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SINCLAIR SCHOOL OF NURSING

FIRST GRADUATES - POST-MASTERS NURSE PRACTITIONER PROGRAM MAY, 1995

First row, on left, Karen Fenstermacher, Carthage, Jennifer Baskett, Columbia, Elaine Doyle, faculty, Diane Mueller, Bolingbrook, Ill.; second row left, Joyce Harter-Woods, Columbia, Toni Hudson, Walnut Grove, Robyn Parker, Wichita, Kan., Kathleen Haycraft, Hannibal; third row left, Londa Swoboda, Jonesburg, Valerie Watters-Burke, Cape Girardeau, Debbie Scheel, Goodman, Chris Floca, Austin, Tex.; fourth row left, Donna Mohl, Buffalo, and Maureen Brown, faculty. (Story on p. 3)

MU Sinclair School of Nursing Nurse Practitioner Area of Study Outreach to Rural Missouri

Health-care services, especially in Missouri's rural areas, are suffering from two glaring problems: availability and accessibility. The severe demands upon primary care delivery in rural Missouri underscore the need for additional nurse practitioners who are both prepared to serve the at-risk populations, and willing to practice in the areas of greatest need. Although more nurse practitioners are practicing in Missouri, their numbers are still far below the projected needs for the state.

The Sinclair School of Nursing is developing a number of rural health initiatives, some of which are in partner-

health department and the primary health care bureau.

Admissions priorities

There are three basic approaches for increasing graduates working in rural Missouri: a selective admissions process prioritizing prospective rural students; increasing the number of rural clinical sites available for students; and required clinical experiences in rural sites. The nurse practitioner area, in 1993, instituted a competitive admission process that considers not only academic skills and clinical work experience, but also Missouri residency and motivation to work in underserved and rural areas. Admission to the nurse practitioner area of study has been expanded to 30 for the 1995 Fall semester, emphasizing the rural outreach criterion. Rural residency and minority status receive special consideration in a concerted effort to attract students who probably will return to their home counties to practice. This policy has resulted in a significant increase of rural students and graduates who have established or returned to rural practice. More than 60 percent of the 1995 applicants to the nurse practitioner program are from rural Missouri.

Almost half of the 111 students who graduated between 1980 and 1994 have served in rural or health professional shortage areas; 61 percent of graduates for the past three years are now practicing in rural sites, and the majority of our rural Missouri preceptors are graduates of the MU nurse practitioner program. In March, the school received a grant from the Primary Care Resource Initiative for Missouri (PRIMO), based upon the significant number of clinical training sites located in medically underserved and rural areas, and the number of clinical practice hours that the students are providing in these sites. Of 37 sites, 61 percent are in health professional shortage areas, and 56 percent are in rural Missouri. Currently our 45 students enrolled in clinical courses provide an average of 300 hours a week of service at those sites.



Rodd Hillard, medical student, lower left, James Kamp, physical therapy student, Eve Gilstrap, nurse practitioner student, JoAnn Franklin, nurse practitioner preceptor, Mary Ann Nouri, medical student and Karrie Hohn, medical student, participate in a multidisciplinary patient conference during rural clinical rotation in Ironton, Mo.

ship with schools of Medicine and health related professions, and the health services management department. This cooperation reflects a 1993 health sciences vision statement which emphasized support for "multidisciplinary integrated care delivery systems that improve access, quality and affordability of health care for rural Missourians." Delivery of rural Missouri health care by advanced practice nurses is a top priority of the School of Nursing. Efforts are focused in five areas: increasing admissions with priority for rural Missourians; multidisciplinary projects in rural Missouri; telecommunication outreach; continuing nursing education outreach; and linkages with the state

Multidisciplinary projects in rural Missouri

Students obtain clinical experiences in an interdisciplinary rural primary care practice, through a grant awarded to the schools of medicine, nursing, social work and health related professions, in cooperation with the state health department's primary care bureau. The curriculum includes rural orientation classes, collaborative weekly clinical case conferences on-site, and shared clinical experiences with practitioners of the participating disciplines. The first pilot project was held last summer in Ironton, Mo. Participants included four nurse practitioner stu-

■ Almost half of the 111 students who graduated between 1980 and 1994 have served in rural or health professional shortage areas.

dents - Jerry Spinner, Doris Parks, Eve Gilstrap and Michelle Bernard - two medical students and one physical therapist student. The nurse practitioner preceptor, Jo Ann Franklin, also served as curriculum coordinator for the first pilot.

For the second pilot project, held in spring 1995 in Bolivar, Mo., participants included one nurse practitioner student, Mary Belanger, two medical students, one physical therapy student and an occupational therapy student. One of the NP preceptors, Carol Pyle, MS(N) '88, works in a rural clinic in Stockton, Mo., the second NP preceptor, Marie Mott, practices in Humansville, Mo. The project provided the pro-

ON THE COVER

One-year program prepares nurse practitioners

Nurses with master's degrees may obtain nurse practitioner skills within one year, through an innovative program developed by the Sinclair School of Nursing. The Post-Masters Nurse Practitioner Program combines classes at MU with clinical experience in the student's community.

"We are pleased to be able to respond to the growing need for nurse practitioner educational opportunities," says Shirley J. Farrah, who co-directs the program with Maureen Brown, primary faculty. "We believe this new approach offers flexibility for students and the opportunity to develop a clinical practice in their communities."

The first class, which began in June 1994, attracted a dozen students from throughout Missouri and three other states. "It's something that I wanted to do for a long time," says program graduate Joyce Wood-Harter, MS(N) '88. "It's a completely different type of nursing, with more independence and autonomy, which they taught us." Now a family nurse practitioner with the Columbia Health Department, Wood-Harter has five clinics a week for obstetrics patients, family planning, and general care of adults and children.

The nurse practitioner program currently enrolls 21 students, who began the program in June with an intensive month of classes on campus. During the next two months, they will complete 60 clinical hours in their communities. Each student selects preceptor sites with a nurse practitioner and/or physician who provides primary care clinical experiences for the duration of the program.

From August through March, the students will return to campus in three-day blocks. During this time, they also will complete 330 clinical hours in their community. April and May are devoted to a 240-hour advanced clinical preceptorship at the student's home site. This intensive clinical experience encourages autonomy in practice while still functioning in collaboration with a preceptor. Upon completing the program, students are eligible to sit for the ANA Certification exam and become credentialed as an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN). APNs are eligible to enter into collaborative practice with physicians and apply for prescriptive privileges (i.e., medications) under recently passed legislation in Missouri.

Program graduates receive 17 hours of academic credit plus 724 continuing education contact hours. The School of Nursing offers the program in conjunction with the Office of Extension Teaching.

Applicants to the program must have a master's degree in nursing, a strong commitment to providing primary care, a current Missouri license and an approved preceptor site. The program cost is \$6,500 for Missouri residents. Missourians who plan to practice in an underserved area qualify for a \$5,000 loan, and may be eligible for additional financial assistance during the advanced clinical preceptorship in April and May.

The deadline for applying for the June 1996 class is Jan. 15. For application information, contact Shirley J. Farrah, S266 Sinclair School of Nursing, Columbia, Mo. 65211.

fessional schools an exciting opportunity for collaborative development of didactic curricula and clinical practice opportunities. This project is funded by the National Health Service Corps.

Another program enhances the

health of rural Missourians through community and academic partnerships that improve the supply and distribution of primary care providers and other health professionals. The School of Medicine, in partnership with the

Kirkville College of Osteopathic Medicine and in collaboration with the School of Nursing, received funding to offer MU medical, nursing and health related professions students increased opportunities for practice experiences in rural hospitals and clinics.

Advanced practice nursing students will have the opportunity to spend a major portion of their clinical education in rural settings. The mid-Missouri Rural Education Center in Rolla, which serves 21 counties will have telecommunication equipment for academic classes, clinical networking and interdisciplinary clinical practice conferences. Currently, the faculty of nursing, medicine and health related professions are developing the curriculum and case studies for the interdisciplinary classes. Alice F. Kuehn, nursing school faculty for the grant, is developing a nursing advisory committee in the Rolla area to help design an outreach program with the nursing community.

The schools of nursing and medicine also hope to expand interdisciplinary primary care education from medical students to medical residents in collaboration with nurse practitioner students.

Telecommunication outreach in primary care

Telecommunication courses, clinical networking and telenursing practice questions are being developed through the assistance of area health education centers and the telecommunication networks being developed through a separate School of Medicine grant. A telecommunication grant to the School of Nursing will provide graduate level master's core courses to students in northeast Missouri.

Continuing nursing education outreach

The nurse practitioner required clinical pharmacology course was telecommunicated to Poplar Bluff, Mo., in 1994, and increasing such offerings is a high priority. This will assist graduate NPs in maintaining clinical practice expertise.

Linkages with state health department

A key component of the school's outreach efforts is participation in the primary health care advisory council and in development of statutory and regulatory

authority for the full scope of advanced practice nursing. The school is a resource for rural practitioners regarding practice issues, and serves in a leadership role in development of state policy and funding decisions relating to primary health care delivery by advanced practice nurses.

The NP area also has participated in a number of the Primary Care Resource Initiatives for Missouri (PRIMO) programs, including loans for graduate students and a grant proposal that will assist the rural high-school seniors.

The NP area faculty also are working with the state health department to develop a descriptive database of nurse practitioners, their collaborating physicians and their clinical practice parameters. Alice F. Kuehn is principal investigator of this initial study which will serve as a model and base for longitudinal studies of nurse practitioner practice throughout Missouri. The study will document not only the increasing rural outreach of MU graduates, but also the impact of advanced practice nursing on the health of Missourians.

ATTENTION

NURSING ALUMNI

NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

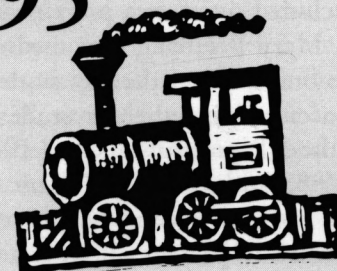
scheduled for

OCTOBER 3, 1995

7:00 am

Nursing Alumni Breakfast at
MONA Convention

Sheraton Inn, Westport Plaza
St. Louis, MO



Dear alumni and friends,

Recently, I heard the President of Trinity College, an old and distinguished women's college in Washington, D.C. say that a wealthy alumna refused to give the college any contributions as she "couldn't give to a school she no longer recognized." I suspect that many of you might have trouble recognizing our School, too. It is changing so rapidly.

While our mission must reflect the changes necessary for transforming the school to prepare students to meet the practice challenges of the 21st century, our core values remain the same for the school. The core values of excellence and a deep commitment to scholarly nursing education, research, and practice are unwavering.

Our students, as always, are excellent. They are, however, a very diverse group — women, men, married, single, moms and dads, first-time college enrollees and career changers, rural and urban, international and of many cultures and backgrounds.

Our faculty is an outstanding group of nurse educators. They are professionally diverse — some are primarily educator/researchers, others are primarily educator/clinicians, some prefer teaching graduate students, others prefer teaching and interacting with undergraduate students. Some faculty (especially us older ones) prefer more traditional methods of teaching, others are steeped in telecommunications and multimedia interactive computer-based teaching/learning technology.

Our classrooms and our School of Nursing building are becoming settings without walls! Telecommunication is changing our geography. Over the past two years, using distance learning approaches and technology, master's and doctoral courses have been offered in Hannibal, Poplar Bluff, Fort Leonard Wood and St. Louis, Mo.

In a related article in this newsletter, I'm sharing some excerpts from the just completed Sinclair School of Nursing Program Review and Niche Plan - a planning document created to guide the School of Nursing to pre-eminence for the 21st century.

We want you to feel connected to your school, we want you to recognize your school as we adapt to the changing learning/teaching environment. Your support and commitment are very important to us.

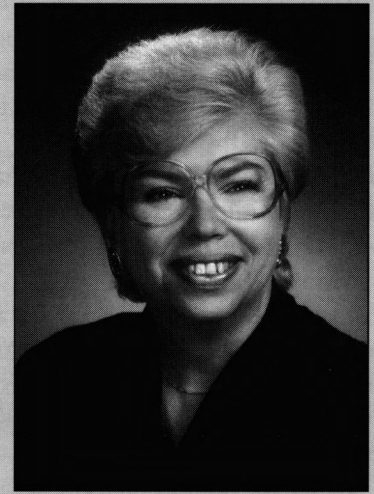
Our 75th Diamond Jubilee week of events and celebration was a smashing success! I wish each one of you could have been with us to celebrate the past, experience the present and envision our exciting future.

Come visit your school, and let us hear from you.

Warmest regards,



Toni J. Sullivan, EdD, RN, FAAN
Dean and Professor



Alumni news

Virginia Brayton, GN '32, and her husband, Bert, celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary June 2. They met on the campus and wanted to be married on campus. They now reside in West Burlington, Iowa.

Juanita S. Tate, PhD, RN, BSN '60 has been appointed interim dean and associate professor of Nursing at the University of Colorado.

Dr. A. Louise Hart, BSN '63 was appointed Chair, Department of Nursing, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO in January, 1995. Dr. Hart also serves on the Executive Board of the American Nurses Association Constituent Assembly.

Donna Bauer, BSN '68 is a staff nurse in labor and delivery at the Hutchinson Hospital in Hutchinson, Kan. She and her husband have three sons.

Let us hear from you.

Alumni want to know what you are doing. Send your news to Mary Ellen Metzen, S219 School of Nursing, Columbia, MO, 65211.

Patty C. Waters, BSN '72, is very proud of her children's achievements. Daughter - Courtney, age 14, attends Joseph Baldwin Academy during the summers following eighth and ninth grade. Waters' son, Cameron, age 11, currently has art work on display in Omaha, Neb., where they reside.

Tracy L. Schroeder, BSN '77, is currently working as an adult nurse practitioner and certified diabetes educator in an internal medicine and endocrinology practice in Dover, N.H. She and her husband have a daughter, Emma Linn Ratner, who was a year old May 28.

Laurie Ann LaBrier, BSN '84 received a master's of science degree in nursing

from St. Louis University and is employed as a traveling nurse with MRS Staffing Inc. in Hudson, Fla.

Julia B. Dust, BSN '87, announces the birth of daughter Olivia Catherine Dust Nov. 10.

Jill Coffman Dee, BSN '89, and husband Daniel announce the birth of Connor Allen March 23, 1994.

Marilyn L. Jenkins, BSN '91, MSN

'93, resides in New Orleans, with her husband and son.

In Memoriam

Sharon Jean Oldham Lambeth, BSN '63, of breast cancer on September 14, 1994, at age 52 in Grand Forks, N.D. Dr. Lambeth held nursing positions in oncology research, as staff nurse and nursing supervisor, as office nurse,

Greetings to my Nursing Alumni friends,

The MU Nursing Alumni Organization Board of Directors has initiated an Endowed Scholarship Fund through the MU Alumni Association.

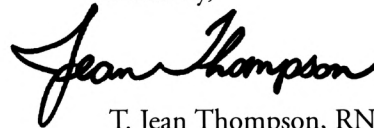
In order to give an endowed scholarship annually, we need to complete the endowment of \$10,000 through contributions within five years. The board feels it is such an important project that, hopefully, we can achieve the \$10,000 goal within three years.

Criteria have been established by a Committee of the Board and provide for an award to a student in the undergraduate, graduate and PhD programs in successive years. The annual yield from the endowment will allow us to award at least one ongoing annual nursing scholarship.

We will be contacting you as a Nursing Alumnus for you to identify how you can support the efforts for establishing the MU Alumni Nursing Scholarship. In the interim, you can send your contributions to the MU Nursing Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund at 123 Reynolds Alumni and Visitors Center, Columbia, MO 65211.

Please help a deserving student by contributing to the Nursing Endowment Fund. Please help meet the goal in three years.

Sincerely,



T. Jean Thompson, RN, BSN, MBA
President, Nursing Alumni Organization

Yes, I want to help a deserving nursing student, here is my contribution to the Nursing Scholarship endowment. \$ _____

In addition, I pledge \$ _____ for 1996 and \$ _____ for 1997.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone, home (____) _____ business (____) _____

Mail to: MU Nursing Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund
123 Reynolds Alumni and Visitors Center, Columbia, MO 65211

instructor and assistant professor. In 1993, she retired as associate professor from the University of North Dakota College of Nursing after being on the faculty for 17 years. She received a master's degree and a doctoral degree in higher education from the University of Minnesota.

Even though she was experiencing day-to-day living with cancer, she helped others and served as a consultant for a publication on living with the pain of cancer and assisted the editors in expressing the importance of being sensitive to people and their families who are living with cancer. The Grand Forks Herald reported her colleagues as describing Lambeth as "being very, very caring and concerned about others. She encouraged others to speak about friendship, living, caring and death." She served as an inspiration and

continued helping others right up to the time of her death. She is survived by her husband, David, a son, a daughter and two grandchildren.

Anthony Laughlin, BSN '93, May 4 in Fulton, Mo. He received the Alumni Organization Student Award for Excellence. Laughlin is survived by his parents, stepfather, a brother and sister.

Dr. Frank B. Gillette, friend and supporter of the School of Nursing, died in February in Santa Rosa, Calif. In 1981, Dr. Gillette established the Dorothy Gillette Meyer Memorial Scholarship to honor his sister's long dedication to nursing. Mrs. Meyer graduated from the School of Nursing in 1930 and passed away in 1980. Financial assistance has been provided to 32 nursing students through the distribution from this scholarship endowment which is in excess of \$50,000.

1996 Alumni award nomination form

- Alumnus of the Year**
- Honorary Alumni Award**
- Alumni Achievement Award**

Nominee _____

Address _____

City/state /ZIP _____

Phone _____

Date of birth _____

Business address _____

For Alumnus of the Year and Alumni Achievement Award

MU Degree and Year _____

Other Colleges/Universities attended _____

Major _____

For Honorary Alumni Award Degree

College/University Attended _____

Major _____

Nomination submitted by:

Name _____

Address _____

City/state /ZIP _____

Daytime Phone _____

Feb. 1, 1996 is the deadline for nominations. Send this form plus two letters of recommendation and a resume (if possible to obtain) to: Nursing Alumni Awards
123 Reynolds Alumni Center
Columbia, MO 65211.

Join
I want to belong

Show your support for Mizzou and the Nursing School by joining the MU Alumni Association.

- Individual, Annual \$30
- Individual, 65 or older \$20
- Mr. and Mrs., Annual \$45
- Mr. and Mrs., 65 or older \$30
- Send me life-membership information.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Class year _____ Student # _____ Phone _____

Spouse attended MU Spouse's name _____

Make your check, payable to: **MU Alumni Association** or charge

Visa Card # _____

MasterCard Expiration _____

Signature _____ NA

(Required for credit card use)

Check your membership status on the mailing label. If you are a non-member, return to Alumni Association Membership, 123 Reynolds Alumni Center, Columbia, Mo. 65211

FIFTH ANNUAL SINCLAIR SCHOOL OF NURSING BANQUET ENDS WEEK-LONG CELEBRATION

The fifth annual School of Nursing awards banquet was held April 7, and culminated a week of activities and special events honoring the 75th anniversary of the school. The Donald W. Reynolds Alumni and Visitor Center was decorated in keeping with the celebration. The jubilee theme Reflect - Experience - Envision was carried out in video, computer, and poster displays in the reception area. Each attendee received a commemorative Jubilee poster and program. Award recipients were presented clocks signifying the progress and movement of the school throughout the years.



Emeritus Professor Jane Brinton, is named Distinguished Friend of the Sinclair School of Nursing 1995 at fifth annual School of Nursing banquet, April 7, 1995.

Jane Brinton, Distinguished Friend of the School

The Distinguished Friend of the School Award was presented to Professor Emeritus Jane Brinton, who came to the Sinclair School of Nursing in 1959 as an associate professor and assistant director. She later became a professor and served as interim dean from 1973 until her retirement in 1976. In addition, she was a crucial member of the steering committee for the distinguished professorship endowment fund and was honored when the Potter-Brinton Distinguished Professorship in Nursing was named for her. Other professional positions have included assistant secretary to the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing, director of nursing at Oil City Hospital in Oil City, Penn., and coordinator of

nursing education at Pennsylvania State University.

Honorary Alumni Award to Harriet H. Werley

Harriet Werley, a pioneer in nursing research, began her work with the Sinclair School of Nursing in 1980 as professor and associate dean for research. During her three years at the school, she initiated a formal program in research development and served as principal investigator of a biomedical research development grant, one of only two such grants awarded to nursing schools in the early 1980s. As a U.S. Army nurse before coming to MU, Dr. Werley established a nursing research department at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. She has been director of the Center for Nursing Research at Wayne State University College of Nursing and associate dean for research at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Jubilee Award recipients are, from left, Jane E. Bostick, Alumna Achievement Award, Harriet H. Werley, Honorary Alumni Award, Jane Brinton, Distinguished Friend of the School, and Jane Elizabeth Hirsch, Alumna of the Year.





Visiting from far and near to participate in celebration events and activities were, from left, Joan Walsh, '57, New York city. Alice Kuehn, assistant professor, (back to camera), Mary Berhorst, '75, Linn, Mo., Fran Gilbert, '30, Glendale, Mo., and Anna Shannon, '55, Bozeman, Mt.

Jane Hirsch named Alumna of the Year

A 1971 graduate of the Sinclair School of Nursing, Jane Elizabeth Hirsch, has served in a variety of leadership positions for the past 24 years at the University of California in San Francisco. Currently, she is assistant director of nursing for the university's medical center and assistant professor in mental health, community and administrative nursing. Her duties include administrative responsibility for 34 operating rooms and the planning of

new operating suites, program development and the implementation of new support systems. In 1985, Hirsch co-wrote a major nursing textbook Clinical Nursing, which is used by students worldwide.

Jane Bostick receives Alumni Achievement Award

Jane Ellen Bostick earned a master's degree in nursing from MU in 1989. Her interest in the use of multimedia tools in the classroom has been a focus

of her work as technology laboratory coordinator at the school. As a method of setting the stage for future nurses' professional development, she created a video, which is shown to each new class, that depicts nursing's heritage and caring focus. In addition, her work with computer technology in the classroom helps bring lecture materials to life for MU nursing students. In 1994, Bostick was named nurse of the year by the Missouri Nurses Association Seventh District.



Dean Sullivan honors award recipients, students, faculty, staff and alumni with a "toast" to open evening festivities at the School of Nursing's 75th anniversary banquet and awards ceremony.



Recognized by the Nursing Alumni Organization for Undergraduate Student Excellence were, from left, Carla Schroer, 6-semester recipient, Dawn Nunez, 5- semester recipient, Beth Kehoe, 6-semester nominee, Penny Harness, 7-semester nominee, Karen Carter, 7-semester nominee, Teak Nelsen, 8-semester recipient, and Kristin Deal, 5-semester nominee.

Not pictured, Gene Grodzinsky, 5-semester nominee, Deanna Schoenherr, 6-semester nominee, Allison Straub, 7-semester recipient, Leah Hicks, 8-semester nominee, and Mardi Lloyd, 8-semester nominee.

Honored by the Nursing Alumni Organization for Doctoral and Graduate Student Excellence were from left, Karen Hayes, doctoral student recipient, Julie Bailey, 1-year master's student recipient, and Sandra Stewart, 2-year master's student nominee.

Not pictured, doctoral student nominee, Julie Clawson, 1-year master's student nominees, Marilee Bomar and Sandra Clarkson, 2-year master's student, Eve Gilstrap, recipient and Arlene Merrell, nominee.



Faculty and Staff Award recipients, from left, Shirley Farrah, Faculty Award for Excellence, Service, James Lay, Staff Award for Excellence, and Jane Armer, Faculty Award for Excellence, Research.



Presenting the engraved crystal clock to Maureen Brown, on the left, recipient of the Sinclair School of Nursing 1995 Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence, is Roxanne McDaniel, last year's recipient.



Enjoying festivities before Jubilee banquet are from left, Jane Brinton, 1995 Distinguished Friend of the School, Dean Toni Sullivan, Chancellor Charles Kiesler and Provost Edward Sheridan.



Linda Aiken gives distinguished professor lecture

The Potter-Brinton Distinguished Lecture was presented on April 6 by Linda Aiken, PhD, RN, noted health policy expert, as part of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the School of Nursing. Aiken's presentation, "Transforming the Workforce," focused on health care

and the changing profiles of care needs and care providers.

After her lecture, a multi-disciplinary panel responded to her speech. Panelists were Belinda Heimericks, MS(N), RN, executive director, Missouri Nurses Association, Harold Williamson, MD, associate professor, Family and Community Medicine, Richard Oliver, PhD, director, Health Related Professions, Alice Kuehn, PhD, RN, assistant professor, and Dan Mueller, PhD, Missouri Department of Health, CHART Project. Dean Toni Sullivan served as moderator.

Earlier in the day, Dr. Aiken lectured to area hospital chief executive officers and chief nursing officers on the topic, "Restructuring Hospitals: Options and Implications for Patient Outcomes" and discussed "Nursing Outcomes Research" with faculty and doctoral nursing students.



Jerry Griffiths congratulates James Lay, administrative associate, fiscal, on receiving the Staff Award for Excellence.

Sinclair School of Nursing Program Review and Niche Plan

Niche planning is a creative approach focusing scarce resources on those activities that have the greatest potential for success, and/or are the greatest need areas, and/or are what an organizational entity does best.

The process of achieving excellence in a niche area, in turn, elevates excellence and brings recognition to an entire organization such as the School of Nursing. The faculty, staff, and student representatives unanimously approved this plan for the School May 11. We are proud of the plan and our progress. We believe the School is well on its way to becoming a top-ranked, pre-eminent school of nursing.

Strategic long-range planning in the Sinclair School of Nursing dates back to the 1970s. The current planning process, however, dates to May 1990 when the School of Nursing administration, faculty, and exempt staff participated in a two-day retreat at the Lake of the Ozarks. Subsequently, the dean, faculty, student representatives and select staff engage in planning activities annually at workshops held each May. Moreover, all governance and functioning within the SON faculty organization and administration is intended to be in accord with the School's mission, priority goals and objectives. In that sense, it can be said that planning, including implementation and evaluation, is a continuous process.

In response to the request for this program review and niche strategy, Dean Toni Sullivan established a task force comprised of herself, Elizabeth Geden, professor and associate dean for research, Rose Porter, associate professor and associate dean for student affairs, and Susan Taylor, professor. The task force worked together to construct this document. The content was shared with the faculty at a number of meetings. A schoolwide forum was held to solicit additional input from faculty, students and staff.

The following article is comprised mainly of excerpts from the Sinclair School of Nursing 1995 Program Review and Niche Plan submitted to Chancellor Charles Kiesler and Provost Ed Sheridan May 2. The Board of Curators has mandated that each campus engage in a systematic planning process to determine how best to allocate scarce resources. Chancellor Kiesler, in turn, has directed MU schools and divisions to meet the curators' mandate through a niche planning process.

Program Review

As a result of analyzing societal needs for nursing and rural health care, our faculty has implemented responsive new programs. Faculty have also broadened the School's mission, emphasizing the integration of teaching, research and practice. There have been fundamental changes in (1) educational programming, including the start-up of the PhD in nursing and the nurse midwifery program, (2) research, including the development of a new infrastructure to enhance the research endeavors of the faculty, and (3) service activities, including the nursing center. These changes, as well as others, were brought about by deleting programs no longer responsive to societal needs and redistributing our resources to focal areas.

Niche Plan

LEADERSHIP AND EXCELLENCE FOR
ADVANCING NURSING IN RURAL
AMERICA

The Sinclair School of Nursing is celebrating its diamond jubilee 75th anniversary year in 1995. Throughout its 75 years of history, the School has offered programs of prominence achieving excellence in nursing education; programs in every decade that were built upon the traditions of academic excellence of the University. The Sinclair School of Nursing at MU shares and builds on that enduring core value of excellence.

The faculty and administration of the School aspire to top 10 status and national recognition. The enrollment of the first PhD nursing students marked the School's readiness to begin the move from its highly respected position as an enduringly successful school among peer academic health center institutions to a place among the top ranks.

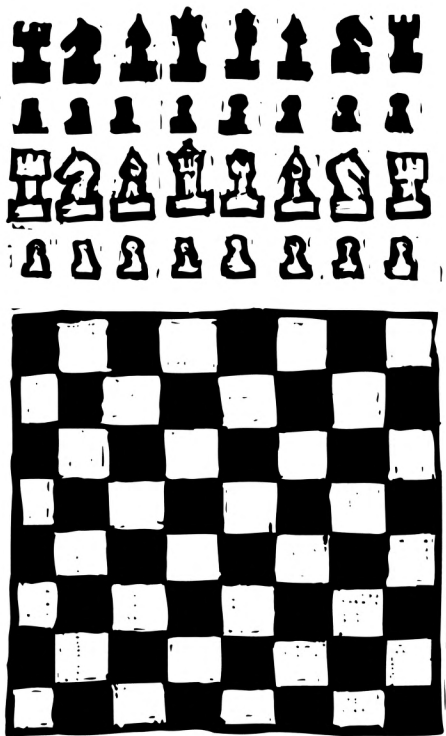
Expecting that a PhD in nursing would be approved within a two-to-three year window of 1990-1993 and

anticipating myriad changes in nursing and health professions education and care delivery, the School's faculty and administration have worked purposefully over the past six years to shape the School. We are building the culture and style, mechanisms and systems, rules and procedures that will create a school of nursing unwaveringly sure of its core values of excellence for the school and the discipline. At the same time, we are building the research and scholarly programs of the faculty and embracing the leading edge of change in nursing practice and nursing education at the entry (baccalaureate), advanced practice (master's), and researcher (doctoral) levels.

It is in embracing the leading edge of change in nursing and nursing education that the Sinclair School of Nursing is finding its very special challenges and opportunities. First, we are integrating the strengths of the School of Nursing, the Health Sciences Center, and the University in response to unresolved state and national problems, as well as in response to the unresolved problems in nursing, and the health sciences. Second, we are focusing our integrated strengths on the dynamic rural Missouri environment. This environment, reflective of an economically, culturally, and developmentally challenged rural America with myriad unmet health care needs, presents the Sinclair School of Nursing with its niche.

The niche of the Sinclair School of Nursing is: excellence and leadership, statewide and nationally, for advancing nursing's contribution to community-based, collaborative, cost beneficial, high quality health care and health professionals education, research and practice. This particular perspective is on advancing nursing: education, research, and practice for rural America.

The niche is broad in scope. The work of the faculty and administration to provide leadership statewide, nationally, and, increasingly, internationally is



encompassed within all areas: academic programs, research and scholarship, scholarly practice, and policy and policy development. Successes in fulfilling the niche will elevate the School to a high level of excellence and spotlight peak or focal areas of excellence and contribution by which the School will be known.

The challenge of the faculty and administration is to be diligent in setting priorities, allocating resources, and demanding performance that incorporates criteria fostering the leading edge of change in nursing and health care. Criteria include:

- Advances nursing's contribution to rural health care through scholarly practice, education or research;
- Represents a future-oriented position in rural health care delivery or health professions education;
- Is multidisciplinary, team-oriented and (as appropriate) community-based and/or population-based in foci;
- Is an education, research, or practice activity needing leadership statewide, nationally or internationally that can best be provided by a school of nursing in an academic health center with a rural focus and mission;

- Warrants strategic investment by the School and/or the University because it clearly meets the aforementioned criteria.

The School of Nursing is growing and becoming. By 2000, the Sinclair School of Nursing expects to be recognized as a "top 20" school of nursing; by 2010, a "top 10" school of nursing. A top school of nursing that focuses primarily upon education, research, and practice in rural America will be preeminent.

Focal Areas

Some peak or focal areas that the faculty and administration identified as priorities to which human and material resources are strategically directed include:

- PhD in nursing
- Research productivity
- New ventures in advanced practice nursing
- Curricular and teaching/learning innovations
- Policy and policy development

The School has continued to grow by using its resources wisely. Our niche strategy, with its focal areas, further refines and directs the careful use of our human and material resources to bring the School to the preeminent status it seeks.

—Dean Toni Sullivan

Research productivity vital to niche plan

A new research infrastructure is a total quality management approach to fulfilling the research mission of the School of Nursing. The purpose of this focal area is to substantially increase faculty research productivity. Resources and accountability for meeting agreed upon goals will be vested in Research Interest Groups (RIGS) designed and managed

by faculty. A faculty Director of Research, will coordinate many of the administrative aspects of research. An external consultant, Meridean Maas, PhD, RN, FAAN, Professor of Nursing at the University of Iowa College of Nursing, who is a leading nurse scientist with a history of funded research, will work with the faculty on a continuing basis.

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS

Two examples of current projects, one research and one research and development, offer a glimpse of some of the current work upon which the School is building its rural health care research focus.

Culturally Diverse Rural Elders. Jane

Armer, PhD, RN, has developed an intriguing and widely respected program of research on health promotion among culturally-diverse rural elders and families. She is completing data collection and inter-ethnic data analysis on qualitative and quantitative measures related to health promotion among members of multiple rural cultural groups—Anglos, African-Americans, and Amish. Her ground-breaking intra-ethnic research examines differences and similarities in perceptions of health, health promotion practices, and factors related to overall well-being among rural and urban African-American elders and families residing in the Midwest and the South.

This program of research offers rich

U N I V E R S I T Y O F M I S S O U R I - C O L U M B I A

Sinclair School of Nursing Continuing Nursing Education

Upcoming Conferences

- **Gerontology Review.** August 3 & 4, Holiday Inn East (Holidome), Columbia
- **Pathophysiology Update: Interpretation of Lab Tests.** August 22, 1995, Holiday Inn East (Holidome), Columbia
- **Pathophysiology Update: Clinical Immunology.** August 23, 1995, Holiday Inn East (Holidome), Columbia
- **Psychiatric Review - Generalists.** September 7 & 8, 1995, Holiday Inn East (Holidome), Columbia
- **Pathophysiology Update: Clinical Neurology.** September 7 & 8, 1995, Holiday Inn East (Holidome), Columbia
- **Psychiatric Review - Adult & Peds.** September 14 & 15, Holiday Inn East (Holidome), Columbia
- **Staff Development/Continuing Educators.** September 18 & 19, Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia
- **Research.** October 10, Holiday Inn East (Holidome), Columbia
- **Medical/Surgical Conference.** October 25, 1995, Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia
- **Drug Trials.** November 3 & 4, Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia
- **IV Therapy Conference.** November 7, 1995, Days Inn University Center, Columbia
- **Nurse Educator Conference.** November 9 & 10, 1995, Days Inn University Center, Columbia
- **Perioperative.** November 10 & 11, Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia
- **Advanced Practice Conference.** November 13 & 14, 1995, Days Inn University Center, Columbia
- **Gerontology Conference.** December 4 & 5, 1995, Holiday Inn Executive Center, Columbia
- **Psychiatric Nursing Conference.** December 8, 1995, Ramada Inn, Columbia

More detailed information per offering will be included as plans are finalized. If you have questions, please call the Continuing Nursing Education office at (314) 882-0215, or write: University of Missouri-Columbia, S266 Sinclair School of Nursing, Columbia, MO 65211.

opportunities for mentoring of graduate and doctoral students in the research process, collaborative research endeavors with faculty colleagues in the School of Nursing and the Health Sciences Center, integration of research in teaching at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels, and dissemination of scholarly work in refereed professional journals and refereed and invited presentations. Dr. Armer is sought as a research consultant and partner among nurse-researchers. Currently, she is supervising collaborative research projects in New Orleans and Birmingham. This demonstrates the MU School of Nursing's niche in overall excellence in teaching and scholarship, as well as service in the form of contribution to health policy

development in the area of vulnerable rural populations.

Families-at-Risk. The purpose of the Families-at-Risk project is to develop the health component for Missouri's Five-Year Family Preservation and Family Support Services Plan. In cooperation with the Department of Health, Division of Maternal, Child and Family Health, and with their funding, we have contracted to develop a multi-disciplinary public health home visiting model with the supporting protocols and standards of practice. Two faculty, **Elizabeth Geden**, PhD, RN, CS, FAAN, and **Deborah Gayer**, PhD(c), RN, PNP, CS, spearhead this project. Dr. Geden, a seasoned scholar, is mentoring Ms. Gayer, a junior faculty member. The program's

benchmarks include the development of a family health appraisal component and a model home visiting program.

The School of Nursing is taking the significant leadership role in this important project. It is anticipated that the next funded step will consist of the implementation of a rural, community-based, multi-disciplinary intervention program for families-at-risk. This proactive stance is projected to enhance the well-being of the family unit while simultaneously addressing the health needs of individuals within the family. It is our expectation that these services will be health promotive, will reduce costs associated with health restoration services, and will provide a national model.

\$1.7 million in grants awarded to school of nursing

Rural telecommunication outreach

Nurses living in rural Missouri will soon have access to master's degree courses in their local area. The Sinclair School of Nursing has received approval and initial funding to expand the Master's program in nursing through telecommunication to rural areas of Missouri currently lacking readily accessible opportunities for advanced education. The three-year grant, from the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Professions Bureau, is in excess of \$500,000. The School of Nursing has been a pioneer in telecommunicating courses in the doctoral program among the three university campuses and will now have the resources to send courses for the master's program into rural areas.

Roxanne McDaniel, assistant professor, principal investigator, and **Priscilla LeMone**, assistant professor, co-investigator, report that the goal of the project is to substantially increase the number of advanced practice nurses in selected geographic regions of Missouri who are prepared to:

- teach in educational programs preparing entry level registered nurses;
- meet the health promotion needs of rural populations;
- meet the health restoration needs of rural populations; and,
- provide administrative leadership in rural health care.

Nursing center at Moberly Area Community College

The Sinclair School of Nursing will soon be providing primary care services to students at Moberly Area Community College. The Nursing Center, funded as a Nursing Special Project by the Department of Health and Human Services, is a \$1.2 million five-year project that will provide a comprehensive range of primary health care services to approximately 2,000 adult students and their families on-site at the college. Dean **Toni Sullivan** is Principal Investi-

gator and CEO of the Nursing Center.

This model is the first in Missouri to bring together a university school of nursing with community resources and a university health sciences center in partnership. Additionally, it will provide faculty teaching and research opportunities and ADN, BSN, MSN, and PhD student clinical practice in a nurse-managed community-based setting.

Faculty news

The Sinclair School of Nursing was well represented at A Tribute to Missouri Nurses by having three finalists from over 250 distinguished nominees.

Jane Armer, assistant professor, Sinclair School of Nursing, was named honoree in the education/research category.

Toni Sullivan, dean and professor, Sinclair School of Nursing, was a finalist in the education/research category.

Christine Kunz, oncology clinical nurse specialist, Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital, Columbia, and a '76 graduate of the school, was a finalist in the patient care category.

Announcement was made and awards

were presented at a gala dinner held in St. Louis on May 13, 1995.

Sponsored by Saint Louis University School of Nursing, A Tribute to Missouri Nurses is a statewide program established in 1989 to recognize excellence in nursing by Missouri registered nurses. Five awards are presented in the categories of administration, education/research and patient care. Honorees each received a \$1,000 cash award and a specially designed crystal sculpture. In addition, a \$1,000 scholarship will be made to a Missouri school of nursing designated by each honoree.

Finalists received the honor of designating \$500 each to a scholarship fund at a Missouri school of nursing of their choice as well as a commemorative plaque.

Congratulations are extended to these outstanding nurses for their lifelong dedication and contributions to nursing. Students for years to come will benefit from their generosity through their designation of the Sinclair School of Nursing to receive the financial award for scholarships.

Susan Taylor, professor, was named a Gold Chalk Award Winner in March. Selected by a vote of the students, this is a special faculty award.

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Honor Society celebrates 30th anniversary - presents awards

Alpha Iota Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau, International, recognized outstanding nursing achievement at their 30th anniversary general meeting in March. **Fay Bower, RN, DNSc, FAAN, Sigma Theta Tau president**



brought greetings from the national organization. Receiving awards are from left, **Priscilla LeMone, Excellence in Education Award; Kay Libbus, Margaret**

Woods Allen Outstanding Research Award; Marilyn Rantz, Excellence in Nursing Award; and Angela Compton, Ruby Potter Memorial Award.




Published biannually by the School of Nursing, University of Missouri-Columbia. **Toni J. Sullivan, EdD, RN, FAAN**, executive editor, dean and professor, S215 School of Nursing; **Jean Thompson, MBA, RN**, President, Nursing Alumni Organization; **Caroline Davis, MS(N), RN**, editor; **Mary Ellen Metzner**, associate editor. Contributions are encouraged. For more information, write Editor, Mizzou Nursing, S222 School of Nursing, Columbia, Mo, 65211. Phone (314) 882-0252. Fax (314) 884-4544.

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