



NURSING ALUMNI SPECIAL ISSUE

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR



It's my pleasure to introduce a very special edition of the Drexel College of Nursing and Health Professions' newsletter. The collection of articles in this issue showcases the incredible work and leadership of our Nursing alumni, faculty, and students from the past six months. We take great pride in them and are thrilled to share their stories with you here.

-Mary Kate O'Keefe

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM IN NURSING CARE OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER SLATED TO BEGIN FALL 2013

April 1, 2013 – A new post-baccalaureate certificate program in the Integrated Nursing Care of Autism Spectrum Disorder will be offered in fall 2013 to nurses who have a Bachelor's degree or higher in nursing as well as to BSN or Master's degree students who want to minor in Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) nursing care.

The Drexel Integrated Nursing Care of Autism Spectrum Disorder Certificate is a 9-12 credit online program with opportunities for students to specialize in either adult or pediatric ASD nursing care. Students will learn how to integrate approaches to the care of patients with complex health problems. "This program will allow students to create a highly innovative role in an area of practice in which the value of nursing care has not been fully developed," said Dr. Ellen Giarelli, an associate professor in the Doctor of Nursing Practice Department at Drexel CNHP and the author of the groundbreaking textbook *Nursing of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Evidence-based Integrative Care Across the Lifespan* (Springer 2012).

LINDA DAYER-BERENSON AUTHORS ESSENTIAL TEXTBOOK FOR NURSES



March 12, 2013 – Linda Dayer-Berenson's textbook, *Cultural Competencies for Nurses: Impact on Health and Illness*, now in its second edition, was published by Jones & Bartlett Learning last month. Berenson's text serves as a resource to help nurses navigate through social obstacles that commonly occur in healthcare environments, such as differing beliefs about health and the impact of culture on health and illness. This book will be a required text in Villanova University's Doctor of Nursing Practice Program effective fall 2013. Linda Dayer-Berenson, MSN, BC, CRNP, APRN, is a professor in Drexel's Undergraduate Nursing and Accelerated Career Entry BSN Department.

DREXEL UNIVERSITY FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDED 2012 AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NURSING BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD



February 27, 2013 – A team of Drexel University faculty and staff were awarded the 2012 American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award for the book *Legal Issues Confronting Today's Nursing Faculty: A Case Study Approach*, published by Davis Plus. Authors of the text included: Dr. Mary Ellen Smith Glasgow, former Associate Dean at the Drexel College of Nursing and Health Professions and current Dean of the Duquesne University School of Nursing; Dr. H. Michael Dreher, an associate professor in the Division of Graduate Nursing; and Carl Oxholm III, President of Arcadia University. Associate Dean Dr. Faye Meloy and Dr. Stephen Gambescia, Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, both from the Drexel College of Nursing and Health Professions, contributed a chapter on disabilities. Finally, the following Drexel University faculty and staff are recognized for their reviews and editing contributions

to the book: John R. Gyllenhammer JD, Timothy J. Raynor JD, Deborah R. Lorber, Risk Management, and Terry J. Seligman, JD, Earle Mack School of Law.

DR. ELLEN GIARELLI GIVES AUTISM LECTURE AT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE



November 12, 2013 – Dr. Ellen Giarelli, an associate professor in the Division of Graduate Nursing, gave a talk about genomics and autism at The Franklin Institute as a part of the Penn Genome Frontiers Institute’s Community Lectures and Events series: “Genomics and Autism Spectrum Disorders.” You can download and listen to Dr. Giarelli’s lecture, “Clinical Implications: Life-long Integrated Care for Families,” at <http://www.genomics.upenn.edu/events/pgfi-community-lectures>.

DREXEL NURSING STUDENTS LEAD NATIONAL CONVENTION



Left to right: Kat Raiser, Rebecca Walker, Kayleigh Jackson, and Alexis Burns

April 15, 2013 – Drexel nursing students were recognized as major leaders this year at the National Student Nurses Association (NSNA) Annual Convention, which took place in Charlotte, North Carolina from April 3-7. Rebecca Walker, a BSN student, excelled in her duties as Chair of the Convention Planning Committee. She was an active member of the Board of Directors for the House of Delegates meetings, introduced plenary speakers, and additionally performed a stunning rendition of the Star Spangled Banner at the Opening Ceremonies. BSN student Kat Raiser was elected Director East of the NSNA, replacing Rebecca Walker, who previously served as the director of NSNA activities on the east coast this past year.

Drexel University has the largest NSNA Student chapter in the country. For the third year in a row, Drexel University took home the “platinum” Precious Metal Award, which is awarded to colleges and universities with more than 200 student NSNA members at the convention, the Drexel NSNA Chapter submitted a resolution in

support of the addition of ECG tests to high school and college athlete pre-participation screenings to reduce the occurrence of sudden cardiac death. The resolution was eloquently presented to the NSNA House of Delegates and was accepted by the organization with an 89% vote. The resolution was authored by Drexel nursing students Kat Raiser, Tara Cooke, Olivia Dalrymple, Christina Gyarmati, and Addison McInnes.

Finally, Drexel student Kayleigh Jackson, who is the President of the Student Nurses Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP), led a large and engaged delegation from Pennsylvania with four scheduled caucus meetings and continuous involvement in all events.

INTERGENERATIONAL LEARNING AT THE COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

December 17, 2012 – Tara Cooke is a student in the on-campus Bachelor’s in Nursing Program at the College and her mother, Susan Cooke, 51, is currently enrolled in Drexel Online’s MSN in Nursing Leadership Program. The Cooke family exemplifies an interesting trend in higher education: multigenerational learning among family members.

Next Avenue, an online news portal catering to America’s “50+ population,” published an article called “Multigenerational Learning: All Together Now, Doing Homework,” that discussed both the challenges and rewards of being an adult that attends the same college or university as their son or daughter. The College of Nursing and Health Professions’ mother-daughter duo, the Cookes, were interviewed for the article. “I have a demanding work schedule and she has challenging coursework. We take turns giving pep talks,” Susan said.

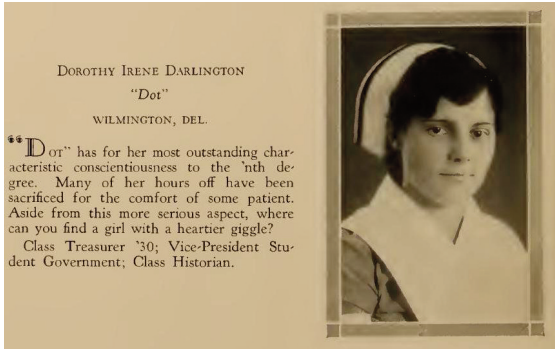
Dr. Stephen Gambescia, Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Affairs at the College, was also interviewed for Next Avenue’s exploration of the multigenerational learning trend. He provided tips about how children and parents can study together successfully. Of all things, he stressed the importance of keeping expectations realistic, not throwing pity parties, and “being cool” about the major age difference between parent and child. “Everyone knows the parent is older- don’t bring unnecessary attention to it. And acting like you know more is definitely inappropriate (even if it’s true!)”

Dr. Gambescia contributed.

RECENT GRADUATE AMBER HAZAN PUBLISHED IN JOURNAL OF PEDIATRIC NURSING

December 17, 2012– Recent graduate Amber Hazan, BSN, RN, who now works at The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, collaborated with co-worker Mary Markov, MEd, RN, to write an article for the Technology section of *The Journal of Pediatric Nursing*. Their work, “Advances in Communication Technology: Implications for New Nursing Skills,” emphasized the importance of primitive augmentative and alternative communication (ACC) tools. In many medical environments, patients with disabilities utilize these devices in order to communicate with visitors, nurses, and other staff. In their article, Hazan and Markov discussed and rated many of these devices, such as Eye-gaze Edge, Camera Mouse, and MyTalk tools. Eye-gaze Edge, for example, “tracks eye movement and translates it into mouse cursor action on a standard computer screen, allowing a user with limited motor ability to access the internet, send messages, shop, etc.” To conclude their topic, the co-authors wrote, “in order to fully optimize patient care outcomes and safety, nurses may soon find that developing competencies in communication technology will become required skills.”

MEET OUR OLDEST LIVING ALUMNA!



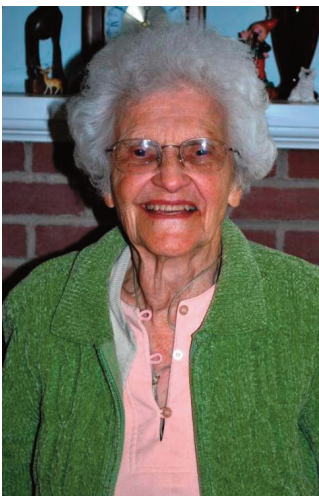
Dorothy Mastriena in the 1931 Hahnemann University yearbook, the Hahn-o-Scope

April 1, 2013 – Dorothy Mastriena is a dog lover, a diehard Phillies fan (Jimmy Rollins is her favorite player), and she can polish off a cheese steak and plate of onion rings solo. She also celebrated her 103rd birthday in March and is the oldest living alumna of the College.

Born in Birmingham, Pennsylvania on March 19, 1910 on the Dupont farm where her family worked, Dorothy Darlington was the youngest of three children. As a child, she moved with her sister Sarah to West Chester where the girls attended primary school and enjoyed going shopping on Saturday nights. Dorothy then applied to the nursing program at Hahnemann University because she knew several other young women who also chose Hahnemann over the other few local options.

She can still remember the light blue chambray uniform and white cap she wore at Hahnemann. Dorothy and her friends were bothered by the way the hats fit and would push them back on their heads until the professors demanded that the students move them back to their hairlines. “They were more strict back then,” Dorothy said.

In the 1930s, Hahnemann nursing students boarded two or three to a room on the second floor of the hospital. There were strict curfews and rules about noise and messy attire, Dorothy explained, saying “You weren’t smart, because if you got smart you’d be punished.” When the women left the hospital, they could usually be found around the corner at the drugstore having a soda or at the local movie theater.



Dorothy Mastriena today, 103 years old

Dorothy and her 85 classmates graduated in 1931. For many decades, Dorothy kept in touch with her classmates and attended countless reunions and get-togethers. She and her roommates each became private duty home care nurses in the area. “You got into a lot of responsibility when you were home alone with the patient,” she said. In 1948, Miss Darlington became Mrs. Mastriena when she married her husband Joe.

“ I didn’t smoke or drink, I ate good food, I worked hard, and I was happy... ”

Today, Dorothy lives in the same Havertown home she shared with Joe since they were married. At 102 years old, she lives independently and takes care of 10 year-old Kiki, a fox terrier that Dorothy has had since she was a puppy. When we interviewed her, Dorothy moved about the first floor of the house, calling for Kiki to come and join us. Dorothy ate a cheese steak and onion rings for lunch and shared a few bites with the dog below the table.

What’s Dorothy’s secret to a long and healthy life, you may ask? “I didn’t smoke or drink, I ate good food, I worked hard, and I was happy,” she explained. Her nephew added, “Aunt Dot has a positive outlook on life. She takes things—like stress—in stride.”

ALUMNI AWARDS & RECOGNITION

September 27, 2012 – Alumnus **Michael Beshel (BSN '97)** was named Vice President of Nursing and Chief Nursing Officer (CNO) at Nazareth Hospital this summer. Beshel's career began at the College of Nursing and Health Professions, where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Prior to working at Nazareth Hospital, he served as the Administrative Director of Nursing Operations at Aria Health, and as the Vice President and CNO at Mercy Hospital beginning in 2009. His new colleagues at Nazareth Hospital spoke highly of Beshel's abilities, saying that "his skill, experience, business savvy and dedication to our values and mission will help lead Nazareth into the future as we continue to meet the evolving healthcare needs of our community."

September 27, 2012 – Alumna **Cherie Ben (BSN '11)** was nominated for the Delaware Novice Nurse Excellence Award. In July, Cherie attended the finalist banquet with her hospital manager and several fellow nurses where she discovered that she had won the award. "I want to thank Professor Gordon and the wonderful faculty for facilitating my education and for molding me into an eager, efficient new nurse!" Cherie said.

September 27, 2012 – Alumna **Caitlin Brown (BSN '10)** received the 2012 Clinical Nurse Excellence Award at Thomas Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia. Caitlin graduated from the College's Accelerated Career Entry BSN Program in 2011.

September 27, 2012 – **Jocelyn Mayo (BSN '97)** recently earned a prestigious Minority Business Leader award from *The Philadelphia Business Journal*. In 2002, Mayo opened her own non-medical home care company, Pampering Plus, which delivers assistance to ill or disabled people in their homes. Since then, Jocelyn has employed nearly 1,000 people, and the company was named "one of the fastest growing, privately held companies in the Greater Philadelphia Area" by the Wharton Small Business Development Center. A Medicare certified and licensed health care facility, Pampering Plus also offers a nurse aid education and training program. "We employ a large population of minorities," Mayo said in response to receiving her award.

INSIDE HIGHER ED SPOTLIGHTS DREXEL'S GATEWAY SCHOLARSHIP

March 1, 2013 — Drexel University has "developed the will and the way to become a major player in online learning," wrote Inside Higher Ed's Joshua Kim in his February 14 article about the Gateway to Online Learning Scholarship. The scholarship allows Registered Nurses to pursue their BSN degrees online by covering the cost of the first RN-BSN course, giving students a risk-free way to experience online education before continuing to pursue their degree at Drexel Online. In healthcare today, a bachelor's degree has quickly become an essential credential that Registered Nurses need in order to move forward in their careers.

JOIN THE ALUMNI NETWORK

The College of Nursing and Health Professions Alumni Network unites alumni from the College and its legacy institutions from across the globe and provides them with networking opportunities, career resources, and College-specific special events. If you are a graduate of Woman's Medical College, the Medical College of Pennsylvania, Hahnemann University, MCP Hahnemann University, or the Drexel College of Nursing and Health Professions, you are eligible to become a member. If you are interested in becoming a member of the College of Nursing and Health Professions' Alumni Network, please contact cnhalumni@drexel.edu or call 215.762.4473.

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