It has been another amazing year at Augustana in the Department of Nursing. Major projects have included the ongoing integration of simulation and the QSEN (Quality and Safety Education for Nursing) competencies into the undergraduate curriculum and graduation of our first Master's-prepared Clinical Nurse Leaders. Changes have included faculty comings and goings. We welcomed new faculty members Patricia Waltman, Jean Herrmann, and Karla Abbott and returning faculty Mary Isaacson after a fall semester leave. We've had the joyous opportunity this spring to celebrate with Mary Isaacson the completion of a PhD from Indiana University. We also welcome Mary Nelson to an 80%+ position to continue teaching in the department. You will read more about all of these happenings elsewhere in the newsletter.

Noreen Reding has resigned her position with the department to move with husband Dick to Bemidji, Minnesota. And yes, I am still here for another stint as department chair. How could life in retirement be any better than working with the wonderful students and colleagues here at Augie? Well perhaps one day soon I will be able to answer that.

We continue with the launching of our Master's in Nursing program, Clinical Nurse Leader track. We also continue to dream and plan for the renovation and expansion of Gilbert Science Center, enhance our collaboration with nursing programs in Norway (four students coming from two Norwegian university colleges for the fall semester) and other international sites, and expand service learning opportunities for students and faculty.

How can you stay connected with us?

• Come for homecoming—or any other time for that matter.
• Consider returning to Augie as a faculty member to join a creative and energetic group of colleagues, committed to excellent preparation of undergraduate and graduate students.

Mary successfully defended her dissertation on March 23rd, 2009, at Indiana University School of Nursing. Her dissertation, The Paradox of Respect and Risk: Six Lakota Adolescents Speak, centered on Lakota adolescents' personal stories. Her hope is to continue her collaborative work with members of the Pine Ridge reservation, focusing on interventions to decrease high-risk behaviors among Lakota adolescents. The photo above was taken at the official graduation event on May 10, 2009.

As if a PhD were not enough, Mary was also honored with the Emily Holmquist Award from the Indiana University School of Nursing Alumni in April. Her “significant achievements and outstanding contributions to the field of nursing along with her potential for continued excellence in nursing education and her strong commitment to the field of nursing academic practice” were noted as the basis for this prestigious recognition.
A search is beginning for a new tenure-track faculty member to begin in the fall of 2010. Help us advertise this position.

- Contribute to our quest for nationally premier status ideas. We invite your input toward renovating and expanding Gilbert Science Center, enhancing program offerings, and fully equipping our classrooms and labs. At the top of our wish list are additional simulation manikins and additional new classroom tables and chairs. Your ideas and financial gifts are always appreciated.

- Send students our way by encouraging them to consider Augustana's nursing program with a superb track record of completing the major in four years, passing the NCLEX, and finding excellent positions across the country.

We all look forward to your visits, your cards, and your emails; so do stay in touch!

Best regards,

Margot L. Nelson, Department Chair

NURSING TENURE-TRACK FACULTY POSITION OPENING

See full job description at: www.augie.edu/admin/human_res/

Send inquiries and applications to:
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THE CLINICAL NURSE LEADER: A NEW ROLE FOR NURSING & HEALTHCARE

It's a first for South Dakota! The first “Clinical Nurse Leaders” in South Dakota are completing their Master's-level preparation in the summer of 2009, receiving their degrees from Augustana. The Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) is a new graduate nursing role that has evolved in response to the widespread emphasis on quality and safety in healthcare. The CNL program arose from a national initiative launched by a partnership between leaders in nursing education and nursing practice. There are more than 100 nursing education programs and 211 practice organizations engaged in providing nursing clinical expertise at the point of care; and as of January 2009, there were over 600 certified Clinical Nurse Leaders in the nation.

Augustana and SDSU have collaborated with Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center, Sanford USD Medical Center, Rapid City Regional Health System, and the Sioux Falls Veterans Administration Hospital in developing the CNL curriculum and in implementing the clinical courses and role responsibilities of the CNL. Graduate nursing student responses to the program have been positive and productive, with the new role of the CNL evolving and contributing to the quality of care in participating care settings. Following are students' insights and reflections about the program and the role:

Student Perspectives

The program seemed to meet my needs perfectly from the start. I love acute care, and the CNL program meant work at a Master's level that would benefit patients in the acute care setting. I would not need to change positions—just grow in [my] current role.

I had a great desire to [pursue graduate education], but I just wasn't finding a "fit. . . . I also realize that there is a need for clinical expertise at the point of care in any area of nursing.

First CNLs in the region
Standing L to R: Erica DeBoer, Sanford USD Medical Center and Jill Rye, Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center.
Seated L to R: Janet Liefeld, Sanford Luverne, MN, and Linda March, Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center.
Prior to the CNL program, Master’s-prepared nurses were [typically] in clinic settings...away from "the bedside"...This program is a great way to focus on patient outcomes, evidence-based practice and quality.

How has their practice changed in the course of the program?

I am able to identify the needs of the [patient care] unit and apply best practices. The program has helped us to evaluate the research and determine the best course of action to benefit our patients. We have implemented several practice changes in our interdisciplinary teams that have had a positive impact [on patient care].

The CNL program has opened my eyes to something bigger than I have known [and given me] the tools to apply knowledge in my workplace to create better environments of care for patients and staff.

Why would you encourage others to choose the CNL program?

The CNL program will take you wherever you want to go! It is flexible and able to provide you with the knowledge to make a difference, no matter where your expertise lies...We have the opportunity to advance and support the art [and science] of nursing, which will continue to assist nurses in providing the best possible care to patients.

Historically, [nurses with graduate preparation] have left the bedside...When they leave, their expert knowledge and experience is taken with them. We need those talented individuals to stay at the bedside...and utilize evidence-based practice to positively influence change.

The program is a great way to rekindle your passion for nursing!

Summary

The Clinical Nurse Leader is a new role that provides opportunities for nurses to pursue development of leadership skills and clinical expertise while at the same time contributing to the excellence of care in their health care settings. Through their courage and initiative, the first CNL graduates are pioneering the role and helping to more fully define and demonstrate its contribution. The development of the role and the educational program nationally and regionally has created a win-win relationship between education and practice. The CNL role models the innovative collaboration between nursing education and nursing practice that is essential for nursing to realize its potential to influence quality of care at the point of care.

For more information visit our website at www.augie.edu.
The Augustana College, Department of Nursing invites applications for a tenure-track assistant professor with responsibilities in the undergraduate and graduate nursing programs. Augustana College promotes a dynamic learning environment where faculty of differing backgrounds can successfully pursue their academic goals. The nursing faculty believes that a high quality education integrates nursing with the liberal arts and is their mission. The primary responsibilities are in the following areas:

- Grant Writing
- Research
- Teaching in the Clinical Nurse Leader Graduate Program
- Conducting a Feasibility Study for a Doctor of Nursing Practice Program

This tenure-track faculty member is expected to be an effective educator, a mentor for faculty, an active researcher (publishing in journals), skilled at grant writing and a participating member of the college, professional, and local communities. The candidate will be evaluated on previous teaching experience along with leadership and organizational skills, effective interpersonal and collaboration skills and the potential for scholarly productivity in his/her area of expertise.

Candidate Qualifications:

- Doctorate in Nursing or a related field required
- Expertise in nursing practice, leadership, research and grant writing
- Teaching experience in baccalaureate and/or graduate nursing education required
- Additional desirable areas of expertise: gerontology, nursing informatics, healthcare policy and administration

NEW FACULTY IN THE NURSING DEPARTMENT

Three new faculty joined the department in the fall, Jean Herrmann, Mary Nelson and Patricia Waltman, and another in the spring, Karla Abbott.

Karla Abbott earned her BSN at Michigan State and her MA from Augustana College. She team teaches community health nursing and public health science. Karla is an enrolled member of the Cheyenne Sioux Tribe at Eagle Butte, South Dakota, is a member of the South Dakota Urban Indian Health Board the board of the Multi-Cultural Center in Sioux Falls, and serves on the South Dakota Lutheran Synod Diversity Committee. She has 15 years of experience caring for cardiac and pulmonary patients at Avera McKennan Hospital.

Jean Herrmann, CNRN, holds a BA degree from Augustana College and a MSN in education from Regis University, Denver, CO. She teaches nursing therapeutics and medical terminology and assists with senior internships. Jean came to Augustana with 17 years of experience working with neurosurgeon Dr. Wilson Asfora and has a special interest in the area of deep brain stimulation.

Mary Nelson is a graduate of SDSU where she earned a BSN degree. She is enrolled in the Master's program in nursing education at Regis University, Denver, CO. Mary team teaches in the senior level adult health nursing course with Lynn White and also offered the NCLEX review course with Dr. Jacqueline Howell. Mary has 15 years of nursing experience in a variety of adult health areas, including the surgical renal unit at Sanford USD Medical Center.

Patricia Waltman earned an ADN and a BSN from Presentation College in Aberdeen, South Dakota and is currently enrolled in the Clinical Nurse Leader program at Augustana. Patricia team teaches community health and does clinical at the Sioux Falls Catholic and Lutheran schools and the Veterans Administration Hospital in Sioux Falls. Patricia has worked as a medical nurse at Avera St Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen, at the Visiting Nurses Association in Sioux Falls, and most recently for the Sioux Falls School District as a school nurse.
Mary Jo Kreitzer, PhD, RN, class of 1973, is founder and director of the University of Minnesota’s Center for Spirituality and Healing whose purpose is to “enrich health and well-being by providing high-quality interdisciplinary education, conducting rigorous research, and delivering innovative programs that advance integrative health and healing.”

Among her many scholarly and leadership endeavors, Mary Jo is currently the co-principal investigator of several NIH and Blue Cross/Blue Shield grants, including a 5-year $2.1 million clinical trial of mindfulness meditation with solid organ transplant patients, a clinical trial to study the impact of an integrated residential treatment program on women with eating disorders, an evaluation of mind-body interventions for caregivers of Alzheimer’s patients, and a grant to integrate research and education in Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM).

Mary Jo has become a leading voice for integrative health care, for expanding the research evidence related to integrative healing methods, for incorporating CAM approaches into interdisciplinary health professional education, and for transforming the US healthcare system to embrace the science of health as well as the science of disease. Because of her reputation as a champion and expert in holistic views of health, she was invited to testify before the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions in Washington, D.C. in February. For those of you interested in knowing more about her testimony, here is the internet link to the hearing, chaired by Senator Barbara Mikulski: http://help.senate.gov/Hearings/2009_02_23/2009_02_23.html?zbrandid=4262&zi.

Dr. Kreitzer’s testimony begins approximately 53 minutes into the hearing.

Two Sioux Falls nursing alumnae were awarded top honors in their field at the 2009 YWCA Tribute to Women in April. This year the YWCA celebrated 36 years of recognizing women’s contributions to the civic, economic, educational, and cultural of the Sioux Falls community.

Kristine Kreiter O’Connell, class of 1979, was recognized for her contributions to Government and Law. She is the senior female attorney and partner in the law firm of Woods Fuller Schultz and Smith and was selected as the Attorney of the Year by the Women in Law organization at the USD Law School. Kris often serves as a mentor and coach for new lawyers, drawing upon her experience as a critical care nurse. She serves as the attorney for the South Dakota Board of Nursing.

June Peterson Larson, class of 1975, was recognized for her contributions to Education. June is currently Assistant Dean of the School of Health Sciences and former Chair of the Nursing Department at the University of South Dakota (USD). Her recognition identified her as an advocate for the nursing profession and as instrumental in securing a substantial federal grant to provide nursing education to students in remote rural areas and to integrate culturally appropriate materials throughout the curriculum. She has been a leader in state and national nursing advisory groups, including the South Dakota Board of Nursing and the National League for Nursing (NLN). June led USD’s Department of Nursing in its designation as an NLN Center of Excellence for creating environments that enhance student learning and professional development.

Major General Linda Hemminger, class of 1974, retired from a celebrated career in the U.S. Air Force this summer. She most recently served as mobilization assistant to the Deputy Surgeon General at Bolling Air Force Base in the District of Columbia. Her nursing education after Augustana included earning a Family Nurse Practitioner certificate, MSN from University of Nebraska Medical Center, and AD in Health Care Administration from Des Moines Area Community College. During her military service, she received several honors, including the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, and Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters.

Major General Hemminger’s daughter, Livia Fisher, will begin the clinical courses in the nursing major at Augustana this fall.
COMMUNITY HEALTH UPDATES INCLUDE SIMULATION

The focus of Community Health is on the nurse-community process in care of families, groups, and communities. Cultural diversity and socially relevant issues interconnected with health are also explored in relation to quality of life from the community perspective.

Students in the Community Health course have a variety of clinical experiences provided through partnerships between community agencies and the department of nursing. “Special Populations” partners include the Center of Hope, DakotAbilities, Good Shepherd Center, Urban Indian Health, Lutheran Social Services, The Center for Active Generations, and Volunteers of America-Joe Foss Daycare. Partners for the school health experience include Sioux Falls Public School District, Sioux Falls Catholic Schools, and Sioux Falls Lutheran Elementary Schools. In addition to these experiences, the department responded to several requests from community entities for assistance with health screenings, flu shot clinics, and health education/promotion. Students provided service to Capital Card Services, Citibank, and the Augustana Women’s Walk. These partnerships have provided students with a diverse background for community health practice. We are pleased to announce a new partnership with the Veteran’s Administration (VA) in Sioux Falls, beginning this fall.

A new component of the course was integration of a Community Bioterrorism Simulation scenario created by Patricia Waltman and Lynde Rainboth. The simulation setting was designed as a school health office and students were to implement the comprehensive public health responses to a bioterrorism threat. A poster presentation for the Bioterrorism Simulation was shared during the June NEDDS (Nursing Education Deans and Directors of South Dakota) faculty retreat in Mitchell, SD.

GALAXY NURSING AT ST. HALO HOSPITAL

As part of a conference for middle school and high school girls, Professors Isaacson, Rainboth and Abbott created an innovative workshop, Galaxy Nursing at St. Halo Hospital. The “hands on” opportunity was designed to highlight nursing as a future career. Student participants learned basic use of a stethoscope, how to function as a team, cultural elements of care for an ill patient, and application of critical thinking skills. The EYH (Expanding Your Horizons) Conference, held in Pierre in April, was designed to encourage adolescent girls to pursue careers in the sciences, math or technology.

Following their workshop debut, the presenters from Augustana’s Nursing Department were invited by the regional coordinator of GEARUP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) to share their presentation in Rapid City. GEARUP is designed to increase the number of American Indian students prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education, and this second conference emphasized both the sciences and humanities. Galaxy was presented to nearly 200 male and female high school students in Rapid City in July.
International nursing student experiences continue to develop at Augustana. Student exchanges, faculty collaboration, presentations, and meeting with the US ambassador were highlights of the year. In August 2008, ten Norwegian senior nursing students and one graduate nursing student arrived at the Sioux Falls airport from two Universities in Norway, Bodø University College and Høgskolen Diakonova in Olso. They were welcomed by faculty, staff and senior nursing student mentors, Johanna Gronewold and Heather Weiszhaar.

Norwegian students participated in an orientation course, coordinated by Professor Pamela Schroeder, prior to the beginning of the fall semester. They visited clinical agencies to introduce them to similarities and differences between US and Norwegian health care, and professional nursing roles. They were oriented to the Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN—see earlier discussion) competencies of patient-centered care, teamwork and collaboration, evidence-based practice, quality improvement, safety, and informatics. Students were especially intrigued with the differences between privatized and universal healthcare benefits. Professor Vickie Reiff provided a comprehensive health assessment seminar focused on refining the students’ health assessment skills, since in-depth physical assessment is not included in the Norwegian nursing scope of practice.

Upon successful completion of a clinical simulation for skill validation, each student received a QSEN card to serve as a “passport into clinical practice.” A seminar focusing on the American Indian population provided opportunities for comparing Norway’s Sami people with American Indians. Several students then traveled with Nursing Professor Karla Abbott to the Cheyenne River Reservation where they experienced a Pow Wow, traditional foods, music and a Peace Pipe Ceremony.

A highlight of the fall semester was a visit by Professors Wenche Sørfonden, Lars Westvig and Helga Finstad from Bodo University College. They attended classes, visited their students in clinical areas, and gave presentations on chronic illness and nursing research for nursing students and faculty. They left Augustana feeling very positively about their students’ experiences at Augustana and were particularly impressed with the students’ involvement in clinical simulation.

Conversations between Augustana and Bodo faculty will continue regarding visiting professor opportunities and collaborative research projects.

A trip to Norway in January allowed Pamela Schroeder and other college colleagues to evaluate the nursing student exchange experiences and to discuss future opportunities for students. Pam, along with Michael Nitz, Coordinator of Norwegian Studies and Donn Grinager, International Director, made presentations to faculty and students at Telemark University College in Porsgrunn; Høgskolen Diakonova in Olso; Bodo University College, University of Stavanger, and Stord/Haugesund University College in Stord. The international students who attended Augustana during the fall semester and the Augustana senior nursing students who completed nursing leadership experiences in Norway during January 2009 reflected that they “had trips of a lifetime that changed our lives and provided us with a better understanding of nursing and health care. We encourage other students to be involved in this immersion experience.” We welcomed four students from Bodo and Hedmark, Norway in August.
Nursing Leadership Practicum in the Dominica Republic

In another part of the world, four senior students, Katelyn Ley, Morgan Sonstegard, Malory Eichman, and Erika Wolner, participated in a mission trip to the Dominica Republic for their clinical leadership experience in January, accompanied by nursing faculty member Vickie Reiff. They were part of a 14-member team sponsored by Volunteers in Medical Missions (VIMM). The team may not have completely “roughed it,” but they did sleep in bunk beds with eight in a room and one restroom in a hostel-type setting in San Juan. The base also had a small clinic where surgeries were performed 16 hours/day by a surgical team from Atlanta, Georgia.

Each day the group embarked to a different village in need of medical attention. Although the countryside was astonishingly beautiful with rolling hills and large palm trees, the villages were small and very poor with rocky roads and small wood or cinderblock shacks for homes. Clinics were often set up in a church or abandoned building. Hundreds of people, many looking extremely malnourished, stood patiently all day awaiting care. Toddlers had swollen bellies, some from worms and others from malnutrition, and most adults were literally skin and bones. One of the most challenging days was at the villages of Batey Seis and Santa Maria because these communities had populations of both Haitians and Dominicans, requiring translation not only into Spanish but also French and Creole.

Students quickly engaged in care at the triage station, the pharmacy, deworming and vitamin station, and in assisting the clinicians. They realized the need for education and initiated an arrangement whereby each patient would be counseled by one of the students before leaving the pharmacy to ensure understanding of directions for taking their medications. They were quick to improvise in finding solutions for care in an austere setting with minimal supplies. For example, in caring for a young man who was burned by scalding liquid spilled onto his foot, they applied ophthalmic antibiotic gel to his wound prior to the dressing.

The most common ailments were pain, parasites, and high blood pressure. Other cases included burns, open wounds, rare skin disorders, and metastatic cancers. The group did see a suspected case of leprosy in a woman who had the flattening facial features of a lion, a classic symptom of the disease. Another health concern in the villages was the number of pregnant fourteen year old girls who often already had one or two babies.

On the last night of the trip, the group stayed at the Barcelo Capella Hotel. They met on the beach to share their individual experiences. It was evident that all were moved in various ways and many made commitments for future mission trips. The mission ended in the way it did each night at the Guest House – with prayers and thanksgiving for the opportunity to serve.
**INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND**

**Interim 2009: Nursing Leadership Within the Arctic Circle**

“Never bad weather only bad clothes.” Senior nursing students Darcy Haas, Johanna Gronewold and Heather Weiszhaar learned how this statement applies to Norwegian healthcare as they helped manage a clinical case of hypothermia. It was part of their nursing leadership course at Bodø University College. Professor Wenche Sorfonden supervised the students’ experiences with the assistance of Professors Lars Westvig, Helga Finstad and the Norwegian Air Force.

Throughout the four-week leadership and cultural experience in January 2009, the students learned about similarities and differences between the American and Norwegian healthcare systems with a primary focus upon the cultural implications for nursing leadership and quality patient care. They provided care for individuals across the lifespan in various health care agencies in Nordland County. Primary healthcare, health promotion and wellness activities were clearly evident as the most important elements in the Norwegian health system, contrary to the emphasis on high-tech acute care in the US. Although communication was “one of the most significant barriers,” the students noted the importance of “being in-tune to the patient’s body language and other forms of nonverbal communication” to assess patient needs. The Norwegian nurses also encouraged the students to sing to the patients and involve them in various “sing-along” activities to develop trust.

The students, along with visiting faculty Pamela Schroeder and Michael Nitz from Augustana were able to experience a “breath from the Tuvsjyen / Saltstraumen Norwegian Stoneage,” the site of Norway’s first settlement. They engaged in the unique cultural practices of those first settlers through demonstrations and story-telling, were treated to a traditional Norwegian meal, and watched the “Northern lights dance across the sky.” The hypothermia clinical experience was a highlight of the students’ leadership course at Bodø University College. After donning appropriate clothing and hiking several miles, the students and Nursing Professor Lars Westvig set up camp, secured water, cut firewood, and prepared a tasty meal including whale meat. They endured an overnight camping experience as the temperature dropped to minus 30 degrees Fahrenheit. Early the next day they effectively managed a hypothermia clinical case.

Another unique aspect of winter in Norway was the lack of daylight (only 4 hours of “winter twilight”), since Bodø is located above the Arctic Circle. Participating in the Norwegian healthcare system left a lasting impression upon the students. Darcy, Heather and Johanna agreed that their experiences were wonderful and that they hope to return to Norway again. As they watched the Presidential Inauguration in Norway and on “You- Tube,” they remarked, “We were very proud to be Americans and Augustana nursing students in Norway!”

**GREETINGS FROM THE FACULTY**

Hi Alums!

It has been another very exciting year! Working with both our Augustana nursing students and the international students from Norway continues to be very energizing and rewarding. It has been very exciting to be involved in developing global educational opportunities for our students. I continue to teach both in both the junior and senior levels including Pathophysiology, Adult Health Nursing theory/clinical, Interdisciplinary Palliative Care, Leadership and Nursing Internships. As QSEN project director, it has been very rewarding to be actively involved in integrating clinical simulations into our nursing curriculum and be able to continue with further developments in Phase III as a QSEN Facilitator. Summer has been a wonderful time to enjoy various activities and vacations with our family and friends. I hope that many of you will return to the Augustana for Viking Days and visits throughout the year.

~Pam Schroeder

Greetings Alums!

This has been an exciting and interesting academic year, beginning in the fall with a degree completion leave. While on leave, I actually did write and complete the bulk of my dissertation, while at the same time leading a service-learning trip to Pine Ridge and loading the N451 (Leadership) course into the online platform called "Moodle.” Along with 4 senior community health nursing students, I traveled to the reservation over fall break where the students quickly immersed themselves into the Lakota culture by visiting with and listening to families on the reservation. Students Christa Fishel, Darcy Haas, Brendon Groen and Denise Phillip also received hands-on instruction in the creation of dream catchers and porcupine quill bracelets. The students concluded their visit by completing school health screenings on over 60 students in the Red Shirt School.

Over interim, I traveled back to the reservation with two senior nursing students for the N451 Leadership course. Megan Gulden and Bethany Fleischhacker completed their 80 hour practicum at the Indian Health Service facility in Pine Ridge. During their off time, Bethany and Megan

Continued on page 10
Quality and Safety Education Initiative-Augustana Selected for Phase III

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJ) demonstrated a continued commitment to nursing education and clinical practice by funding QSEN (Quality and Safety Education for Nurses) Phase III. Two grants totaling $4.2 million will support innovative projects aimed at preparing nurses to continually improve quality and safety of patient care. The grants are being administered by The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC) and the American Association of College of Nursing (AACN).

Assistant Professor Pamela Schroeder was invited to serve as one of the thirty QSEN Phase III facilitators. In June she attended the initial Phase III conference in Portland, Maine, focused on curricular materials and teaching strategies for regional faculty development conferences. During one of the work sessions, she was pleased to be able to collaborate with another facilitator and Augustana nursing alum, Professor Mary Blegen, University of California-San Francisco.

The QSEN III goals are threefold. The first goal is continued innovation and dissemination of methods to develop student knowledge, skills and attitudes in the six Institute of Medicine (IOM) / QSEN competencies. Second, faculty expertise will be developed to facilitate the learning and assessment of quality and safety competencies in all types of nursing programs. Third, mechanisms will be developed to sustain the changes through textbook content, accreditation and certification standards, licensure exams and continued competency requirements.

FROM THE FACULTY

continued…

attended immersion activities at the Pine Ridge Retreat Center, gaining a greater appreciation for and a fuller understanding of the Lakota culture. Teaching assignments for the coming year bring changes once again. I will lead the N450 (Research) course and also co-teach a Capstone leadership course with Shelly Gardner from the Business Department. Interim will be N451 (and the reservation) and spring will be N352, Child Health Nursing.

~Mary Isaacson

Dear Alums:

We have completed another stimulating year of study and service. Congratulations to all who have written to inform us of your acceptance into the graduate programs of your choice. I know you will do us proud. I attended a Nursing Education Deans & Directors (NEDDS) faculty retreat at Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell. Dr. Gayle Preheim from Colorado was the keynote speaker. I appreciated the opportunity to keep up on the cutting edge of the latest trends in nursing education. Janell Christenson and I enjoyed having the international students in our behavioral health nursing courses last fall. They enjoyed their tour of our state-of-the-art Behavioral Health Hospital. I’ve been at Serendipity, my Tudor cottage in the historic district for ten years now, so am busy with necessary maintenance and restoration chores. I took a summer jaunt to Missouri and Arkansas this summer, to take in summer theatre and musical productions, picnic, and appreciate southern comforts like grits and sweet potato pie. Don’t forget to stop by GSC for a chat if you are in the area!

~Lynn White

Greetings Alums!

I have now completed my second academic year and I still love every minute of it. Our wonderful students continue to amaze me with their professionalism and drive to excellence in the classroom, clinical experiences, and labs. I again was blessed to teach the Introduction to Professional Nursing, Medical Terminology, coordinate the skills lab and co-coordinate the simulation lab. Having the ability to be a part of all courses sophomore through senior year has been an enriching and honored experience. In addition to my faculty responsibilities, I have been working slowly towards my doctorate at South Dakota State University. Over the summer I have truly enjoyed playing and keeping up with my three young children. I wish you all the best.

~Lynde Rainboth

Greetings Alumni and Students!

I’m privileged and excited to begin my 4th year as a faculty member here at Augustana. I am keeping busy in the Simulation lab, as well as with teaching Adult Health II and Pharmacology. This summer, I taught the first offering of Pharmacology Online. I am fortunate to hold a joint appointment with Avera McKennan as a Simulation Specialist, which allows me to work with both new graduates and experienced nursing staff in the arena of simulation and practice. I also continue to work for the Avera Bone Marrow Transplant Program as a Clinical Nurse Specialist.

This summer I’ve enjoyed spending time with my family – my husband Jeff, and daughter Shayla (9), sewing and reading. The long summer days always pass too fast, but I’m looking forward to getting back into the routine of class and clinical. I love to hear from alumni – please let me know how you are doing!

~Karen Fritz

Greetings Alums!

It has been another exciting year and another year of wonderful nursing students! They have far exceeded our expectations in regards to the NCLEX pass rate. Unfortunately, many are still searching for employment in this time of economic crisis. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

I continue to teach at both the Junior and Senior levels including Health Assessment and Nutrition and Maternal and Reproductive Health. As a Certified Nurse Midwife, my passion is the area of Women’s Health and also service to those less fortunate. As part of our Nursing
FROM THE FACULTY

continued…

Leadership course I took four Senior nursing students to the Dominica Republic with the Volunteers in Medical Missions (VIMM).

This summer I worked for Avera as a CNM. Not only do I get to experience the miracle of birth, but I have been working alongside a few Augustana grads. Of course, they are the best on the unit!!

~Vickie Reiff

Greetings to all Augie nursing alumni.

As my second year of teaching Nursing Therapeutics approaches, I am filled with excitement and trepidation. We are constantly striving to update skills and simulation labs for students. This past year through utilization of simulation mannequins, students were able to develop their assessment skills, gain confidence with performance skills and develop problem solving capabilities through scenarios with patient interviews, providing technical skills and problem solving with a diabetic patient in a hyperglycemic state.

During second semester I had the opportunity to enjoy and work with a student group taking an online Medical Terminology course, a junior clinical group on a surgical floor and seven senior students completing hospital internships. The growth observed in our hard working and dedicated Augie nursing students is inspiring and heart warming.

On a personal note I am continuing my degree completion and will be very excited when that is done! I was able to get away to the Bahamas with my husband to celebrate our 15th wedding anniversary-no my children did not accompany us! We did also take them on their mini-vacation-I guess they need some fun too! I was busy being the driver to all the baseball, softball, soccer, and golf events during the summer.

~Jean Herrmann

Hello Alums

I completed my first year with Augustana College teaching Community Health and taking students on clinicals to the schools and guiding them through special populations and family visits. I also participated in the Interdisciplinary Palliative Care Seminars. It was a learning experience for me and I can truly say that I learned a great deal from many of you! I will continue to teach at the senior level in Community Health again and assist with IPC Seminar. I am excited to venture into the VA system this coming year with the students and am working on a variety of clinical sites for the Community Health clinical experience.

On a personal note I am continuing my degree completion and will be very excited when that is done! I was able to get away to the Bahamas with my husband to celebrate our 15th wedding anniversary-no my children did not accompany us! We did also take them on their mini-vacation-I guess they need some fun too! I was busy being the driver to all the baseball, softball, soccer, and golf events during the summer.

~Patricia Waltman

HOW ARE YOU DOING?
Family…work…grad school…we’d love to hear about you!

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I am very proud of you and seeing the amazing NCLEX results that reflect your hard work and dedication. Blessings to you all. If you are in the GSC area-please stop in!

~Patricia Waltman
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, and contact us if there are individuals with whom you would like us to have correspondence. 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
Sioux Falls, SD 57197

NURSING STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN AUGUSTANA SYMPOSIUM

The Augustana Symposium, like the ancient meeting recorded by Plato, is a collegial gathering intended to foster the investigation and discussion of important matters. The structure of the Symposium emulates a traditional academic conference, and Augustana students are invited to present their original research on any topic in this forum.” As one of the newer Augustana traditions, the Augustana Symposium provides a forum for student scholarship, as reflected in the quotation from its mission above.

Alan E. Guttmacher, Acting Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute provided the keynote address, The Human Genome Project: Why all the Fuss? Guttmacher’s address was a fitting celebration of the 55th anniversary of Watson and Crick’s publication of the molecular structure of DNA. Senior nursing majors and graduate students were among the 70 student presenters at the symposium this past spring and included those listed below (with their faculty sponsors in parentheses)

Morgan Sonstegard & Megan Gulden, senior undergraduate students, “Learning to Appreciate Diversity Through Experimental Immersion Experiences” (Mary Isaacson & Vickie Reiff)

Megan Jerke & Megan Gulden, senior undergraduate students, “Evidence-Based Practice Recommendations for the Prevention of Thromboembolism in Adult Patients” (Margot Nelson)

Jessica Limke & Brandy Schug, senior undergraduate students, “ZAP the VAP (Ventilator Acquired Pneumonia)” (Margot Nelson)

Erica DeBoer, graduate student, “Surviving Sepsis by Influencing Early Identification and Goal Directed Therapy Protocols” (Margot Nelson)


Jill Rye, graduate student, “Interdisciplinary Fall Prevention” (Margot Nelson)

Their presentations were well-received, highlighting the scholarly work of our nursing programs. The Symposium provided the opportunity to showcase the value of translational research (translating research findings into practice) and contributions of the nursing discipline to quality healthcare.