Dean’s Note

We did it! Yes, we actually emptied out the entire College of Nursing building and turned it over to the construction crews. Over the holiday break we were working like busy little elves in Santa’s workshop to pack up, box up, donate and relocate every book, copy machine, desk, chair, stapler and paper clip in the building. A big thank you to all the faculty and staff who worked overtime to orchestrate this amazing event!

Emptying the entire building was a monumental task that began several months ago. This past summer we began by moving the distance delivery equipment to the Health Sciences Education Building and set up the faculty workroom on the 3rd floor of that building. In August the first wave of the 40 faculty telecommuters moved out and set up their home offices.

In November the Student Services team moved and set up their offices on the A Level of the School of Medicine building (AC218). Then the Faculty Practice Office staff moved to 375 Chipeta Way in Research Park, occupying space in the first floor of the Family Medicine Department. The development staff also found a new temporary home in Research Park, relocating to the Development Office Building at 540 Arapeen Drive.

The main hub for the College of Nursing faculty and staff relocated to the Royal Wood Plaza at 230 West and 200 South on three cold and snowy days in December. We rang in the New Year by moving all the manikins, hospital beds, and equipment to 540 Arapeen Drive to create the temporary home for the Simulation Learning Center.

Our most precious cargo, the 7-foot marble statue of Florence Nightingale was by far our greatest challenge. Weighing several tons she was too heavy to move and too valuable to leave behind. Several efforts were made to protect and preserve her in place to no one’s satisfaction. Several bids were obtained from art relocation specialists. Finally Pioneer Movers took on the challenge and with care and consideration that would have pleased her they graciously wrapped, secured and hoisted Florence off her majestic perch. She was surrounded by a team of brawny movers and carefully rolled out the front door, down the snowy sidewalk, up the ramp and onto the main floor of Eccles Health Sciences Library.

The building is empty now and awaiting our return in Fall of 2010. It is a bit eerie to see the hollow empty structure devoid of the life and energy that usually fills the halls.

However we know it is in good hands and when I look back across the walkway I can see Florence holding her lantern up in the library window as if to illuminate our building. It is a comfort to know she is there lighting the way into the future and the good things to come.
Dear Fellow Alumni:

At the Fall 2008 Decades of Caring alumni reunion, I had the opportunity to talk with class of ’88 alum Connie Kirkpatrick, who is the occupational health nurse practitioner for O.C. Tanner, a jewelry and recognition award design and manufacturing company. I continue to be impressed by the diverse ways in which College of Nursing alumni impact the lives of others. Staying connected to the College has allowed me to not only keep in touch with my own former classmates; it has also given me access to a broader network of individuals who share my interest in nursing—and inspire me with their contributions to the field.

As a graduate of the College of Nursing, you are an important part of this network. While you were a student you likely cultivated relationships and experiences within the College of Nursing community; some of which may have had a role in guiding your career path. Many things change over the years after graduation, but hopefully these relationships and experiences continue to be among your most memorable. As president of the Alumni Advisory Board it is my goal to help you stay connected to the people—and place—that are the foundation for those memories.

Of course, "staying connected" means different things to different people. Fortunately, the College of Nursing offers a number of ways for you to stay connected—on your own schedule and at your own pace:

**Join the Alumni Association:** In partnership with the University of Utah Alumni Association, the College of Nursing Alumni is pleased to offer an exclusive, new joint Alumni Association membership. For $50 you can receive the benefits of both College and U alumni associations. Whether you are living along the Wasatch Front or have relocated elsewhere, the joint membership gives you access to special benefits and discounts on a wide variety of athletics, arts and entertainment events, and travel and merchandise. (The traditional College of Nursing Alumni Association membership is still available for $30 a year.) By joining via either package, you will also have the opportunity to honor the nurse of your choice (a $25 value) at the 15th Annual Honors for Nursing event, to be held May 12, 2009.

**Serve on the Alumni Advisory Board:** The Alumni Advisory Board is actively involved in providing career opportunities for current students through Career Day, recognizing our profession through Honors for Nursing and reuniting alumni through the Decades of Caring class reunions. We are actively seeking individuals to serve on the board.

**Nominate a classmate for the Distinguished Alumni Award:** Each year a College of Nursing alum is recognized during the College convocation for their contributions to nursing. This individual reflects a high level of achievement in their professional activities and has impacted the community through their actions.

**Mentor a Student:** Influence the next generation of nurses and nurse leaders by mentoring a College of Nursing student.

Finally, you can always stay connected by keeping us informed of your personal and professional achievements. Visit the College web site at www.nursing.utah.edu where you can share your accomplishments and connect to Facebook, a social-networking web site. Becoming a fan of the College of Nursing on Facebook gives you the opportunity to reconnect with former classmates, receive updates regarding College of Nursing events and follow the progress of the building renovation!

Together we can strengthen the College of Nursing community and build a better future for tomorrow’s alumni.

Warm regards,

Allyson Dang, BSN ’05
President, Alumni Advisory Board

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Welcome new Alumni Association member Diane A. Sunday (formerly Shoff)! Diane graduated from the College of Nursing in 1979 with her BS. In 2007 she earned her MSN/Ed from the University of Phoenix. Diane is currently a nurse educator for practical nursing at York County School of Technology, York, PA, and is also a member of Sigma Theta Tau.
Join the Alumni Association

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH COLLEGE OF NURSING!

Mail the completed form to:
Development Office, University of Utah College of Nursing, 10 South 2000 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84112 (see enclosed envelope)

Yes, I want to join the University of Utah College of Nursing Alumni Association:

Annual Membership

Joint Alumni Association Membership with U of U [ ] $50

Individual College of Nursing Alumni Association Membership [ ] $30

Life Membership (Available only for the College of Nursing Alumni Association Membership)

[ ] Individual $300 (one-time payment)
[ ] $100 per year for three years (three payments of $100)
[ ] Recent Graduate (within 2 years) $250 (one-time payment)

Name ___________________________________________ Degree ___________________________________________

Name while attending CoN (if different) ___________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________ Year of Graduation ____________________________

City __________________________ State __________ Zip __________________________

Email ___________________________________________ Phone ___________________________________________

[ ] Check here if this is a change of address [ ] I am interested in serving on the Alumni Association Board

Payment Options: [ ] I am interested in being a mentor for a student

[ ] Check - payable to the University of Utah College of Nursing
[ ] Credit Card [ ] American Express [ ] Discover Card
   [ ] Master Card [ ] Visa

Authorized Cardholder ___________________________ Exp Date ___________________________

Signature _______________________________________

What have you been up to? We want to hear from you!

Current work/specialty ___________________________________________

Degrees earned or awards ___________________________________________

Please list any additional information you’d like to share about yourself--publications, honors, community activities, etc. ___________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________
Alumna’s Memoir Offers Caregivers Insight into Patient/Family Experience

Things were quickly falling into place for Susan LaScala when she graduated from the University of Utah College of Nursing Family Nurse Practitioner Program in 1982 with her master’s degree. In 1984 Susan and her family packed up their red station wagon and headed “home” to New England. Susan began working as a nurse practitioner at UMass Health Center. In January 1986 her life suddenly changed—when at five months pregnant with their second child she developed cramps and went into premature labor. On the very day she was retrieving her maternity clothes from the attic to wear, Susan was suddenly giving birth to a 25-ounce baby girl, who they named Sarah.

Twenty-three years later, Sarah is preparing to graduate from college, and Susan, now the director of clinical operations and supervisor of nursing at Deerfield Academy Health Center in Deerfield, Mass., has another title to add to her resume: author. Her memoir, Small Wonder: The Story of a Child Born too Soon, was released in 2008. In it she recounts the harrowing year she spent watching Sarah fight for her life from behind the walls of an incubator.

Like many families, Susan’s medical emergency crisis was abrupt and undiscriminating. One day she was making pancakes for her husband and toddler, the next she was coping with the reality that the new addition to her family was comparable in size to six sticks of butter. She was quickly thrust into the role of terrified mother of an infant struggling to survive, and it caused her to view health care delivery from a new perspective. As she and her family navigated their way through Sarah’s recovery, she silently found herself giving grades to Sarah’s caregivers. The compassionate group of nurses and physicians working in the neonatal intensive care unit during her first visit to see Sarah earned a collective A for effort. The impersonal nurse who took her patient history without an ounce of warmth received only a C.

The entire experience motivated Susan to write her book. “As a nurse I wanted to illustrate for nurses and physicians how they/we look from the patient’s and the family’s perspective,” she said. “I want nurses to see how important a moment of their time can be to a frightened patient.” Susan has since been asked to perform readings for nursing students; “It is exciting to be able to share the book with students,” LaScala said. “Many point to the ‘A’ nurses in the story and say, ‘This is the kind of caregiver I want to be.’”

Beyond the professional lessons, Small Wonder also provides insight into the personal needs individuals and families have during a crisis—but don’t always know how to express. Between shuttling herself back and forth daily on the hour-long drive to visit Sarah, and arranging care for Willie while she was at the hospital, Susan had little time to think about preparing dinner—let alone the feelings of loneliness imposed by her routine. “I think as humans we derive hope from stories like this, and we learn from them,” Susan said. One important lesson she’s acquired from the experience: give those going through a personal crisis specific choices of how you can help. “Offer to bring dinner every Sunday evening or come over and vacuum the carpet,” she said. “Chances are family and friends in crisis would welcome the support, they just don’t know what they need or how to ask.”

Community outreach and service is a core value of the College of Nursing. As nursing students engage in the community-based clinical experiences they expand their professional development and are prepared to serve increasingly diverse populations throughout all stages of their careers. RN-BSN program students Kim Simon and Deborah Durkee developed a project that reaches out to the community to help improve the lives of asthma patients statewide.

While performing their community clinical service with the Utah Asthma Task Force and the Utah Department of Health, Simon and Durkee assessed the need for asthma education in hospitals and clinics. They identified a great need for education materials that could be used by clinics and emergency departments in Utah, helping to increase consistency in the management of asthma patients.

“We met with the project coordinator at the Utah Department of Health and discussed the issues facing healthcare facilities and asthma patients, as well as trends with asthma in Utah,” said Simon. “We also discussed programs in other states that are working to improve the management of asthma patients and decrease the rate of admissions and visits to emergency rooms.” After gathering the information, Simon and Durkee designed a standardized set of handouts for Utah, including patient discharge guidelines and recommended steps for the discharge process.

In addition, they created a discharge handout using the acronym ASTHMA: Asthma, Symptoms, Triggers, Health Care Providers and Medications and Action Plan. (see inset) The handout informs patients of the signs and symptoms to watch for, and how to care for their asthma.

“We wanted to create something simple and easy to use, that would address the key facts about asthma, and provide a detailed plan for both health care workers and patients on how to manage asthma consistently,” said Durkee. Both forms are being distributed statewide through the Utah Department of Health to any facility that would like to access and use them.

“We hope every hospital and clinic in Utah will take advantage of these forms,” said Simon, who graduated from the RN-BSN program this summer and began pursuing her Master’s in the Nursing Informatics program this fall. “Together we can provide consistent asthma information to asthma patients and in doing so, keep them healthier and out of emergency rooms.”
November 21, 2008 marked the end of an era as students, faculty, administrators and friends gathered to say a temporary goodbye to the College’s 40-year-old building. A morning press conference attended by local media featured a ceremonial “bubble wrapping” of the college’s iconic seven-foot statue of Florence Nightingale, which many say has become a symbol of the College. Later in the day an appearance by the Ladies Literary Guild kicked off a special faculty and staff farewell. Following an entertaining performance by the Guild, SAC Co-President Don Sorenson and Alumni Advisory Board Chair Allyson Dang read memories of the building that had been submitted by faculty and staff past and present, and then put them in a time capsule which will be placed in the new building. While few will miss the box elder bugs that took up residence in the College, many, like longtime faculty member Stephanie Richardson, are already counting down the days until they can return to the place that has been like a “second home.”

Richardson has had an office on every floor of the building and has taught in every single classroom. “The building has been my geographic placeholder for quite a while, and I am going to be a bit bereft while she is made more healthy and safe,” she said. “We are going to say good bye for just a little while, and when we come back, we will continue to attract excellence to the College of Nursing.”

As the building undergoes major renovation to once again be a state-of-the-art facility able to meet the needs of nursing education for the next forty years, assistant professor Ann Hutton, said she feels blessed to have shared in the journey.

“We await the new building with the Intermountain Simulation Learning Center, virtual reality experiences, pod-casting, polycoms, Wimba, Typhon, and other manner of educational tools yet to be developed,” she said. “With all our technology, I am reassured by a common thread that links the past with the present: nursing is still a hands on-profession and we care for real people. So on to the next iteration of the College of Nursing!”
College Launches Phase Two of Capital Campaign: *The Caring Continuum*

In the fall the University of Utah kicked off a $1 billion capital campaign and the College of Nursing is a big part of it. The recent success in raising funds for the building renovation put us out ahead of other colleges and programs in development efforts. While there are still some needs and naming opportunities for the building, focus is now shifting to student, faculty and program needs. The second phase of our capital campaign, *The Caring Continuum*, has three primary goals: 1) addressing the faculty shortage, 2) increasing access to our educational programs and 3) engaging students and enriching the communities we serve.

1. **Addressing the Faculty Shortage**
   **Goal = $8 Million**

   The nursing shortage in Utah and across the country is a growing concern and affects all sectors of healthcare. Many qualified applicants are turned away from nursing because of lack of funding and the current nursing faculty shortage. We want to expand the enrollments of all nursing education programs in the state, but in order to do this we must prepare more faculty. This funding will be used for faculty fellowships and doctoral and post-doctoral fellows, as well as endowed professorships and endowed chairs in gerontology and nursing.

2. **Increasing Access to Educational Programs**
   **Goal = $3.5 Million**

   Many students are unable to relocate and gain access to higher education. Teaching with distance-based technology gives more undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to become nurses and nursing faculty. Funds are needed to purchase the latest teaching technology equipment and for creating a simulated hospital learning environment. Student scholarships as well as stipends for future faculty preparation are needed to increase access and to expand our programs to other areas of the state and country.

3. **Student Engagement and Community Enrichment**
   **Goal = $1 Million**

   We are committed to reaching out to our own community and increasing awareness of global health issues through student exchange programs, community-based faculty practice and service learning experiences. Scholarships are needed for students and faculty to participate in international exchange programs in Mexico, Peru, Africa, Finland, and Sweden. Funding is also needed for diversity recruitment and community–based practice and service-learning activities.
Dale Lund joined the College of Nursing faculty in 1980, the same year that a University committee was formed to study and bring focus to gerontology issues. Over the years his research and contributions to the field of gerontology have earned him international recognition, and a reputation among his peers for creating and delivering high-quality grant submissions and research project outcomes. Lund has been the recipient of numerous teaching, scholarship and community service awards; many say he became synonymous with gerontology at the University of Utah. In January, after 28 years of service and collaboration, he assumed the position of chair of the department of Sociology at California State University, San Bernardino. While his career may be taking him on a new path, Lund’s impact on gerontology at the U is indelible.

Mike Caserta, professor and practicum coordinator for the gerontology interdisciplinary program first met Lund in 1982 through his sociology Master’s chair, Robert Gray, who insisted the two needed to meet because Lund “was an up and comer who is going to be doing good things.” The men hit it off right away but had no idea then of the enduring collaboration and friendship that would ensue.

“In many ways Dale was responsible for helping to launch my career,” said Caserta, who credits Lund with introducing him to Margaret Dimond, a College of Nursing faculty member at the time, who, along with Lund, had been conducting a longitudinal spousal bereavement project funded by the National Institute on Aging. “Dale and Margaret invited me to join their team and the rest, they say, is history.” Lund also facilitated Caserta’s entrance into the federally funded Intermountain West Long Term Care Gerontology Center (precursor to the Gerontology Interdisciplinary Program and Center on Aging).

Scott Wright traces his association with Lund back to 1983, when, as a doctoral student at Oregon State University, Wright paid a visit to the Gerontology Center. Lund helped him organize a coherent dissertation project on care-giving which led to more funding and numerous publications.

“How fortunate I have been to have a colleague who is and will continue to be a close friend,” said Mike Castera (seated) of Dale Lund (center). Pictured with Scott Wright (right) during one of the their many collaborations.

“Dale was the consummate team leader: open to new ideas and always supportive of team members,” said Wright. “He could see the big picture of science and served the gerontology program and the College of Nursing with a desire to make things better.”

Under Lund’s directorship the gerontology program experienced unprecedented growth, including expansion in course offerings, adjunct faculty, and student enrollments, and creation of a Master’s program and online certificate—all while sustaining and growing research and scholarly productivity. The secret to his success? Work hard, but have fun in the process.

“Dale always found a way to have fun, no matter what we were working on at the time: a grant, manuscript, curriculum revisions…you name it,” said Caserta, who will miss the productive yet entertaining lunches he shared with Lund and Wright over the years. “The three of us could get more business—along with a few laughs—done over lunch than others might do in a two-hour meeting,” he said.

“How fortunate I have been to have a colleague who is and will continue to be a close friend,” said Mike Castera (seated) of Dale Lund (center). Pictured with Scott Wright (right) during one of the their many collaborations.

“Dale is a great role model for keeping balance in life and work,” added Wright. “We could cross the finish line, get the gold, and be smiling that we actually enjoyed the run. We’d toast life and get back to work: thinking about the next race.”
Celebrating Our Success

**Presentations**


**Berry, P.** Measuring the Quality of Nursing Care Related to Pain Management (Keynote address), Intermountain Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society Fall conference, Midway, UT, October 2008.


**Brunker, C.P., Dorr, D., Schraeder, C., Pepper, G., Kim, HS.** 


**Clayton, MF; Dudley, WN;** Patient-Centered Communication during Oncology Follow-up Visits for Breast Cancer Survivors. 94th Conference of the National Communication Association; San Diego CA, November 2008.

**Clayton, M.F.; Latendresse G;** Using WIMBA to Enhance Learning in a Land-Based Class. Brown Bag, College of Nursing, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, December 2008.

**Cohen, S.** Fetal Brain Development: what we know, what we don’t know and what we may never know. Westminster College, Salt Lake City, UT, 2008.

**Edelman, L.** “Using Evidence Based Practice in Burn Care,” Midwestern Burn Conference, Omaha NE, October 2008.


**Fuller, D.** “Distance Learning for Nurse Practitioners - One Solution to Primary Care Provider Shortage” at the National Rural Health Association's 14th Annual Rural Minority and Multicultural Health Conference, Albuquerque, NM, December 2008.

**Gibson, M.** Skilled Birth Attendant Training in Afghanistan and Tibet, Alpha Lambda Keynote Speaker, University of Illinois, College of Nursing, Chicago, IL, 2008.


**Morse, J. M.** “Research programs: The contributions of Students and Faculty” Open University Lecture, The Sahlgrenska Academy, Gothenburg University, Sweden, October 2008.


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**Awards and Recognitions**

Edelman, L. was invited to become a member of the Corresponding Reference Group for Joanna Briggs Institute Burns CONNECT. The Corresponding Reference Group is made up of an international network of clinicians wanting to be involved in supporting best practices.

Linder, L. was elected to the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation board of directors as the certified pediatric oncology nurse (CPON) representative. This 3-year position will begin in June 2009.

Marshall, G. was recently elected as President Elect for the National Board for Certification of Hospice and Palliative Nurses (NBCHPN). She will assume the role of President which is a one year team, in 2010.

Morse, J. Honorary Life Member, Sigma Theta Tau, Capitulo Upsilon Nu Chapter, Universidad Nacional de Columbia, 2008.

Smith, S. received the 2008 Excellence Award for Research from the Utah Nurse Practitioner Association for her stellar program of research focused on the complex area of physiologic responses and care in critically ill neonates.

Staggers, N. Nursing Informatics: Scope & Standards of Practice (N. Staggers, Chair) received a 2008 Publication Award of Merit from the Society for Technical Communication (STC).

Staggers, N. Leadership Award - from the Technology Informatics Guiding Educational Reform national group for leading the Usability Collaborative.

Wright, S. has been elected to the National Honor Professional Society in Gerontology - Sigma Phi Omega as member-at-large.

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**Recent Publications**


Burridge R., Sehy Y. (Authors/Directors), Cowan D. & Lombardo N. (Producers), (2008). Transition from Hospital to Nursing Home. [Video]. Eccles Health Sciences Library, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT.


### Grants

Clark, L. Co-Investigator with Librett, J. (PI), for a US DHHS-Office on Disability grant for national expansion and evaluation of the I Can Do It, You Can Do It program. $15,000, 1/09 - 12/09.

Cohen, S. for the design, implementation and evaluation of a 2 week simulation-based training in obstetric emergencies for Mexican professional midwives and obstetric nurses in Cuernavaca, Mexico. The National Institute of Public Health of the United Mexican States, $23,800, 11/08-12/08.

Smith, S. with co-PI Moyer-Mileur, L. to study neurobehavioral developmental outcomes during the first 6 months of life in a subgroup of preterm babies in developmental massage study. $11,998, 1/0 -1/10.
Calendar Highlights

2/19 - Career Day
HSEB, Alumni Hall

2/20 - College Council
1-3 pm, HSEB 1700

3/16 - Spring Break
No Classes

3/23 - College Council
1-3pm, HSEB 1700

3/25 - Phone-A-Thon Launches

4/16 - Quarterly College of Nursing Staff Meeting, 1:30 - 2:30 pm, Royal Wood Common Area

4/30 - Faculty Spring Retreat/College Council, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 pm
Location TBA

5/07 - College of Nursing Convocation
5pm, Kingsbury Hall

5/12 - Honors for Nursing
6-8:30pm, Little America Hotel Ballroom

5/19 - Seeds of Rememberance, sponsored by Caring Connections, 7-8:30pm, HSEB, Alumni Hall

Visit us online at www.nursing.utah.edu