As I imagine most of you know, this will be my last newsletter column as Nursing Department Chair. Beginning August 1, Dr. Karen Younger, Natural Science Division Chair, will serve as the department chair as we conduct a national search for a permanent department chair. What an amazing ride this has been! As I look back on my time here at Augustana, many things are new and different; many others are quite the same. As President Oliver has said, we continue to be the Augustana Like Always and the Augustana Like Never Before!

The membership of the nursing faculty has changed to a younger and perhaps more energetic and creative group, still with very strong clinical expertise but also with new expertise in technology applications in the classroom, in the clinical arena, and in the simulation lab. They are moving forward to adopt new teaching-learning strategies that encompass more interaction, accountability, and development of clinical judgment. Most are also involved in some kind of education-practice partnership to bridge the gap between the two and to facilitate a culture where teaching and learning are enterprises that must be shared by educators and practicing nurses. With the amazing coordination and support of Mary Moline and Debbie Anderson, they are truly an awesome group; and I know that I leave the department in excellent hands!

A major accomplishment of the current academic year was completion of the CCNE (Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education) self-study and hosting of our accreditation site visit. An evaluation team visited the campus in April and provided a very positive exit report as well as a positive written recommendation to the CCNE board. Although the outcome will not be final until October, I am very optimistic with respect to full accreditation, which was granted in our last accreditation round in 2001.

Besides the CCNE visit, we have continued the development of international experiences for students, achieved a 100% first time NCLEX pass rate.

INTERCULTURAL / INTERNATIONAL NURSING EXPERIENCES

International Nursing Exchange – Fall 2010
The Department of Nursing international nursing student exchange program with our Norwegian University College partners has continued to develop since fall 2005.

Three senior nursing students from the University of Nordland in Bodo, Norway completed a senior nursing semester of study at Augustana. In fall 2010, nine nursing students from University Colleges in Bodo, Haugesund and Elverum, Norway, participated in the international nursing exchange experience. The students stated they were really nervous as they departed from the plane in Sioux Falls and expected many “up’s and down’s,” but they quickly agreed that those fears disappeared when they were welcomed by the Augustana faculty, staff, nursing students and nursing alums who had studied in Norway during January Interims.

A service learning component was added to the students’ introductory course, coordinated by Professor Pamela Schroeder and Augustana nursing alum and graduate student Shelly Buhl. Both the students and faculty participated in the “Food to You” Mobile Pantry to supply food to over 125 underserved families in the Sioux Falls area. Professor Vickie Reiff continued to provide a comprehensive health assessment seminar and engaged the students in clinical simulations to prepare them for entry into clinical practice. The students were extremely interested in noting the similarities and differences between the Native American and Norwegian indigenous populations.
WARM GREETINGS continued…

for graduates of spring 2010, celebrated completion of Master’s Degrees by faculty members Mary Nelson and Patricia Waltman, sponsored an Anna Berdahl lecture event this spring, celebrated the sesquicentennial for the college, and reinvigorated fundraising for an expanded and renovated Gilbert Science Complex. Read about these things elsewhere in the newsletter!

My chapel talk was inspired by the pilgrimage, part of the Sesquicentennial Celebration at Augustana this year. If you wish to read it, you may find it at any of these internet links:

http://www.augie.edu/pub/values/MargotNelson110504.pdf
http://www.augie.edu/pub/values/homilies.html
http://www.augie.edu/pub/values/prog1011.html

On that note, I wish you all the very best (personally and professionally). I hope you will stay connected with Augustana and the nursing department as the future unfolds for all of us. I know that I will stay connected here, even though in new and different ways.

Margot L. Nelson

INTERCULTURAL NURSING continued…

as they dialogued and participated in cultural activities at the Cheyenne River Reservation with Professor Karla Abbott. Throughout the fall semester the students actively engaged in weekly dialogue sessions and completed senior level courses. Clinical internship experiences provided additional learning opportunities in interdisciplinary palliative care, complex acute care, community health screenings, and immunization clinics. In addition, the students provided presentations to the Sons of Norway and Norse Federation organizations. The students discussed similarities and differences between the US and Norwegian health care systems, with a special focus upon the strong team approach in nursing education, professional autonomy, accountability and complex nursing roles and responsibilities.

A highlight of the semester for both the students and faculty included visits and research presentations from our Norwegian University partners including: Professors Ragnhild Nordahl and Liv Halvorsrud from Høyskolen Diakonova, Oslo, Norway, and Professors Trine Ellefsen, Karin Berntsen, Rolf Heimdal, and two nursing students from Telemark University College, Norway. They attended nursing theory classes, visited clinical practice sites and engaged in discussions of student and faculty exchange and collaborative research opportunities.

During reflective dialogue, the international students consistently stressed the importance of their Augustana learning journey as a reflection of the universal nature of nursing’s mission to give care to those in need. Gratitude was expressed for the supportive faculty and staff who individualized invaluable learning experiences. Each student remarked, “I would do it again and will encourage others to come to Augie; I definitely want to return!”

Augustana Parish Nursing Center

Mary Auterman, Director

The Parish Nursing preparation course was offered as a hybrid model again this past spring with Carol DeSchepper and Helene Vander Werff, PN Educators, assisting with the course. Ten RNs completed the on-line portion in March through May and the on-site portion June 1 & 2, 2011. The participants represented four states: South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Oregon.

Dates for the next course offering are January 30—March 26, 2012 for the on-line portion and March 28-29, 2012 for the on-site portion. Our goal is have the course brochures available in early fall. The brochure will also be posted on the Augie website.

The course, developed through the International Parish Nurse Resource Center, has a new title as of this summer. It will now be known as the Foundations of Faith Community Nursing. The title change helps clarify the focus of the course and is more consistent in terminology with the revised forthcoming Faith Community Nursing: Scope and Standards of Practice. The revised standards should be available this fall. The title, Parish Nurse, is still encouraged for those parish nurses and churches who wish to use that title.
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Scheduling the Nursing 451: Nursing Leadership course during the Interim session has provided senior nursing students with opportunities to complete the clinical component in various locations throughout the United States and globally. During January 2011, twenty-five students were immersed in intercultural and international experiences in the United States, Ecuador, Namibia (southwest Africa), and Norway.

Professor Mary Nelson had the privilege of traveling with five Augustana senior nursing students and an Augsburg College faculty member to the Phillips District located in the inner city of Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Augsburg faculty member served as the “cultural guide” and connected the group to their intercultural experiences, focusing upon leadership. The group was immersed for eight days into the homeless population context. This experience enabled the students to learn and experience what it is like to be homeless and living in poverty. The group realized the need to understand the people before focusing upon finding solutions.

While at the Augsburg Nursing Center, the students spent time learning about the health care needs of homeless patients. They met with a variety of leaders to learn about the solutions and challenges of decreasing homelessness. The students and Professor Mary Nelson returned home, recognizing that nurses play a vital role in leading the charge to decrease homelessness.

Professor Vickie Reiff, with the help of two Augie nursing alums, Elizabeth Case and Rachel Wiener, led a group of eight senior nursing students to Ecuador. Their trip began with attending a leadership development camp where group activities and a high ropes course focused on group cohesiveness.

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ALUMS GIVE BACK

Remember your campus lab days, specifically those for pediatrics? We are sure many of you remember practicing your assessment on a manikin or a doll. Did it feel real? Probably not. This year our alum, Megan Gulden (Class of 2009) and her son, Jack, brought a sense of realism to the pediatric campus labs. Megan, with Jack in tow, volunteered for each campus lab, coaching junior nursing students through the sometimes frightening process of working with infants and children.

We were also fortunate in the pediatric rotation to have assistance from Augie alum Amanda Gerber (Class of 2010), who assisted with post-conference simulations. During the simulations, she role-played either a parent or a nurse practitioner, again providing a more realistic view of simulation for junior nursing students.

Leah Burggraaf (Class of 2002) shared her expertise with the senior nursing students when she presented “Emergency Care Situations” in the fall of 2010 and 2009.

She also assisted with code blue simulation by leading the scenario, guiding the students in drug administration and emergency interventions. Leah currently works in the Emergency Department and for the flight team at Avera McKennan Hospital.

Elizabeth Case (Class of 2006) and Rachel Wiener (Class of 2007) accompanied Vickie Reiff and eight senior nursing majors on their medical mission trip to Ecuador in January 2011. They provided education, supervision, and support as well as enhancement of the experience with the perspective of practicing nurses.

We wish to extend a special thank you to Megan (and Jack – future alum), Amanda, Leah, Elizabeth, Rachel and all of you who offer your time and talents back to Augie. If you would like to assist with campus labs or find out ways to volunteer for Augustana Nursing, please do not hesitate to contact our office at: 605-274-4721.
NURSING LEADERSHIP continued...

Ecuador

Students Cody Kontz and Melanie Twait on the High Ropes Course

and support. The students had many learning opportunities in the capital city of Quito and also in the jungles of Ecuador. In Quito, they worked in a public hospital and a private hospital, and traveled with community health nurses to impoverished areas.

The students then traveled to Misahualli, a small jungle community of indigenous Quichua natives. They assisted at an orphanage which was recently started by a young American missionary couple (www.itsaboutjunglekids.org). Each day the students took canoes into remote jungle villages where medical and nursing care is scarce. A nursing clinic was set up and the students performed triage, assessment, pharmacy, parasitic treatment, home visits and education for the people who sought care.

Upon return from this nursing adventure, the students articulated that it was a life changing experience and will impact the nursing care they give wherever they are in the world.

Namibia

Dr. Margot Nelson and Professor Karla Abbott accompanied six senior nursing students as they studied in Namibia, South Africa, where the rates of HIV/AIDS are approximately 80% and where 85% of the medical care is provided by nurses. Much of the time was spent in the community clinics where patients traveled long distances to receive their anti-retroviral medications and a warm meal, as good nutrition keeps the side effects of the medication to a minimum. The students also learned alongside a group of Namibian nurses at the practical level about developing community action plans. From conception to implementation, the components of these plans were discussed with presentations at the end of the experience. The students also conducted health classes at an after school program. In between their remarkable health-related experiences, students and faculty were able to enjoy the beauty of the animals, the terrain and the diverse peoples of Africa. It was an amazing transcultural experience, facilitated by former alum and faculty colleague, Dr. Cheryl Leuning, now Chair of the Department of Nursing at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Namibia Traditional African group singing

Student Lisa Shirk taking in some “play time”

Norway

Bodø, Haugesund, and Oslo, Norway provided three international destinations for six senior students who were immersed in providing nursing care within a national universal health care system. Professor Pamela Schroeder worked with these students at each clinical site. Hospitals, community and family clinics, home health, rehabilitation and long-term health care centers provided opportunities for the students to actively engage in providing health care to individuals and families in both urban and rural areas as they worked with a nurse and a variety of health care providers in each of these settings. Visiting the traditional dwellings of the native Sami people of Norway provided the students with opportunities to learn about their cultural beliefs and traditions and to identify health care similarities and differences. In Norway, the health care environments were viewed by the students as less stressful with a greater focus upon individual and family health and wellness. Physicians also appeared to be more accessible as most had their offices within the health care settings. Due to more limited numbers of private rooms, as the patient census increased, many patients needed to be moved to hallway rooms. Technological advances were apparent, but specific strategies such as medication administration procedures varied greatly among the clinical sites. Similar to the US, collaboration among the interdisciplinary team members was very strong and focused upon the patient’s health care needs.

The students evaluated their experiences as life-changing as they learned more about themselves and feelings of vulnerability when they were immersed in an unfamiliar culture. As they increased their personal awareness, they also gained an increased understanding of patients’ needs, especially when they do not speak the same language and are in unfamiliar environments. Being present, open-minded and developing cultural awareness, communication skills and empathy were viewed as being the most valuable growth areas in this leadership experience to improve patient-centered care.

Augie students Samantha Weixel (far left) and Brad Bonnema (far right) with Haugesund students
Wow, another fun year of learning for me. I completed the first of three years in my DNP (Doctorate of Nursing Practice) degree at Augsburg College of Nursing in Minneapolis, MN. I spent a fun four days hosting nursing students from Norway on the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe reservation last Fall.

I traveled to Namibia, South Africa in January for my practicum and spent time learning alongside nurses from Namibia about better ways to improve health for people of Namibia struggling with HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis. Six senior level Augustana nursing students attended as well, along with Dean Margot Nelson.

My academic efforts in Public Health Science, Community Health Nursing, Palliative Care, and a capstone course on health and respect for indigenous groups have all kept me busy and my “bucket” full. I enjoyed my advising duties with ANSA (Augustana Nursing Student Association) as we volunteered among the community of aging clients and spent time with a nurse who presented on her path to recovery after a chemical addiction in practice.

I relaxed this summer with my family as we traveled to Montreal Canada and Boston, MA. I spent the rest of my time with my board activities with the SD Urban Indian Health, and my volunteering with AISES (American Indian Students in Engineering and Science). I hosted ten Native American students from Sisseton on a tour of our department as well. I look forward to the challenges and changes in our health care and concentrate on how to best prepare our graduates for this ever-evolving profession of Nursing.

Hello fellow alums! This has been an exciting junior year for the Class of 2012 as service learning was added to the course, Nurs 326 Nursing Therapeutics. The junior nursing students gained insight into homeless and underprivileged populations as they served and provided blood pressure and blood sugar screenings at The Banquet, a soup kitchen in Sioux Falls. The students questioned why individuals did not have the medications or medical care needed and provided basic teaching on diabetes and hypertension management. In addition, several referrals were made by students to the Falls Community Health Center medical clinic.

Another exciting activity for the junior students was the opportunity to administer over 2000 flu shots this fall.

On a personal note I continue my practice with Sanford Visiting Nurses and Sanford Neurosurgery. It keeps my clinical skills up to date and allows me to practice in my area of passion-neuroscience. I still have the fulfilling opportunity to program deep brain stimulators for Parkinson’s and Essential Tremor clients.

~Jean Herrmann
jean.herrmann@augie.edu

Greetings Alums! The past year has been an eventful one. Eight Norwegian exchange students were enrolled in the behavioral health nursing courses. I’m happy to report that we will have all of the 11 students from Norway in these courses next year. They always add a transcultural perspective to our clinical conferences. Over interim, I assisted with the NURS-451 course, Leadership in Professional Nursing.

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THE 2011 ANNA H. BERDAHL LECTURESHP

The fifth Anna H. Berdaahl lecture was held April 1, 2011 on the Augustana Campus with Pamela Ironside, PhD, FAAN, ANEF as guest keynote speaker. Dr. Ironside is Associate Professor, Department of Environments for Health, and Director of the Center for Research in Nursing Education at Indiana University. She is a recipient of the Excellence in Nursing Education Research Award from the National League for Nursing and the Advancing the Science of Nursing Award for the Education Section of the Midwest Nursing Research Society.

Dr. Ironside presented “Transforming Education: Bridging the Practice-Academic Gap.” She discussed how new pedagogies influence the practices of thinking in nursing classrooms and clinical courses, the ways students’ interactions with faculty and preceptors influence learning during clinical experiences, and the means by which faculty undertake reform and innovation in their courses.

Following Dr. Ironside’s address, two groups of Augustana nursing students presented their research projects from the senior level course, Perspectives in Professional Nursing, taught by Dr. Mary Isaacson. Students Christina Ahrendt, Brittney Block, Ruth Burgers, and Elizabeth Hughes presented “The Effect of Nitrous Oxide on Alleviating Pain and Anxiety during Pediatric Procedures.” The second research group, Katie Edgecomb, Sara Ringel, Jessica Shoemaker, and Alexandra Staum, presented “Determining Methods of Pin Site Infection Prevention.”

In her closing presentation, Dr. Ironside addressed “Quality and Safety Education for Nurses: Bridging the Practice Academic Gap.” The lecture series is supported by a generous gift from the Anna H. Berdaahl estate. Mrs. Berdaahl was a pioneer in nursing and nursing education in South Dakota.

Augustana Nursing Student Association

During the 2010-2011 academic year, the Augustana Nursing Student Association (ANSA) members picnicked together in the fall and babysat faculty children at Christmas. Riding the ANSA float in the Homecoming parade and giving manicures at area nursing homes were additional highlights of the year. ANSA raised money for Relay for Life by hosting a house plant sale in the spring. The goal for next year is to do more with the community and a community representative was elected to supplement the 2011-2012 slate of officers. Serving at the banquet, presenting at community health fairs, and hosting inspirational speakers are among the anticipated - activities of a very energetic group of nursing students.
models of clinical education. I’m looking forward to attending Dr. Lisa Day’s presentation, “Transforming Nursing Education” at a conference sponsored by the Nursing Education Deans and Directors of South Dakota (NEDDs). It will be held at the Avera McKennan Orthopedic Institute.

Thanks for all of the holiday greetings—I look forward to hearing from each of you.

~Karen K. Fritz
karen.fritz@augie.edu

Greetings! Hope this finds you all well and enjoying life. This year has been a busy and fulfilling year for me. I completed my Master’s degree this spring and also am certified as a Clinical Nurse Leader—very rewarding to be done. I was also honored to have been selected to present at the National HPSN-METI conference this past February. I presented the “Bioterrorism in the Community” simulation and was fortunate to have two of Augustana’s senior nursing students accompany and present with me at the conference. On a personal note I was able to enjoy a vacation to Florida with my family this summer. My oldest child will be in high school this year, my middle child will start middle school, and my “baby” will be in 4th grade—so we need to enjoy them while they still want to be seen with us! Community Health continues to grow with the addition of new clinical sites—it is always exciting to see how nursing and healthcare continues to expand! Please keep the visits to the department up if you can—it is always wonderful to visit!

~Patricia Waltman
patricia.waltman@augie.edu

Anpetu Waste, or good day in Lakota. This past year brought new learning opportunities for faculty as well as students. As you have read in the newsletter, we successfully completed our CCNE accreditation, and had the opportunity to spend a morning with Dr. Pam Ironside, exploring new ways of educating our students. I continue to lead the child health nursing course and complete clinicals at Sanford Children’s Hospital. This year I was blessed to have two former students as adjunct clinical instructors at Avera McKennan and at Children’s Care Hospital and School. It is such an honor and a privilege to work alongside alums as colleagues.

I completed my second year teaching the nursing research course. I am sending out a plea for those of you in practice, if you have any ideas for evidence-based nursing projects, please drop me an email. Your input helps to make research “come alive for our students.”

A special treat for me this year was to co-teach a Civitas course. The focus of the class was “justice,” and we approached justice from the view of disparity, especially in our South Dakota Native American population. I was able to lead a group of 10 students to Pine Ridge over spring break, where they mentored K-8 students in the Shannon County School located in Red Shirt.

~Mary Isaacson
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Greetings Alumni! This has been my third year teaching at Augustana. I am privileged in my position to be able to spend time with our students in the classroom, skills lab, simulation lab, and on the hospital floors in both the junior and senior year. I am repeatedly amazed by the progression students make from their first semester to their last. One of the most rewarding aspects of my job is watching future nurses grow in confidence and skill. With the 2010-11 school year behind us I am looking forward to the new challenges, new responsibilities, and new faces this next year will bring in Augie Nursing!

~Beth Karel
beth.karel@augie.edu

Hello Alums, greetings to all of you! It has been an exciting year in the Augustana Nursing Department. I graduated from Regis in December with my master’s in nursing education.

My role in the department is diverse. This past year ranged from tutoring our International students to coordinating skills labs for senior and junior level adult health, leading clinical on the renal unit, teaching NCLEX review, and facilitating an inner city immersion trip. I am also teaching an online pharmacology course this summer. I truly believe in the “art and science” of nursing and it is amazing to see it come alive.

~Mary Nelson
mary.nelson@augie.edu

Hello! I continue to teach in both the junior and senior levels including Health Assessment, Nutrition and Reproductive Health with clinicals in Adult Health and in my favorite Obstetrical world.

I am also blessed to work as a Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) at Avera McKennan Women’s Center part time. This year, in partnership with the CNMs at Sanford and Avera, our senior students were able to follow the CNMs to see both the role of a clinic nurse and an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN).

A group of eight nursing students and two nursing alums accompanied me to Ecuador over interim as part of our N451 Leadership Course. It was an incredible experience in both the inner-city public hospital and with the underserved populations in the jungles.

I have just celebrated completion of year
FACULTY GREETINGS

continued…

one of my three-year Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program through Augsburg College. Hoping you will also continue your lifelong journey of education with Augustana’s memories close to your heart.

~Vickie Reiff
vickie.reiff@augie.edu

Special greetings alums! We have had an exciting Sesquicentennial Year! I continue to primarily teach our junior level nursing students throughout the academic year. During the fall semester I was actively involved in coordinating the educational experiences for our nine international nursing students from Norway who spent the semester studying with us. It was also an extreme pleasure to host visiting international professors and junior nursing students from Norway. In January I was in Norway with six of our senior nursing students who completed their senior leadership practicum experiences in a variety of Norwegian health care agencies in Bodo, Haugesund and Oslo. I am now preparing for the arrival of eleven senior nursing students who will study with us this fall. I continue to be actively involved in the Quality & Safety in Nursing Education (QSEN) project and also serve as a national facilitator. I am enjoying being with our family and friends this summer. I sincerely enjoy hearing from you, our alumni, and look forward to seeing you when you return to Augustana for a visit! My best to you always!!

~Pam Schroeder
pamela.schroeder@augie.edu

Greetings Alumni and Students! I’m privileged and excited to begin my 6th year as an Augustana Nursing faculty member. I continue to stay busy teaching Adult Health II, Leadership and Pharmacology. I am also fortunate to hold a joint appointment with Avera McKennan as a Simulation Specialist. I enjoy the variety of working with new graduates, experienced staff and students in the simulation lab in a practice setting. Maintaining my Clinical Nurse Specialist position is important to me and so I continue to work for the Avera Bone Marrow Transplant Program on a PRN basis.

This summer has been wonderful as I have a lighter workload than in the past. I’ve been spending time with my family, my husband Jeff and daughter Shayla (11). When fall arrives, I’ll be ready to get back into the routine of class and clinical. It is always so nice to hear from alumni and share what you are up to ~ I hope you will continue to keep in touch!

~Lynn White
lynn.white@augie.edu

Augustana’s Sesquicentennial Year

Have you all heard the term by now, sesquicentennial? For Augustana, it has meant a year-long celebration of Augustana’s 150 years. The celebrations have been many, including this sampling. All can be found at the Sesquicentennial link on the Augustana homepage at: www.augie.edu/about/college-offices-and-affiliates/marketing/college-events/sesquicentennial-celebration/

- A sesquicentennial book and video commemorating Augustana at 150
- Augustana faculty and staff compilation of 150 books to read in your lifetime
- Online photos at http://www.augie.edu/augustana-then-and-now
- The Augustana Album
- Medallion events, including alumni
- Thought Leader Forums throughout the year
- Sequi-Sundays at area churches
- A Sesquicentennial poem by Patrick Hicks
- Faculty videos from the past
- The Spark, a gala celebration and ball at the Washington Pavilion on April 16
- An Augustana Pilgrimage on April 28. Walkers gathered in the front of Old Main, built in 1889 and trekked through seven stops across campus, with sharing of poetry, song, sacrament, and scientific experiences. As Janet Blank-Libra, one of the leaders commented, “In so many ways, Augustana is a work of art—its sculptures, the trees, the people who have walked with it through time…A pilgrimage makes room in the pilgrim for transformation; a pilgrim’s heart is open to insight and change.”

It has been a grand year to celebrate Augustana’s heritage. We hope you will take the time to browse through the website if you have not already done so.

THE COMMISSION FOR COLLEGIATE NURSING EDUCATION REACCREDITATION

Much of the departmental focus for the last year (and then some) has been on preparation for the accreditation site visit by the Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The program was last accredited in 2001 with a full 10 years of accreditation. The faculty and staff were immersed in the self-study process and report preparation with submission of the completed self-study in February 2011. That, in itself, was one great cause for celebration.

During the 3-day site visit in April, the accreditation team conducted a diligent review of Augustana’s nursing program. The team members had the opportunity to dialogue with current nursing students and faculty, as well as to observe classroom and campus lab activities to visit clinical facilities. The site visitors were very impressed with the quality of clinical facilities and the variety of experiences Augustana offers nursing students. The team members lauded the collaboration with our clinical partners and were impressed with the incorporation of liberal arts into the nursing major.

A positive exit report was shared from the team at the conclusion of the site visit, so all indications are that the final outcome will be favorable. The official accreditation decision will occur in October of 2011. We extend our profound thanks to all of you who participated in any way in this challenging reaccreditation process!
As alumni of Augustana’s nursing programs, you are the very best ambassadors for the college. Please continue to share the Augustana story with prospective students and faculty. We appreciate your ongoing support and connection!

So that we don’t lose touch with you, please let us know when you have a change of address. Call us at 605.274.4721 or contact any of the faculty and staff via email. Or write to us at:

Augustana College
Department of Nursing
2001 S. Summit Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

ZETA ZETA Honor Society

Zeta Zeta continues to represent Augustana in an admirable fashion. President Candice O’Neal has now taken the reigns from outgoing President Paul Konz. We also have many newly elected members to include: President Elect – Katie Olson; Treasurer – Paul Konz; Governance Chair – Heather Weiszhaar; Newsletter Chair – Darcy Sherman-Justice; Recording Secretary – Charisse Ortmann-Brockmueller; and Awards Recognition Chair – Kristie McDermott.

Zeta Zeta members have been involved in many events this past year with participation in the Augustana Homecoming Parade, The Banquet’s S.O.S. Day, Scholarship Day in Brookings, and the Relay for Life. We’ve also had great speakers at our business meetings. Tracy Vic, assistant principal of Edison Middle School, spoke on poverty in Sioux Falls and Cindy Morrison, a Sanford representative, spoke about Health Care Reform.

A $400 scholarship was awarded to junior nursing students, Natalie Kathol and Elizabeth Bonnema. This scholarship recognizes outstanding scholarship by qualified nurses and/or nursing students who will advance knowledge in the area of nursing science and practice.

Fifteen new members were inducted into Zeta Zeta Honor Society. At induction, the students who travelled over interim presented “Nursing Care in Cultures Around the World: Through the QSEN Lens.”

The Chapter will again host the 23rd Annual Nursing Research Symposium next Spring on March 30th and our keynote speaker will be Dr. Kathie Lasater. This event continues to exemplify the high standard of excellence in nursing research, practice and theory that is expected of the Sigma Theta Tau International organization.

Thank you for your support through 30 years and we hope to see you at our events and meetings.

NCLEX Pass Rates

**YAHOO! WOW! HATS OFF! COOL! WAY TO GO! THEY DID IT!**

We have reason to celebrate. The Augustana nursing class of 2010 had a 100% NCLEX pass rate. This means all 58 of the graduates passed NCLEX on the first attempt. The stellar performance exceeded the state and national averages of 87% for first time NCLEX testers. This is quite an accomplishment and one to put down in the books!