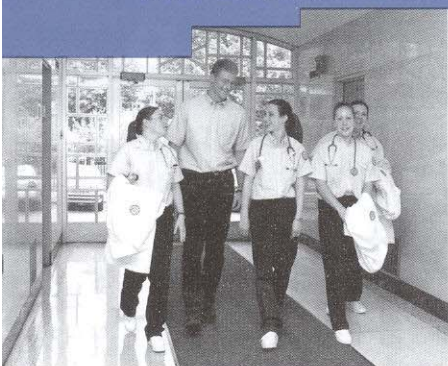
In the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks on America, this year's convention organizers "did a lot with disaster nursing. It's going to be a focus now," Wagner notes. Elected to head SNAP's Nominations and Elections (Western Regions), the junior says, "I work with the schools in my region to get candidates to run for state positions."

On the Villanova campus, SNAP is very much in evidence, Wagner adds. "We run community health projects, for example, around Halloween, we go to an inner-city elementary school and teach trick-or-treating safety. The seniors also do health promotion. We do blood drives—they're very well-supported—and fund-raisers for different organizations. For the Ronald McDonald House, we help in the Christmas gift shop. Villanova students donate all of the gifts. I couldn't believe the things they donated, like fleece jackets. SNAP is really good on this campus. Even if you're not a SNAP member, you're invited to the lectures. This past semester, we had a critical care nurse and an Air Force nurse speak, and they really motivated people."

Villanova's delegation at the convention was superbly led by two seniors: Chapter President Katie Atkinson and Vice President Jennifer Sneeringer.

Nursing students are looking forward to the 50th anniversary convention of the National Student Nurses' Association, to be held in Philadelphia April 2-7.

## PROGRAMS FOR FUTURE LEADERS



### BSNExpress Offers College Graduates an Accelerated Path

To serve the growing number of individuals with a bachelor's degree in another field but who are now seeking to become nurses, the College of Nursing has announced a new, intensive program for completion of the B.S.N. degree. Over a 14-month period, through the BSNE*Express* Program, these college graduates will be able to complete their nursing courses and clinical practice.

Beginning in May 2003, eligible students who have completed the necessary arts and sciences prerequisites may apply to BSNE*Express*. Because these students already have a B.A. or a B.S. degree—and sometimes graduate degrees as well—the College offers each candidate a highly individualized program. For this reason, those interested are encouraged

to inquire early to receive pre-admission advising.

Since January, when the program was announced, the College has received numerous requests for information. Many of the applicants say they have “always wanted to be a nurse” but had to delay their decision due to family obligations. Others are well-established in their fields but are no longer finding the personal satisfaction they desire. Some have earned degrees in business, economics, liberal arts, speech therapy, communication or human resources management.

BSNE*Express* includes the same number of clinical practice hours as the traditional B.S.N. program; however, courses are arranged in an accelerated progression. The new program will make use of the rich array of clinical practice sites that support all of Villanova's nursing programs. Upon completion of the program, BSNE*Express* graduates will be eligible to take the NCLEX-RN licensure examination.

The accelerated program has been approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing and offers the same curriculum as the NLNAC and CCNE accredited traditional program. To learn more, please contact Frances Keen, D.N.Sc., R.N., interim director of the Undergraduate Program, at (610) 519-4926.

### Alpha Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau

Thirty Nursing undergraduates, seven graduate students and three nursing leaders in the community were inducted into the Alpha Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the international nursing honor society.

#### The community leaders inducted were:

- Elizabeth Anne McGettigan, a nursing director with the Main Line Health System;
- Marti Minniti, the CEO of her own company, SNI; and
- Laserina O'Connor, a faculty member of University College Dublin in Ireland.

#### The undergraduates inducted were:

- Said A. Al-Ghunami\*
- Khamis M. Al-Mamari\*
- Majid R. Al-Muqbali\*
- Mohammed A. Al-Muskari\*
- Badriya Alsadrani\*
- Alexis L. Auger
- Kristen E. Barton
- Rory P. Breslin
- Jennifer M. Ferrara
- Jennifer J. Goodman
- Brianne Goodwin
- Karen J. Handzo
- Alan J. Himmelsbach
- Jessica M. Lesinski
- Kelly C. McAllister
- Nora M. McCauley
- Jennifer A. Nadeau
- Gillane R. Navarre
- Tricia L. Rau
- Katherine A. Robbins

- Katie C. Ryan
- Jennifer R. Sneeringer
- Xenia Tutor
- Joan M. Vivaldelli
- Rebecca V. Whisonant
- Karen E. Wing
- Michelle Van Brunt

\* From the Sultanate of Oman

#### The graduate student inductees were:

- Rebecca M. Cecala
- Yvonne A. Diehl
- Eileen M. Farley
- Susan McGinlay
- Kristin A. Pomante
- Sally L. Stern
- Kathleen A. Williams

#### The following individuals were honored with awards:

- Katherine Robbins, the Myrtle Feigenberg Award;
- Joann Flounders, the Joan T. Large Graduate Student Award;
- Erin Delaney, the Judith Erickson Undergraduate Student Award;
- Cynthia Hoens, the 2001 Academic Scholarship of \$1,000; and
- Robin Strauss, the Excellence in Nursing Practice Award.

### Alpha Nu Research Day

For information about the Alpha Nu Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, visit [www.nursing.villanova.edu/organsoc/honors/Alphanu.htm](http://www.nursing.villanova.edu/organsoc/honors/Alphanu.htm). The next major event is the Alpha Nu College of Nursing Research Day on April 11, from 4-7 p.m. at the Radnor Hotel in Wayne, Pa. For more information, contact Professor Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN, at (610) 519-4906.



### Distance Learning: Take Courses at Home or the Workplace

These days, the college classroom doesn't have to have a blackboard, overhead projector and four walls. The emergence of the virtual classroom has dramatically changed how faculty teach and students learn. With the Web, e-mail and text-supported CD-ROMS, students have many opportunities to use technology to enhance their learning.

In the 2001 Fall Semester, Villanova University offered 15 courses that were entirely Web-based, 21 courses that combined equally classroom and Web-based teaching and 155 courses that supplemented

classroom teaching with the Internet.

From the convenience of their home or workplace, undergraduate Nursing students, R.N.s in the B.S.N. completion program and graduate Nursing students all have the opportunity to take distance learning courses. They may enroll in a class that is totally asynchronous, meaning they work independently or in groups at their own pace.

This spring, the College of Nursing became one of the first colleges at Villanova to have all of its courses interfaced with the e-learning course management program WebCT

([www.webct.com](http://www.webct.com)). WebCT enables the instructor to individually tailor the Internet-based learning system to the specific course needs. Online test taking, videostreaming, live chat rooms and threaded discussions all can be part of the learning experience. Students can also check their own grades online and hold group meetings in a chat room.

Technology-based education provides new and exciting opportunities for Nursing students to learn to use the Web's vast resources. During the summer, they may take the Web-delivered elective “Health and Human Values,” which explores



## Two Students Receive Enright Scholarships

The late Jeremiah J. Enright '32 C&F, a loyal Villanovan, endowed a \$400,000 scholarship to the College of Nursing in recognition of the excellent nursing care received by his wife, Margaret. The 2003 recipients of the Margaret S. and Jeremiah J. Enright Memorial Scholarship are two outstanding sophomores: Jessica Cerami and Abigail Litchfield.

## Students Honored at College of Nursing Convocation (May 19, 2001)

*College of Nursing Medallion for Distinguished Academic Achievement*

**Joanna E. Berry**  
B.S.N. Candidate

**Raymond W. Kleposki III**  
M.S.N. Candidate

*H. Elaine McCaully Award for Clinical Excellence*

**Jennifer E. Milligan**  
B.S.N. Candidate

*Villanova University Alumni Association Award*

**Kathleen A. Johnston**  
B.S.N. Candidate

*Spirit of Nursing Award*

**Andrea M. Mullen**  
B.S.N. Candidate

*Special Recognition*

**Kelly L. Lester**  
B.S.N. Candidate  
**Andrea M. Mullen**  
B.S.N. Candidate

health-related issues relevant to today's college students. In their weekly group chat rooms, they discuss such topics as coping with loss, using complementary medicine in promoting wellness, and preventing violence. Students examine their own attitudes and beliefs toward personal health issues and monitor their health behaviors by setting goals and keeping journals. While most students do not personally meet the faculty member or even their classmates, they frequently remark in their course evaluations that this learning experience promoted a strong sense of community.



*Demonstrating to faculty SimMan's abilities to simulate life-and-death situations are Professor Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN (left) and Assistant Professor Janice Hinkle, Ph.D., R.N., CNRN.*

## SimMan Proves Ideal for Practicing Skills

He moans. He seems to breathe. He even has a pulse. Most of all he's safe. He's SimMan™, the full-body adult patient simulator recently purchased for the College of Nursing's Simulation Lab. SimMan, made by Laerdol, is designed to realistically simulate all types of acute patient management and anesthesia scenarios.

The use of realistic patient simulators for medical education training is a relatively new development that is gaining in popularity. As the skills required of nurses in health-care settings has grown, so, too, has the need for students to be able to practice their newly learned skills in a safe environment. With a patient simulator, the setting is as close to reality as possible, without potentially harmful effects.

SimMan is far more advanced than the plastic mannequins of the past. On those earlier mannequins, students could practice inserting tubes and giving injections, but the mannequins were "dummies." Unlike SimMan, they could not simulate a patient's response or make realistic sounds to aid students in learning the assessment components of a skill.

The new, human patient simulators can produce breathing sounds by electro-mechanical lungs that inhale and exhale according to computer-based instructions. They have a palpable pulse and heart rhythm that

can be monitored on an electrocardiograph. They have physiologically correct pulses and blood pressure. And they can register a human-sounding response to medications and fluids administered intravenously, including coughing and vomiting sounds.

Nursing students have been using SimMan to practice assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation. In the 2001 Fall Semester, Nurse Anesthesia students used him to develop case scenarios. They not only learned but could practice basic and advanced anesthesia skills, including airway management, in order to provide optimal patient care in both routine and non-routine cases.

Undergraduates have been enlisting SimMan as they practiced physical assessment skills such as taking vital signs and listening to normal and abnormal heart, lung and bowel sounds. Sophomores will be using the simulator for the oxygenation lab.

As faculty develop more scenarios to simulate reality, they can program SimMan, enabling students to interact with the "patient" as if they were in a real-life situation.

While working with SimMan in the fall, one of the Nurse Anesthesia students became so absorbed when her "patient" began to have a downward status change that she almost forgot it was a simulation. That's the beauty of SimMan. Now if only he could learn to press a buzzer...

## Nurse Anesthesia Program Partners with Crozer-Chester Medical Center

The College of Nursing and Crozer-Chester Medical Center, a member of the Keystone Health System, have established a collaborative agreement that will expand the education of nurse anesthetists. The partnership brings together two outstanding institutions in the Delaware Valley—one with a national reputation of excellence in higher education and the other, a highly respected medical center committed to excellent patient care.

The Master's Program in Nurse Anesthesia, established at Villanova in 1997, is one of several options in the University's fully accredited Graduate Program in Nursing and awards the Master of Science Degree in Nursing. Crozer-Chester Medical Center will be the primary clinical site for the program and a base for clinical faculty. Located on a scenic 68-acre campus in Upland, Pa., Crozer-Chester is a 675-bed teaching hospital. The program will continue to cooperate with a large number of other hospitals that provide sites for its clinical component.

Graduate courses taught by Villanova's doctorally-prepared nursing faculty include health-care ethics, research, nursing service, advanced pathophysiology, advanced pharmacology, health-care finance and leadership. A one-semester course prepares students in both pharmacologic and alternative approaches to pain management.

The program requires 27 months of full-time study and is cohort-based. One of the program's unique features is the opportunity to enroll part-time in selected courses that are offered in a distance learning format prior to beginning full-time study in the clinical portion. For employed nurses and those living at a distance, this is a particularly attractive accommodation. Clinical courses in anesthesia are taught by certified nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) and board-certified anesthesiologists.

Currently, 33 students are enrolled in the Master's Program in Nurse Anesthesia and an additional 20 will enroll next fall. For additional information, visit the College's Web site at [nursing.villanova.edu](http://nursing.villanova.edu).



A psychiatric mental health nurse, Patricia K. Bradley, Ph.D. R.N., CS has had a significant impact on African-American women in the Delaware Valley and beyond, as well as on her faculty colleagues at Villanova.

### Breast Cancer Projects Earn Acclaim

In a pilot project funded for \$50,000 by the National Cancer Institute, "Preparing African American Women for Breast Biopsy," Assistant Professor Patricia K. Bradley, Ph.D. R.N., CS and her colleagues are developing and testing a theory-based intervention to identify and address cognitive and psychosocial needs. The project is a collaborative one with Thomas Jefferson University's Department of Behavioral Epidemiology, where Dr. Bradley also is a special populations investigator in the Increasing Access to Clinical and Educational Studies Program.

Nationally certified as a specialist in adult psychiatric mental health nursing, Dr. Bradley has more than 23 years of experience as a psychiatric mental health nurse. She also is a teaching faculty member for Cancer Prevention and Early Detection in the African Americans Institute for Nurse Educators in Historically Black Colleges and Minority-Serving Institutions, a program funded by the National Cancer Institute and the Oncology Nursing Society.

Her interest in the health issues of the unserved and underserved has led to her active participation on community advisory committees. Dr. Bradley is a board member of the Linda Creed Breast Cancer Foundation and a trainer for the Safe Circle Program, offering breast health information to the

African-American community. She consults on health care for the American Cancer Society, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Black Women's Health Project and the Philadelphia Corporation for Aging.

The booklet she co-authored, *Getting Connected: African Americans Living Beyond Breast Cancer* (produced by Living Beyond Breast Cancer, a nonprofit organization) was awarded the 2001 H. Winter Griffith Award for Excellence in Patient Education Materials by the American Academy of Family Physicians and the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. The inspirational booklet, which has striking photographs of breast cancer survivors, was featured on "Visions" on WPVI-TV in Philadelphia.

In the national and regional workshops the faculty member has developed for students, community members, health-care providers and administrators, she uses a framework based on an "acknowledgment of cultural strengths."

Among the honors Dr. Bradley has received is the American Cancer Society's sixth annual Tribute Award for Sisters Surviving Breast Cancer, which recognizes achievements in cancer control and quality of life for African-American women.



### Promoting Health for Women with Disabilities

For the past three years, a group of Nursing faculty, staff and graduate assistants have devoted effort and energy to the Health Promotion for Women with Disabilities Project. Through workshops, presentations, research, publications and a Web site, this effort has reached many individuals in the target audiences. But it soon became clear that to date the project had reached primarily women with disabilities who could attend workshops and access the Web site, along with the health-care professionals who already have some interest in the topic and are sensitive to many of the issues.

Now, through the generous support of the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation, this health promotion project is launching the next step: identifying strategies to reach the hard-to-reach groups, which are:

- women who are deaf, hard of hearing or visually impaired;
  - health-care providers and third-party payers who often lack knowledge of, interest in and sensitivity to the health issues of women with disabilities; and
  - faculty and students in the health professions whose curricula do not address this group.
- The project's director is Suzanne Smeltzer, R.N., Ed.D., FAAN, associate professor. She noted that the project's faculty and staff are now obtaining input from women who represent these hard-to-reach groups to see what they think about how to maximize efforts to disseminate information. Their input will be used to design, implement and evaluate a variety of strategies to reach the hard-to-reach groups. Faculty and staff hope to work with national groups to accomplish this phase of the project.

- women unable to leave their homes because of disabilities;



At a health promotion conference sponsored by the College of Nursing for women with disabilities and their caregivers, Theresa Capriotti, D.O., R.N., clinical assistant professor, interviews attendees.



To further the understanding of genetics concepts, Suzanne Zamerowski, Ph.D., R.N. helped to develop coursework for Nursing graduate students and undergraduates and also encourages them to care for individuals with genetic diseases.

## Rooted in Genetics

For the past 20 years, Suzanne Zamerowski, Ph.D., R.N. has been committed to increasing Nursing students' knowledge of genetics. The assistant professor has integrated genetics into the Nursing undergraduate curriculum, developed a graduate course "Clinical Genetics for Health Care Professionals" and expanded clinical experiences for students. Through collaboration with Villanova's biology department, Dr. Zamerowski was instrumental in developing a cell biology course to provide grounding in the genetic concepts essential for today's health-care arena. Villanova's College of Nursing is one of the few nationally that require a cell biology course as a science requirement.

In addition to gaining the theoretical foundation, Dr. Zamerowski believes it is equally important for students to learn to provide care for individuals with genetic diseases, not only in health-care settings, but also in sheltered workshops and at community events. She helps students recognize that individuals who may differ in appearance and intellect have the same needs as others. Although it can be more challenging to devise appropriate strategies, the reward can be immense, she notes. Students need such exposure and guidance to help these individuals and families to maximize their health physically, mentally and spiritually, she believes.

Dr. Zamerowski is proud of how Nursing students accomplish these goals in clinical practica as well as through their extracurricular activities. At the Special Olympics Pennsylvania Fall Festival hosted by Villanova, Nursing students gave freely of their time to provide medical care for the athletes, most of whom have genetic-related diseases. "I was so impressed with the students' professionalism, spirit and respect for the Special Olympians," Dr. Zamerowski noted.

## Publications

**Teresa Capriotti, D.O., R.N.**, clinical assistant professor: "Monoclonal Antibodies: Drugs that Combine Pharmacology and Biotechnology," *MEDSURG Nursing*, 10 (2), 89-95.

**M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN**, dean and professor: "Historical Research: The Method," *Nursing Research: A Qualitative Perspective (3rd ed.)*, edited by P. L. Munhall (2001, Jones and Bartlett for the National League for Nursing).

**Barbara Ott, Ph.D., R.N.**, associate professor: "Advance Directives," *AACN Procedure Manual for Critical Care*, edited by D. J. Lynn-McHale and K. K. Carlson (2001, Saunders).

**Mary Pickett, Ph.D., R.N.**, associate professor (with C.M. Bender, R.W. McDaniel, and K. Murphy-Ende): "Chemotherapy-induced Nausea and Vomiting," *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 6 (2), 1-10.

Dr. Pickett also published (with C.A. Monturo, P.D. Rogers, M. Coleman, J.P. Robinson, et al.): "Beyond Sexual Assessment: Lessons Learned from Couples Post-radical Prostatectomy," *Journal of the Academy of Nurse Practitioners*, 13, 511-516.

**Mary Ann Ritchie, Ph.D., R.N., CS**, assistant professor, "Self-esteem and Hopefulness in Adolescents with Cancer," *The Journal of Pediatric Nursing*, 16 (1), 35-42.

**Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN**, professor: "Hysterectomy for Non-malignant Conditions," *American Journal of Nursing*, 101 (9), 32-40.

**Catherine Todd Magel, Ed.D., R.N., CNRN**, assistant professor, "Physical Treatments," *Nursing Procedures* (2000, Springhouse).

## Awards and Leadership Achievements

**Teresa Capriotti, D.O., R.N.**, clinical assistant professor, was nominated for Villanova's 2001 Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

**Linda Carman Copel, Ph.D., R.N., CS**, associate professor, presented "The Experience of Partner Abuse in Physically Disabled Women" at the 2001 Eastern Nursing Research Society's 13th Annual Scientific Sessions, held in Atlantic City, N.J.

**Christine Crumlish, Ph.D. R.N.**, assistant professor, has been appointed chair of the Education Subcommittee of the National Heart

Attack Alert Program of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

**Lynore DeSilets, Ed.D., R.N.**, assistant professor, has been selected to serve on the National Board of Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses for the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (2002 to 2004 term).

**Elizabeth B. Dowdell, Ph.D., R.N.**, assistant professor, presented two sessions, "Preadolescent Witnesses to Violence and Their Fear: A Nursing Challenge" and "Grandmother Caregivers: Relationship Between Caregiver Burden and Physical Health," at the International Council of Nurses' 22nd Quadrennial Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark, in June 2001 (see page 5).

**M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN**, dean and professor, was invited to chair a national think tank sponsored by the National League for Nursing. This invitational panel will explore the issue of the pending faculty shortages in nursing education and identify strategies for preparing nurse educators for careers as academicians, through doctoral programs and postdoctoral activities.

Dean Fitzpatrick was the honored guest of the Villanova Navy ROTC in October 2001 at the Fall Review to recognize her support and recruitment for the unit.

**Barbara Ott, Ph.D., R.N.** and **Suzanne Smeltzer, Ed.D., R.N., FAAN**, associate professors, were honored at the Texas Woman's University College of Nursing centennial celebration as two of its "Great 100 Nursing Alumni."

**Gale Robinson-Smith, Ph.D., R.N., CS** presented "Using Prayer After Stroke: Its Relationship to Self-Efficacy and Quality of Life," at the Experience of God in the Disciplines Conference, held at Villanova in 2001.

**Carol Toussie Weingarten, Ph.D., R.N.**, associate professor, received a service learning grant from the Pennsylvania Campus Compact for her work with students at the Alcorn Elementary School and Alcorn Middle Years Academy. She also attended the Pennsylvania and West Virginia Campus Compact's Service-Learning Institute in January.

**Bette Wildgust, M.S., CRNA**, adjunct assistant, was nominated by the Pennsylvania Association of Nurse Anesthetists as Region 6 director for the Board of Directors of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, which represents 95 percent of the 28,000 certified registered nurse anesthetists in the United States.

## Distinguished Lecturer Applies the Lessons of Science and Forensics



*A nationally known authority on psychiatric nursing and a leader in studying sexual assaults, Ann Wolbert Burgess, D.N.Sc., CS, FAAN (left) had a special incentive to visit the College of Nursing to present her lecture. Her daughter, Elizabeth B. Dowdell, Ph.D., R.N. (right), is an assistant professor of Nursing at Villanova.*

A standing-room only crowd listened with rapt interest as Ann Wolbert Burgess, D.N.Sc., CS, FAAN described her use of nursing science research to provide insights about the perpetrators of trauma. Her lecture on November 8, 2001, "Working for Justice: An Exploration of Forensic Nursing," was the College of Nursing's 25th Annual Distinguished Lecture in Nursing.

A professor at the Boston College School of Nursing, Dr. Burgess is also a researcher, an advanced practice psychiatric nurse and a leader in the study of sexual assault. Her work has contributed to the establishment of the National Center for the Study of Assault and Rape. The center's research and clinical models of intervention have been used by the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Justice Department, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

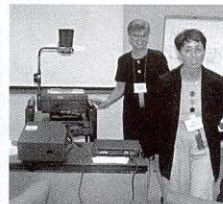
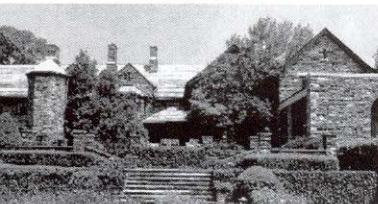
Dr. Burgess also educates those in the judicial system about the role and contributions of psychiatric nurses. Her first study of rape victimology led to the development of a sexual trauma typography and rape trauma syndrome identification that has held up under appeal in more than 600 cases. She also has studied the secondary trauma effects on

families of crime victims, including children who have witnessed a crime against a parent.

In her lecture, Dr. Burgess shared details about some of the court cases for which she has testified as an expert witness, including cases of involuntary servitude, rape, serial killing and violent infant kidnapping.

The crime victims Dr. Burgess interviews are often asked to draw pictures of what happened, as a way to describe their painful memories. She showed a number of these drawings, which are particularly helpful in court when the victim is unable to testify. And she noted that all nurses should be instructed in evidence collection in such cases, since their backgrounds enable them to do so accurately.

During a Q&A session, an audience member asked Dr. Burgess how she maintains a positive outlook when dealing with so many gruesome crimes. She responded by saying that she tries to stay focused on the nursing science and what can be learned. To explore forensic nursing as a career option, she suggested contacting the International Association of Forensic Nurses. She described several graduate nursing programs that offer forensic nursing as a minor, and suggested that more programs be developed.



*The Villanova Conference Center (far left) was the site for the first national Faculty Development Institute held in June 2001. Also shown are some of the participants and speakers.*

## College and NLN Inaugurate Faculty Development Institute

More than 45 nursing educators from throughout the United States came to campus last June for the inaugural national Faculty Development Institute. It was co-sponsored by the College of Nursing and the National League for Nursing.

Participants could focus on one of three areas of study: Critical Thinking: Defining, Promoting, and Measuring; Curriculum Development and Program Evaluation/Outcomes Assessment; and Creative Teaching Strategies in the Classroom and Clinical Setting.

The Villanova Conference Center was the site of the institute, held June 10-15, 2001. Participants were housed in the West Campus apartments. The institute's goal was "to assist

nursing faculty in the development of educationally sound, innovative curricula, evaluation programs and teaching strategies intended to prepare diverse populations of learners for 21st century nursing practice."

Georgie Labadie, Ed.D., R.N., associate dean of the University of Miami's School of Nursing, gave the keynote address on the "State of the Art in Nursing Education and Nursing Education Research." Stephen R. Merritt, dean of Enrollment Management at Villanova, presented a session on Generation Y's learning attributes and expectations.

During the mornings, the nursing educators attended presentations in their areas of interest, and in the afternoons they worked on group

projects and activities. Because it was a "working conference," many brought along projects to refine, such as curricular revisions. During the evenings, they enjoyed a barbecue and other planned events, and could also take in dinner, theater and sightseeing in the Philadelphia and Main Line areas.

On the final day, participants summarized their projects and plans for sharing them with colleagues when they returned home. The evaluations from the participants have been overwhelming positive.

For information on the 2002 institute, to be held June 8-13, contact the College's Office of Continuing Education at (610) 519-4930.

# Start your Career with Mercy Health System

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#### **Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital, Darby, PA**

Donna Cairone, 1500 Lansdowne Avenue, Darby, PA 19023

Phone: 610-237-5765; Fax: 610-237-4671

E-mail: dcairone@mercyhealth.org

#### **Mercy Suburban Hospital, Norristown, PA**

Monika Bontempo, 2701 DeKalb Pike, Norristown, PA 19401

Phone: 610-278-2092; Fax: 610-278-2829

E-mail: mbontempo@mercyhealth.org

#### **Mercy Home Health Services, Springfield, PA**

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[www.mercyhealth.org](http://www.mercyhealth.org)

## 2002 Honors

The College of Nursing will celebrate the 13th annual College and Alumni Mass and Awards Ceremony on April 13. The Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., '58, University president, will be the celebrant, and the Rev. Richard Cannuli, O.S.A., will be the homilist. The Mass will be at 6:30 p.m. at St. Thomas of Villanova Church. Following the ceremony, a reception will be held in the Connelly Center. For further information, please e-mail Rose O'Driscoll, M.S.N., R.N., assistant dean, at [rose.odriscoll@villanova.edu](mailto:rose.odriscoll@villanova.edu).

These five alumni will receive the 2002 College of Nursing medallions:

### *Distinguished Research Contributions in Nursing*

#### **Dr. Donna Sullivan Havens '83 M.S.N.**

The Elouise Ross Eberly Professor, Penn State University School of Nursing, University Park, Pa.

### *Distinguished Leadership in Nursing Practice and Health Care Delivery*

**Cmdr. Susan Cuff Herron '83 B.S.N.**  
Commander, Nurse Corps, U. S. Navy and Director for Academics, Naval School of Health Sciences in Portsmouth, Va. (see page 6)

### *Clinical Excellence in Nursing Practice*

**Ellen M. Tracy '81 B.S.N., '97 M.S.N.**  
Director, Oncology Program, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

### *Distinguished Service to Nursing Education*

**Margaret J. Griffiths '62 B.S.N.**  
Associate Professor, Department of Nursing, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia

### *Special Recognition*

**Very Rev. John E. Deegan, O.S.A., Ph.D.**  
**William M. Warfel, Ph.D.**

Vice President, Patient Care Services, Albert Einstein Healthcare Network, Jefferson Health System, Philadelphia

## Outstanding Young Scholar Receives National Award



**Kelly L. Lester '01 B.S.N.** has been honored with a Macy Scholarship to pursue her master's and doctoral studies in nursing at the University of Michigan.

while practicing part-time at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital. She will begin full-time study next fall.

**Kelly L. Lester '01 B.S.N.** was one of only three students in the nation awarded a Macy Scholarship from the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation. The award will fund her progress through the University of Michigan's Nurse Scientist Rapid Progression Program. Designed to help nurses just beginning their professional life to attain advanced degrees, this program enables these exceptional young scholars to have more time during their career to contribute to the advancement of the profession through research and publication.

Macy scholars devote seven years post-baccalaureate education exclusively to their studies. Kelly's goal is to obtain her master's degree as a pediatric nurse practitioner by 2003 and her doctorate in pediatric health promotion/risk reduction within seven years. Currently she is taking classes on a part-time basis

## Penn Names Dr. Naylor '71 to Endowed Chair



A researcher whose work focuses on improving life for the frail elderly has been named the Marian S. Ware Professor in Gerontology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Villanova Nursing alumna Mary Duffin Naylor '71 B.S.N., Ph.D., R.N., FAAN has focused her research on improving transitional care, outcomes and health-related quality of life for the high-risk elderly. From 1986 through 1998, she served as associate dean and director of undergraduate studies at Penn's nursing school.

Dr. Naylor is co-faculty director of LIFE (Living Independently For Elders), which is part of the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), a national model for health-care delivery. She is also faculty director of the Hillman program and associate director of the Center for Gerontological Nursing Science. Since 1989, she has led an interdisciplinary research team whose goal is to improve outcomes and reduce the costs of care for the vulnerable elderly living in their communities. Her team has completed three randomized clinical trials, funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

The Villanova College of Nursing honored Dr. Naylor with the Medallion for Distinguished Contribution to Nursing in 1986.



## Alumni Ambassadors Program Launched

To keep in closer contact with alumni who work in several of the Philadelphia area's large clinical centers, and to provide designated resource individuals on site in the agencies, the College of Nursing has organized the Villanova Nursing Alumni Ambassadors. These alumni, who work in the centers and agencies, will help to get the word out about the College's developments, new programs, events and opportunities. They will also serve as a liaison between the College and alumni in clinical agencies. Rose O'Driscoll, M.S.N., R.N., assistant dean, will coordinate the Ambassadors group.

Those who have graciously agreed to serve for two-year terms are:

- Albert Einstein Medical Center  
**Michael Sweeney '98 B.S.N.**
- The Bryn Mawr Hospital  
**Lonnie Sebastian '79 B.S.N., '92 M.S.N.** and **Kathryn D'Agostini '71 B.S.N.**
- The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
**Cindy Rich Schmus '89 B.S.N.** and **Ellen Tracy '81 B.S.N., '97 M.S.N.**
- The Graduate Hospital  
**Mary Christian '94 M.S.N.**
- Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania  
**Carol Licaretz '94 B.S.N.** and **Ella Ryan Meloni '79 B.S.N., '93 M.S.N.**
- Lankenau Hospital  
**Amy Pelleg '96 M.S.N.** and **Patty Harris '92 B.S.N., '01 M.S.N.**
- Main Line Health-Home Care Network  
**Sharon Johnson '91 M.S.N.**
- Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital  
**Kathleen Feeney '80 B.S.N.** and **Pamela Rowland '91 B.S.N., '96 M.S.N.**
- Pennsylvania Hospital  
**Theresa Bell '94 B.S.N.** and **Rosemary Hohenleitner '95 B.S.N., '01 M.S.N.**
- Presbyterian Medical Center  
**Jodi Cantone '87 M.S.N.** and **Jeff Pettrill '91 B.S.N.**
- St. Christopher's Hospital for Children  
**Ann Schoemaker '86 B.S.N.**
- Thomas Jefferson University Hospital  
**Jill McKenna '94 B.S.N.** and **Karen Steffen '83 B.S.N., '98 M.S.N.**



Congratulating the 2001 College of Nursing medallion recipients were the Rev. Edmund J. Dobbin, O.S.A., '58, University president (left) and M. Louise Fitzpatrick, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN (right), dean of the College of Nursing. The alumni honored with medallions were (from left): Joanne H. Hambleton '89 M.S.N.; Kathryn H. Bowles '90 M.S.N., Ph.D.; Melissa Miranda Craig '90 B.S.N.; and Tara Mahoney Easter '92 B.S.N.





## A Salute to Three Future Navy Nurses

*In the midst of preparing for spiritual retreats, mid-terms and volunteer activities, three College of Nursing juniors carved out some time to talk about why they signed up for the Navy ROTC program (Nursing students may also take part in Army ROTC). Both the leadership training and the two summer-time experiences (a cruise and working at a Navy hospital or base) were very appealing. And these three students don't even mind those dozens of sit-ups and push-ups twice a week.*

***“Balancing both NROTC and nursing has been a big challenge. It's been a great strengthening tool and has helped me find where I want to be in the future.”***

**—Mollie Daze**

One of six children growing up, Mollie Daze now tutors inner-city kids on Fridays and volunteers at the Special Olympics held at Villanova. “I love kids. They're the greatest,” says Daze.

On her first trip East, when she was looking at colleges, Daze was invited to a brunch with Villanova's Nursing faculty and staff. “I absolutely fell in love with the campus,” she recalls.

Because she plays basketball, soccer, works out and runs, Daze is hardly fazed by the NROTC physical training twice a week. “It's a really good bonding, and you get to know your colleagues more and help them with their fitness,” she says.

Looking back to last summer, when she arrived in Portsmouth, England, on board the USS Winston Churchill for her NROTC summer cruise, Daze recalls



*The events of September 11, 2001, and the response of Americans, “have made me so much prouder of being a part of the military,” Mollie Daze affirms with conviction. In her Navy ROTC leadership and management course, she learned that “we're ultimately responsible for all of our actions.”*

how on shore “people held up flags and cheered.” Then, she says, “we played soccer and softball with the British Navy from one of the other ships, and afterward they treated us to lunch.” This summer, she will be based in the Navy hospital in San Diego, not far from home.

***“I'm more responsible now because I'm looking out for other people.”***

**—Jessica Wagner**

While on her NROTC summer cruise after her freshman year, Jessica Wagner helped with physical assessments, read patients' charts and took blood samples, all very heady responsibilities after only

a year of Nursing classes. During a mock helicopter crash on the flight desk, she saw how a clinic would be rapidly reorganized as a trauma unit. And this semester, taking an orientation tour of the Bethesda Naval Hospital, Wagner had a glimpse into her next summer assignment, which will be working with corpsmen.

Being an NROTC squad leader of eight, says Wagner, has given her considerable experience in conducting evaluations, getting organized and completing projects on time. She points out, you learn to “act the way you want your fellow midshipmen to act.”

***“Nursing is an amazing field. It's more of a calling than a choice.”***

**—Courtney Crane**

Also a squad leader, Courtney Crane truly enjoys working with her 10 midshipmen. And the officers “are really good in seeing positive qualities in people and encouraging them to blossom,” she sums up. “A lot of young people don't realize their leadership potential, but the officers keep pushing you, even when you don't want to be pushed. It's a challenge, and you are held to higher standards than the regular students. At the end of the day, that's what's going to shape your character.”

Says Crane, “I've seen myself grow as a leader. I definitely have more confidence than I did when I entered the program. The more knowledge you have, the more capable you are of leading.” As for her nursing training, says Crane, “I love every single rotation I do.”

**—Donna Shoemaker**

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