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fall 2000 a publication of the University of Rochester School of Nursing **Health Action Electives Collaborative programs** help students and community page 4

# A message from the Dean

As part of the School of Nursing's renewed promise to keep in closer touch with our community of students, faculty and alumni, we are proud to welcome you to *Rochester Nursing Today*— a newsletter that will keep you informed about people, programs and events of interest to all of us. What an appropriate time for our first issue!

It was just over a year ago that we completed the arduous strategic planning process that led to sweeping changes at the School of Nursing. Now, as we look back on a very challenging and successful year, we can proudly report on our progress and plans ... and introduce you to some special people whose professional lives are shining examples of what the School is really all about.

### The School of Nursing as a metaphor

As I was thinking about the past year in preparation for writing this message, I experienced one of those "ahas!" I realized that the strengths that have enabled the school to move forward during challenging times—flexibility, enthusiasm and a willingness to embrace rather than avoid change—are exactly the gifts we bring to our students. In many ways the School itself is a metaphor for our educational mission.



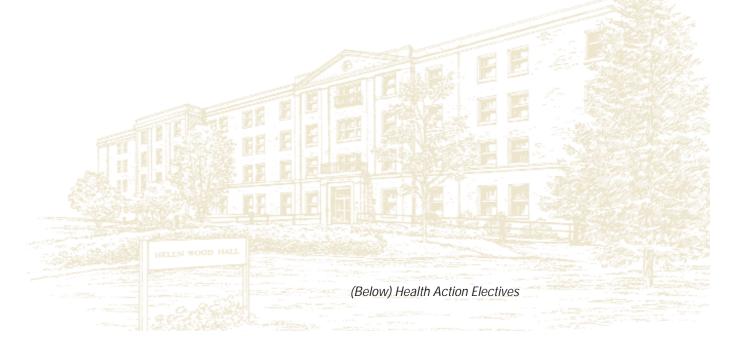
For what could be more important to nurses today than having the knowledge, skills and adaptability to find opportunity and success in the changes and challenges that face us at every turn?

The students and alumni profiled in this issue are a case in point.

#### Outstanding students and alumni

While the goal of our small editorial committee was to highlight individuals who represent our various degree programs ... the result, as you will see, is more of a testimony to our integrated approach to learning. Students in one program are alumni of another; and alumni may also be students and clinical faculty at the same time.

One of the most interesting insights into our School is that each person we profiled found—and embraced—unexpected opportunities leading to more rewarding and



fulfilling career paths. Their flexibility, energy and enthusiasm have certainly helped each to succeed in today's tumultuous health care environment.

#### **Health Action Elective**

Our program spotlight in this first issue shines on our Health Action Electives — an innovative educational experience that enables students to take part in a unique community-wide initiative. It's a wonderful example of the School's leadership in preparing professionals for new and more effective roles in improving our community's health.

### Moving proudly forward

As you know, I have been asked to serve as our School's new Dean and am proud and honored to accept the challenge. We have made so many difficult yet exciting changes during my 12-month tenure as Interim Dean and I welcome the opportunity to continue on the path we've started.

I thank you for the support, commitment and courage so many of you have brought to the School during this challenging time in our history. We are moving forward with pride and certainty because of you.



Patricia Chiverton, EdD, RN Dean



# **Health Action Electives**

# **Collaborative Program Benefits Students and Community**

The Rochester community, once regarded as a mecca of health care innovation, is again drawing considerable national interest. This time the focus is on a bold collaborative initiative to improve the health status of area residents.

In 1997, the School of Medicine & Dentistry and School of Nursing with the Monroe County Health Department established the Center for the Study of Rochester's Health, a collaboration to improve the health of county residents through community-based research, intervention design and program evaluation. The ultimate goal of the Center is to become a national model for local community health improvement.

"It's a complex challenge that can only be achieved collaboratively," says Noelle Andrus, PhD, education director for the Center. "Our role is to coordinate the research efforts that help us assess and improve our community's health status, and to educate professional health students to focus on prevention instead of just acute care."

The Center supports a broad-based community health improvement initiative — Health Action — involving leaders from a variety of health-related and community agencies and business groups, led by the Health Department.

Health Action is addressing age-targeted priority health improvement goals for the community, as determined through a process of assessing health status, determining critical needs through community input and evaluating the impact of interventions. These goals are segmented by age group: maternal/child, adolescent, adult, older adult and environmental.

An interdisciplinary educational component weaves undergraduate, nursing and medical student programs with this community health initiative, preparing future health professionals to think systematically about improving the well-being of their local community.

The Health Action electives are innovative courses that allow students to choose among projects related to strategic community health improvement priorities.



#### A tremendous learning experience

Nursing, medical and public health students work together "on project teams," Andrus explains. "They meet in class regularly, but most of their work is done out in the community. They're dealing with real problems, using proven performance improvement methods and tools, and gaining a systems perspective. It's a tremendous learning experience."

Bonny Shelby, a student in the RN-BSN program, agrees. "It's very hands-on, very real-world," she says. Her team evaluated health insurance benefits and put together a new policy for the University's medical residents.

"It was exciting and we felt we really accomplished something that has made a difference," she says.

The highlight of Shelby's Health Action experiences was getting to know students from other disciplines in a new way.

"It gave us all a better understanding of each other's

fields," she says. "It will enhance the way we work together in the future ... not just side by side but as integrated teams. Working with all these people at so many levels has given me new confidence in myself and my skills."

#### A different kind of education

Amy Dickason (BS '98), was looking for a more enriching experience than that typically offered in an academic environment. Advised by Rita D'Aoust, MS, RN, ANP, she chose a Health Action elective aimed at increasing pneumococcal immunization among elderly nursing home residents. Dickason and her team conducted extensive research in long-term care facilities to assess the problem and propose new policies for consideration by nursing homes locally and nationally.

"I never thought I would be interested in doing research," she says, "but it is so rewarding to set out to

Photo of D'Aoust to come

do something and actually be able to see it through."

Dickason has presented her team's work as part of invited Health Action presentations in Boston and Washington, DC.

"It's rewarding to get recognition and to rub elbows with the movers and shakers in health care," she says.

"But the most important thing is the

Rita D'Aoust, MS, RN, ANP

reward of knowing we're making a change for this population. I've seen a lot of flu and pneumonia in hospitals and long-term care facilities, and I know firsthand the terrible effect it can have on the elderly. I think we can really make a difference."

#### A new way of teaching

The rewards of being part of the Health Action electives are felt by School's faculty as well, says D'Aoust, the School's undergraduate program coordinator.

"In this course I'm not the sage on the stage. I'm more of a facilitator who has some skills that will help students question differently.

"And there's a bonding—faculty, students, community agencies—that's different from any I have seen before. It's a richness you can't get anywhere else," she adds.





# **Nursing profiles**

There's an old saying: "If you can't see it, you can't be it." *Rochester Nursing Today* will profile, in each issue, a few students and alumni whose academic and professional

achievements are sure to energize others. Here are some brief vignettes about those selected for our first issue... and some words of encouragement and advice from them to you.

# Anna Bater Young, RN, BS

"The educational opportunities at the School of Nursing are so rich.

Take advantage of everything that is offered. Then have faith in what you're doing and do your best. And never, never forget your professional roots."

When Anna Bater Young was in the process of choosing a career, at first she did not consider nursing but wanted to become an educator. She had hoped to go to college in Geneseo to become a teacher but her family couldn't afford the tuition.

"Someone told me that if I attended the University of Rochester School of Nursing and took the diploma program first, I could stay on and get a University of Rochester bachelor's degree," she recalls with a laugh. "I guess I did that, didn't I?"

In one capacity or another she has, in fact,

"stayed on" for more than 60 years.

"While at first I had no burning desire to become a nurse, it's a career that I have truly loved," she says. "Nursing has so many facets to it, so many choices and opportunities. You can take it in any direction you want based on your own interests and strengths."



Anna's own career is a perfect example. In 1941, with her new nursing diploma in hand, she joined the staff in Strong Memorial Hospital's Emergency Department and then later served as a nursing instructor in the Department of Nursing at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center during World War II.

"I didn't feel particularly qualified to do that but the nursing director at Presbyterian Hospital wrote to Miss (Claire) Dennison, who was director of nursing at Strong, to request one of her graduates join the faculty, and she selected me," Anna says. "I had actually asked to go into the Navy but Miss Dennison refused to sign the necessary release form required for essential personnel to join. So that was that."

Anna returned to Rochester after the war and completed her bachelor's degree while caring for patients at Strong and handling administrative responsibilities at the School of Nursing.

After a few years leave to raise her family, Anna was ready to return to work in the mid-1960s. As chance would have it, a severe nursing shortage presented a whole new career opportunity, which she enthusiastically embraced.

"I went around to regional high schools, recruiting students for all the area nursing schools," she says. "I gave out scholarship information and emphasized to parents and counselors the importance of science and math courses as preparation for nursing careers."

"It was a wonderful way to use my nursing experience and knowledge," she recalls fondly.

Although Anna came back to the University to complete her career (as assistant to nursing department chairman Eleanor Hall, and later, to Dean Loretta Ford), her return to her alma mater was less an ending than a beginning ... of outstanding commitment as an alumna.

"I retired in 1978 but stayed on various University and School of Nursing committees," she says, with considerable understatement. "As a local alum, I have been available for the many wonderful jobs that somehow fell into my lap!"

Those jobs, which include alumni leadership roles in admissions and fund-raising, represent only a fraction of the busy retirement schedule Anna has structured. She also makes time for a host of community and professional organizations.

In recognition of her contributions to the University of Rochester, she was awarded the University Citation to Alumni in 1965, and the Sam Havens Award in 1988 for distinguished service to the Alumni Admissions Program.

Today, Anna brings an invaluable perspective to the profession and School through her membership on the Nursing Alumni Council.

"There have been a lot of changes and some have been difficult to accept," she says, noting her concerns about the School's decision to end the non-RN bachelor's program. "The most important thing is to keep our philosophy of nursing alive. To me, that means having opportunities and choices, and being able to experience the satisfaction of caring for someone who really needs your help."

# Lisa Norsen, BS, MS



"Take advantage of all the educational opportunities you can. You'll become a better nurse ... and you'll find that the spectrum of professional opportunity grows with every new thing you learn."

Ask Lisa Norsen how long she's been a student at the School of Nursing and her answer may surprise you. "I haven't really thought of it in terms of time," she'll say, "but, off and on, I guess it's been about 25 years!"

Throughout those years, the School and its faculty have been both inspiration and foundation for a challenging and rewarding professional career.

"I wanted to be a nurse because my mother was one, and I chose the U of R because it was the best program around," says Lisa of her decision to enter the School of Nursing in the 1970s.

Following her undergraduate degree, Lisa went on to become a cardiac nurse practitioner, and then followed her growing interest in health systems to her current leadership role as Clinical Chief of Adult Nursing Services at Strong Memorial Hospital.

"When I began looking at the broader picture I knew I wanted to be in a decision-making role and that meant continued on page 8

# Lisa Norsen continued from page 7

going into administration," Lisa says. "Although I'm no longer practicing, my career will always be a marriage between the two. Everything we do must be patient-centered and research-based. That allows us to focus on outcomes of care more effectively."

That "marriage" is evident in the academic side of Lisa's busy life. In addition to her demanding responsibilities in nursing administration, she is currently writing her PhD dissertation—a comprehensive study on the effects of cardiac surgery on cognitive functioning.

"People often experience subtle changes in memory, concentration and other cognitive abilities after surgery that can affect their quality of life," she explains. "If we can understand those changes, we can intervene in more meaningful ways."

As Lisa looks ahead to completing her PhD and the continuation of her successfully blended career, she considers the role the School of Nursing has played in her career growth.

"It's the people here who have really shaped my career path," Lisa says. "My decision to become a nurse practitioner was clearly influenced by Lee Ford. I chose my PhD studies because of Kathy King and Jean Johnson. I wanted to do what they were doing."

"Talking to Harriet Kitzman always makes me think of something I haven't thought of before," she adds. 
"Mattie Schmidt, Pat Chiverton—they are remarkable thinkers. This exposure to ideas and constructive debate has pushed me beyond where I might have gone."

After so many years of association with the School, Lisa describes herself as "the classic example of someone who finds a perfect situation and capitalizes on it.

"I've been able to use everything I've learned," Lisa says. "A quarter of a century at the School of Nursing must surely be a testament to the quality of the program."

# Rosa Kapus, RN



"Never give up the desire to learn.

Learning should be a process you work on all your life."

Rosa Kapus is a busy nursing professional. She works full-time in the Telemetry Unit at The Genesee Hospital, as well as one day a week in the Emergency Department at Strong Memorial. And she's also taking her BSN degree as part of the new RN-BSN program.

"If it weren't for the recent changes to the program, I wouldn't have been able to do it," Rosa says. "The convenience of the evening classes and the flexibility of the faculty made it possible for me to continue to work and go to school. It's a wonderful program and I'm very enthusiastic."

Rosa entered the RN-BSN program after 20 years in nursing, 17 of which were in critical care settings. "I love critical care" she says, "but I switched to telemetry while I'm in school. It's less intense and that makes it easier to do all that I have to do right now."

Rosa is finding her one day a week in Strong's Emergency Department to be an interesting addition to her career, as well. She is working in a new program that is improving communications between the ED and referring physicians.

"We talk with physicians who are sending their patients to the ED, and then we call them back to update them after the patient has been seen," Rosa explains. "RNs are invaluable in this role because we really understand what is happening and can communicate things effectively."

While Rosa entered the BSN program because she could fit her course work into her schedule, she is finding that she enjoys her education more than she had thought possible.



"I love it that everyone in the class is an experienced RN like I am because we can relate to each other and it makes our discussions more meaningful," she says.

Rosa also values faculty members' experience and practical knowledge because they are in clinical practice as well as in the classroom. "They are very much in touch with what we are dealing with as practicing nurses," she says. "I really like that."

Rosa plans to go on to complete an MSN and thinks her career path will include some work in genetic research and counseling, an interest she has put on hold until she completes her nursing coursework.

While she is driven to succeed by her own professionalism, Rosa is also motivated by the death of her good friend, Sarah Schabel, who died of lung cancer shortly after completing the MSN program last year.

"Sarah graduated as a critical-care nurse practitioner

but she never got to work," she says sadly. "Everyone wanted her to be able to practice at least one day and we made all the arrangements but she was just too sick to do it."

"I'm doing my MSN in Sarah's honor and every time I get an 'A' it's for her." Rosa says. "I hope I'm doing all right by Sarah."

It's clear to anyone who knows Rosa that she is.

# Martha Kearns, MSN, FNP



"Opportunities are always there ...
but motivation and initiative dwell
within you. If you have a feeling
in your gut for where you want to go,
you can do it."

When Martha Kearns tells you there are big opportunities in nursing, she speaks with the voice of experience. As a Headquarters Program Manager for National Initiatives in the Department of Employee Education for the Veterans Health Administration in Washington, DC, she is responsible for professional education programs for more than 200,000 department employees, 36,000 of whom are nurses.

"A scholarship from the Department of Veterans Affairs made it possible for me to get my education at the School of Nursing, so I owed the government four years after I completed my studies," she says. "I have found wonderful career opportunities here."

Martha's first position was at the Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center in Huntington, WVa, where she set up and managed an occupational/employee health program for hospital employees. She also set up the hospital's blood-borne pathogen program.

Martha then moved to the VA Medical Center in Lexington, Ky, where, in addition to serving as a family nurse practitioner in pulmonary medicine, she set up a pulmonary rehabilitation program.

"I love clinical practice but always wanted to do program development, as well," she says. "After a while I was looking for more academic and professional advancement so I asked for a position at department headquarters in Washington, DC, and found what I was looking for."

Since moving to Washington, Martha's work has focused on initiating national programs that support Veterans Health Administration professionals in providing higher levels of patient care. She is an advocate for nursing education and has worked with schools nationwide to enhance opportunities for nurses to receive their bachelor's degrees through improved distance-learning programs.

As a member of the Steering Committee for the Veterans Health Initiative, Martha has championed programs that help primary care providers within the VA

system offer optimum care to patients with both physical and psychological war-related illnesses.

"I don't provide much clinical care anymore," she says. "My job is administrative, working with the chiefs of services and clinical directors of programs, getting them started on new initiatives that will lead to better professional training and better patient care."

She does provide patient care as an officer in the Army Reserves and as a part-time nurse practi-

tioner for the Army at Fort Belvoir in Virginia.

Martha credits her School of Nursing education for the foundation upon which she has built her challenging and rewarding career.

"The great theoretical background and research knowledge allow me to do these big programs," she says, acknowledging with a laugh that "no one wants to hear that." She also praises the School's focus on communication, noting that "you can't be in a national position without the ability to communicate well."

Martha says that her professors were role models for her career, as well, and recalls with pride a particular note she received from Dr. Loretta Ford, about a presentation Martha had given at a University convocation on leadership.

"I kept that note and it's an inspiration to me on a daily basis," she says, adding, "I'm always proud to say I went to the University of Rochester School of Nursing."

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# Zendi Moldenhauer, MS



"You need to decide on your goal and then find the experiences that will help you meet it. And find a good mentor.

That's most important of all."

Zendi Moldenhauer was 5 years old when she first dreamed of becoming a pediatric nurse. But it was many years later that her dream became a journey, leading her halfway around the world to Rochester. Now, 10,000 miles from her native South Africa, Zendi's path continues to evolve in exciting new directions.

"My interest in working with children is different now than what it was," she says. "I had always worked with mostly young children (in training in South Africa and practice in England), but I found during my master's program here that I love working with adolescents. So that's become the focus of my career."

Zendi has translated her interest and expertise into a rewarding part-time primary care practice that includes

(Above & Right) Zendi Moldenhaur, MS, with patient Emma Schell.



adolescent gynecology in the office of Dr. Larry Sugarman, where she first worked during her graduate training. A solo practitioner who had never worked with a nurse practitioner before, Dr. Sugarman offered Zendi a job as soon as she graduated.

"Adolescent girls are sometimes uncomfortable with a male physician, so I have a very important role to play," Zendi says. "I love working with Dr. Sugarman and our patients seem very happy, as well."

It was her work with adolescents that introduced Zendi to the newest aspect of her educational path:

post-master's training as a psychiatric nurse practitioner and a soon-tobe-completed PhD.

"When I first started out, working with adolescents with emotional problems was the last thing I wanted to do," she recalls with a laugh. "But I had an excellent mentor—
Bernadette Melnyk—
and during my work at the Elmira Psychiatric Center for Children and Youth I saw lots of kids who were quite ill and needed help. I realized they were just regular kids... and that



I could really make a difference."

Today Zendi is a faculty member in the University of Rochester School of Nursing's Pediatric Nurse Practitioner program, and is working on a research proposal for a comprehensive study of adolescent depression. "We'd like to find ways to intervene with mildly depressed teens to prevent a more serious depression from occurring," she says. "Down the road, my hope is to develop better ways of integrating mental health and primary care."

Between her clinical practice, her teaching and her ongoing graduate studies, this busy alum is meeting new challenges every day. She also has a new husband — Jim Feeley, a mechanical engineer who is completing his MBA at the Simon School. She calls him "a wonderful man who has a stabilizing influence on my life."

"Jim reminds me to stop every now and then to have some fun," Zendi says.

# Thank you for you generosity: the School of Mursing!

This is a very special year, as the School of Nursing joins in the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Medical Center and the 150th Anniversary of the University.

Our strength and ability to move forward are made possible by the generosity of alumni and friends ... individuals who believe in the School's educational mission, and the community of students and scholars who are enhancing and expanding today's definition of the nursing profession.

As a testimony to our future, former Dean Loretta C. Ford this year established a fund to support our bold and exciting research initiatives. Her goal of raising \$200,000 by the end of the year 2000 was achieved.

We thank Dean Ford for her continuing generosity, and extend our gratitude to all who have demonstrated, through financial support, their commitment to nursing education.

The School of Nursing thanks you and salutes you!

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# Challenge to Alumni

Carol B. Henretta, EdD, RN Chair, Rochester Alumni Council

Students and alumni are the foundation of any educational program.
Students are the spirit of the school, and alumni are the voice of the school in the community and in the work force.

In the past, with large numbers of alumni scattered throughout the country and all nursing



alumni under siege with the tremendous, fast-paced changes in health care, our graduates have been less involved with the promotion of the School of Nursing. Neither have we been as involved as we could have with the mentoring of students to become active, enthusiastic alumni.

However, with the appointment of the third Dean of the School of Nursing, a new era is dawning as we move into the next millennium. Alumni are one of the most precious resources and Dean Chiverton has taken active steps to re-engage alumni in the work of the school. We want to utilize our alumni talents to more actively promote the School, foster fulfillment of the Strategic Plan and promote active involvement among students, new graduates and seasoned alumni.

Dean Chiverton and an Alumni Steering Committee have developed four strategic goals, including the rebuilding and strengthening of alumni relations and programs with the School of Nursing as well as the Medical Center.

Collectively, our job is to use alumni talents to benefit the school. Individually, our challenge is to determine what we each can do to support the School of Nursing.

- What talents do I have that can be useful to the School, students and fellow alumni?
- How can I promote the School in my practice arena, my community and my professional organizations?
- How can I influence young men and women to pursue nursing and pursue it at the School of Nursing?
- How can I help the students to learn more about the history and long traditions of the School of Nursing?
- What have I done that would be of interest to the University community through *Rochester Review*?
- How can I share my clinical and organizational expertise?
   These questions, and more importantly their answers, are critical to the new and exciting vital plans and progress of the School of Nursing.

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# School of Nursing recognized for geriatric research

A recent article in the *Journal of Gerontological Nursing* reviewed geriatric nursing scholarship among United States nursing schools and ranked the University of Rochester School of Nursing among the top four.

Detailed in the publication's July 2000 issue, the review is based on funding from the National Institute of Nursing Research—the major National Institutes of Health organization that funds nursing research—as well as a survey of nursing schools completed in the summer of 1999.

The University of Rochester School of Nursing ranked in the top four along with Oregon Health Science University, the University of Iowa and the University of Pennsylvania. Although the University of Rochester's NINR funding overall is not as high as some larger, state-funded schools, the School of Nursing's focus on geriatric research (25 percent or more of NINR grants directed to geriatric nursing) propelled it to the top of the list.

"The ranking recognizes our long history and commitment to the nursing care of older persons," says Nancy M. Watson, director of the School of Nursing's Center for Clinical Research on Aging.

Although this particular ranking only considered NINR funding, the Center for Clinical Research on Aging continues to build an impressive program of geriatric research that has been groundbreaking and has been funded by a variety of external sources, including the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, the New York State Department of Health and the American Nurses Foundation.

# RN-BSN program grows

The new RN-BSN program, which allows registered nurses who have earned their nursing education in a diploma or associate degree program to obtain their baccalaureate degree, has 100 students enrolled as of Fall 2000.

In addition to the 98 students taking courses here in Rochester, there are now 20 matriculated students, eight from F.F. Thompson Hospital and 12 from the VA Hospital, taking courses at the satellite program in Canandaigua.

The RN-BSN program values and builds on the nurse's educational and practice experience and is tailored to accommodate the student's interests.

# **School of Nursing**

# Research & Fellowship Awards 1999/2000

Ackerman M. (PI), Ashe T., Huntress JD, Hardy D (Co-investigators). Cefepime Enterobacteriacea Resistance Impact Study (CERIS). Funded by Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, \$15,000.

Baggs, JG (PI), Schmitt, MH (Co-PI), Dombeck, M-T. (Inv). ICU Culture and Problematic Treatment Limitation Cases. Funded by NINR. June 2000 to May 2003, \$427,500 (direct costs).

Pearson, T (PI), Baggs, JG (faculty). Clinical Research Curriculum. Funded by NHLBI, 1999–2004. \$1,220,395.

Faro, B. New York State Department of Health, Governor's Initiative for Children with Diabetes: "Rochester Area Community Coalition for Care and Prevention of Diabetes in Children"; submitted January 2000 for funding.

Huntress JD. (Site Principal Investigator). A Multicenter, Cross-Sectional Study of the Prevalence and Outcome of E.Coli Infections with Reduced Ampicillin/Sulbactam Susceptibility. Study completed January 2000. Funded by the Clinical Pharmacokinetics Laboratory, \$2,800.

Kayson, E., Project Coordinator, Prospective Huntington At-Risk Observational Study (PHAROS), Private Donation, November 1998 to November 2000.

Kayson, E., Project Coordinator, Planning a Randomized Controlled Trial for Early Surgical Treatment of Epilepsy, NINDS/NIH, R21NS37897, July 1999 to July 2000.

Kitzman, H. (PI), Cole, R., Sidora, K., et.al. Long-term Impact of Home Visitation on Childhood Injuries. Funded by NICHD. September 1999 to June 2001, \$208,804.

Olds, D., Kitzman, H., (Co-Principal Investigators) Cole, R., Sidora, K., et.al. Follow-up of Families in Early Preventive Intervention. Funded jointly by NICHD & NIMH. May 2000 to March 2004, \$2,501,173.

Melnyk, B., (Principal Investigator), Stone, P., (Co-Investigator). Improving outcomes of LBW premature infants and mothers. Submitted to NINR. December 2000 to December 2005.

Rempusheski, V. F. (PI). Grandparent-Grandchild Relations in Nursing Homes. Funded by American Nurses Foundation (Virginia Stone, RN Scholar Award) October 1999 to September 2000, \$10,000.

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# **Research & Fellowship Awards**

Madeline H. Schmitt, PhD, RN (PI). Educating Scholar/Practitioners for the Future of Nursing: Advanced Education Nursing Training Program. Submitted to the Division of Nursing, January 2000. In review.

Sellers, C. R. (PI). "Advance Directives in HIV/AIDS: A Grounded Theory." Individual predoctoral National Research Service Award (NRSA), F31 NR07513-01, National Institute of Nursing Research, NIH. Sponsor: Judith Gedney Baggs, PhD, RN, Co-sponsor: Veronica F. Rempusheski, PhD, RN, FAAN (priority score 162, awarded May 2000).

1999 Rita C. Kopf Memorial Research Award, Foundation of the New York State Nurses Association, \$3,000.

2000 Research Award, Sigma Theta Tau Epsilon Xi Chapter, University of Rochester School Nursing, \$2,500.

Spring 2000—Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender and Women's Studies Graduate Student Research Award, University of Rochester, \$235.

Stone, P., Principal Investigator; Co-investigator: Fineout-Overholt, E. "Structure, Process and Outcomes of APNs' Prescriptive Practices." Funded by Sigma Theta Tau International/Glaxo Wellcome Prescriptive Practice Grant, 2000, \$5,000.

Stone, P., Principal Investigator. Co-investigator: Johnson, J. Preparation for Chemotherapy: Coping and Resource Use. Submitted to NINR, NCI. December 2000 to June 2004, \$1,112,335.

Tuttle, J., Chairperson of the cluster. University Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies: \$3,000 for Family Research Roundtable/Cluster September 1999 to June 2000.

Yoos L., Kitzman H, McMullen AH (Co-Investigators), Sidora, K. Barriers to Anti-inflammatory Use in Children with Asthma. Funded by AHCPR, 2000, \$79,500.

Yoos, L. (PI), Kitzman, H. & McMullen, A. (Co-Investigators). Symptom Perception in Childhood Asthma: What Helps. Funded by NINR. May 1999 to March 2000, \$76,919.

Aligne, A, Halterman J, Yoos L, Holzhauer, R, Mcconnochie, K., Kazcerowski, J., McBride J., Szilagyi P. The Rochester Early Childhood Asthma Program. (Co-Investigator) Funded by Halcyon Hill Foundation, \$500,000.

# **School of Nursing**

# Faculty Accomplishments 1999/2000

Elaine Andolina, MS, RN—UR SON Outstanding Support Award, May 1999

Judith Baggs, PhD, RN—Admitted to Harvard Program in Palliative Care Education and Practice Intensive Course for Medical and Nursing Educator. Sigma Theta Tau International Distinguished Lecturer 2000–2001. New York State Nurses Association Council on Nursing Research, 1999–2001

Beverly Faro, MS, RN—25-year service award

Kathleen B. King, PhD, RN—Fellow, American Academy of Nursing, 1999

Harriet Kitzman, PhD, RN—2000 Board on Child Youth and Families. Institute of Medicine National Research Council; 1999 Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching

Patricia Hryzak Lind, MS, RN, C—National Health Information Healthy People 2000 Award and the New York State Department of Health Quality Improvement Award for Preferred Care's Preferred Beginnings—A Smoking Cessation program for Pregnant Women, 1999

Carol Loce, MS, RN, ANP—Excellence in Clinical Precepting Award, 1999–2000

Bernadette Melnyk, PhD, RN, CNP—Distinguished Lecturer, Sigma That Tau International, 1999–2001.

Kathleen Parrinello, PhD, RN—Distinguished Alumni Award, University of Rochester, School of Nursing, October 1999.

Hope Quallo, MS, RN, CS—Outstanding Performance Award from Strong Ties, 1999.

Madeline H. Schmitt, PhD, RN—Admission to the National Academies of Practice (Nursing).

Alison W. Schultz, EdD, RN, PNP—Outstanding Faculty Colleague, University of Rochester School of Nursing, May 2000 and the Upstate NY Chapter, NAPNAP: Mentor Award, May 2000.

Ruth A. Scott, MS, RN, CS, NPP—Service Award – 20 years at University of Rochester.

Craig R. Sellers, MS, RN, CS-ANP, ACRN—1999–2000 Excellence in Clinical Precepting Award, University of Rochester School of Nursing

Patricia W. Stone, PhD, RN—Promising New Investigator, University of Rochester, School of Nursing 2000 and Rochester Academy of Medicine Award, Paper, 2000

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**Medical Center news** 



# **UR awarded patent for new class of drugs known as cox-2 inhibitors**

In April, the University of Rochester received a pioneering patent for the use of the entire class of drugs known as cox-2 inhibitors, the popular new medications that have been heralded as "super aspirin" for their remarkable ability to ease pain and inflammation without causing side effects such as stomach pain, bleeding or ulcers. Many experts believe that the drugs will replace aspirin and ibuprofen in the next century.

The class of drugs, which includes the blockbuster arthritis medication Celebrex, have become top-sellers since they were introduced last year. Doctors prescribed Celebrex to 6.4 million patients in 1999, pushing its first-year sales to \$1.5 billion. Last year, Celebrex eclipsed the anti-impotence medication Viagra as the fastest-selling new drug in history.

The patent entitles the University of Rochester to royalties on the sale of all cox-2 inhibitors. Shortly after the patent was awarded, attorneys representing the University of Rochester filed an infringement suit in federal court against Searle and Pfizer, the pharmaceutical companies that jointly market Celebrex.

Over the 17-year life of the patent, royalty payments could yield the University royalties in the billions of dollars, making it the most lucrative pharmaceutical patent in history.

The new class of drugs was developed after University of Rochester researchers (above, left to right) Donald Young, MD, Virginia Winn, MD, PhD, and Kerry O'Banion, MD, PhD, discovered the gene in humans that is responsible for producing an enzyme called cox-2 and revealed the enzyme's role in causing inflammation within individual cells. The discovery, made more than a decade ago, set in motion a worldwide race among pharmaceutical companies to identify drugs that would inhibit the action of the enzyme and, in turn, reduce inflammation and pain.

### Medical Center news

### **UR Chosen for Global Network on AIDS Vaccine Research**

The University of Rochester Medical Center has been chosen by the National Institutes of Health as one of nine universities that will be part of an intensive, global effort to develop and test potential vaccines against HIV.

Called the HIV Vaccine Trials Network, the project will receive \$29 million in first-year funding from NIH. The funding will support research aimed at evaluating the safety and effectiveness of candidate AIDS vaccines. Candidate vaccines will be tested on volunteers throughout the United States, as well as in Third World countries that have been devastated by the AIDS pandemic.

The University of Rochester was chosen as a member of the network because of its expertise in vaccine development and testing, particularly in the area of AIDS. A decade ago, UR was among the first six universities in the world to begin human trials of potential AIDS vaccines. Researchers Michael C. Keefer, MD, and Thomas G. Evans, MD, are currently conducting five NIH-funded studies of three different types of AIDS vaccines. To date their team has conducted 30 clinical trials in which more than 600 area residents have volunteered to receive the potential vaccines.

#### Physicians continue AIDS research with \$9 million

In December, the National Institutes of Health approved \$9 million in funding for Strong Memorial Hospital physicians to continue their studies into the basic biology of the AIDS virus and to explore new ways to treat the disease. The money will be dispersed over five years.

Physicians and scientists at the University of Rochester Medical Center make up one of 32 AIDS clinical trial units across the country that together comprise a nationwide AIDS study network funded by NIH.

The nationwide AIDS Clinical Trials Group is the most prominent network of AIDS experts working together to understand and treat the disease. Its recommendations help determine how physicians around the world treat patients with the disease. Current work includes testing medications, and recommending to other physicians the best drug regimen to treat patients, minimizing side effects of treatment and deciding how early treatment should begin.

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### **Medical Center news**



#### UR, Bausch & Lomb establish partnership

In May, the University of Rochester and Bausch & Lomb Inc. unveiled a strategic partnership that created the Alliance for Vision Excellence—a clinical and academic research collaboration dedicated to improving the technology, techniques and products used to correct anomalies of the eye, enabling millions of people to see better than ever before. The Alliance teams the University's Center for Visual Science and Department of Ophthalmology with B&L, to take the enhancement of people's vision to a new level of precision and customized eye care.

A grant of approximately \$3 million from B&L provides the initial funding for the first five years of Alliance operations. In addition to research, the Alliance establishes a clinical practice in refractive surgery, fully equipped with the latest technologically advanced instruments, devices and diagnostic tools made by B&L. The state-of-the-art equipment includes Bausch & Lomb's recently FDA-approved Technolas<sup>TM</sup> 217 excimer laser, which will be available for use by Rochester ophthalmologists.

Scott MacRae, MD, (above) an international authority on refractive surgery and customized ablation, serves as medical director of the Alliance. He will conduct clinical research under a program related to the clinical use of devices and equipment designed, manufactured and supplied by B&L. David Williams, PhD, head of the Center for Visual Science, will oversee basic science research in the area of ophthalmic and adaptive optics.

While this is the most extensive collaboration between the UR and B&L, it is not the first. Scientists at the Center for Visual Science and B&L worked together to create a pioneering diagnostic device called an aberrometer. The device, which can detect minute defects even in the eyes of people with 20/20 vision, is a key part of the new refractive technology.

### **Medical Center news**



#### **Center for Future Health receives \$1 million**

The W. M. Keck Foundation of Los Angeles has awarded \$1 million to support the University of Rochester Center for Future Health, where engineers and physicians are working together to create technologies people can use in their own homes to maintain their health. The grant provides start-up funds to enable faculty members, graduate students and other researchers to begin work on approximately 10 projects.

The funds come at a crucial time, as about two dozen researchers have begun working together to use recent advances in technology as the basis of "smart," inexpensive medical tools.

While it's not uncommon for engineers and physicians to work together, center participants are taking the collaboration one step further: They're keeping ordinary individuals in mind from the start, developing devices that are inexpensive and easy to use in the home.

The Keck funding will enable engineers to explore technologies such as artificial intelligence, fiber optics, "smart" bandages and wearable computers. Basic knowledge in these fields forms the foundation for a variety of futuristic devices, such as a personal digital assistant that might help a person keep anger under control by using complex formulas to understand the tone of a person's voice as well as the words spoken, and "memory glasses," which could help an elderly person identify people and objects.

Co-directors, Alice Pentland, MD and Philippe M. Fauchet, PhD, (*above*) display the "computerized eye glasses" prototype being developed at the Center.

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### **Medical Center news**

### Construction begins on second medical research building

Crews began construction in June on a four-story, \$36-million research facility on the campus of the University of Rochester Medical Center, formally launching the second phase of a 10-year, \$550 million initiative to expand

the University's medical research programs.

The new facility, which will be located at the corner of Elmwood Avenue and Lattimore Road, will be connected by a three-story, glassenclosed walkway to the Arthur Kornberg Medical Research Building, which was completed last fall and houses research programs



in aging, cancer biology, cardiovascular research, oral biology, and vaccine biology and immunology. The new, 143,000-square-foot building will house research programs in the areas of surgery, medicine, pediatrics and genetics.



# Reunion Weekend



This year marks several milestones, as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the University of Rochester Medical Center and the Sesquicentennial of the University. It is a chance to acknowledge all that our history represents: Unwavering commitments to the finest patient care, cuttingedge research and individualized student education. It also is an opportunity to express pride for the distinguished alumni who have gone on to accomplish great things in the art of nursing and on the frontiers of science.

A memorable Reunion Weekend will take place Oct. 12–15, highlighted Thursday, Oct. 12, by the investiture of Patricia A. Chiverton, Ed.D, as the School's third dean, and the All-Alumni Event at the Bausch and Lomb Wintergarden. Friday's events include a luncheon in Helen Wood Hall and the *Clare Dennison Symposium on the Child*.

For information, call the Office of Alumni Relations at 1-800-333-4428 or the Events Office at 716-275-5483.



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