

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Nursing

CARING Minds



CARINGMinds

November 2010

- 1 GREETINGS
- 2 CONSORTIUM ON AGING
- 4 BIOBANK AT SCHOOL OF NURSING
- 6 PARTNERS LUNCHEON
“Ralph Thomas knows the value of investing in the future...”
- 9 UTHealth, HCC PARTNERING FOR MORE BACHELOR’S DEGREE NURSES IN TEXAS
NEW PACESETTERS PROGRAM
- 10 FAST-TRACK PHD PROGRAM
AccPhD scholars took many routes to same commitment
- 14 PROFILES & NEWSBRIEFS
- 16 MCCOMBS SCHOOL’S MBA PROGRAM
KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH ALUMNI
- 17 FACULTY PUBLICATIONS
- 19 FACULTY RESEARCH
- 20 ENDOWED FACULTY POSITIONS

CaringMinds is the annual publication of the UTHealth School of Nursing that celebrates achievements in philanthropy, research, faculty excellence and other areas of interest. For additional copies, please e-mail: David.R.Bates@uth.tmc.edu or call 713.500.2111.



Greetings from Dean Patricia Starck

I appreciate this opportunity to once again tell you about the School of Nursing and why I am so proud to serve as its dean.

As a reminder of how nothing stays the same, even the way we refer to our school has changed in the past year.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, of which the School of Nursing is a part, has launched a branding initiative to help clarify our institutional identity and, we hope, improve the public’s understanding of us. Our president, Dr. Larry Kaiser, has said that, while the new UTHealth logo and “doing-business-as” name are important, the heart of the branding initiative is its *promise*:

“Because we are many diverse components woven into one university, the exceptional people of UTHealth deliver innovative solutions that create the best hope for a healthier future.”

I wholeheartedly agree, and I hope readers will see that promise expressed throughout *Caring Minds*.

As you know, healthcare reform is on the horizon, and 30 million U.S. residents more than our overburdened system currently is accommodating soon will have insured access to health care.

On the Cover: 2010 AccPhD scholars

The George Foundation Scholars

- Stacy Crandall, M.S.N., M.P.H., R.N. 1
- Angela Joy Nash, M.S.N., R.N. 2

Memorial Hermann Hospital System Scholar

- Luba Yammine, M.S.N., R.N. 3

Kissito Healthcare Scholar

- Lisa Boss, M.S.N., R.N. 4

Texas Children’s Hospital Scholar

- Anitra Frederick, M.S.N., R.N. 5

School of Nursing Advisory Council Scholar

- Susanne K. Lim, M.S.N., R.N. 6

Vivian L. Smith Foundation Scholar

- Licia Clowtis, M.S.N., R.N. 7

The UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Scholar

- Faith Strunk, M.S.N., R.N. 8

Hamill Foundation Scholar

- Sandra Branson, M.S.N., R.N. 9

Cullen Trust for Health Care Scholar

- Christina Nunez, M.S.N., R.N. 10
- Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., F.A.A.N. 11



the best hope for a healthier future”



Creating a healthier future for children, Project SMART (co-founded by Marianne Marcus, Ed.D., R.N.) is an ongoing collaboration between two UTHealth schools and the community of St. Mary's United Methodist Church, in partnership with the principal and school nurse of HISD's Foster Elementary in a historically underserved neighborhood of southeast Houston.

The nationwide need for healthcare providers to do primary care will be greater than it has ever been before. In 2014, we expect to face a surge of newly insured Texans. Already, our School is advancing the practice-ready field of nurse practitioners to meet healthcare reform's imminent wave of the newly insured.

Also, our University of Texas Health Services (UTHS) is embracing a new model that might just be one solution to the healthcare challenges of this nation: the "Health Home Model" – also called "Comprehensive Care," or the "Healthcare Home" model. In many ways, I believe, we already are ahead of the upcoming paradigm shift in the provision of primary care.

Our longtime friends and supporters, Ralph and Bette Thomas, with the gift of an endowed professorship, have generously presented the School with a unique opportunity that may provide the impetus for creating a Center for Innovative Healthcare Delivery here. I know that the School of Nursing can lead the way in finding innovative solutions for the future of health care.

I think for this era coming up, we will need to accelerate students from bachelor's to doctoral level. Our new, philanthropically funded Accelerated Ph.D. program is a good example of a national model for more quickly producing urgently needed nursing educators.

Last year, Dr. Kaiser invited us to present a proposal for his support that would be an innovative and revenue-producing program. That proposal became a reality this past summer. Aptly named "Pacesetters," it offers 50 accelerated B.S.N. students the chance to "live the life of a nurse" during their last semester here, while also offering employers more "job-ready" nurses.

As this magazine goes to press, the School is building on the groundwork from its two-day planning retreat, which was a focused effort to develop our next five-year strategic vision. That vision, inevitably, will include many changes.

I know that we'll consider proposals for re-aligning our School of Nursing curriculum so we're producing more of what society most needs. We know that we must create new kinds of online instruction, collaborative institutional partnerships, sleeker degree plans, new revenue streams and other improvements on business as usual. Change is on the way.

We are ready here at UTHealth – and, together, we will create the best hope for a healthier future.

In this fifth annual issue of *Caring Minds*, you will read about some of the recent accomplishments of our wonderful faculty and staff – who have received so much support from our alumni, donors, legislators, students and friends.

Please join me in celebrating the School's pacesetting achievements. I look forward to the coming year and our work together for the betterment of the UTHealth School of Nursing ...

Patricia L. Starck

Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., F.A.A.N.
John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor
Dean, The University of Texas Health Science Center
at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing

November 2010



NEW ‘CONSORTIUM ON AGING’ COMBINES EFFORTS OF FIVE UTHEALTH SCHOOLS TO ADVANCE ELDER CARE

By Deborah Mann Lake, Office of Advancement

The School of Nursing is playing a major role in the new, wide-ranging Consortium on Aging that has been formed at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth). Two School of Nursing faculty members are among the initiative’s founders.

“The Consortium on Aging allows us to leverage the strengths of our academic health center and our community collaborators to better serve Houston’s older adults,” said Carmel B. Dyer, M.D., professor and director of the Division of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine; vice-chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine at the UTHealth Medical School; and director of the Consortium.

Sharon Ostwald, Ph.D., R.N., professor at the UTHealth School of Nursing and the Isla Carroll Turner Chair in Gerontological Nursing, is deputy director of the **CONSORTIUM ON AGING**.

Caring for patients, community outreach, innovative research and transforming education are the four cornerstones of the Consortium’s collaborative efforts. “The Consortium on Aging is a clear example of UTHealth’s vision, excellence and leadership through geriatric interdisciplinary collaboration addressing healthy and meaningful aging,” said **Kathleen Pace Murphy**, Ph.D., professor and holder of the Suzie Conway Endowed Professorship in Nursing. “It will offer state-of-the-art geriatric clinical care, education and research with the ultimate goal to improve the quality of life and well-being of older adults, as well as their families, caregivers and communities. It is visionary leadership.”

Patient Care includes outpatient clinical practice, inpatient special hospital units for the elderly and two house call programs specifically designed for geriatric and palliative patients. In clinical care, the newly opened UT Physicians Center for Healthy Aging and Brain Health Clinic in Bellaire (713-486-5150) joins UT Physicians clinics at Sienna Village (713) 486-1200) and the Texas Medical Center (713-572-8122). The UT Physicians House Call Program provides care for patients too frail to travel to an outpatient clinic. Geriatric specialists provide in-depth care for patients in the Acute Care for the Elderly units at Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center and the hospital district's Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital.

“An interdisciplinary team meets about patients and talks about the issues so we can get group input about how to proceed and develop a plan of care. We really work as a team. That’s what makes us different,” said Maureen Beck, M.S.N., R.N., UT Center for Healthy Aging co-director.

Community Outreach includes the Texas Elder Abuse and Mistreatment Institute (TEAM). Collaborators are UTHealth, Adult Protective Services of Texas, the Harris County Hospital District and Baylor College of Medicine. TEAM also works with the Harris County Medical Examiner’s Office on joint research and education projects and operates the Harris County Elder Abuse Fatality review team, a volunteer effort. The **Center on Aging** at the School of Nursing (713-500-9921) offers a **Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program** that works with residents, families and facility staff to improve the quality of life of residents in long-term care. It serves over 75 assisted living and 250 nursing facilities throughout Harris County.

Research under the umbrella of the Consortium includes the Consortium for Research in Elder Self-neglect of Texas (CREST) funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; the largest death study in the country on elder mistreatment victims funded by the Borchard Foundation Center on Law and Aging; and a study evaluating Vitamin D in the elderly funded by the National Institute on Aging, part of the National Institutes of Health. **Sabrina Pickens, M.S.N., R.N.C.**, instructor at the School of Nursing, is the research nurse practitioner for CREST and sees patients at LBJ Hospital.

“The Consortium enables us to highlight important work such as the research at the School of Nursing on pressure ulcers,” said Dyer. Chronic disease and stroke/caregiver issues also are part of the research at the nursing school’s Center on Aging.

Education opportunities within the Consortium are extended to students in the fields of medicine, nursing, dentistry, public health and information science. UTHealth has received an extension of its unique, highly regarded Houston Geriatric Education Center (HGEC) with a \$1-million, five-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. HGEC focuses especially on the frail or impaired elderly while training faculty, students and practicing professionals. Dyer is principal investigator of the HGEC and the School of Nursing’s Ostwald is co-principal investigator. Ostwald and Dyer also collaborate on an annual student competition in which interdisciplinary teams of students from nine different healthcare disciplines assess a group of frail elders in a community setting and present their observations and recommendations to a live audience.

The School of Nursing also offers a **geriatric nurse practitioner program**, while UTHealth Medical School students may elect a four-year scholarly concentration in geriatric and palliative medicine.

For more information, call 713.500.3853 or visit the Consortium’s Web site at: <http://www.uthouston.edu/aging/>



Carmel B. Dyer, M.D., professor and director of the Division of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine at UTHealth, confers with patient Alice Johns at the UT Center for Healthy Aging at Bellaire.

(At far left) Kathleen Pace Murphy, Ph.D., professor and holder of the Suzie Conway Endowed Professorship in Nursing, is part of a team of geriatric specialists seeing patients such as Marlene Matalon at the new UT Center for Healthy Aging.

Photography by Meredith Raine, Office of Advancement

Biobank at School of Nursing Opening Door to Translational Research Breakthroughs

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DWIGHT ANDREWS

Ongoing research by Lorraine Frazier, Ph.D., R.N., F.A.H.A., F.A.A.N., assistant dean and chair of the Department Nursing Systems at The University of



Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing seeks to determine if there is an interaction between genetics and depression on inflammatory protein levels that may increase future cardiac events for patients who have been deemed a high-risk group. She is the principal investigator on the study, "Depressive Symptoms and Genetic Influences on Cardiac Outcomes," funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Frazier's research has led to her pioneering work developing "biobanks" (repositories of biological samples and related clinical data that have been consented for sharing among researchers). She is the project director of TexGen Research, which supports multi-center, multi-institutional biobank development of clinical data and biological samplings of cardiovascular and cancer patients in the Texas Medical Center. She also is the director of UTHealth's Center for Clinical and Translational Science (CCTS) BioBank, which is headquartered at the nursing school.

"Because my research depends on a large number of samples, I have been involved in the creation and leadership of large biobanks of samples and related clinical data," Frazier said, noting that biobanks will remain critical to her and other scientists who depend on large

numbers of samples and data to answer research questions.

"TexGen provided the foundation for the CCTS Biobank, and the united efforts of these organizations have made an impact on research and research funding in the Texas Medical Center by providing sample necessary for researchers to do their work," explained Frazier, who also is the Nancy B. Willerson Distinguished Professor in Nursing.

The CTSA Biobank now includes more than 188,000 samples donated by nearly 50,000 consenting patients with their informed consent. Since 2002, more than 12,000 samples have been distributed to 46 researchers, who are

investigating such major disease categories as cardiovascular, aneurysms, cancer and the autoimmune system.

The CCTS Biobank is a sophisticated collection of data and samples designed to inspire collaboration among scientists and to advance translational and clinical research. As director, Frazier has learned the importance of collaboration in expediting her research.

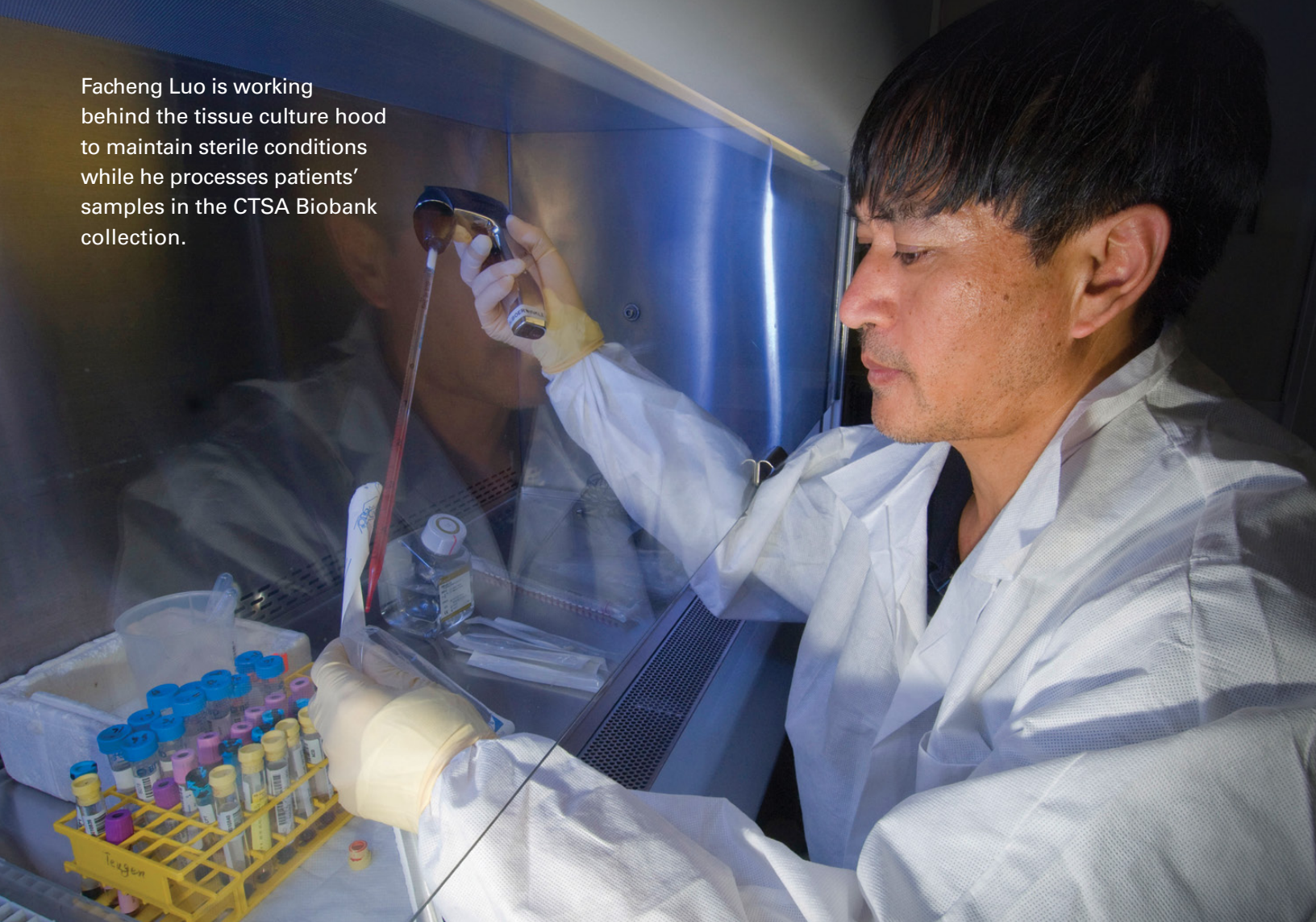
"The CCTS Biobank has helped me share samples and collaborate with other researchers who study cardiovascular disease," she said. "Increased collaboration is the common goal for participating researchers who share their samples and data with the biobank. This method of

"The purpose of my research is to understand why some, but not all, depressed patients who have a heart attack go on to have future cardiac events," explained Frazier.



Malini Udtha, Ph.D., processes patients' samples for separation of blood components using the Biobank lab's ultra-centrifuge equipment.

Facheng Luo is working behind the tissue culture hood to maintain sterile conditions while he processes patients' samples in the CTSA Biobank collection.



sample sharing will continue to grow my research effort throughout my career.”

The collaborative biobank effort based at the School of Nursing currently includes eight hospitals and six universities in a CTSA Biobank Consortium. In addition to UTHealth, the partnership includes: The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI); the University of Michigan; the University of California, Davis; and, Baylor College of Medicine.

Frazier believes in the opportunities and efficacy of collaboration and translational research in making research move faster, so that results are delivered from lab bench to bedside more quickly for patients.

“Translational research will impact health more efficiently than the traditional research models of the past in which scientists worked in their own little silos and remained focused on their discipline’s view of health,” she said. “In the new interdisciplinary model of research, the disciplines work together to facilitate more effective change.”

Erica Yu, Ph.D., assistant professor of nursing in the Department of Acute and Continuing Care, recently received a \$210,000 grant from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) that will allow her to do supplement research with Frazier. In her part of the study, Yu will repeat a depression screening at two weeks after a patient’s coronary event to try to get a better assessment of depression and its relationship with inflammatory markers.

“I’m really happy to get the opportunity to work with Dr. Frazier because she is so established as a researcher,” Yu said. “I’m very excited that I’m finally really getting started with my own research.”

Frazier is also co-leading the development of a national biobehavioral biobank effort to enable the sharing of samples and data among nursing scientists. This effort originated from her plenary presentation at the 2010 State of the Science for Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science in Washington, D.C.

—includes reporting by Camille Webb

FINDING A PRESCRIPTION

Dean Starck makes surprise announcement of the Bette P. Thomas Distinguished Professorship



(L-R) DEAN PATRICIA STARCK WITH PARTNERS CHAIR SHERI HENRIKSEN, IMMEDIATE PAST-CHAIR BETTE THOMAS AND HER HUSBAND – BUSINESS LEADER AND PHILANTHROPIST RALPH THOMAS. PHOTO AT RIGHT (L-R) PARTNERS CHAIR SHERI HENRIKSEN CELEBRATES WITH HONORARY EVENT CO-CHAIRS ROBERT & JANE CIZIK, WHO WERE RECOGNIZED AS “SPECIAL FRIENDS” OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING. THE PARTNERS BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE NAMED IN HONOR OF THE CIZIKS.

Nearly 400 guests heard keynote speaker Jason Hwang, M.D., share his innovative prescription for healthcare reform during the PARTNERS 2010 Spring Luncheon at the Houstonian Hotel, Club & Spa, March 12.

Proceeds from the annual event, along with membership dues and gifts, benefit programs and services for The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing. PARTNERS activities produced a total \$217,000 in fiscal year 2009-10.

Addressing luncheon attendees, UTHealth President Larry R. Kaiser, M.D., F.A.C.S., commended the organization as “among the exceptional

people who serve as pacesetters in education, research, prevention and patient care” and as “a testament to the quality of work that Dean Starck inspires in her faculty, staff and students.”

Longtime PARTNERS supporters and event honorary chairs Jane and Robert Cizik were recognized as “special friends” of the School of Nursing. PARTNERS Chair Sheri Henriksen revealed that the Bachelor of Science in Nursing Scholarship will be named in honor of the Ciziks.

Currently a UTHealth development board member, Robert Cizik chaired the building campaign for the award-winning School of Nursing and Student Community Center, which opened in 2004.

UTHealth School of Nursing Dean Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., surprised PARTNERS immediate past-chair Bette Thomas with the announcement of a new Bette P. Thomas Distinguished Professorship for Innovative Healthcare Delivery created by her husband, business leader and philanthropist Ralph Thomas.



(L-R) PARTNERS CHAIR SHERI HENRIKSEN, UTHEALTH PRESIDENT LARRY R. KAISER, M.D., AND DEAN STARCK WITH IMMEDIATE PAST-CHAIR AND HONOREE BETTE THOMAS AT THE PARTNERS 2010 SPRING LUNCHEON.

FOR *Healthcare*

PARTNERS stands for “Promoting Advancement Resources to Nursing Education, Research and Students.” The organization was formed in 1994, and today holds a \$1-million endowment to support its projects.



(L-R) STARCK DISCUSSES HEALTH CARE WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER JASON HWANG, M.D. PHOTO AT RIGHT (L-R) PARTNERS CHAIR SHERI HENRIKSEN; LUNCHEON COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR LYNNE AVERETT; DEAN STARCK; HONORARY EVENT CO-CHAIR AND LONGTIME UTHealth SUPPORTER ROBERT CIZIK; PARTNERS IMMEDIATE PAST-CHAIR BETTE THOMAS; PARTNERS INCOMING CHAIR LESLIE BOWLIN BENNETT; AND HONOREE JANE CIZIK.

“We are very grateful to Ralph for his commitment to this School of Nursing – expressed not just through his philanthropy, but through his leadership,” Dean Starck said. “With this distinguished professorship named for Bette, both Thomases are showing that nurses have solutions for the challenges presented by this nation’s health needs.”

Dean Starck also noted alumnus Ralph Thomas’s active support of the UT McCombs School of Business and how he brought an M.B.A.’s perspective to the School of Nursing. “Ralph challenged me to think like a businessman,” Dean Starck said. “He suggested the business school model as an example of what our school can do in finding new ways of doing things, and we’ve learned much from the ideas he has for making changes in the way healthcare is being delivered.”

Hwang, the guest speaker, is a co-author – along with Clayton M. Christensen and the late Jerome H. Grossman, M.D. – of *The Innovator’s Prescription: A Disruptive Solution for Health Care* (McGraw-Hill, c2008),

which offers an insightful analysis of the problems in America’s “broken” system of health care. (Christensen currently is the Robert and Jane Cizik Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School.) In his remarks, Hwang cited the retail clinics model and the “health home” or “comprehensive care” trends as examples of patient-driven innovation in primary care that “will end the one-size-fits-all era of health care delivery.”

“Nurse practitioners can be part of the solution for many of the issues revolving around what’s going to happen in Washington with health care,” Hwang said. The PARTNERS incoming chair is Leslie Bowlin Bennett. Bette Thomas and Lynne Averett were the 2010 luncheon committee co-chairs.

The master of ceremonies was award-winning former TV news anchor Steve Smith. Rabbi Samuel E. Karff, founder of UTHealth’s John P. McGovern, M.D. Center for Health, Humanities and Human Spirit, opened the luncheon with an invocation.



(L-R) LOUISA CHIKA IKPEAMA AND MICHELLE SCHNEIDER

A four-minute video created by PR Squared and New Dirt Productions preceded the ceremonies. The video highlighted testimony from two PARTNERS scholarship students – Michelle Schneider and Louisa Chika Ikpeama – about the unexpected and life-changing value of the scholarships to their nursing education. Dean Starck also said in the video: “The PARTNERS group is aptly named, because they are partners with us in everything we do in the School. Their support has helped us to move from being a very good school to being a *great* school of nursing.”

“RALPH THOMAS KNOWS THE VALUE OF INVESTING IN THE *Future...*”

By Cynthia Johnson, Ph.D., Office of Advancement

WITHIN SIX MONTHS of completing his education at The University of Texas at Austin, Ralph Thomas had started giving back.

As a young investment professional in Houston, holding both a B.B.A. and an M.B.A., he joined other Longhorn alumni in initiatives to strengthen the business school and ensure that its graduates were placed in top jobs in finance.

Now a senior vice president at Faye Sarofim & Co. with responsibilities in portfolio management and research, Thomas has remained active with UT. But his support extends well beyond the McCombs School of Business.

Joining the Development Board of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) in 1990, Ralph Thomas has served on numerous committees and councils, chairing the board 1994-1996. And, like many active Board members, he has been giving considerable thought to healthcare delivery. As has his wife.

Bette Thomas's involvement with UTHealth began, in her words, “When I met the School of Nursing and PARTNERS,” the school's volunteer support organization.



RALPH AND BETTE THOMAS

Mrs. Thomas has served twice as head of PARTNERS and has twice chaired its Spring Luncheon – the group's biggest annual fundraising event. She notes that the organization is small, saying, “But a small group can raise lots of money.”

In the 16 years since it was created, PARTNERS has contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars to the School to support students, faculty research and other projects, as well as adding a warm, personal touch to many aspects of life at the nursing school. To date, PARTNERS has created three endowed professorships.

Still, it came as a complete surprise – “a shock really,” Bette says, as well as “a huge honor” – when she was invited to the dais at the PARTNERS luncheon last spring and heard the announcement of the new “Bette P. Thomas Distinguished Professorship in Innovative Health Care Delivery.”

“I had noticed that [Assistant Vice President for Fundraising and Advancement Programs] Betsy Frantz was on Ralph's calendar but I didn't think anything about it. Ralph spends so much time on UTHealth business that it didn't strike me as unusual,” she remarks. Frantz was meeting with Ralph Thomas to hammer out the details of the gift.

As an investment professional, Ralph Thomas knows the value of an endowment. “It's a permanent form of giving; it has a lasting influence.” The Thomas Professorship is also a statement of the couple's shared belief that this is the start of a new age in the profession.

Frantz says, “The focus here is innovation; this gift expresses the Thomases' vision of what the future of nursing can be if we invest in it strategically. This gift differs from traditional endowments, which often are created to support existing programs.”

Ralph Thomas says, “Look at the changes in health care, all the technology that is coming along for diagnosis, treatment and monitoring, which largely has to be interpreted by nurses. Telemedicine, electronic records – it's all coming together, it's part of the same ‘mega direction’. This is a time for innovation.”

“We must have new models of providing health care more efficiently and effectively – and this gift will give us a nice jump start.” – Dean Patricia Starck

Dean Starck agrees. And she has a clear vision of what the endowment will mean for the School. “This gift will provide the impetus for our school becoming a nationally recognized leader in nursing education, research and practice with an emphasis on healthcare reform and finding innovative solutions for the future,” she says. “We may be able some day to create a Center for Innovative Healthcare Delivery here.”

And Bette notes that not only the time but the place is right for investing in innovation in health care. “Nobody is dragging their feet in the Texas Medical Center – they are flying!”



(L-R) DEAN PATRICIA STARCK LOOKS ON AS PARTNERS IMMEDIATE PAST-CHAIR BETTE THOMAS GIVES HUSBAND RALPH THOMAS A BIG “THANK-YOU” KISS AFTER THE SURPRISE ANNOUNCEMENT.

UTHealth, HCC Partnering for More Bachelor's Degree Nurses

Associate degree nursing students at Houston Community College (HCC) have a new incentive to continue their education and earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) degree from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing.

During a July 21 ceremony at the HCC John B. Coleman, M.D. College for Health Sciences, leaders from HCC and UTHealth celebrated a new partnership for the future of nursing with the signing of an Early Acceptance Program agreement. Qualified students in the HCC Coleman College associate degree nursing program will have the chance of early admission to UTHealth's B.S.N. program.

"Our students will have the opportunity of a lifetime to earn their bachelor's degree from one of the most prestigious nursing schools in the nation," said Betty Young, Ph.D., J.D., president of HCC Coleman College for Health Sciences.

UTHealth School of Nursing Dean Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., said the partnership is designed to address a national shortage in health care providers.

"Nationally, only about 15 percent of associate degree nurses continue their education – but we want to change that in Houston," she said. "By our two institutions working together early on, we can assure a seamless transition for these students."

—with Brian Waddle, HCC Coleman College for Health Sciences



Signing the agreement are: HCC College for Health Sciences President Betty Young (L) and UTHealth School of Nursing Dean Patricia Starck. Looking on are (L-R) Texas Medical Center President & CEO Richard E. Wainerdi, State Representative Ellen Cohen and HCC Chancellor Mary S. Spangler. (Photo by Barbie Ross, Office of Advancement)

'Pacesetters' BSN Track Underway, Will Produce More Job-Ready Nurses

The UTHealth School of Nursing has launched its new 'Pacesetters' program as a strategy for producing more job-ready nurses and decreasing the attrition that is typical in the first few years of nursing practice. A redesigning of the four-semester Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) curriculum, the first three semesters in the Pacesetters program will be classroom, simulation and limited clinical studies. During the final semester, students will go through an entire semester consisting of 40 hours per week of clinical experience in the same hospital system.

Fifty BSN students were accepted into the Pacesetters track for fall 2010 admission.

"The Pacesetters students are into their first semester of course work, and they already demonstrate leadership potential as several are nominated for officer positions within our student organizations,"



said program coordinator Stephanie Meyers, Ph.D. "These students and this program exemplify the promise of UTHealth – exceptional people delivering innovative solutions that create the best hope for a healthier future."

The school's clinical partner, the Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, will help to schedule the Pacesetters for the necessary 16 weeks of full-time clinical experience.

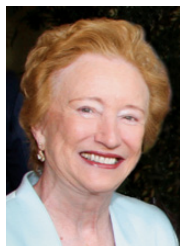
"Memorial Hermann Healthcare System is delighted to partner with the UT School of Nursing on this initiative

to enhance senior student exposure to clinical practice, said System Executive for Nursing Tim Bevelacqua, M.N., R.N.

Prerequisite coursework (60 total hours) for the B.S.N. can be completed at any accredited institution. The fall 2011 application deadline for the generic B.S.N. (including the Pacesetters program) is Jan. 15, 2011.

FAST-TRACK PHD PROGRAM NAMED FOR DEAN STARCK TACKLES FACULTY SHORTAGE

Throughout her 25 years as dean of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing, Patricia L. Starck, D.S.N., R.N., has been a pacesetter in developing innovative academic programs to help reduce the statewide nursing shortage and strengthen nursing's role in meeting society's changing healthcare needs.



"We turn away more than 9,000 qualified prospective nursing students annually in Texas, because there are not enough nursing faculty members to teach these students," said Dean Starck, who also is the John P. McGovern Distinguished Professor of Nursing. "The bottleneck to balancing supply and demand for nurses is a shortage of nursing faculty."

Nationwide, studies show, only 12 percent of nurses have a master's degree and less than one percent hold a doctoral degree. Furthermore, it is estimated that 300 doctorally prepared nursing faculty members across the nation retire each year. Only 400 new Ph.D. graduates are produced annually, and many go into jobs other than faculty positions.

"We are barely keeping up with replacements and are not able to grow student enrollment at a time when demand for nurses is expected to increase by 86 percent before 2020," said Dean Starck.

UTHealth's creative response to the shortage of nursing faculty is the school's new Accelerated Ph.D. (AccPhD) program. A successful \$2-million fundraising initiative will provide fully funded stipends to allow doctoral candidates to earn their Ph.D. in Nursing within three years rather than the traditional eight years. The accelerated curriculum, which includes 66 post-master's credits, affords the same

study plan and rigorous requirements as the traditional doctoral program.

Each student accepted into the pilot group of 10 scholars agreed to provide at least three years of service as nursing faculty at the UTHealth School of Nursing or elsewhere in the Texas Gulf Coast region after graduation. If each AccPhD graduate teaches for just three years, Starck noted, an additional 300 nurses could be added to the region. If all 10 AccPhD graduates embark on a teaching career of about 20 years, this number could grow to 2,000 additional nurses.

"We are committed to addressing the statewide and national nursing shortage through innovative new educational programs," said Starck. "The unique aspect of the AccPhD initiative is that it will be philanthropically funded – a remarkable achievement during two of the most difficult economic years in memory."

LOCAL CHAMPIONS STEP UP

Support mostly came from local healthcare organizations and foundations, as well as the nursing school's volunteer Advisory Council (which not only championed this cause in the middle of a recession, but also achieved 88 percent gift participation by its membership and collectively contributed \$186,000).

"I was encouraged by the support that we received from many of the hospitals in the area for our Accelerated PhD program, so that we can educate more nurse educators," said Larry R. Kaiser, M.D., F.A.C.S., president of UTHealth. "Almost everybody

recognizes the importance of this, including the state of Texas, which provided 35 million additional dollars for the education of nursing school faculty during the last legislative session."

IMPETUS FROM CHALLENGE GRANT

Spurred by a \$500,000 challenge grant from The George Foundation of Fort Bend County, a successful fundraising effort was directed by the school's development office with leadership by members of the School of Nursing Advisory Council, chaired by George R. Farris. The AccPhD initiative was conceived as a tribute to Dr. Starck's 25 years of service as dean of the nursing school and has been named in her honor: "The Patricia L. Starck Accelerated Ph.D. Scholars Program."

"Dean Starck has done such a wonderful job recruiting the best nursing faculty that it was natural for the Advisory Council to want to support her efforts and also honor her 25 years as dean by taking a leadership role in this exciting project," said Farris.

The George Foundation wanted to address the root cause of the nursing shortage, and their challenge required raising \$1.5 million by July 1, 2010, to obtain the foundation's \$500,000 match. Despite the national economic downturn and related decline in philanthropic gifts, the AccPhD fundraisers exceeded the George Foundation challenge and surpassed its \$1.5-million mark by nearly \$100,000.

(continued on page 12)

“Why not get paid to earn your PhD in three years...?” asked Dean Starck.



ACCPhD SCHOLARS HONOR NINE DONOR ORGANIZATIONS

“In addition to financial support, those selected for the AccPhD program are designated as named Scholars – which is a distinction a graduate will carry throughout a professional career,” said Dean Starck.

Each doctoral scholar carries the title of an organization that made a gift to the AccPhD initiative of at least \$60,000 per year for three years. These named scholars will represent: The George Foundation (two scholars), Memorial Hermann Hospital System, Kissito Healthcare, Texas Children’s Hospital, the Vivian L. Smith Foundation, the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, the Hamill Foundation, the Cullen Trust for Health Care and the School of Nursing Advisory Council. A committee chaired by Mara M. Baun, D.N.Sc., selected the 10 AccPhD scholars from among 34 applicants for fall 2010 admission.

The George Foundation Scholars

- Stacy Crandall, M.S.N., M.P.H., R.N. 1
- Angela Joy Nash, M.S.N., R.N. 2

Memorial Hermann Hospital System Scholar

- Luba Yammine, M.S.N., R.N. 3

Kissito Healthcare Scholar

- Lisa Boss, M.S.N., R.N. 4

Texas Children’s Hospital Scholar

- Anitra Frederick, M.S.N., R.N. 5

School of Nursing Advisory Council Scholar

- Susanne K. Lim, M.S.N., R.N. 6

Vivian L. Smith Foundation Scholar

- Licia Clowtis, M.S.N., R.N. 7

The UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Scholar

- Faith Strunk, M.S.N., R.N. 8

Hamill Foundation Scholar

- Sandra Branson, M.S.N., R.N. 9

Cullen Trust for Health Care Scholar

- Christina Nunez, M.S.N., R.N. 10

(continued from page 10)

“Increasing the number of nurses to serve the health needs of the community remains at the forefront of healthcare news, and The George Foundation believes that the partnership it has formed with the UTHealth School of Nursing is addressing this important issue and is doing it effectively and in creative ways,” said board member Gene Reed. “Together, the Foundation and the School of Nursing can attain a better pathway to solving the nursing shortage.”

“I can’t say enough about the persistence and leadership of chair George R. Farris,” said Dean Starck. “Thanks also go to Phil Ferguson,

chair of the school’s Advisory Council, and our Dr. Tom Mackey, along with our hard-working friends Kenneth Lewis, Bette Thomas, Sheri Henriksen, Peggy Barnett and Flo McGee, who was invaluable behind the scenes.”

“What was amazing about this fundraising initiative is the way a group of active and engaged volunteers came together to run the show – from making visits along with our dean, to opening doors at foundations, to following up again and again,” said Gail M. Singer, development director at the UTHealth nursing school. “I would like to think our experience will give hope to fundraising professionals who are struggling in this

economic downturn, that it says, ‘It can work and when it does, it’s magical!’”

“I am, of course, deeply honored that this project was undertaken as a way to mark my 25 years as dean of the UTHealth nursing school,” responded Starck. “But, best of all, if we can create an innovative new educational program while also helping to resolve the nursing shortage – well, that’s a win-win scenario!”

About 75 donors and other guests celebrated the success of the fundraising initiative during an Oct. 28 reception at Trevisio Restaurant in the Texas Medical Center.

“By a conservative estimate, a nurse cares for 1,000 patients every year,” said Dean Starck. “The Accelerated PhD program would mean that at least 100,000 patients benefit from the top-flight skills of these new nursing graduates annually. The impact on health care in our community and on the state’s nursing shortage crisis would be very significant.”



AccPhD Scholars Took Many Routes to Same Commitment

ALL 10 MEMBERS OF THE UTHealth SCHOOL OF NURSING’S ACCPHD COHORT CAME TO THE UNIQUE NURSING DOCTORAL PROGRAM AS EXPERIENCED NURSES EMPLOYED FULL- OR PART-TIME. MANY OF THEM HAD ALREADY EXPERIENCED THE ROLE OF TEACHER.

This is a diverse group from many points of the compass, with varying ages and professional experiences, whose common trait is a commitment to nursing and a desire to prepare more nurses to practice. The group includes one African-American, one Asian-American, a Spanish speaker and a native Russian. All 10 are women, and their average age is 40 (the youngest is 29, the oldest is 53).

Four of the 10 were born in the Houston area – plus one born in Moscow, and others in Michigan, Alabama,

Ohio and Connecticut. Half of the group earned M.S.N.s at UTHealth, seven earned M.S.N.s within the University of Texas System, and three attended out-of-state schools for their master’s degree.

Their three years of difficult advanced study will well-qualify the AccPhD Scholars to fill their new roles. Each one will teach not just one, but *many* others – and, ultimately, they will help to educate the nurses that the emerging American healthcare system so urgently needs.

Applicants to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (B.S.N.) programs at the UTHealth School of Nursing totaled 2,837 this year, compared to 1,569 in FY 2009. The school’s enrollment for fall 2010 totaled 891 students at all levels – an increase of more than 16 percent over fall 2009. Ninety of these students, including the 10 AccPhD Scholars, were enrolled in doctoral studies.

DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS SHARED BY ACCPHD SCHOLARS



Sandra Branson, the Hamill Foundation Scholar, most recently was a clinical educator at Methodist Willowbrook Hospital, and she also is an experienced, licensed pilot. As a nurse researcher, Branson is curious to explore the “human-animal interaction and the benefits of a companion animal” for better health and recovery – a field that Mara M. Baun, D.N.Sc., the Lee and Joseph Jamail Distinguished Professor at the Houston nursing school, helped to pioneer



Vivian L. Smith Foundation Scholar **Licia Clowtis** has a special interest in “the immense potential of pharmacogenetics as an emerging field” and said that she is intrigued by the work of Lorraine Frazier, Ph.D., R.N., the Nancy B. Willerson Distinguished Professor at the School and one of the nation’s experts on genetic biobanking. Clowtis, a Michigan native, also has been a co-principal investigator – on “The Art of Assessment,” an interdisciplinary project with the Museum of Fine Arts-Houston that is “designed to increase visual intelligence through art education.”



Luba Yammine, the Memorial Hermann Hospital System Scholar, earned a bachelor’s degree at the Russian Academy of Economics and started a business career as an international accounts representative for an export company before she discovered nursing. Her main research interest is cardiovascular disease and the role of a variety of lipoprotein disorders as risk factors.

“It is hard to express how deeply honored and humbled I am to be accepted as one of 10 scholars in the Accelerated Ph.D. program,” Yammine said. “By doing my very best throughout the program and afterwards as a faculty member, a researcher and a clinician, I intend to give back to the School of Nursing and the donors who provided me with this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.”



Stacey Crandall, one of two George Foundation scholars said, “I was driven to pursue this degree by my sincere desire to make a positive impact in the healthcare of women.” In addition to her M.S.N., Crandall also earned an M.P.H. degree from the UT School of Public Health in 2008, specializing in health promotion and health education.



The other George Foundation Scholar, **Angela Joy Nash** of Missouri City, has been an instructor at Baylor College of Medicine in academic general pediatrics. “Clinical teaching is my real passion, and I would really like to use my experiences and gifts to influence the next generation of nurse providers,” said

Nash. “I hope to gain the knowledge and skills required to be a nursing faculty member who can help make evidence-based practice more of a reality.”



Susanne Lim, the School of Nursing Advisory Council Scholar, grew up in the Midwest in a family where, she said, “Everybody is a physician – I’m the only nurse.” Lim, a neonatal nurse practitioner, earned both her master’s and bachelor’s degrees in nursing from Rush University in Chicago. Her husband is a private-practice physician.

“I want to investigate how nurses can bridge the gap between diagnosis and treatment so that patients would be fully informed and confident in their decision-making process,” said Lim. “My long-term future goal is to teach nurses overseas in underserved areas of the world.”



“I found my passion for patient care was in the emergency department with its unpredictability and endless excitement,” said **Lisa Boss**, the Kissito Healthcare Scholar. “As a nurse educator, I am able to give back to the community.”



Texas Aggie **Anitra Frederick**, who is the Texas Children’s Hospital Scholar, remembers starting her career in health care as a candy-striper and going on to work as a staff nurse in the largest neonatal intensive care unit in the U.S. “I have dedicated my life to the health and service of children and their families,” she said.



“I have personally witnessed the need for more doctorate-prepared nursing professionals,” said Houston native **Christina Nunez**, the Cullen Trust for Health Care Scholar. “The healthcare system is overburdened by a shortage of nursing professionals to help prepare entry-level nurses to enter the workforce.” Her research interest is tuberculosis management and “the mortality and morbidity of those patients managed by private doctors and those managed by RN case managers.”



UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center Scholar **Faith Strunk** earned a bachelor’s degree in information systems management from the University of Maryland - European Division in 1987. Certified as an advanced oncology nurse practitioner, she worked for six years in MDA’s breast medical oncology department.

“I want to contribute to the body of knowledge for evidence-based practice,” said Strunk. “I am interested in survivorship issues for breast cancer patients in their first five years post-diagnosis.”

Outstanding teacher Murphy also is Suzie Conway Endowed Professor

Two well-deserved honors came this year to Kathleen Pace Murphy, Ph.D., professor in the Integrative Nursing Care Department at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing.

In February, she was appointed as the Suzie Conway Endowed Professor. The professorship focuses on chronic illness in the elderly. Murphy, a geriatric/adult nurse practitioner (G.N.P.), is one of the founders of UTHealth's new, university-wide Consortium on Aging.

At the May 2010 commencement ceremony, Murphy learned that UTHealth School of Nursing students had selected her as the year's winner of the John P. McGovern Outstanding Teacher Award.

"We have known since she joined our faculty in 2008 that Dr. Murphy is an outstanding nursing educator and researcher – and I'm delighted that she will join our growing roster of faculty members holding endowed professorships, especially in this increasing important specialty of elder care," said Dean Patricia L. Starck.

Phil D. Conway, past chair of the UTHealth Development Board, established the professorship in honor of his wife Suzie Conway, R.N., who served in 2007-08 as board chair of PARTNERS.



Kathleen Pace Murphy, Ph.D., speaking at her April reception honoring her appointment as the Suzie Conway Endowed Professor.

Bergstrom named to Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame



"The award itself is one of the most beautiful I've seen!" said Dean Starck about Dr. Bergstrom's STTI honor.

Nancy Bergstrom, Ph.D., R.N., the Theodore J. & Mary E. Trumble Professor of Aging Research at the UTHealth School of Nursing, was one of 22 nurses inducted last July into the newly created Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI). The STTI award honors members who have achieved long-term national and/or international recognition for their work, and whose research has influenced the nursing profession and the public.

"Induction into the STTI Hall of Fame is like a capstone award recognizing the significance of my research throughout my career," Bergstrom said.

Bergstrom, who also is director of the Center on Aging at the UTHealth School of Nursing, was instrumental in developing and testing the Braden Scale for Predicting Pressure Sore Risk. She has chaired two United States Agency for Health Care Policy and Research panels that developed guidelines for the prediction and prevention of pressure sores and for the treatment of pressure sores.

Her current work, a Phase III, multi-site clinical trial, focuses on nursing interventions to prevent pressure ulcers in at-risk nursing facility patients and is funded by three U.S. federal agencies. In 2009 her project received an additional two-year, \$67,000 grant from the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) to train students in biomedical research.

"The additional funding will allow us to offer college and high school students the opportunity to participate in an active study, which we hope will encourage them to pursue research as a career," Bergstrom said.

At a September 2010 "Excellence in Nursing" awards luncheon, Bergstrom also received a Gold Award in the Nursing Education: Faculty category from the Good Samaritan Foundation.

Other UTHealth School of Nursing nominees for 2010 Good Samaritan Foundation awards were: Erica Yu, Ph.D., R.N.; Vaunette P. Fay, Ph.D., R.N.C.; Cathy L. Rozmus, D.S.N., R.N.; and Dean Starck.

Engebretson named to new Judy Fred Professorship in Nursing

Joan C. Engebretson, Dr.PH., R.N., professor in the Department of Integrative Nursing Care at the UTHealth School of Nursing, was appointed in July to the Judy Fred Professorship in Nursing. She joined the nursing school's faculty in 1985 and holds a joint appointment in The University of Texas School of Public Health.

Herbert L. Fred, M.D., a clinical professor of internal medicine at The University of Texas Medical School at Houston, established the new professorship this year to honor his wife, Judy, for her 30-year career in nursing and her work as a member of the nursing school's PARTNERS support organization. Dr. Fred, who has spent more than 55 years as a patient advocate who teaches medical students to place patients first, describes his wife as "a modern Florence Nightingale."

"Dr. Engebretson is an invaluable member of our faculty who has made many contributions to the school's growth and its national reputation," said UTHealth School of Nursing at Houston Dean Patricia L. Starck. "Her focus in her research

and teaching on interdisciplinary and integrated health care, combined with her strong interest in clinical bioethics and professional ethics are very much in the mold of Dr. Herb and Judy Fred, whose generosity is very much appreciated."

Since 2004, Engebretson has served on the advisory committee of the John P. McGovern, M.D. Center for Health, Humanities and the Human Spirit. She is the School of Nursing representative to the campus-wide ethics program, which is designed to coordinate ethics education across all six schools of the health science center.

Engebretson has conducted ethnographic research on lay healers and alternative therapies of health and healing. She has published and lectured extensively on culture, complementary therapies and women's health behaviors. Much of her research has focused on understanding patients' experiences with various chronic conditions. She is a Clinical Nurse Specialist (C.N.S.) in maternal child health and is certified as an advanced holistic nurse.



Among her accomplishments, Engebretson – with UTHealth colleague Diane Wardell, Ph.D. – patented the first pacifier designed for low birth weight babies.

Armstrong appointed to Dunn Distinguished Professorship

In July, Terri S. Armstrong, Ph.D., R.N., associate professor in the Department of Integrative Nursing Care at the UTHealth School of Nursing, was appointed as the holder of the John S. Dunn Distinguished Professorship in Oncology Nursing.

The professorship is supported by an endowment from the John S. Dunn Research Foundation that was created in 1996 to honor the memory of its founder, John S. Dunn, Sr.

Armstrong joined the nursing school's faculty in 2007 and also is an advanced practice nurse and adjunct associate professor in the Neuro-Oncology Department at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. In 2008, Armstrong was elected to the Society for Neuro-Oncology's board of directors, a position she will hold until 2011. She has been awarded 11 research grants and contracts in the last five years. She also is the lead investigator for quality of life studies on two international brain tumor clinical trials in the Radiation Therapy Oncology Group.

"Since 1992, Dr. Armstrong has done outstanding work in the field of neuro-oncology," said UTHealth School of Nursing Dean Patricia L. Starck. "She has amassed an impressive record in research and scholarly publication and exemplifies the high standard set for the Dunn Distinguished Professorship."

Armstrong's research focus is symptom assessment and management. She has published articles in more than 25 peer-reviewed journals and over 15 book chapters on the care of patients with central nervous system tumors.





Thank You TO THESE Alumni...

McCombs School's MBA program calling UTHealth its new home

In plenty of time for the August start of its class of 2012, the McCombs School of Business of The University of Texas at Austin moved its "Texas M.B.A. in Houston" program to a new home within The University of Texas Health Science Center (UTHealth) at Houston School of Nursing.

The program is designed for rising managers and experienced professionals who seek a flexible path to an M.B.A. Offered on alternating Friday and Saturdays in Houston, this 24-month program includes the same core curriculum and faculty as the full-time M.B.A. program at the McCombs School, but with a format that allows students to continue working full time.

Texas M.B.A. program administrators cited the School of Nursing's classroom facilities, study spaces and lounges, while noting, "The new location in the Texas Medical Center also will bring the program into closer proximity to professionals who seek to apply MBA problem-solving skills in the health care industry."

McCombs educates more than 6,000 students each year, creating one of the largest cumulative impacts of any business school in the world. About 2,000 professionals also participate each year in programs designed for working executives and their firms.

Dean Patricia L. Starck wishes to recognize and sincerely thank the following graduates who generously made a gift to establish the UTHealth School of Nursing Alumni Association Endowment.

Interest earned from this endowment currently funds scholarship support to our nursing students. Alumni are encouraged to help this endowment prosper by considering a gift of any amount. For more information on becoming a part of this alumni legacy, please contact: alumni@uth.tmc.edu.

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ganiyat Adegbola | Mary Ann Kowalski |
| Patricia Anderson | Christine Leech |
| Joyce Antes | Julie Lindenberg |
| Dolores Vasquez Baker | Joseph Marek |
| Janet Beall | Gayle McGlory |
| Rebecca Blaylock-Blassingame | Gregory McLemore |
| Cassandra Cloud | Jeanette McNeill |
| Rebecca Knopp Corbet | Adrian Melissinos |
| Gale Dale | Laura Ortiz |
| Susan Distefano | Lois Pate |
| Leslie Duncan-Cameron | Julia Price |
| Andrew Eller | Mary Pat Rapp |
| Ruth Elvig | Maureen Semple-Hirsch |
| Ukachi Fadaka | Paula Shackelford Akers |
| Judy Farness | Antoinette Gonzalez Sherrill |
| Sherrie Flores | Kathleen Siders |
| Lorraine Frazier | Angela Snow |
| Melisa Frisby | Carolyn St. Clair |
| Shannon Frost | Julianne Stangel |
| Kristin Fullen | Jon Waschak |
| Janice Garza | James Webb |
| Carol Gaskamp | Mary Lynne Weemering |
| Elizabeth Gonzales | Judith Williams |
| Sheryl Guidry | Charlotte Wisniewski |
| Susan Gunn | Kristin Wooldridge |
| Patti Hardesty | Elizabeth Zebal |
| Louisa Kan | |
| Laurie Kiskorna-Monahan | <i>As of October 2010</i> |
| Kathryn Knott | |

Find The University of Texas School of Nursing at Houston Alumni Association on Facebook.



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- Mary P. Rapp, Ph.D., R.N., G.N.P.-B.C.**
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Faculty Research

- Armstrong, T., Gilbert, M.** (2008-2012). Collaborative Ependymoma Research Network (CERN). Collaborative Medical Research, LLC. (\$130,848)
- Armstrong, T., Gilbert, M.** (2008). Gauging Impact of Treatment on Symptoms, Health Related Quality of Life and Neurocognitive Function in Patients with Primary Brain Tumors. Accelerate Brain Cancer Cure (ABCC)/Tug McGraw Foundation. (\$28,860)
- Armstrong, T., Wefel, J.** (2009-2011). Phase III Double-Blind Placebo-Controlled Trial of Conventional Concurrent Chemoradiation and Adjuvant Temozolomide Plus Bevacizumab Versus Conventional Concurrent Chemoradiation and Adjuvant Temozolomide in Patients with Newly Diagnosed Glioblastoma. American College of Radiology-Radiation Therapy Oncology Group. (\$129,046).
- Bergstrom, N.** (Mentor), Nelson, F. (Ph.D. Student). (2008-2009) Frequency, Severity, and Distress of Dialysis-Related Symptoms Reported by Patients on Hemodialysis. American Nephrology Nurses Association. (\$5,000)
- Bergstrom, N., Rapp, M.P., Horn, S.** (2007-2011) Pressure Ulcers: A Multi-site RCT in Nursing Facilities. (5 R01 NR009680) National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Nursing Research. (\$2,537,614)
- Bergstrom, N.** (2009-2010). Administrative Supplement for Summer Students. Pressure Ulcers: A Multi-site RCT in Nursing Facilities. (5 R01 NR009680) National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Nursing Research. (\$67,060)
- Bergstrom, N., Nelson, F.** (2008-2009). Frequency, Severity, and Distress of Dialysis-Related Symptoms Reported by Patients on Hemodialysis. American Nurses Foundation. (\$4,000)
- Bergstrom, N.** Nelson, F. (2008-2009). Frequency, Severity, and Distress of Dialysis-Related Symptoms Reported by Patients on Hemodialysis. Sigma Theta Tau, Zeta Pi Chapter. (\$2,000)
- Calvin, A.** (2008-2009) Understanding of Advance Care Planning by Family Members of Persons Undergoing Hemodialysis. Southern Nursing Research Society. (\$10,000)
- Calvin, A.** (2008-2009) Understanding of Advance Care Planning by Family Members of Persons Undergoing Hemodialysis. Sigma Theta Tau International. (\$10,000)
- Caarez, R.** (2008-2009) Development of a Spiritually-based Self-Management Intervention Curriculum for African Americans with Type 2 Diabetes. Texas Organization of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Educators (TOBGNE). (\$1,500)
- Cohen, M.Z., Bruera, E.** (P.I.). (2006-2007) Parenteral Hydration in Advanced Cancer Patients: A Randomized Controlled Trial. National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute. Subcontract through M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. (\$59,139)
- Cohen, M.Z., Bruera, E.** (P.I.) (2006-2008) Methylphenidate for Fatigue in Advanced Cancer Patients. National Institutes of Health/National Cancer Institute. Subcontract through M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. (\$140,367)
- Engebretson, J.** (Mentor), Meyers, S. (Ph.D. Student). (2008-2009) Maternal Role and High Risk Pregnancy Experience with Antepartum Hospitalization. Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter. (\$2,000)
- Engebretson, J.** (Mentor), Meyers, S. (Ph.D. Student). (2008-2009) Maternal Role and High Risk Pregnancy Experience with Antepartum Hospitalization. Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses. (\$5,000)
- Frazier, L., McPherson, D.** (P.I.) (2006-2011) Center for Clinical and Translational Sciences – BioBank Core. (1 UL1 RR024148) National Institutes of Health/National Center for Research Resources. (\$534,171)
- Frazier, L., Boerwinkle, E., Klos, K., Moeller, F.G., Vaughn, W., Henderson-Everhard, M.** (2007-2012) Interactions Among Depressive Symptoms and Genetic Influences on Cardiac Outcomes. (1 R01 NR10235) National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Nursing Research. (\$2,365,972)
- Frazier, L., Teng-Yuan, Yu (Erica).** (2009-2011). Minority Supplement. Interactions Among Depressive Symptoms and Genetic Influences on Cardiac Outcomes. (1 R01 NR10235) National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Nursing Research. (\$209,894)
- Frazier, L., Kirksey, K., Mastel-Smith, B., McFarlane, J., Symes, L.** (2006-2007) Promoting Cardiovascular and Mental Health of Economically Disadvantaged Women Hospitalized for Acute Coronary Symptoms. American Nurses Foundation. (\$15,000)
- Frazier, L., Kirksey, K., Mastel-Smith, B., McFarlane, J., Symes, L.** (2006-2008) Promoting Cardiovascular and Mental Health of Economically Disadvantaged Women Hospitalized for Acute Coronary Symptoms. Texas Medical Center – Howell Nursing Research Grant. (\$15,000)
- Frazier, L., Willerson, J.** (P.I.), Boerwinkle, E. (2001-present) TEXGEN: Premature Myocardial Infarction/Family Study. Greater Houston Partnership. (\$200,000)
- Frazier, L., Willerson, J., Boerwinkle, E.** (2006-2011). Genetics and Heart Disease. Greater Houston Partnership. (\$925,000)
- Hanneman, S.K.** (Mentor), Hamlin, S.K. (Ph.D. Student). (2006-2007) Multi-site Randomized Clinical Trial of Horizontal Positioning to Prevent and Treat Pulmonary Complications in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients: A Pilot Study and Hemodynamic Sub study. American Association of Critical-Care Nurses – Houston Gulf Coast Chapter. (\$3,000)

continued on next page

- Hanneman, S.K.** (Mentor), Vincent, M.A. (Ph.D. Student). (2007-2008) Biomarker Circadian Rhythm Profiles in Mechanically Ventilated Critically-Ill Patients. Texas Nurses Association, District 9. (\$1,500)
- Hanneman, S.K.** (Mentor), Vincent, M.A. (Ph.D. Student). (2008-2009) Biomarker Circadian Rhythm Profiles in Mechanically Ventilated Critically-Ill Patients. Sigma Theta Tau International. (\$5,000)
- Hanneman, S.K.** (Mentor), Vincent, M.A. (Ph.D. Student). (2008-2009) Biomarker Circadian Rhythm Profiles in Mechanically Ventilated Critically-Ill Patients. Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Pi Chapter. (\$2,000)
- Hanneman, S.K.**, Gusick, G.M., Hamlin, S.K. (Ph.D. Student), Gilman Wachtel, S. (Ph.D. Student), Oldham, S., **Cron, S.** (2005-2009) Multi-site Randomized Clinical Trial of Horizontal Positioning to Prevent and Treat Pulmonary Complications in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients: A Feasibility Study. Texas Medical Center – Howell Nursing Research Grant. (\$15,000)
- Hanneman, S.K.**, Gusick, G.M., Hamlin, S.K. (Ph.D. Student), Gilman Wachtel, S. (Ph.D. Student), Oldham, S., **Cron, S.** (2005-2009) Multi-site Randomized Clinical Trial of Horizontal Positioning to Prevent and Treat Pulmonary Complications in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients: A Pilot Study. Society of Critical Care Medicine – Norma J. Shoemaker Nursing Research Award. (\$15,000)
- Hanneman, S.K.** (Mentor), Hamlin, S.K. (Ph.D. Student). (2006-2009) Multi-site Randomized Clinical Trial of Horizontal Positioning to Prevent and Treat Pulmonary Complications in Mechanically Ventilated Critically Ill Patients: A Pilot Study and Hemodynamic Sub study. American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. (\$10,000)
- Jones, D., Hanneman, S.K.** (2008-2009) Biomarkers of Experimental Pseudomonas Aeruginosa Pneumonia in Pigs Receiving Mechanical Ventilation: A Feasibility Study. PARTNERS, The University of Texas School of Nursing at Houston. (\$17,217)
- Marcus, M.T.**, Liehr, P.R., Moeller, F.G., Schmitz, J., Swank, P., **Cron, S.** (2004-2009) Stress Reduction in Therapeutic Community Treatment. (5 R01 DA017719) National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Drug Abuse. (\$1,386,864)
- Marcus, M.T.**, Taylor, W., Hormann, M. (2007-2008) Creating an Interprofessional Service Learning Model. Association for Prevention, Teaching and Research. (\$10,700)
- Marcus, M.T.**, Wetter, D. (P.I.) (2004-2008) Group Therapy for Nicotine Dependence. Subcontract through M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. (\$103,647)
- Meininger, J.C.**, Dalky, H. Translation and Cultural Adaptation of the Stigma-Devaluation Scale for use among Family Caregivers of the Mentally Ill Relatives in Jordan. Sigma Theta Tau, Zeta Pi Chapter. (\$2,000)
- Ownby, K.** Biochemical Markers for Symptom Management Research. Oncology Nursing Society Foundation. (\$13,700)
- Padhye, N.**, Lasky, R. (P.I.) (2004-2008) Effects of Noise on Newborns <1000g. (1 R01 HD42639) National Institutes of Health/ National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. (\$119,618)
- Verklan, M.T.** (Mentor), Helmreich, R. (Ph.D. Student/Fellow), **Meininger, J.C.** (Co-mentor). (2006-2008) Obesity on Vagal Tone and HbA_{1c} during Pregnancy. (5 F31 NR009611) National Institutes of Health/ National Institute of Nursing Research. (\$74,272)
- Verklan, M.T.**, Padhye, N. Heart Rate Variability and Cardiac Time Intervals in Neonates with Congenital Heart Anomalies. Texas Medical Center – Howell Nursing Research Grant. (\$25,000)
- Wasserman, J., Ostwald, S.K.** (2007-2008) Measuring Health Quality of Life in Stroke Survivors and Spousal Caregivers. Rehabilitation Nursing Foundation. (\$11,990)

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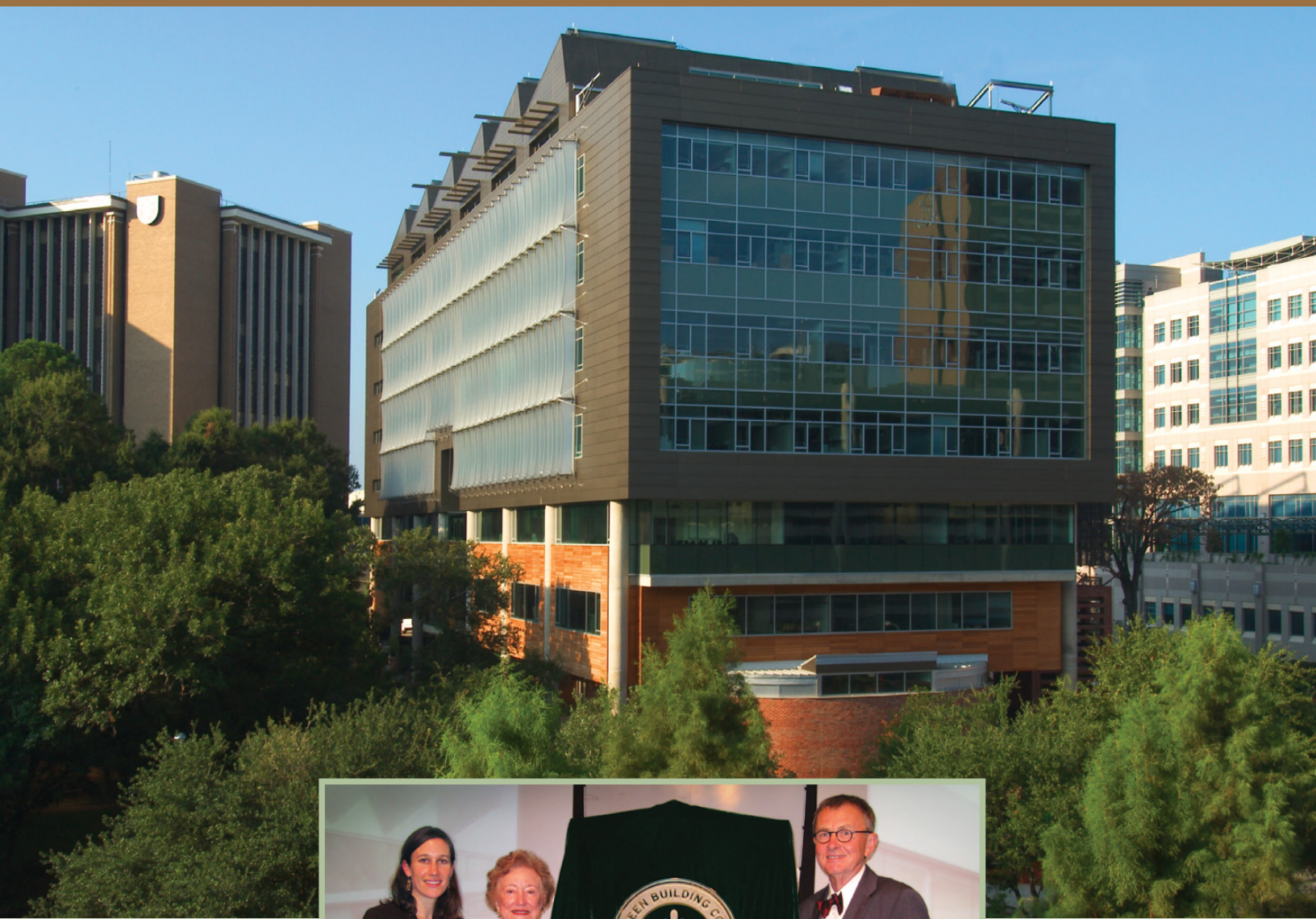


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