

HEARTBEAT

FALL 2011

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES



Setting the Standard of Excellence
in Healthcare Education

HEARTBEAT

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH STUDIES



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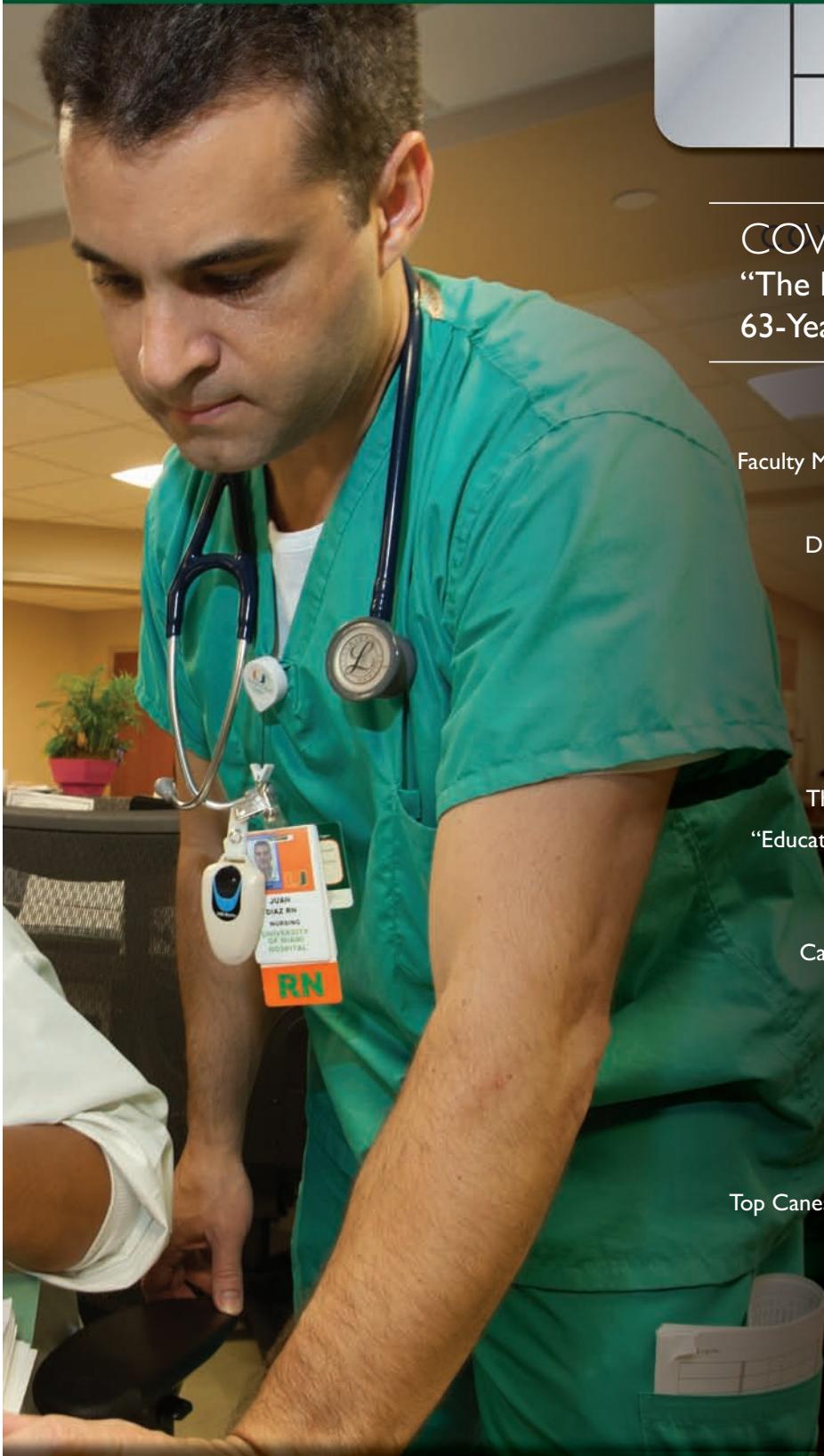
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Message from the Dean

Nilda (Nena) P. Peragallo, DrPH, RN, FAAN



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Welcome to the Fall 2011 edition of Heartbeat Magazine!

The University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies' 63-year history should fill each of you with incredible joy, passion and pride. Our cover story, "63 Years of Nursing Excellence", (page 12) is a recounting of the journey from the opening of our School's doors in 1948 to the defining accomplishment of being granted maximum accreditation by The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in Spring of 2011. It has been a rewarding year, with the National Institutes of Health ranking our school in the top 20 nationwide and first in Florida for NIH research funding, and U.S. News and World Report's listing our University as 38th on their list of "best colleges" nationwide. The exceptional contributions of our students and alumni, world-class faculty, community partners,

mentors and friends have made possible our achievements of the last six decades. Inside this issue of Heartbeat you will read about some of these talented and energetic individuals.

Our mission is to prepare students to address the challenges of contemporary healthcare through a curriculum that balances nursing education and theory with cutting-edge multidisciplinary research and clinical experience in real world healthcare settings. The recent overhaul

of our country's healthcare system, together with The Institute of Medicine (IOM) and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's (RWJF) groundbreaking "Future of Nursing" report, have catalyzed the creation of new opportunities and bright futures for advanced practice nurses and nurse scientists. Our vision for the School involves taking a leadership role in this sweeping transformation of the nursing profession. To this end, we have launched one of the State of Florida's first nurse residency programs (see page 4). In keeping with the RWJF and IOM's recommendations for removal of scope-of-practice barriers, our Nurse Practitioner program continues to produce highly educated Advance Practice Nurses (see "Nurse Practitioners: A Critical Component for the Future of Nursing", (page 6) We have also added expertise to one of the state's most experienced academic healthcare leadership teams (see "Newest Faculty", page 29), which now includes two newly minted RWJF Nursing Scholars (see story, page 3).

On the international front, we have expanded our global healthcare initiatives in Chile, Mexico, Spain and Haiti, and established an exchange program with Taiwan, (read "Canes Global Nursing Collaboration", page 7). While 2011 has been amazing, more is planned for 2012, including our School's hosting of the XIII Pan American Nursing Research Colloquium, for the first time in the U.S. (see page 26).

Thank you for your continued support in 2011. Please take pride in our School and in your accomplishments! I hope you enjoy this edition of Heartbeat and I look forward to celebrating with all of you at this year's Alumni Weekend/Homecoming events beginning November 4TH. Go Canes!

Nilda (Nena) P. Peragallo, DrPH, RN, FAAN

Dean and Professor University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies

Two SONHS Faculty Honored as “RWJF Nursing Scholars”

The School of Nursing and Health Studies is honored to have two Assistant Professors, Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda PhD, MSN, MPH, RN, and Martin Schiavenato, PhD, RN, recognized for their outstanding academic accomplishments.



Dr. Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda



Dr. Martin Schiavenato

In a nationwide effort to reduce the shortage of nurse educators in our country, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) every year identifies 12 to 15 junior faculty who show “outstanding promise as future leaders in academic nursing” through its Nurse Faculty Scholars program. The School of Nursing and Health Studies is honored to have two: Assistant Professor, Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda PhD, MSN, MPH, RN, selected this year; and Martin Schiavenato, PhD, RN, selected in 2009. Both are being recognized for their outstanding academic accomplishments.

Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda, who served on the prestigious Institute of Medicine (IOM) and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) “Future of Nursing Committee”, will develop, implement and test an intervention program for preventing teen dating violence among Hispanics. “Being named a RWJF Nurse Faculty Scholar is a huge honor,” Gonzalez-Guarda said. “As a Nurse Faculty Scholar, I am looking forward to being connected to other scholars as well as an extraordinary network of mentors and resources. I am thrilled because so many of my professional role models through the years have had a connection to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Under the program’s guidance, I hope to become a better faculty member and leader in my institution and area of research.”

For her research project, JOVEN: Juntos Opuestos a la Violencia Entre Novios [Together Against Teen Dating Violence, 2011-2014] Gonzalez-Guarda will develop a community-based participatory intervention addressing the prevention of teen dating violence among Hispanic ninth graders. “Hispanic youth

are at a higher risk for teen dating violence and in the future face greater risk of domestic violence,” Gonzalez-Guarda said. “From my previous experiences working to prevent domestic violence in the community, I know that this work is important to the health of the Hispanics and the country more broadly.”

Along with Gonzalez-Guarda, Martin Schiavenato’s clinical background is in neonatal and pediatric critical care. Schiavenato is particularly interested in the ways that technology can aid in pain assessment. He was funded by the RWJF Nurse Faculty Scholars program in 2009 for his research project, Developing a multidimensional pain-detection device for neonates and will work until 2012 to develop a bedside device to measure pain in premature infants. His research interests lie in the application of technology to assess pain in vulnerable groups such as premature infants and other pediatric and non-verbal patient populations.

Schiavenato’s laboratory applies novel tools to interpret physiologic and behavioral signals including facial expressions, in an attempt to decipher the presence and intensity of pain in humans who are unable to communicate it. His interdisciplinary lab brings together scientists, clinicians and students representing diverse fields such as nursing, biomedical engineering, psychology and medicine.

Schiavenato and Gonzalez-Guarda each receive a three-year \$350,000 Nurse Faculty Scholar award from RWJF. They are two examples of the outstanding nurse educators on the faculty at the School of Nursing and Health Studies who are making a difference in the future of nursing by utilizing research skills, and education to improve patient care across our country.

New MSN Nurse Residency Program with UMH and JHS

In a major step to reduce nurse attrition and prepare our bedside nurse leaders. The University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies is one of the first nursing programs in the state to implement the Institute of Medicine (IOM) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), Future of Nursing Recommendations for the establishment of a "Nurse Residency Program." This program is designed to support nurses' completion of a transition-to-practice program after they have completed an advanced practice degree or are transitioning into new clinical areas.

"Thanks to outstanding cooperation from our community partners at the University of Miami Hospital (UMH) and Jackson Health Systems (JHS), for the first time in the school's history, we have created a pilot residency program that will be a tremendous win for our graduating BSN students, the school and both hospitals," says Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, DrPH, RN, FAAN.

The School currently has a one-year Acute Care/Adult Nurse Practitioner Program and a two-year part-time Acute Care/Adult Nurse Practitioner Program. Under the new residency program, UMH and JHS have created a three-year program working with selected BSN graduates who will be placed in a critical care environment as a RN at either facility while they are in the Master's program.

"The goal is to support nurses from graduation all the way through a Critical Care/ICU program by simultaneously providing actual experience as they complete the Acute Care/Adult Nurse Practitioner Program," says Dr. Todd Ambrosia, PhD, DNSc, MSN, FNP-BC, FACC, Associate Dean for the Master's Program and Assistant Professor of Clinical.

Under the Acute Care/Adult Nurse Practitioner Residency Program students will spend almost all their time in the clinical setting with only one class their first semester and a reduced class load in years two and three. "When the students complete the residency program they will be fully experienced critical care nurses and eligible for national board certification as Acute Care/Adult Nurse Practitioners," says Mary Wyckoff, PhD, ACNP, BC, FNP-BC, NNP, FAANP, CCNS, CCRN, JHS Residency Program Coordinator.

"What we found in the past was when we tried to put nurses straight through from BSN to Acute Care/Adult Advanced Practice, they were having a difficult time obtaining employment due to a lack of experience. This will help our community partners to have highly qualified advanced practice bedside nurses and our students to be a unique employee resource," says Joanna Sikkema, MSN, ARNP, FAHA, UMH Residency Program Coordinator.

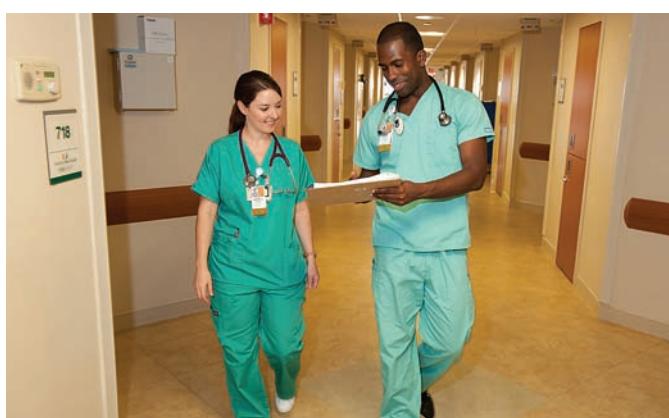
Sikkema and Wyckoff both agree, "this program will be a win-win for students, the school and both area hospitals by refilling an empty well, creating outstanding new nurses, new Acute Care/Adult NP jobs for our nurses and at the same time provide the hospitals with



School of Nursing and Health Studies students at the University of Miami Hospital

three years of highly trained and experienced nurses at the bedside," says Wyckoff.

This semester 10-students have started the program and the plan is to increase the number each semester. Danielle Smith, an ARNP student, just started the Residency Program at UMH but after a few days, she is quite impressed with the program, "working in the Residency Program with a preceptor is an incredible learning opportunity that gives you more autonomy. I am already learning critical new skills and have noticed the patients were much more receptive. I may not have all the skills yet but can see the tremendous advantage of the Residency Program," says Danielle Smith.



SONHS students in Nurse Residency Program

Ambrosia says it took an entire team effort to make this happen, "you need a Dean like Nena Peragallo with an open mind, and you need nursing leaders at UMH and JHS like David Zambrana and Ric Cuming, who weren't afraid to go outside the box to raise standards at the bedside." The next phase under discussion is adding residency programs for SICU-Cardiothoracic, and ICU at JHS, along with incorporating UMH ICU's and the VA's ICU's.

“Doctor of Nursing Practice”

From the Bedside to the Boardroom

I believe we cannot improve the quality of healthcare in America without nurses in key management roles,” says UM President Donna Shalala, Chair of the Institute of Medicine and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation “Future of Nursing” Committee.

There is a new breed of leader at the head of the table in healthcare boardrooms across the country: the nurse. The most extensive overhaul of healthcare in our nation’s history has resulted in a call for leaders with the advanced education, real-world experience, nursing expertise and organizational management skills required to help spearhead the process of healthcare reform. The University of Miami Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program, launched in January 2009, is helping to meet this need.

For over 63 years the School of Nursing and Health Studies has prepared nursing professionals to excel in the provision of patient care. The current ambitious national healthcare reform agenda, together with The Institute of Medicine/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s groundbreaking “Future of Nursing” report, call for today’s nurse leaders to develop expertise beyond the bedside. To partner with physicians and other professionals in redesigning our nation’s healthcare system, nurses must also

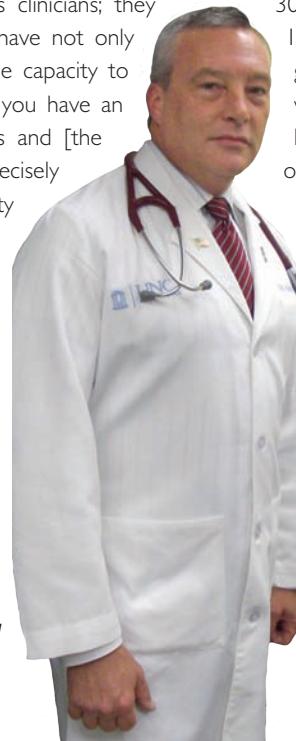


Dr. Jacqueline Cereijo

speak the language of fiscal planning, organizational leadership, health policy and translational science. The remarkable graduates of our DNP program are taking a leadership role in this arena. Emerging among the program’s alumni base are professionals at the helm of multiple care settings, with the business acumen to match their nursing skills.

“You are going to be seeing more DNPs in boardrooms across the country,” says Tom Hartley, (DNP ‘11), Director of Ambulatory Care Clinical Services at University of North Carolina Health Care. Hartley is the senior manager of over 111 clinics, responsible for 7500 daily patients and oversight of 2000 physicians/nurse practitioners. He explains, “Nurses are uniquely prepared as clinicians; they are the ones who touch the patients. Nurses have not only the patient’s perspective, but when you add the capacity to manage resources and fiscally sound principals; you have an executive who understands the patient’s needs and [the organization’s] business requirements.” It is precisely this combination of doctoral-level executive ability and advance practice nursing knowledge that the DNP program was designed to produce.

“If you had told me years ago that I would be in a senior leadership position at UMH as Chief Operating and Nursing Officer, I would never in a million years have believed it, but due to years of hard work and the professional growth I have experienced from the DNP, I am proof that with dedication, perseverance and the right education anything is possible,” says David Zambrana (DNP, ‘09), DNP, MBA, RN, Chief Operating



Tom Hartley, (DNP, '11), MSN, CENP, RN

and Nursing Officer, University of Miami Hospital (UMH). Zambrana received his Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in the first graduating DNP class of 2009. Today, he oversees clinical operations and nearly one thousand employees at UMH, South Florida’s first university-owned, multi-specialty, acute care hospital.

As DNPs, Zambrana and Hartley have the leadership ability that large healthcare boards are seeking, decades of clinical experience, the finance, management, and assessment skills required to triage and tackle problems, knowledge of how to translate evidence-based quality improvements into practical governance policies, and insight into the concerns of patients.

“I was a little reluctant at first when JoAnn Trybulski (Ph.D., ANP-BC, DPNAP, Associate Dean, DNP Programs) indicated I would be in class with clinicians, business professionals, and educators. However, putting all of us in the same class to discuss healthcare topics actually enhanced my understanding and perspective”, says Hartley. The DNP program’s



Dr. David Zambrana

partnerships with the University’s Schools of Business Administration and Education affords its students an interdisciplinary dialogue as a component of their education. “I have talked with Dean Nilda (Nena)

Peragallo and told her that I have encouraged all of my senior staff members who desire executive leadership roles to get their DNP,” says Zambrana.

Jacqueline Cereijo (DNP ‘09), DNP, MBA, RN, Director of Satellite Practice for the UM Sylvester Cancer Center in the Kendall area of Miami, represents yet another member of UM’s DNP graduates heading up a sizeable healthcare operation. This is a class of leaders for whom it appears the sky is the limit. Cereijo is responsible for spearheading business growth and patient care for the Kendall facility, where she oversees nearly 100 nurses and physicians in more than

30 adult and pediatric subspecialties. “I never thought as a nurse I would be in a leadership position like this, but the DNP has given me the total package to optimize patient care while working under a solid business model; the doctoral degree has helped create opportunities that I could never have dreamed of,” says Cereijo.

Zambrana, Hartley and Cereijo all stress that “higher education is the key to success.” In fact, Zambrana is already working on his next degree, a PhD. As he explains it, “During the DNP program, I was very interested in the research component. There is so much that needs to be investigated and the PhD is the next chapter of my career.”

Clearly, the University of Miami Doctor of Nursing Practice program represents an important advancement for the future of the nursing profession. Our DNP graduates are helping to lead the not-so-quiet revolution that is placing today’s nurse at the forefront of national healthcare leadership.

Nurse Practitioners: “A Critical Component for the Future of Nursing”

*Dr. Thomas Schlepko*

Under Healthcare reform, by 2014 an estimated 32-million additional Americans will be eligible for health insurance. However, due to a shortage of physicians, the healthcare system is stretched to the breaking point. The Institute of Medicine and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation “Future of Nursing” committee, has recommended the removal of scope-of-practice barriers allowing “advanced practice registered nurses to practice to the full extent of their education and training.” Such a move would allow Nurse Practitioners to help meet the growing demand for patient care.

“I couldn’t agree more with the IOM recommendations that nurse practitioners are qualified to work to their full scope-of-practice; we already provide the same level of care as physicians and we need to assume more leadership positions,” says Carmen Lazo, DNP, ARNP, MSN. “As a Nurse Practitioner I have the education and training to handle my patients, with the physician shortage why limit scope of practice for Nurse Practitioners.”

Lazo, is one of the country’s 141,000 highly educated Advanced Practice Nurses with the credentials, education and training outlined by the “Future of Nursing” committee to provide independent patient care. “I see dozens of patients daily at the UM Workers Compensation Walk-in Clinic. I carry a full caseload rotating between inpatient and outpatient service and work with a multidisciplinary team at UM that includes physicians, pharmacists and others. I see the full range of patients

from sprains to major medical issues that require referrals to advanced specialty units,” says Lazo.

“From my perspective, one of the differences between physicians and NP’s is the holistic approach and education NP’s provide for patients talking with them about their diets, stress, high blood pressure, and heart disease and diabetes,” says Lazo.

“The holistic caregiver approach is a major component of nursing and a major focus of Nurse Practitioners,” says Thomas Schlepko, DNP, FNP, RN University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies. Schlepko, is another highly educated Nurse Practitioner working on the front lines, providing primary care daily for hundreds of residents at the Miami Rescue Mission.

“The medical model tends to focus on diagnosis and treatment of the disease. The nursing model is more of a “caregiver” and incorporates the treatment of the entire human body in response to disease and emphasizes the prevention of disease. I ask my patients about such things as their diets, and their religious/spiritual beliefs. You can learn a lot about the patient and underlying medical conditions from exploring their social history instead of strictly relying on a medical history,” says Schlepko.

Schlepko serves as a primary care provider care for his patients at the Miami Rescue Mission, dealing with everything from influenza and drug addiction, to mental health disorder, and the heart conditions referred to specialists. Very few of his patients have any insurance and without his care the vast majority would go without any healthcare. “I feel such empathy for my patients and never forget what a privilege it is to serve them.” Schlepko and Lazo both say they never stop learning and stress the need for post-graduate clinical experience and additional education like the DNP. Nurse Practitioners are providing vital services across our country and most NP’s expect to be utilized more in primary care and given more autonomy. According to Lazo, “there are too many underserved patients in need of care across our country there is no time to debate over territorialism and limitations. We all have a job to do, and that is to provide outstanding patient care. I guarantee you that Nurse Practitioners will be on the front lines.”

*Dr. Carmen Lazo*

Canes Global Nursing Collaboration

Major health concerns such as cancer, high blood pressure, obesity, and diabetes are not only national health concerns but global concerns. It takes global collaboration and exchange of information to deal with global health problems. The School of Nursing and Health Studies already has global collaborative exchange agreements with Chile, Mexico, Spain and Haiti; the newest partner is Taiwan.

In 2008, Todd Ambrosia, PhD, DNSc, MSN, FNP-BC, FACC, Associate Dean for the Master's Program and Assistant Professor of Clinical, went to Taiwan to help develop the Nurse Practitioners Association of Taiwan. Ambrosia spent three-weeks teaching Alternative Medicine theories at the National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences. Ambrosia's initial meeting, with Shio-Luan Tsay, PhD, RN, Dean and Professor at National Taipei University about collaboration between the School and the UM School of Nursing and Health Studies, led to a second meeting in Miami.

In July of 2010, Dean Tsay, came to the University of Miami to finalize discussions on the global exchange program, and invited Dean Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, DrPH, RN, FAAN, to the National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences. In May of 2011, Dean Peragallo, Dr. Johis Ortega, PhD, MSN, and former UM Trustee Maria Shoajee, went to Taiwan. Two months later, on July 5, 2011, the first three students from Taiwan's Midwifery Program, Er-Mei Chin, Yu-Ching Lin and Chia-Hui Tsa arrived at the SONHS. In August of 2011, the new Dean of the National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences, Su-Chen Kuo, and the new Vice Director of Nursing, Ting-Ting Lee also came to the SONHS.

"This is an exciting day and a major development in our efforts to expand the school's commitment to international collaboration," said Dean Peragallo. "We are living in a global community with serious global health issues; we can learn so much working together and sharing our clinical research and technology to improve patient care around the globe."

"We are very happy to be in the United States and at the School of Nursing and Health Studies to learn about Midwifery and the differences between our two programs," said Er-Mei Chin, Nurse Midwifery Student, National Taipei University of Nursing and Health



Lecturer Jeanne Gottlieb with students from National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences at the SONHS



*Er-Mei Chin, nurse midwifery student,
National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences, Taiwan*

Sciences in Taiwan. "In the United States your Midwives provide much more "patient care" than we can back in Taiwan. In Taiwan all we can do is the birth process, here Midwives focus on total female health." The students spent three weeks observing clinical experiences across Dade and Broward counties, several days with guest lecturers and received hands-on learning in our Simulation lab.



*Dr. Shio-Luan Tsay, Dr. Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, Maria L. Shoajee, AB '85
Dr. Su-Chen Kuo and Dr. Johis Ortega at the National Taipei University of
Nursing and Health Sciences in Taiwan*

"It's so exciting to experience the exchange in culture," says Jeanne Gottlieb, MSN, CNM Nurse Midwifery Program Director at the School of Nursing and Health Studies. "They wanted me to show their Dean how our Midwives worked side by side in a collaborative setting with physicians to provide patient care. All three students said they would like to expand their scope of practice to have more direct patient care like what they observed in the United States."

This Summer Ambrosia plans to take a group of our Master's students to Taiwan where he will teach an Alternative Medicine elective for the SONHS and students from Taiwan. "The School would like our Master's Students to be able to study Acupuncture and other alternative forms of medicine at National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Sciences," says Ambrosia.

"We can learn so much working with each other about the advantages of acupuncture, Alternative Medicine and other therapies that will improve patient care and provide more of an international approach to total patient care. This is a tremendous advantage for both our programs," says Gottlieb.

Canes on the Move

"The experience of a lifetime"

What an incredible opportunity, we saw everything. Intensive Care, Emergency Room, NICU and OBGYN. We were able to start IVs, draw blood, and shadow our nurses on their home health visits," says Natalie Kaknes, BSN Student. "It was very interesting to see how healthcare systems in another country compare to the U.S."

Eight Nursing and two Health Studies students from the School of Nursing and Health Studies are calling it the trip of a lifetime. The students in May began their four thousand mile journey from Coral Gables for a three-week exchange program at Universidad De Alicante in Alicante, Spain. This trip offered students an opportunity to get a look into the future at what their professional careers will focus on.

"This trip gave me the opportunity to attain experiences that would be nearly impossible to attain as a Health Science student," says Jessica Lopez, BSHS student. "I witnessed breathtaking surgical procedures and learned the disadvantages and advantages of a Universal Healthcare System."

The exchange program to Spain along with other exchange programs with Mexico, Chile and Haiti are strong reflections of the schools commitment to cultural diversity and global health disparities. The partnerships with academic institutions like the Universidad De Alicante in Alicante, Spain provide a wide variety of international healthcare learning opportunities.

"Miami is the gateway to Latin America; our healthcare professionals after graduation will be caring for patients and practicing in global communities. Exposure to international experiences is a vital component of the total education and learning experience we provide," says Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, DrPH, RN,

FAAN, Dean and Professor, School of Nursing and Health Studies.

"On this trip I got to see my first surgery and I can honestly say it was a life changing experience. After seeing the surgery, I realized this is the correct career path," says Amanda Corey, BSHS student. "I gained healthcare experience in a foreign country and learned a foreign language."

"For students like Corey who had never traveled to Europe, this was quite an experience. The first week was focused on an intense Spanish course, where students received in-depth training on not only the language but also Spanish culture and even technology. The

second week we worked in hospitals, and the last week we worked in Community Clinics," says Johis Ortega, PhD, MSN, and Director of Undergraduate Clinical Placement/International Programs. "The students were able to learn about the Spanish healthcare system and the different prevention programs the community."

According to Lopez, "I learned about the Spanish

healthcare, the people, the country's history, and culture. I learned to appreciate the technological advancements and the quality of healthcare in the United States. I also love the computer-based organizational system Spain uses to make healthcare run effectively. Spain has developed techniques to reduce traffic in hospitals and they encourage people to visit their primary doctor regularly. Their system emphasizes preventive care in all aspects and all ages, which is great."

Ortega says he heard similar comments from many of the students who say this trip convinced them they are in the right field of study. "This trip reassured my decision and my desire to have a career in the healthcare field," says Lopez.



Dr. Johis Ortega with School of Nursing and Health Studies students in Alicante, Spain

“Young Canes” SONHS Summer Scholars Program

While Andrew Masciarella's high school classmates back in Lighthouse Point, Florida were spending their Summer at the beach or sleeping in, Masciarella was digging into the books in Joanna Sikkema's Summer Scholars Program. The tenth grader is one of the “Young Canes” who signed up for the SONHS three-week Summer Scholars Program. Masciarella spent his Summer learning about everything from HIV/AIDS, and other infectious diseases, to patient simulation, patients with spinal cord injuries, the opportunities in nursing research, and the importance of nutrition and a well-balanced diet.

“I came into to this program to experience college life, but I learned much more! I knew I wanted to do something in nursing but this program has shown me the global opportunities in nursing research...the SONHS looks like an excellent choice,” said Andrew Masciarella, Lighthouse Point, FL.

The School of Nursing and Health Studies Summer Scholars Program began five years ago to give high school students a taste of college life. The morning sessions are spent learning about patient care, patient simulation and nursing research at the SONHS. The afternoon classes are held at University of Miami Hospital and the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis.



“The focus is on interactive learning activities including an introduction to the simulation lab, label reading and menu planning to prevent childhood obesity, and a campus scavenger hunt where the high school students learn what it's like to provide care for patients with a disability, how to live with a disability and to even evaluate buildings on campus to make sure they are handicapped accessible,” says Joanna Sikkema, MSN, ARNP, FAHA SONHS Lecturer. “Over a three week period, students get a better idea of what it is like to be a student at the School. We even hold healthcare debates on controversial topics (privacy, genetic research, Euthanasia).”

The Summer Scholars Program has grown from a small local and national program to an international program. This summer session alone, 25 students took part with several students from as far away as Italy, Ecuador and France. “The program was enlightening and very thought provoking. I will be a junior in High School and this program opened my eyes to nursing research, and how the world we live in is full of diseases and unanswered questions that can only be resolved through research. I recommend this program to anyone considering a career in nursing.” Angelique Arazi, Paris, France.

“What a great program for High School students to learn about Nursing Research, and caring for patients ...I can't believe the material we covered; this course has convinced me I want to explore nursing as a career,” Dominique Ayala, Ecuador.

“At “The Miami Project” I learned about caring for patients with paralysis, my class was able to meet patients and talk with nurses and research teams helping patients with spinal cord injuries.” Sabrina Zohoury, Rochester Hills, MI

All the students live on campus for the 3 weeks, and explore the career opportunities in nursing and health studies. “I have a much better idea of what nurses do and the difference they can make. I learned what it takes to be a student at the SONHS and will never forget Joanna Sikkema and the other faculty I spent time with. I am totally committed to coming back in a few years as a new nursing student...What an incredible experience,” Breshell York, Houston, Texas.

The School of Nursing and Health Studies Summer Scholars program began five years ago to give high school students a taste of college.



SONHS Preceptors: "It's not a job, it's a real world adventure"

There is nothing more rewarding than investing in our future nurses," says Jackie Master, Clinical Manager at Miami Hope Homeless Shelter.

They are the volunteers and healthcare coaches or mentors in area clinics and hospitals who provide the "real world" experience that is critical for nursing students to be ready for patient care. "It's not a job, this

The goal of the Preceptor program is to expose nursing students to as wide of a variety of patients and cultural diversity as possible.

is a real life adventure working as a preceptor at Miami Hope and I love every minute" says Master. Over the past 16-years, Master has served as a preceptor for over 140 SONHS Family Nurse Practitioners at Miami Hope. The shelter provides total care for 466 men,

says Marcia Dodo, FNP-BC, Clinic Manager, Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation School Health Initiative Clinic, North Miami Beach Senior High School. 'The vast number of our patients are elementary and high school students ranging in age between 5 and 18 and 90% come from an underserved area and have no insurance, so the healthcare provided by nursing students from the School of Nursing and Health Studies is critical.'

Dodo has been a preceptor for over seven years and loves working with the SONHS students. For Dodo the greatest reward is watching the new students come in and gradually over the course of a semester develop their self-confidence and enhance their clinical skills. "We see around 30-students a day and with that volume and variety of patients the nursing students are growing by the day. I have the nursing students shadow me on all patient visits and we discuss the plan of care covering everything from nutrition and sickness



Jackie Master, MSN, ARNP, FNP-BC
ARNP/Clinic Manager-Miami Hope Center



Erica Olivera, RN, FNP student and
Marcia Dodo meet with patient



Marcia Dodo, FNP-BC, MSN,
North Miami Beach Senior High School

women and children. "We do it all from dealing with sick patients and EKG's to blood work and total body physicals from head to toe."

According to Master, "You can't learn it all from the books, the FNP's here are involved in providing the same type of daily care a patient would receive in a physician's office. The SONHS FNP program does an excellent job preparing these students; they are smart, well educated, clinically competent and very personable," says Master.

The goal of the Preceptor program is to expose nursing students to as wide of a variety of patients and cultural diversity as possible. "We see it all, the clinical experience your students receive here is incredible,

to even mental health referrals. The students from the SONHS do an excellent job."

When it comes to cultural diversity and variety of patients and symptoms, the Jefferson Reaves Ambulatory Clinic at Jackson Health System offers students the experiences of a fast-paced high-volume inner city clinic. The Clinic serves for well over 200-patients a day, less than 40% of the patients speak English and 90% of the patients have no health insurance. "Jefferson Reaves is an outstanding clinical learning experience for students because they learn quickly of the need to develop their critical thinking skills," says Melissa Edwards, DNP, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing at the School of Nursing and Health

Studies. "Due to the complexity of patients and limited resources our students learn they can't order every test in the book, they need to use critical thinking to identify multiple problems and issues with their patients."

Edwards is part of the United Health Foundation team at Jefferson Reaves. Her team alone sees over 1000 patients annually. Edwards every semester serves as a preceptor for two or three Nurse Practitioners and the students follow her on rounds and actually see a variety of patients from high risk diabetics and patients with hypertension to standard Family Practice patients.

"I don't think a lot of our students have been exposed to this level of poverty, it forces students to have a much better perspective and understanding of the variety of patients they will care for. Many of these patients can't afford any

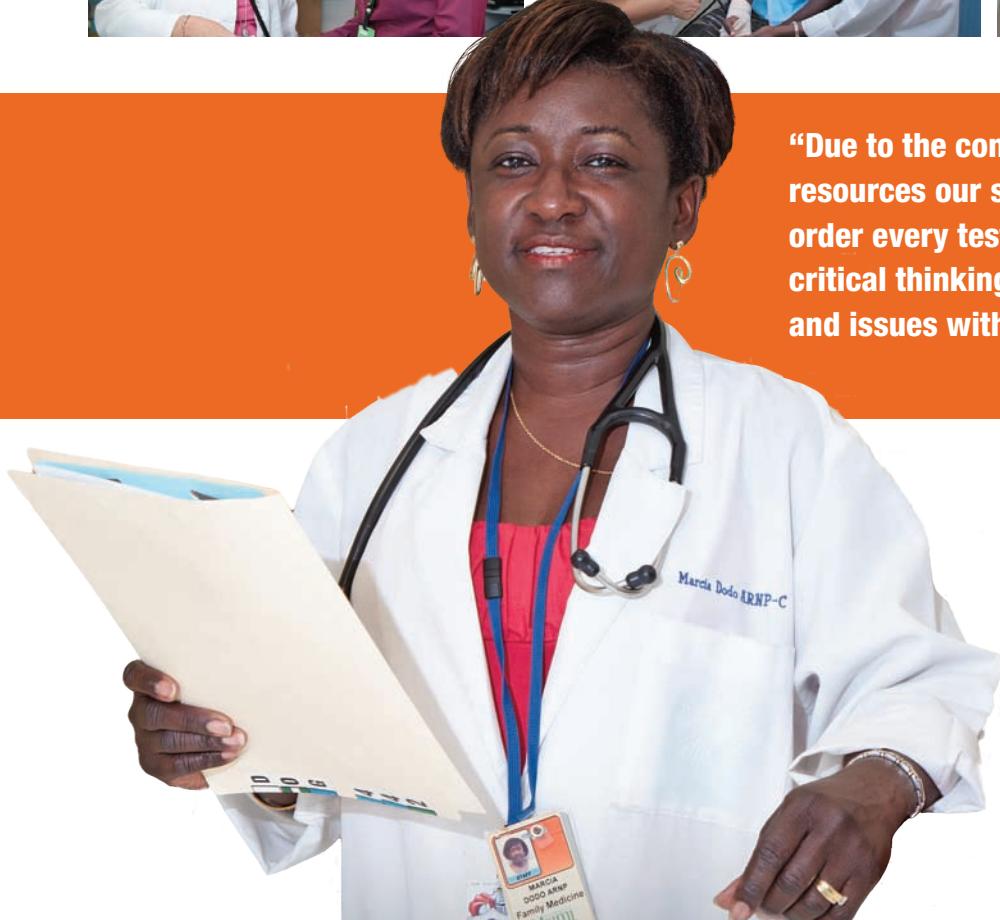
medicine and haven't been to a doctor in years. I am confident saying these Nurse Practitioner students based on their education and training will provide outstanding patient care."



Dr. Melissa Edwards



"Due to the complexity of patients and limited resources our students learn they can't order every test in the book, they need to use critical thinking to identify multiple problems and issues with their patients."



Marcia Dodo, FNP-BC, MSN

The Past, Present and Future



Nursing classrooms, circa 1948



Nursing Classroom, circa 1958



First patient mannequin, circa 1968

The CCNE's full accreditation is a strong validation of the important and innovative work taking place under Dean Peragallo's leadership. The future of nursing requires bold thinking and active engagement in health management, and the University of Miami's School of Nursing and Health Studies is leading the way," says University of Miami President Donna Shalala.

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education's "maximum accreditation" is a testament to the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies rich heritage and pursuit of academic excellence. For over sixty-three years the SONHS has set the standard of excellence in healthcare education, blending clinical practice and theoretical principals, with cutting edge technology to create an outstanding educational experience for our students. Our graduates and alumni are clinical leaders and nurse scientists improving the standard of patient care across the country.

At the School of Nursing and Health Studies, clinical experience is vital to the educational process. We have established a network of over 140 clinical mentors and preceptors who play an integral role educating the next generation of nurse practitioners and leaders. That commitment to academic excellence and collaborative clinical research has served as a catalyst to substantial growth in undergraduate and graduate programs, enrollment and test scores. Enrollment has tripled from 233-students in 1998 to 766 students in 2011. The Florida Department of Health reports our NCLEX test scores have increased from a cumulative score of 91.03 in 2008 to 95.42 in 2011. The Certification Rates for Graduate Programs including Nurse Anesthesia and Acute Care are at 100% (2010).

As an integral academic partner situated in the health sciences sector with the University of Miami Hospital and Jackson Health Systems, the School of Nursing and Health Studies collaborates with scientists and renowned researchers across the world. The

School's research is translational in nature and grounded in practical application. The research we are doing today will have a profound impact on our communities, hospitals, clinics and the patients we serve. As we move forward, it's important to look back and reflect on our 63-year journey to nursing excellence.

THE PAST

The School opened the doors in 1948 with a handful of nursing students, including Sima Gebel, BSN '53, CNP '76, who was one of the first students admitted to the College of Arts and Sciences for Bachelor of Sciences degrees. "I was so proud to start my nursing career at the UM. I will never forget that old building." It's been 63-years since Gebel and those first nursing pioneers gathered in the old run-down 1948 ROTC barrack left behind by the Army after World War II.

Gebel says "the building never was impressive outside but the work accomplished inside certainly was impressive, and a vision of the greatness to follow." Gebel 60-years later, is still giving back, including the school in her estate plans in the form of a gift to support the Doctoral Nursing Scholarship.

One-year before Gebel graduated in the School's first class, in 1952, nursing became a department in the College of Arts and Sciences. In 1968, nursing gained its independence—becoming the "School of Nursing." Even in the early days the school was setting milestones: in 1976, nursing established the state's first Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program, in 1978, the School started one of the state's first midwifery programs and in 1985, nursing unveiled one of the state's first PhD Nursing programs.

A Period of Rapid Growth

The turn of the century marked the beginning of one of the largest periods of growth in the School's history and the arrival of

1948

RN's admitted to college of Arts & Science for Bachelor of Science

1952

Department of Nursing in College of Arts & Sciences created

1968

School of Nursing created and accredited by National League

1972

First Family Nurse Practitioner

1976

School of Nursing creates state's first MSN-Program

63 Years OF NURSING EXCELLENCE



SONHS in 2011



Nurses in Classroom, 2011



Patient simulation, 2011

Dean Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, DrPh, RN, FAAN. Peragallo began working immediately to improve the quality of education, academic credentials of the faculty and growing the program. In 2004, the School expanded degree offerings, with the addition of a B.S. in Health Science and changed its name to the School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Groundbreaking

The next focus was generating funding to create a permanent new home for nursing. Groundbreaking for the \$19.4 million dollar, 53,000 square foot, state-of-the art, M. Christine Schwartz Center for Nursing and Health Studies began in 2004 (see our story on page 18).

Expanding Masters Program

In 2005, the School began growing the Master's Program beginning with Nurse Anesthesia and Acute Care programs. These programs were part of the strategic plan to build a program centered around educating advanced practice nurses as "clinical nurse leaders." The programs utilize simulated learning, high tech mannequins and smart classrooms to provide one of the most advanced educational simulation programs in the country.

Community Involvement

The growth wasn't just on campus, in 2004, students took part in health fairs for community residents. "The health fairs allowed students to provide hands-on, experience for community residents, says Rosemary Hall, PhD, RN. Other students worked with immigrant families in southern Miami-Dade County. "Our students learned that nursing goes far beyond the walls of a hospital," says Elaine Kauschinger, ARNP. "Florence Nightingale believed that

nurses should provide care to patients in their community, their homes and bedside, by putting that into practice, we can truly make a difference."

Global Expansion

In 2007, Dean Peragallo moved beyond Community Involvement and a new building to constructing new international collaborative partnerships on healthcare and health disparities. One of the first steps, in 2007, was the establishment of the Center of Excellence for Health Disparities Research (El Centro). The program, funded through a five-year grant from the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, was dedicated to the creation and dissemination of scientific knowledge to improve the health of minority groups in the areas of HIV/AIDS, infectious diseases, substance abuse, family and intimate partner violence and co-occurring mental health disorders.

WHO Collaborating Centre

In 2008, the School of Nursing and Health Studies was designated a Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization Collaborating Centre, then one of 8 in the U.S. and 38 worldwide. This elite designation established the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Human Resources Development and Patient Safety. The activities of the Centre are designed to develop and support institutional capacity in Iberoamerican countries through collaborations focused on patient safety and nursing workforce development. In keeping with this mission, the Centre hosted the VIII Meeting of the Nursing and Patient Safety Experts' Network in Miami in 2011. The purpose was for experts in patient safety from the PAHO region to share knowledge and agree on collaborative projects. One outcome was that our Centre assumed a leadership role in the creation and launching of the Nursing and Patient Safety

1985

School creates second PhD program in FL

2004

Groundbreaking for M. Christine Schwartz Center for Nursing and Health Studies

2004

School adds B.S. in Health Studies and changes name to SONHS

2005

School adds Nurse Anesthesia and Acute Care Programs

2006

M. Christine Schwartz Center for Nursing and Health Studies opens

Cover Story

63 Years of Nursing Excellence



Dean Peragallo with students from SONHS



Nurses working with neonatal simulator



Erica Olivera, RN, FNP student working with a patient

free online course (see story on page 26). An initiative encompassing patient safety and workforce development is the "Strategies for Clinical Nursing Education Using Simulation," course designed and taught by our faculty. The course aims to help nursing schools in Latin America incorporate simulation techniques into their patient safety instructional toolkits. As part of our bi-directional exchange program, our faculty periodically travel to present this course to Latin American nursing professionals at their institutions; conversely, the course is offered to groups of visiting healthcare faculty and clinicians from Latin America here at the School. As regards human resource development, preliminary work has been completed for a publication on nursing migration to the U.S. from within the PAHO region. Our WHO Centre's initiatives promote dialogue and the mutual exchange of nursing knowledge with our neighbors in the PAHO

region and throughout the world.

Doctor of Nursing Practice

As our international program expanded, so did the focus on advanced practice nursing and creating the next generation of nurse leaders. In 2009, the School moved forward with a Doctorate in Nursing Practice (DNP). The program is designed to prepare expert nurse practitioners to design, administer and evaluate practice interventions and healthcare systems with a focus on reducing healthcare disparities. Our first class of 22 DNP graduates was awarded their degrees in December of 2009.

"The DNP Program provided me with all the tools to succeed, as nurses we need to study what we do to ensure we're developing our science, sharing the information, and measuring our outcomes and



2008

SONHS starts Accelerated BSN Program Excellence

2009

SONHS starts Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

2010

School expands Global Studies program to Spain

2010

SOHNS plays key role on Future of Nursing Committee

2010

School starts MSN in Nurse Education & Certificate in Nurse Education programs



Simulation Lab



CRNA Lab



Clinical Preceptors

improving patient care. This program accomplished all of the above," says Lori Lupe, DNP, 09, MSN, BSN, CCRN.

THE PRESENT

Today, the School has moved forward implementing most of the "Future of Nursing Committee" strategic recommendations, including the establishment of the State's first "Nurse Residency Program" with the University of Miami Hospital and Jackson Health Systems (story on page 4).

In May 2011, the culmination of years of hard work, dedication and persistence in achieving academic excellence occurred with CCNE accreditation the "gold standard" of excellence for nursing programs. "It is with a great deal of pride and satisfaction that I announce we have received notification from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) confirming we have been granted the maximum accreditation of 10 years for our Baccalaureate and Master's programs through June 30, 2021 and also the maximum new program accreditation term of 5 years for our DNP program through June 30, 2016," says Dean Peragallo.

THE FUTURE

With the CCNE "maximum accreditation" the School is now planning the next chapters of growth. The focus will continue to enhance academic excellence by adding additional majors, exploring hybrid educational models, multidisciplinary research, and expanding collaborative global and local partnerships.

A Nursing School Without Walls

The SONHS is already in discussions with the Peñalver Clinic to provide free healthcare two nights a week for residents in Little Havana who have no health insurance. The free clinic will provide a valuable service for the community and at the same time provide an clinical learning experience for our students. An exact start date for the clinic is currently being discussed.

Bachelor of Science in Public Health

The School of Nursing and Health Studies has petitioned the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for approval to launch a new Bachelor of Science in Public Health. We expect to have approval for the new degree by January 1, 2012.

2012 Global Nursing Conference in Miami

On September 5-7, 2012, internationally renowned nurse scientists, scholars and other nursing professionals will gather in Miami for the XIII Pan American Nursing Research Colloquium, a biennial gathering of nurse leaders, researchers, and students from across the Americas, Europe, and around the world. The theme of the 2012 Colloquium is "Global Nursing Research Challenges for the Millennium." (see our story on page 26).

Expansion of Global Studies Program

New international collaborative agreements have already been approved with Schools of Nursing in Chile, Mexico, Spain and the National Taipei University of Nursing and Health Studies in Taiwan, (See our story on page 7). Current discussions with additional schools are now underway to develop similar exchange agreements in Australia and Brazil.

In the period from 2006-2011, our bi-directional international exchange program has involved the hosting of 275 SONHS/ International students and 55-faculty members from International Universities in Chile, Spain, Mexico and Taiwan. Plans are underway to establish a formal exchange program in 2012 with Australian Catholic University. The objectives of this exchange program include providing nursing students with the opportunity to observe the practice of medicine and to gain knowledge regarding the healthcare system of a country other than their own. We are all dealing with similar types of health-related issues and by exchanging information and technology we are working together to improve global healthcare for all.

2010

School starts Minor in Public Health

2011

CCNE Grants SONHS Maximum 10-years Accreditation

2011

SONHS petitions SACS to start new B.S. in Public Health

2011

School expands Global Studies program to include Taiwan, Republic of China

2012

SONHS plans International Nursing Conference in Miami

Research Snapshot

At the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies, doctoral preparation is the nucleus of a life of inquiry. The PhD program prepares nurse scholars to conduct scientific research to expand the foundation of healthcare delivery. Our PhD graduates make lifelong contributions to nursing theory, practice, policy, leadership and education. They are the scientists of tomorrow conducting critical research to expand the development of the nursing discipline.



Dr. Shirley Curtis

The PhD program has a rich heritage dating back more than 63 years as one of the first nursing programs in Florida. The School of Nursing and Health Studies provides an outstanding educational learning environment to develop the skills and depth of experience to cultivate research expertise. Students and faculty are involved in international research and collaboration in a wide array of areas including health disparities, patient safety, HIV/AIDS, family and maternal/neonatal health, intimate partner violence and substance abuse.

The school is committed to developing nurse scientists and leaders by providing high-quality instruction, clinical supervision, one-on-one mentorship and assisting students with tuition and stipend benefits. Through our curriculum, students are developing habits of scholarly thinking, nursing theory, practical skills, and socialization into the discipline of nursing by investigating the current and future needs of underrepresented populations around the globe.

"The School's focus on global research, has attracted students from many countries including the Bahamas," says Doris Ugarriza,

PhD, ARNP, BC. In 2008, Ugarriza met one of those international students, Shirley Curtis, a native of the Bahamas who was serving as a faculty member in the nursing program at the College of the Bahamas, in Nassau, on the island of New Providence. "Shirley was a teaching assistant and research assistant helping with my research projects. However, in the process she rapidly developed her own research skills and with mentoring began her own research project on adolescent pregnancies in the Bahamas," says Ugarriza. "Shirley completed her PhD in less than two-and a half years."

Curtis is back at the College of the Bahamas as one of a handful of PhD researchers working in that nation. Curtis came to the SONHS to become a "change agent" for the next generation of nurses she teaches at the College of the Bahamas. Her dissertation focus was on the rise in adolescent pregnancies among 18 and 19 year old females who represent 12% of all new pregnancies in the Bahamas.

"The findings indicated that overall health empowerment levels were negatively correlated with a history of depression but were also positively correlated with religiosity."

"I investigated the level of empowerment among 105 pregnant adolescents by testing the levels of autonomy, environmental mastery, personal growth, relationships with others and religiosity.

I wanted to see if a low level of empowerment (Low self-esteem, low self-confidence) played a role in the number of pregnant adolescents in the Bahamas," says Curtis.

Curtis examined demographic information including, their obstetric history. "The findings indicated that overall health empowerment levels were negatively correlated with a history of depression but were also positively correlated with religiosity," says Curtis. The data indicate that females with higher education and religious faith





Dr. Amber Vermeesch

have higher levels of health empowerment and make healthier choices. "I was surprised to see that empowerment levels were so high, these data will be useful for future pregnancy prevention projects in the Bahamas."

Like Curtis, Amber Vermeesch, PhD, MSN, FNP-C, RN, started her PhD program at the School in 2008. Vermeesch worked as a research assistant for SONHS faculty member Victoria Mitrani,

PhD. After working as a Family Nurse Practitioner in Nashville, Tennessee and seeing countless Latinas with obesity-related issues, Vermeesch focused her research on health disparities and how physical inactivity places Latinas at a greater risk than Caucasian women for diabetes mellitus and obesity. "Understanding the psychological factors influencing Hispanic women's participation in physical activity is vital if targeted interventions are to be created to increase physical activity and thus improving the health of Latinas," Says Vermeesch.

Vermeesch used both quantitative and qualitative methods in her dissertation. She examined predictors and barriers of exercise, motivation types, and self-determination and acculturation data from 169 Latina women. She utilized participatory photography, an exercise log and a pedometer to examine exercise motivators and barriers. Findings showed the more acculturated the women were to American culture, the fewer steps on average per day were recorded. Yet the Americanized women were more likely than the less acculturated women to say that they participated in exercise.

"The findings of this study suggest the need for interventions that are family-centered and culturally-tailored based on education of what constitutes exercise. It all begins with Latinas understanding the critical importance of taking the first steps." Even before she received her PhD, Dr. Vermeesch received an offer to join the faculty at the University of Michigan. Curtis and Vermeesch are two examples of SONHS PhD-educated nurse scientists who are conducting evidence-based research that builds nursing science theory, enhances the efficacy of nursing practice and improves the quality of global healthcare.

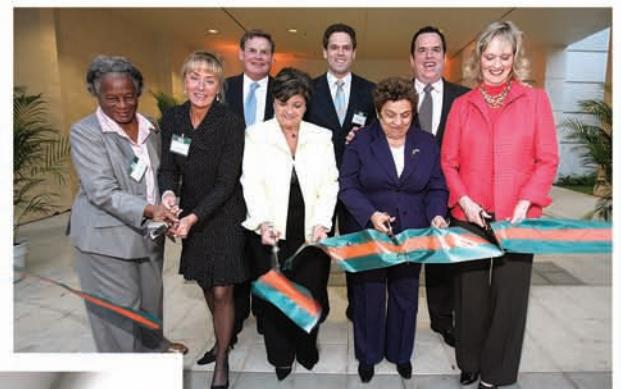


"The findings of this study suggest the need for interventions that are family-centered and culturally-tailored based on education of what constitutes exercise. It all begins with Latinas understanding the critical importance of taking the first steps."

Then...



Now...



Educate a Nurse and you Educate a Caregiver for Life

It took more than bricks and mortar to build the new home for UM nurses. It took an entire team of dedicated professionals who exceeded all my expectations and dreams for the School of Nursing and Health Studies building," says M. Christine Schwartz, MS, MSN, RN.

The M. Christine Schwartz Center for Nursing and Health Studies stands as a true testament to the spirit of nurses who choose to meet today's health challenges. The four-story, 53,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility is quite an amazing contrast to the first collegiate nursing program in South Florida which was housed in an old World War II ROTC barracks.

The Schwartz donation, together with over 750 other caring donors, made it possible to build a permanent home for the UM School of Nursing and Health Studies. While this building is impressive from the outside, what's more amazing is the work being accomplished inside.

"Upon visiting the campus in the late '90s, I was concerned that the building was inadequate to serve the future needs of nursing education. As a strong advocate for nursing, which goes back to my teenage years as a candy striper volunteering at local hospitals, the creation of a permanent home for the School became my crusade. When Donna Shalala became the new University President, she promised me her top priority would be a new home for the School. She accomplished this by hiring a world-class Dean, Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, DrPH, RN, FAAN, who focused on creating an excellent nursing program by working hand in hand with the School's faculty acquiring grants, increasing enrollment and expanding curriculum."

As a nurse and educator, Chris recognized the School of Nursing and Health Studies' great potential, and thanks to the Schwartz Family Foundation's generous support, her crusade culminated in this unique facility. Chris was involved in every facet of the design, from the lobby's 28-foot, two-story atrium with natural light, to the dramatic steel staircase and open floor-to-ceiling windows at the end of every hallway so all of Florida's natural beauty can be seen.

The building features leading-edge classrooms, seminar rooms, computer labs, conference areas, faculty offices, informal meeting areas, and the International Academy for Clinical Simulation and Research. This is one of the first facilities in the nation to utilize the vast potential of simulation technology to build students' clinical skills and improve patient safety. "Smart" technology throughout the building incorporates an array of communication, instructional, and web-based capabilities, allowing for interactivity among educational spaces on-site and around the globe. Simulation provides educational tools to enhance student's classroom and clinical learning experience.

"Christine Schwartz is an amazing friend of the School and a compassionate and caring role model for every healthcare



UM President Donna Shalala and M. Christine Schwartz with UM alumnus Christopher Himmel, Former Aide to Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez at groundbreaking

student who walks through our front door. The growth of this program would not have been possible without her philanthropic generosity and unwavering commitment to nursing excellence," says Dean Peragallo. The Dean's future goal for the School of Nursing is to build a "simulation hospital" to give students more extensive and advanced learning in a clinical environment to better prepare each student as a nurse leader.

Now that the building is completed, Christine Schwartz continues her involvement with the University of Miami through her appointment this year to the UM Board of Trustees, and at the School of Nursing as the Vice Chair of its Visiting Committee. Through philanthropic giving during their lifetime, the Schwartz family enjoys the benefit of making a difference while seeing the positive changes in others' lives. "We believe in giving back and encourage our children to get involved by supporting philanthropic projects." In addition to the Schwartz Family Foundation donation of \$5 million dollars to the School of Nursing and Health Studies, her husband and son made a gift of \$5 million dollars last year to the UM Athletic Department for a major expansion of the Theodore G. Schwartz & Todd G. Schwartz Center for Athletic Excellence.

Trustee Schwartz says the University holds a special place in her heart, but especially the School of Nursing and Health Studies. "Every time I walk in the building, I feel the energy and excitement of the students, faculty, alumni, staff and the Dean – everyone now has a place to call home. To meet the growing demand for nurses and health care givers, I am committed to helping the next generation. As we all know, it is important to provide superior nursing education and health studies so that we have prepared professional caregivers contributing to the betterment of humankind."

“The Front Lines of Disease Prevention”

SONHS New Minor in Public Health



Dr. Diego Deleon with BSHS students in Spain

As the next strain of public health outbreaks similar to “Avian Influenza” and “SARS” develop along with chronic diseases such as obesity and cancer, it will be essential that training of public health professionals keep pace with the spread of the disease. In contrast to clinical medicine which focuses attention on individual patients, public health focuses on the health of entire populations. To keep pace, and to sample interest in Public Health, in the fall of 2010, the School of Nursing and Health Studies unveiled a new Minor in Public Health, and after the first year of classes, the response to the program has far exceeded all expectations.

“We expected to see interest in the program but what we saw was amazing, all of the courses including Introduction to Epidemiology, Introduction to Public Health and Introduction to Health and the Environment, were immediately filled to capacity,” says Rosa Gonzalez-Guarda, PhD, MSN, MPH, RN at the School of Nursing and Health Studies. Students like Jessica Lopez, who was interested in becoming a physician, after looking at Public Health told Gonzalez-Guarda she is now taking a closer look at the program. “I wanted to be a physician but why study the health of one patient when instead you can have an impact on the health of an entire population,” says Jessica Lopez.

Public Health focuses on identifying and managing diverse threats to the health of human populations. The field recognizes the environmental and social context of health and disease and identifies specific measures to improve health through education, behavioral and systemic interventions, screening and the early treatment of contagious diseases. “This minor opened up a world of new possibilities for our students to get hands-on experience to explore issues affecting the public health in not only the United States but developing countries around the globe. The program explores human health and the biological, environmental, psychological and social factors that impact our health,” says Diego Deleon, MD, School of Nursing and Health Studies.

“We started this minor and opened it up to everyone on campus to expose students to the field and to evaluate if there is enough interest to move forward with a new Bachelor’s of Science in Public Health. The results more than validated the interest, and in June, the School petitioned the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) for authorization to launch a Bachelor of Science in Public Health after obtaining the approvals at UM,” says Gonzalez-Guarda.

The Bachelor’s of Science in Public Health degree aims to prepare students with the basic knowledge and skill sets that serve as the foundation for both entry-level positions and for advanced degree programs in the field.

The Bachelor’s of Science in Public Health degree aims to prepare students with the basic knowledge and skill sets that serve as the foundation for both entry-level positions and for advanced degree programs in the field. Up to this point, public health programs were only offered at the graduate level, and many of the students entering these programs didn’t really have a background in health. Local government and private health agencies have expressed the need for entry-level professionals in this field, and UMSNHS has answered that call as the first institution of higher education in the South Florida area to develop this program. A decision from SACS is pending.

Calling All School of Nursing and Health Studies Alumni!

Yes! I want to help support student scholarships at the School of Nursing and Health Studies.

We'd like to hear from you.

Keep track of your former classmates by reading the latest issue of Heartbeat. Share news of your accomplishments and activities by completing a class note online at www.miami.edu/sonhs, or maintain contact with former classmates and stay informed at:



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The Perfect Mentor

“Investment in the Future of Nursing”



Joan Abess, BSN 68, RN



“I wouldn’t be the nurse I am today if it wasn’t for Joan Abess. She encouraged me to get my master’s degree and taught all of us the art of patient care. She is the perfect mentor and a friend of all nurses,” says Lili Neale (MSN ‘77, BSN ‘75).

Three words describe Joan Abess and her amazing nursing career, caring for others. Abess has dedicated her life to caring for her husband, son, neighbors and thousands of patients and nurses who she treated as family.

Throughout my career I have been blessed with opportunities and friendships. This is my way of giving something back to humanity, because as a nurse you never stop caring and you never stop giving back to help others.”

However, if you ask for the highlight of her career, Abess will quickly answer “Guiding young people into nursing, it’s such a privilege and rewarding career to care for patients.”

In 1958, Joan Abess, (BSN ‘68, RN) at the peak of the Civil Rights Movement, decided to leave New Jersey and packed everything she owned in the trunk of her Morris Minor and headed south to Miami. “I had never been south of Washington, but I had heard wonderful things about Doctors Hospital in Coral Gables and decided I wanted to work there,” says Joan Abess.

Her first stop at Doctors marked the beginning of a career that took Abess in 1960 to South Miami Hospital as the Assistant Director of Nursing. In 1977, she joined Jackson Health Systems as Director of Quality Assurance and then Chairman of Nursing Practice (CNO). In 1985, Abess moved back to Doctors Hospital as Chief Nursing Officer until she retired in 1996. Those who know her best say Joan Abess, to this day, has never stopped caring about others.

“Caring is the fabric of Joan’s life and caring not just for the patients but for the caregivers...she was an incredible role model who took the time to offer advice and was always so proud to be a UM Alumni,” says Jane Mass, Former Chief Nursing Officer at Jackson Health Systems.

“I had a wonderful career and when I look back, it’s clear to see how everything started to move in the right direction after I decided to go back to UM to get my Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing (BSN). I wish I had gotten my Master’s. From that point, I stressed the importance of higher education, organized in-service training for CPR classes, trained nurses to work with transplant patients and established a tuition reimbursement program to encourage RN’s to pursue their BSN and Master’s Degree.”

Abess, not only served as a mentor but also helped financially with gifts to her Alma Mata creating scholarships allowing nurses to pursue their dreams. “I believe it’s so important to give back to help others. I knew that advanced education like a master’s or doctoral degree would open the doors of opportunity for nurses, and I tried to encourage new nurses and seasoned nurses to get into UM’s RN-to-BSN program,” says Abess.

Today, fifteen years later, Abess is thrilled to see advanced practice nurses in leadership positions like the Doctors of Nursing Practice and according to Abess, “I never thought I would see nurses on the same plane as physicians.” Abess says the SONHS has experienced incredible growth and credits the progress to Dean Peragallo. “I have high regard for the Dean, she and President Shalala put that program on the national map; they have done an incredible job getting the new building and the amazing simulation labs.”

Even at the age of 79, Joan Abess is still dedicating her time to caring for others. She has started a bereavement program called “Death and Dying,” to help hospice patients and their families deal with death. According to Abess, “Grief is the final phase in patient care and once a month I send families journals to help deal with the loss of a loved one and to offer hope. I think the journals make a difference. Throughout my career I have been blessed with opportunities and friendships. This is my way of giving something back to humanity, because as a nurse you never stop caring and you never stop giving back to help others.”

Thanks

in large part to our friends and alumni of the School of Nursing and Health Studies, our School continues to make considerable advancements in the 2010-2011 academic year. Our donor's steadfast generosity helped the School continue on its path toward excellence. Their investment in, and support of, the School's mission has enabled us to support student scholarships, recruit outstanding faculty, embark on ambitious research initiatives, strengthen academic programs, enhance the student experience and made a significant impact in our communities across the nation. We gratefully recognize those individuals, corporations, and foundations whose generosity has helped sustain the school with their gifts, which were received between June 1, 2010 and May 31, 2011.

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Hugoton Foundation

Grand Founder**\$100,000-\$249,999**

R. Kirk Landon

Founder**\$50,000-\$99,999**Florman Family Foundation, Inc.
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2011-2012 Visiting Committee

Enjoy the benefits of your Alumni Association. You're already a Member!

Did you know that you're already a member of the UM Alumni Association? Our proud and dedicated UM School of Nursing & Health Studies Alumni are all across the USA and the world! We want you to take advantage of the benefits of being a member of this exceptional group of healthcare professionals.

As graduates of the School of Nursing and Health Studies, you are our most important asset and our greatest strength. We encourage you to stay connected with other alumni, current and former faculty, and current students. Increase your involvement in our community by participating in your class reunion, organizing an alumni event in your city, and by giving financially to support student scholarships and other programs that promote the ongoing efforts of the UM School of Nursing & Health Studies.

We will help you to create a network of social and professional connections, share milestones in your life, mentor new alumni, but most importantly stay connected with friends and your UM family and make a difference!

Our goal is to provide our Alumni Association members with ongoing support and leadership opportunities. Through our website, publications, special events, and educational programs, you can learn about what's happening at your school and participate in the growth and development of your Alumni Association.

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Miami Mix & Mingle
Happy Hour & Toy Drive
December 2, 2011
Segafredo, 1421 South Miami Ave, Miami, FL 33131

Broward Happy Hour Mix & Mingle
February 2011

ACLS-BLS-PALS Certification/Fundraiser
April 2012

• Get Involved • Stay Connected

2011-2012 Visiting Committee Helps Advance the School's Mission

The Visiting Committee at the School of Nursing and Health Studies comprises members of the University of Miami Board of Trustees, community leaders, and healthcare professionals who are committed to assisting the school in advancing its mission of pursuing healthcare excellence.

Serving the School in an external advisory capacity, the Visiting Committee encourages and promotes the work of the School, its faculty, students, and alumni.

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Canes Around The Globe

XIII Pan American Nursing Research Colloquium

Internationally renowned nurse scientists, scholars and other nursing professionals will gather in Miami next year for the XIII Pan American Nursing Research Colloquium, a biennial gathering of nurse leaders, researchers, and students from across the Americas, Europe, and around the world. The theme of the 2012 Colloquium is "global nursing research challenges for the millennium". Past colloquia have attracted well over 800 participants.

"The University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies is honored to present this prestigious global colloquium organized for the first time in the United States, a particularly appropriate venue, given Miami's reputation as an international gateway for the Americas, linking Latin America and Europe" say Nilda (Nena) Peragallo, DrPH, RN, FAAN.

From September 5-7, 2012, at the Loews Miami Beach Hotel, this elite event will bring together some of the brightest minds in the world to tackle pressing nursing research challenges of the 21st century and to strengthen evidence-based nursing practice around the globe, as well as to disseminate emerging advances in research related to clinical practice, health systems, health services, and educational strategies. The Colloquium aims to advance collective knowledge that supports research initiatives related to the Millennium Development Goals.

The Colloquium will include daily keynotes by distinguished leaders in the field of global health and health policy, beginning with the opening address by University of Miami President Donna Shalala. Internationally recognized nursing experts will share their professional findings and insights during three panel discussions centered on "Nursing Research in the Americas," "Nursing Research Funding Opportunities," and the "Bev McElmurry Legacy Panel", which seeks to honor the contributions and influence of the late Dr. Beverly McElmurry to global health nursing and midwifery science.

The Colloquium will also feature scientific breakout and poster sessions as well a showcase of international health and health-education-related exhibits displaying the products and work of the

numerous institutions of nursing education and healthcare represented at the event. All conference participants will be invited to a welcoming and closing reception, as well as to a dinner dance in honor of Maricel Manfredi, in celebration of the considerable professional achievements of this nurse scientist in her field. As part of the festivities, the Maricel Manfredi Prize will be awarded during the conference to the author of the research paper that best exemplifies innovative, rigorous and relevant nursing scholarship.

For additional details and/or to register for the Colloquium please visit the conference website at www.umpanamconference2012.com.



Patient Safety On-Line Training Course

Would you like to provide better care for your patients, learn more about patient safety and increase your skill set for free?

The School of Nursing and Health Studies' World Health Organization Collaborating Centre has just launched an online course designed to help practicing nurses and nursing students maintain and learn new skills related to the provisions of safe patient care. While there are many patient safety resources online, this course, currently available in English and Spanish with plans for a Portuguese translation underway, was created by nurses with your learning needs in mind.

This free on-line course, designed for you to work at your own

pace, features 11 content models, case studies, diagrams, supplemental material and a resource guide.

For more information, go to www.miami.edu/patientsafety (English version) or www.miami.edu/seguridadelpaciente (Spanish version). Here are some of the topics covered in the course:

- Hand Hygiene
- Patient Identification
- Handover Communication
- Medication Safety
- Medication Reconciliation
- Fall Prevention
- Pressure Ulcer Prevention
- Psychological Well-being
- Safe Surgeries
- Patient Rights



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Nicole Gastineau Campos, PhD, MS, AB

Instructor & Research Assistant Professor



Dr. Campos received her Baccalaureate's degree in Psychology and Biology at Harvard College (2001); she then continued with a master's degree in Health Policy and Management at the Harvard School of Public Health (2005), in addition to completing her PhD in Health Policy at Harvard University (2011). At SONHS, she will be focusing on Epidemiology and Health Promotion.

Melissa M. Edwards, DNP, ARNP, BC-FNP

Assistant Professor of Clinical



Dr. Edwards received her BSN (2002), FNP (2007) and DNP (2008) degrees at the University of Washington. Edwards currently works as an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner at the Department of Family Medicine, the United Health Foundation, the University of Miami-Miller School of Medicine, and Jefferson Reaves Senior Health Center in Miami, Florida. Throughout a wide scope of activities, from her teaching human development at the University of Washington in 2007, to being part of a relief team in Haiti in 2010, to her involvement with the Jay Weiss Center for Social Medicine and Health Equity to provide community screenings for diabetes in 2009—Edwards has had extensive community, academic and global involvement. Currently her duties are split between nursing and teaching Population Based Health and International Health for the Doctoral Program, and being an instructor for the FNP Master's Program and Family Medicine.

Cynthia Foronda, PhD, RN

Assistant Professor of Clinical



Dr. Foronda has a BSN from Virginia Commonwealth University (1997), an MSN from Cardinal Stritch University (2003) and received her PhD from Marquette University (2010). Having special interest in Nurse Education and Autism, she has been active in many community organizations in Wisconsin with extensive experience—including pediatric nursing, neurology, cardiac, pulmonary, hematology/oncology, orthopedics to assisting with the administration of adult chemotherapy. She will be the lead faculty for MSN in the Education Program.

Edward R. Garcia, MSN, ARNP

Lecturer



Mr. Garcia received his BSN (1992) and FNP (1994) at the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies. Prior to joining SONHS, he was an instructor at the Miami-Dade College School of Nursing, an ARNP at the University of Miami Department of Pediatrics Child Protection Team and a National Nurse Practitioner at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Garcia has implemented novel formats for digitalizing injuries and has been active in mentoring students. He will be teaching in the Undergraduate and MSN programs.

Lori A. Lupe, DNP, MSN, BSN

Assistant Professor of Clinical



Dr. Lupe received her DNP from the University of Miami (2009), in addition to an MSN in Nursing from the Medical College of Ohio (1993) and a Bachelor's in Nursing from the University of Toledo (1978). While at the University of Toledo, Lupe was instrumental in developing the EKG Certificate Program & Curriculum, the curriculum for the Associates of Science Degree in Cardiovascular Technology and Wellness courses in stress management, smoking cessation and healthy exercise for corporate marketing. She will be teaching medical/surgical courses in the undergraduate program and working with UMH on some quality initiatives.

Emma McKim Mitchell, PhD, MSN, RN

Assistant Professor



Dr. Mitchell recently received her PhD in Nursing at the University of Virginia (2011). Her research focus has been in sustainability practices in nursing and nursing interventions abroad. Mitchell has experience in research areas such as Global Health, Women's Health and Health Disparities, particularly in South America. She is a member of national and inter-cultural nursing associations, has participated in many presentations, and has been an advocate for students at the University of Virginia. She will be teaching Global Health in the DNP Program.

Carmen Rosa Presti, MSN, BSN

Lecturer



Ms. Presti received both her BSN and MSN (Acute Care Nurse Practitioner) from Barry University (2003, 2008) and currently works as a certified Acute Care Nurse Practitioner in the community, in the area of clinical and interventional cardiology. Her research interests include cardiovascular risk reduction in minority populations. Presti currently teaches Pathophysiology and Health Assessment in the undergraduate and graduate programs.

Martin Schiavenato, PhD, RN

Assistant Professor



Dr. Schiavenato received his Undergraduate and Master's degrees from Florida State University (1992, 1996, 1997), and earned his PhD in Nursing from the University of Central Florida with a focus in innovative technologies (2007). His research interests lie in the application of technology to assess pain in the vulnerable groups such as premature infants and other pediatric and non-verbal patient populations. Schiavenato's laboratory applies novel tools to interpret physiologic and behavioral signals including facial expressions, in an attempt to decipher the presence and intensity of pain in humans who are unable to communicate it. His interdisciplinary lab brings together scientists, clinicians and students representing diverse fields such as nursing, biomedical engineering, psychology and medicine.

Kenya Snowden, BSN, MSN

Lecturer



Ms. Snowden received her BSN at Florida International University (2008) and her MSN in Acute Care Nurse Practitioner/Adult Nurse Practitioner at the University of Miami School of Nursing & Health Studies (2010). Snowden is a member of the Emergency Nurses Association with experience in emergency care having worked the University of Miami Hospital, Jackson South Community Hospital and South Miami Hospital; she previously worked as teacher assistant and clinical instructor, teaching the assessment of all major body systems and patient interview techniques. She is focusing on expanding opportunities for underprivileged students in the field of nursing, as well as developing programs to help students transition into the nursing profession and mentoring the future leaders in nursing.

Nomi-Weiss-Laxer, MPH, MA

Lecturer



Ms. Weiss-Laxer received a BA in Political Science from Vassar College (2001), a Master of Arts in Latin American Studies from Tulane University (2005) and a Master of Public Health from Brown University (2008). She has experience in both research and community-based public health initiatives in the areas of HIV prevention, childhood injury prevention, childhood asthma and vulnerable population/health disparities. Weiss-Laxer has worked as a health educator, an interventionist on a family-based HIV prevention intervention for Latino families and a project coordinator for an emergency department-based car seat safety program. For the past two-years, she was the SONHS' Project Manager for the WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing Human Resources Development and Patient Safety. She currently teaches Introduction to Public Health, Global Health and Health Promotion, and Disease Prevention.

**1959****Ann Marie (Bouse) McCrystal,
BSN '59**

Continues to serve on the BOD of the Visiting Nurse Association of the Treasure Coast as well as the VNA & Hospice Foundation. Ann Marie was a founder of the VNA in Vero Beach over 36 years ago. She also is serving on various committees at Indian River Medical Center, most recent is the IRMC Cancer Services Task Force. She also serves on the BOD of the Senior Resource Association and as a founding board member of the Indian River Community Foundation. Ann Marie's husband, Hugh, who completed a surgical residency program at the University of Miami in 1963, continues in his community service position as Chairman of the Board of the Indian River Hospital District Board of Trustees, the taxing entity for indigent care in Indian River County. Their daughter, Kelly, has been appointed Country Director for the Clinton Health Access Initiative in Tanzania, Africa.

1977**Annette Browning,
BSN '77, RN**

I recently graduated with a PhD in the Philosophy of Nursing at the University of San Diego; my dissertation title is: A Quantitative

Inquiry into the relationship between Moral Distress and Psychological Empowerment in Critical Care Nurses Caring for Adults During End of Life Care.

1990**Kenneth Kirsner,
JD '90, CRNA, MS, BSN '79**

I currently am Professor of Nursing and Director, Nurse Anesthesia Concentration, at Lincoln Memorial University in Harrogate, Tennessee, serving the Appalachian region with advanced practice nursing education. I served with Project Medishare in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake and am proud to represent The "U" in the Cumberland Gap region of Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. My son Daniel graduated from the University of Miami in 2010 and my daughter Jessica will be graduating from the University of Miami in 2012...GO CANES!

1993**Lynda A. Tyer-Viola,
RNC, PhD '93**

My family moved from Boston to Houston this year! I was promoted to Associate Professor at the MGH Institute of Health Professions and appointed a consultant for Nursing Research for Partners in Health, a Global NGO.

1995**Ric Cuming,
MSN '95, RN, EdD, NEA-BC**

After serving for approximately a year and a half as Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer at Jackson South Community Hospital, I have been appointed to the position of Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Executive for the Jackson Health System.

2000**Karen O. Stewart,
JD '03, BSN '00**

I have joined the United States Attorney's Office in Miami where I am currently a federal prosecutor in the Major Crimes section, where I prosecutes all types of federal felonies.

2003**Jamila A. Mwidau,
RN, BSN'03, MPH**

Currently working as a Project Manager for the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Office of Oncology Products, Division of Drug Oncology Products.

2003**Tess O'Neill (Teresa M. O'Neill),
PhD '03**

I am going to Jordan as a Fulbright Scholar this year (September to June). I will be joining the Faculty of Nursing at the University of Jordan in Amman and teaching in their doctoral program.





2004 Angela Love (Bolivar), MSN '04, CNM, ARNP

Hello! I now have my own homebirth practice in Vero Beach, Florida.

2004 Raylawni Gloria Branch, BSN '04

I will be inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi's Alumni Hall of Fame; the event will happen over the University's Homecoming Weekend on Oct 21-22, 2011. I was one of the first two African Americans to attend the university in 1965. I ended a long career after many years as a civilian nurse, more than twenty-five years as military nurse, and a nurse educator in 2004. Since 2004, I have volunteered and/or worked for the American Red Cross as a Disaster Health Service's Nurse. I have been married for forty years, reared five children, am a grandmother to thirteen, and great-grandmother to three. Having traveled the world with the military, the USA with the American Red Cross, Haiti as a part of the Haiti Quake volunteers, and Bolivia as a missionary, my only regret is not finishing my doctorate in Health Education.

2005 Grethchen Abdulreda, BSN '05

I have been working at the Miami Transplant Institute at Jackson Memorial Hospital as a

Post Kidney Coordinator for the pediatric and adult population for almost 5-years. I am currently managing over 375 patients. On a personal note, I got married in 2007 to my long-time boyfriend, I have a 2-year old son, his name is Ali and he is the joy of my life. Presently, I am almost 6 months pregnant with my second son whose name will be Sammy. Academically, I am enrolled in the Family Nurse Practitioner program at Florida Atlantic University and am scheduled to graduate in May 2012.

2006 Erin Rowan Lake, BSN '06, MSN, FNP-BC

Greetings from Key West! I am working at Truman Medical Center in Key West in family practice and urgent care...UM's southernmost Nurse Practitioner!

2006 Leonel Oliva, BSN '06

I graduated in 2006 and have since moved to LA and started an acting career. I am actually producing, funding, writing and starring in my own feature film this coming October in a film about nursing.

2006 Aileen Sanchez, BSN '06

An Alumna from the class of 2006, I have just completed my Master's degree (MSN) from

the University of Phoenix and am the Clinical Specialist for 3-South at Miami Children's Hospital.

2007 Alejandro Lara, BSN '07

I am very proud to announce that I will be starting the 2011 fall quarter at the UC Davis School of Nursing to work on my MSN in Healthcare Leadership. I am very proud to be a Cane!

2008 Christina Grass, BSN '08

After graduating from the Accelerated BSN program in 2008, I began work in the ICU at Lower Keys Medical Center in Key West, FL. Over the last few years I became interested in global healthcare and this year I began volunteering with Project Hope to travel the world providing needed nursing services. I was just on a medical mission with Project Hope, an international humanitarian medical group, in the Pacific Ocean region. The name of our mission was Pacific Partnership 2011 and we deployed with the US Navy and Army to provide medical care to people in Timor Leste and The Federated States of Micronesia. I had an amazing time living onboard the USNS Cleveland and working with both the other Project Hope nurses and the nurses from the US, Australian and Canadian Navies. Overall in Timor Leste, there were seven different medical sites and we treated 10,938 people, including 3,660 children.

2009 Ivette Cardelli, BSN '09, RN

I am working as a psychiatric registered nurse at Aventura Hospital. Currently enrolled in graduate school in the FNP program, will be graduating August 2012; I am on the Nursing School Board of Alumni as Treasurer.

2009 Conchita S. Freitag, MSN '09, BSN, RN, BSC

Currently working as a Nurse Educator at

North Dade Health Center, Jackson Health System, in the areas of Practice – Pediatric Clinic Unit I, Medical Clinics Unit II and III, Ob/Gyn Clinic Unit IV and Special Care Unit (Special Immunology, South Florida Aids Network- SFAN). I continue to facilitate JHS Nursing Research & EBP Lunch and Learn, as well as being a member of the JHS Nursing IT Council and JHS Nursing Research & EBP Council. Currently I am a Faculty at University of Phoenix, School of Nursing and Health Care Science; awarded "Best New Faculty" in June.

2009

**Haydee Kaplin,
DNP '09, ARNP '95,
MSN '93, AOCN**

Currently employed at the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center for the past 24 years in multiple managerial & clinical positions. I work as a Nurse Practitioner in hematology oncology division working exclusively with genito-urinary oncology specialty patient population, specializing in patients with Prostate, Bladder,

Kidney, Adrenal & Testicular Cancer diagnosis. I recognize that getting my DNP has allowed me more autonomy and increased respect from patients and colleagues. I am also the current Miami-Dade Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Chapter President.

2009

**Lori A. Lupe,
DNP '09, CCRN**

I was hired by the University of Miami School of Nursing in May 2011 where I am teaching in the undergraduate program and will be working with UMH on some quality initiatives.

2010

**Christopher Espinosa,
BSN '10, RN**

I am happy to announce that I have been accepted to the FNP program at the University of Miami. Presently working in the In-patient Unit at the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Care where I enjoy giving high-quality care to our oncology population.

2010

**Charolette Jarrett,
BSN '10**

I am currently blessed to be working at the new West Kendall Baptist Hospital in the ED. I love what I do and I know my training at the University of Miami has prepared me to be a leader at the bedside. Thank you to everyone that has had a part in helping me get here. See you soon for graduate school!

2011

**Elyse Feinerman,
BSN '11**

I am currently working at Jackson Memorial Hospital in the surgical ICU. Jackson had a new graduate critical care nurse residency program in which it is a 4-month program with classes and clinical hours. We train and learn everything about critical care at the level one trauma center in south Florida! It is an incredible opportunity and I am so excited about the upcoming journey. Thank you UM School of Nursing for guiding me to land my dream job!

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