School of Nursing In Top 10 of Scholarly Productivity

According to the “Top Research Universities Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index,” the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing (JHUSON) has joined the highest ranks of faculty achievement among nursing schools nationwide.

The Index, published by the Chronicle of Higher Education, ranks schools and disciplines within the school based on the productivity of each PhD faculty member: books published, journal publications, citations of journal articles, federal grant dollars awarded, and honors and awards.

Although the School has a much smaller faculty than all other schools in the top 10 listing, the high productivity of those holding a PhD allowed JHUSON to rank 6th.

—LSW

Faculty Publications June 2007 – May 2008

Journal Publications

**AACN Advanced Critical Care**
“A Framework for Analysis of Ethical Dilemmas in Critical Care Nursing”
Cynda Rushton
July-September 2007

“Respect in Critical Care: A Foundational Ethical Principle”
Cynda Rushton
April-June 2007

**Acute Pain**
“Does age make a difference in procedural pain perceptions and responses in hospitalized adults?”
Julie Stanik-Hutt
September 2007

**African Safety Promotion: A Journal of Injury and Violence Prevention**
Anne Outwater, Jacquelyn Campbell, D. Webster, E. Mgaya
2007

**American Journal of Hypertension**
“Underserved Urban Black Men: Hypertension Trial Outcomes and Mortality over 5 Years”
Cheryl Dennison, W. Post, Mi Yong Kim, L. Bone, D. Cohen, R. Blumenthal, E. Rame, M. Roary, D. Levine, Martha Hill
February 2007

**American Journal of Medical Genetics**
“Interventions to improve patient educations regarding multifactoral genetic conditions: a systematic review”
Marguerite Littleton-Kearney
2008

**American Journal of Public Health**
“Risk for Reassault in Abusive Female Same-Sex Relationships”
Nancy Glass, N. Perrin, G. Hanson, T. Bloom, E. Gardner, Jacquelyn Campbell
June 2008

**American Nurse Today**
“Adverse drug reactions in the elderly”
Shari Lynn
2008

“Being with Dying, Contemplative practices for compassionate end-of-life care”
Cynda Rushton, J. Halifax, B. Dossey
2007

“Dog bites: Incidence, treatment and prevention”
Shari Lynn
2008

**Annual Review of Nursing Education**
“An Innovative Approach to Quality and Safety Education for Baccalaureate Nursing Students”
Kathleen White, Jo Walrath
July 2007

“Teaching strategies to facilitate nursing students’ critical thinking”
Janice Hoffman
2008

**Applied Nursing Research**
“Effects of a Theory-Driven Music and Movement Program for Stroke Survivors in a Community Setting”
S. Jeong, Mi Yong Kim
August 2007

**Archives of Psychiatric Nursing**
“Our Most Vulnerable Clients”
Linda Rose
December 2007

“Transitional Care for Seriously Mentally Ill Persons: A Pilot Study”
Cynthia Carbo, Linda Gerson, Linda Rose
December 2007

**Brain, Behavior, and Immunity**
“Stress, NK cells and cancer: still a promissory note”
Gayle Page, S. Ben-Eliyahu, S. Schleifer
October 2007

**Circulation**
“Perceived cardiac risk under-estimated among urban diabetics”
Jerilyn Allen, Cheryl Dennison, Alison Purcell, Sarah Santon, Martha Hill, Rosemarie Previte
2007

“High prevalence of cardiovascular risk factor clustering and suboptimal treatment among poor urban diabetics”
Cheryl Dennison, Sarah Santon, Rosemarie Previte; Martha Hill; Jerilyn Allen
2007

“Physiological factors associated with fatigue in older adults after myocardial infarction”
P. Crane, Jerilyn Allen
2007

**Community Genetics**
“Partnership with an African American Sorority to Enhance Participation in Cancer Genetics Research”
Sharon J. Olsen, K. Malvern, B. May, I. Jenkins, C. Griffin
April 2008

**Critical Care Medicine**
“Barriers to low tidal volume ventilation in acute respiratory distress syndrome: Survey development, validation, and results”
December 2007

“Patient and Intensive Care Unit Organizational Factors Associated with Low Tidal Volume Ventilation in Acute Lung Injury”
May 2008

“Recommendations for End-of-Life Care in the Intensive Care Unit”
R. Truong, M. Campbell, R. Curtis, C. Haas, J. Luce, G. Rubenfield, Cynda Rushton, D. Kaufman
March 2008

**e-Neonatal Review**
“Neonatal Transport”
Mary Terhaar, W. Price-Douglas
2007

**Ethnicity and Disease**
“Original Reports: Cardiovascular Disease and Risk Factors”
Cheryl Dennison, Martha Hill
August 2007

“Cardiovascular Risk and Comorbid Conditions Among Black South Africans with Hypertension in Public and Private Primary Care Settings: The HiHi Study”

LSW
Cheryl Dennison, N. Peer, C. Lombard, L. Kepe, N. Levitt, K. Steyn, Martha Hill August 2007
“Determinants of Hypertension Care and Control Among Peri-Urban black South Africans: The HiHi Study”
Journal of Clinical Hypertension
“Is mail intervention as effective as class intervention? A case of community-based high blood pressure control intervention for Korean Americans”
Miyong Kim, E. Kim, Hae-Ra Han, S. Jeong, J. Lee, H. Park, K. Kim, Martha Hill 2008
“Progress in prevention: raising the bar to lower blood pressure: key steps to improve blood pressure control rates”
Cheryl Dennison, S. Hughes May 2008
Journal of Clinical Epidemiology
“Systematic Review Identifies Number of Strategies Important for Retaining Study Participants”
Journal of Clinical Epidemiology
“Use of the ABC Care Bundle to Standardize Guideline Implementation in a Cardiac Surgical Population: A Pilot Study”
Jerilyn Allen Summer 2007
Journal of Clinical Microbiology
“Comparison of the BD GeneOhm Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) PCR Assay to Culture by Use of BBL CHROMagar MRSA for Detection of MRSA in Nasal Surveillance Cultures from an Art-Risk Community Population”
Journal of Community Health
“Knowledge, beliefs, and behaviors about hypertension control among middle-aged Korean Americans with hypertension”
Hae-Ra Han, K. Kim, J. Kang, S. Jeong, E. Kim, Miyong Kim June 2007

Health Policy
“Utilization of healthcare services at the end of life”
Journal of Addictions Nursing
“Impactive Roles. An Interview with Stephen Stroble”
Joan Kub 2007

Home Healthcare Nurse
“Preparing for the challenges of an aging population”
Elizabeth Tanner January 2008
Journal of Addictions Nursing
“Impactive Roles. An Interview with Susan Krupnick”
Joan Kub 2007

Homicide Studies
“Young Adult Intimate Partner Femicide: An exploratory study”
Nancy Glass, K. Laughon, C. Rutto, J. Bevacqua, Jacqueym Campbell Summer 2008

Hospital Engineering and Facilities Management
“The Role of Health Information Technology in Improving Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety”
Patricia Abbott, Laura Taylor August 2007

International Nursing Review
“Simulation education in nursing: Its Goals and Evaluation of its effectiveness”
Kathryn Kushto-Reese April 2008

Issues in Mental Health Nursing
“The Domestic Violence Survivor Assessment (DVSA): A Tool for Individual Counseling With Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence”
J. Dienermann, Nancy Glass, G. Hanson, K. Lunsford August 2007

Johns Hopkins Bayview Banner
“New graduate orientation program”
Kathie Guth October 2007

Johns Hopkins Medicine Dome
“Bayview nursing boom”
Kathie Guth February 2008

Johns Hopkins Nursing
“Does Knowledge Matter? Inter-
Journal of Critical Care
“ICU exposures for long-term outcomes research: Development and description of exposures for 150 ALI patients.”
December 2007

Journal of Diabetes Nursing
“Correlation of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms and Glycemic Control”
Anne Woods, Mary Terhaar
June 2007

Journal of Family Issues
“How Children and Their Caregivers Adjust to Intimate Partner Violence”
Jacquelyn Campbell
January 2008

Journal of General Internal Medicine
“A pilot test of Guided Care on the quality of Primary Care Experiences for Multi-Morbid Older Adults”
C. Boyd, E. Shadmi, L. Conwell, M. Griswold, B. Leff, Rosemarie Brager, M. Sylvia, C. Boult
February 2008

Journals of Gerontology
“The Long-Term Relationship between High Intensity Senior Service and Physical Activity in Older African American Women”
Elizabeth Tanner, C. Frangakasi, M. Carlson, G. Rehok, Q. Yu, M. Ricks, L. Fried
2008

“Assessing satisfaction with family support in homebound older adults”
Elizabeth Tanner, D. Roth, I. Martinez
2008

Journal of Hospice and Palliative Nursing
“Patients’ experiences of being a burden on family in terminal illness”
Marie Nolan, J. Johnson, D. Sulmasy
October 2007

Journal for National Black Nurses Association
“Patient Perspectives on Disparities in Healthcare from African-American, Asian, Hispanic, and Native American Samples Including a Secondary Analysis of the Institute of Medicine Focus Group Data”
Fannie Gaston-Johansson, F. Hill-Briggs, Lola Oguntomile, Vanessa Bradley, P. Mason
December 2007

Journal of Neuroimmunology
“Male-female differences in the impact of beta-adrenoceptor stimulation on resistance to experimental metastasis: exploring the effects of age and gonadal hormone involvement”
Marguerite Littleton-Kearney, Gayle Page
January 2008

Journal for Nurse Practitioners
“Changing of the guard”
Julie Stanik-Hutt
January 2008

“Be a Squeaky Wheel”
Julie Stanik-Hutt
April 2008

“Caring for Vulnerable Populations: The Role of Academic Nurse-Managed Health Centers in Educating Nurse Practitioners”
Shirley Van Zandt; Elizabeth Slaad, A. Wilkins
2008

Journal of Nursing Administration
“Accelerating Improvement: Implications of the IOM Report for Nurse Executives”
Robin Newhouse
June 2007

“Leadership Books For Busy Nurse Executives And Their Leadership Teams”
Maryann Fralic
November 2007

“Organizational change strategies for evidence-based practice”

Robin Newhouse, S. Dearholt, S. Poe, L. Pugh, Kathleen White
December 2007

Journal of Nursing Care Quality
“The Johns Hopkins Fall Risk Assessment Tool: Postimplementation Evaluation”
S. Poe, M. Cvaich, P. Dawson, H. Straus, and Elizabeth Hill
October-December 2007

“Improving patient safety and communication through care rounds in a pediatric oncology outpatient clinic”
C. Blough, Jo Walrath
April-June 2007

“The medication process: patients’ perspectives”
Jo Walrath, Linda Rose
October 2007

“Use of the ABC Care Bundle to Standardize Guideline Implementation in a Cardiac Surgical Population: A Pilot Study”
July/September 2007

Journal for Nurses in Staff Development
“Making the Vision Reality: Educational Strategies to Develop Evidence-Based Practice Mentors”
S. Dearholt, Kathleen White, R. Newhouse, S. Poe, L. Pugh
March/April 2008

Journal of Nursing Education
“Challenges and Benefits of International Clinical Placements in Public Health Nursing”
Elizabeth Slaad, Kelly Bower, Sara Groves
Jan-Feb 2008

Journal of Pain and Symptoms Management
“Coping with recurrent breast cancer: predictors of distressing symptoms and health-related quality of life”
E. Sarenmalm, J. Öhlén, T. Jonsson, Fannie Gaston-Johansson
July 2007

“The impact of symptoms, coping capacity, and social support on quality of life experience over time in patients with lung cancer”
I. Henoch, B. Bergman, M. Gustafsson, Fannie Gaston-Johansson, E. Danielson
October 2007

Journal of Professional Nursing
“Doula care: Nursing students gain additional skills to define their professional practice”
Elizabeth Jordan, Shirley Van Zandt, E. Wright.
March-April 2008

Journal of Psycho-Oncology
“Experience and predictor of symptoms, distress and health-related quality of life over time in postmenopausal women with recurrent breast cancer”
Fannie Gaston-Johansson
September 2007

Journal of Scandinavian Nursing
“Symptom experience, psychological distress, and perceived health in postmenopausal women with breast cancer”
E. Sarenmalm, J. Öhlén, T. Jonsson, Fannie Gaston-Johansson
July 2007

Journal of Women’s Health
“Ethnicity and Vasomotor symptoms in postmenopausal women”
S. Appling, K. Paez, Jerilyn Allen
October 2007

National Fetal-Infant Mortality Review Program (NFIMR) Bulletin
“When an Infant Dies: Cross Cultural Expressions of Grief and Loss III”
Jodi Shaefer
July 2007

Nurse Clinic
“Directions of disaster nursing education in the United States”
Marguerite Littleton-Kearney, L. Slepiski
March 2008

Nurse Educator
“Challenges and benefits of International Clinical Placements in Public Health Nursing”
Elizabeth Slaad, Kelly Bower, Sara Groves
January-February 2008
Nursing Management
“Health care reform: What are we improving?”
Kathleen White
September 2007
“Health savings accounts: The future of health insurance”
Kathleen White
March 2008

Nursing in Research & Health
“The Protective Role of Tangible Social Support on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms in Urban Women Survivors of Violence”
Nancy Glass, N. Perrin, Jacquelyn Campbell, K. Soeken
October 2007

Oncology Nursing Forum
“Health-related quality of life among postmenopausal women with breast cancer during adjuvant chemotherapy and radiotherapy”
March 2008

Pediatrics
“Effectiveness of a Practice-Based, Multimodal Quality Improvement Intervention for Gastroenteritis Within a Medicaid Managed Care Network”
September 2007

Research in Nursing & Health
“The Protective Role of Tangible Support on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms in Urban Women Survivors of Violence”
Nancy Glass, N. Perrin, Jacquelyn Campbell, K. Soeken
October 2007

Sexually Transmitted Diseases
“Providers’ Perceived Barriers to Sexually Transmitted Disease in Two Large Health Maintenance Organizations”
February 2008

Social Science and Medicine
“Provider and clinic cultural competence in a primary care setting”
Jerilyn Allen, K. Carson, L. Cooper, K. Paes
December 2007
“Relationship of Race and Poverty to Lower Extremity Function and Decline: Findings from the Women’s Health and Aging Study”
R. Thorpe, J. Kasper, E. Simonsick, Sarah Szanton, K. Frick, D. Melzer, L. Fried
February 2008

Southern Medical Journal
“Miracles and Medicine: An annotated bibliography”
Joan Kub, Sara Groves
December 2007

The Gerontologist
“Guided Care for Multimorbid Older Adults”
C. Boyd, C. Boul, E. Shadmi, B. Leff, Rosemarie Brager, L. Dunbar, J. Wolff, S. Wegener
October 2007

The Internet Journal of Advanced Nursing Practice
“Patient-centeredness in counseling in hypertension care after consultation training for nurses - a concept analysis”
E. Drevenhorn, A. Bengston, Jerilyn Allen, R. Saljo, and K. Kjellgren
2007

Trauma, Violence & Abuse
“Acute Injury Patterns of Intimate Partner Violence Victims”
Daniel Sheridan, K. Nash
July 2007
“Prior Domestic Violence is the Major Risk Factor for Intimate Partner Homicide”
Jacquelyn Campbell, Nancy Glass, Phyllis Sharps
July 2007

Violence Against Women
“The Influence of Gender Role Stereotyping on Women’s Experiences of Female Same-Sex Intimate Partner Violence”
Nancy Glass, D. Hassounah
March 2008

Books/Chapters
Assessing Dangerousness: Violence by sexual offenders, batterers, and child abusers (2nd edition)
Jacquelyn Campbell (ed.)
Chapter, “Prediction of Interpersonal Violence: An Introduction”
Daniel Sheridan, Nancy Glass, B. Limandri
Springer Publishing
June 2007

Chronic Wound Care: A clinical source book for healthcare professionals (4th edition)
Chapter, “Skin care of the oncology patient”
Anne Belcher
D. Krason, G. Dodeheaver, G. Sibbald (eds.)
Health Management Publications
2009

Comprehensive Hypertension
Chapter, “Multidisciplinary Management of Hypertension and the Role of the Nurse”
Cheryl Dennison, Martha Hill
G. Lip, J.E. Hall (ed.)
Mosby
2007

Drug Therapy in Nursing
Chapter, “Drugs affecting men's sexual health and sexuality”
Shari Lynn, Diane Aschenbrenner, S. Venable
Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
2008

Health Effects of Intimate Partner Violence: Aiming Toward Prevention
Chapter, “Health Effects of Partner Violence: Aiming toward Prevention”
Jacquelyn Campbell, M. Bary, K. Laughon, Anne Woods, J. Lutzer, D. Whitaker (eds.)
APA
2008

Hypertension Primer: The Essentials of High Blood Pressure, 4th Edition
Chapter, “Adherence to Antihypertensive Therapy”
M. Styles, M. Schumann, C. Bickford, Kathleen White
American Nurses Association
2008

Cheryl Dennison, M. Houston
J.L. Izzo, D. Sica, H.R. Black (eds.)
Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
2008

Johns Hopkins nursing evidence-based practice model and guidelines.
R. Newhouse, S. Deartholt, S. Poe, L. Pugh, Kathleen White
Sigma Theta Tau International
2007

Primary Care of the Child with a Chronic Condition (5th ed.)
Chapter, “Allergies”
Elizabeth Sloand
P.A. Allen and J.A. Vessey (eds.)
Mosby
2008

Preventing intimate partner violence and sexual violence in racial/ethnic minority communities: CDC’s demonstration projects
Chapter, “An arts based initiative for the presentation of dating violence among African American adolescents: Theoretical foundation, program components, and lessons learned”
Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
2007

Public Health Nursing: Leadership, Policy, and Practice
Chapter, “Economics of Public Health Nursing”
K. Frick, and Kathleen White
L.L. Ivanov & C. L. Blue (eds.)
Thomson Delmar Learning
2007

Specialization and Credentialing in Nursing Revisited.
Understanding the Issues, Advancing the Profession
M. Styles, M. Schumann, C. Bickford, Kathleen White
American Nurses Association
2008
My Profession
by Marlon Caballero
as told to Shuxin Flanniken

Growing up on my father’s ranch in the Philippines, I wanted to be a cowboy.

My dad could see that I would succeed in anything I attempted.

It was only natural for me to get a BS in animal science.

I began to see a future for me in the field of health care.

I began assisting with clinical studies with humans.

It was much more rewarding.

I decided to go into nursing.

I applied to 9 different schools.

I was shocked when I was accepted by 8 of the 9 schools I applied to.

I chose Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.

I met some amazing faculty members and enjoyed a first rate curriculum.

I took a summer job in San Diego doing cancer research with pigs.

We were surgically removing their sentinel nodes to prevent the spread of cancers.

I spent 4 years working for 7 different doctors— with a large variety of animals.

How do you feel now?

Much better.

I gained experience in a Burn ICU, and I loved it.

Don’t worry... there’s a great team here to take care of you.
I was most impressed by the other students at Hopkins.

They inspire each other, and they are encouraged to bring new ideas into the school.

Some friends and I formed nursing students united for advocacy and action, which promotes diversity, inclusion, and collaboration.

The NSUAA hosts “Enlighten the Night,” showcasing Hopkins students’ many talents as artists and performers.

We spent 5 days of our school week in class, and about 2 days doing clinical work.

We were all very nervous about finals... and the licensure exam.

Everyone had their own way of studying.

No worries—I graduated in June.

I’ve already got a job lined up in the neuroscience unit where I had been externing.

Then I’ll spend some time with my family.

I have a big family, and many of them are nurses.

Best of all, my father is proud of what I have accomplished.

Before I start my new job, I’ll be going to South Africa for a visit.

View more photos of Marlon Caballero at www.son.jhmi.edu/marlon
Sticks, Stones, Cancer Treatments, and Bones

E ach year, as many as 2,000 children become long-term cancer survivors thanks to a powerful treatment tool: bone marrow transplantation, or BMT. However, this aggressive treatment, when successful in defeating the cancer, is known to come with potential long-term damage to a child’s bones. Without intervention, the damage can lead to considerable pain and disability later in life.

Writing in the Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing, Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing clinical instructor and PhD candidate Kathy Ruble, MSN, RN, describes the incidence, risks for occurrence, and symptoms of three of the most salient bone problems that occur in the decades following successful bone marrow transplantation among young cancer patients. They include bony lesions on the skeleton called osteochondromas that can cause pain or restrict movement; thinning bones that can lead to fractures; and avascular necrosis, the death of bone tissue that leads to bone collapse, most often in the knee, shoulder, or hip.

“Oncology nurses are leading the way in the care of cancer survivors and play a critical role in ensuring the best possible outcomes for these individuals,” Ruble observes. She recommends the steps oncology nurses can play in the early identification and treatment of these potentially disabling conditions during routine care of long-term survivors of childhood cancer. Careful review of each patient’s individual risks for these BMT complications, coupled with ongoing monitoring, diagnosis and treatment (including behavioral, pharmacological and physiological interventions) can help promote healthier lives for thousands of young cancer survivors.

—Teddi Fine

Family History of Colorectal Cancer May Make African-Americans Less Likely to Get Screened

R egular colorectal cancer screening is one of the most powerful weapons in preventing colorectal cancer. It can, in many cases, prevent the cancer altogether. Yet Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing researcher Kathleen Griffith, PhD, CRNP, has discovered that African-Americans with a family history of colorectal cancer are less likely to be screened than those at average risk for the disease. Findings also suggest that African-Americans with a family history are also less likely to be screened than their white counterparts.

“African-Americans have the highest colorectal cancer incidence and death rates—and the lowest screening rates—of all racial groups in the United States,” says Griffith. “It is difficult to explain why African-Americans who perceive an increased risk for developing cancer, particularly those with a family history of colorectal cancer, are less likely to get screened. Our results suggest that there are some other factors, which we haven’t included in this study, that affect their screening decision.”

Griffith and her colleagues from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, analyzed data from the 2002 Maryland Cancer Survey, a telephone survey of more than 5,000 Maryland residents, to look for predictors of screening among African-Americans. Analyses revealed that, regardless of family history, individuals who are physically active or who receive a health care provider’s recommendation for colorectal cancer screening are more likely to obtain risk-appropriate screening.

With additional research, Griffith hopes to develop culturally tailored interventions to increase screening rates, which in turn could ultimately improve early detection and reduce colorectal cancer deaths in African Americans. The study is published in the July 15, 2008 issue of CANCER, a peer-reviewed journal of the American Cancer Society.

Adapted from CANCER press release
The Next Research Generation: Managing Uncertainty, Improving the Quality of Life

Nursing research has helped extend the lives of people diagnosed with cancer by promoting adoption of a team approach to care. Today’s young nurse researchers, such as Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing post-doctoral fellow Maya Shaha, PhD, RN, are going one step further, focusing on improving the quality of life and not just extending the life for cancer patients.

Following a cancer diagnosis, patient uncertainty, stress and anxiety often remain pervasive, affecting the quality of life for both patient and family. Little is known about factors that contribute to this uncertainty or how those factors can be managed. Shaha and colleagues conducted a literature review of over 40 articles that included the issue of uncertainty among breast, colon and prostate cancer patients.

The review yielded three sources of patient uncertainty: post-diagnosis information needs; decisions about treatment; and impact on home and family. The review also confirmed that patient uncertainty ebbs and flows with the course of the illness and treatment. Shaha postulated that assessment and management of patient uncertainty should be a routine part of comprehensive cancer care. —TF

Living with Cancer: Mind Does Matter

The connection between mind and body is not lost on researcher and Director of the Office for Teaching Excellence Anne Belcher, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN, and Professor Fannie Gaston-Johansson, PhD, RN, FAAN. They are two of a growing number of faculty and researchers at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing who are integrating patient self-care, from visualization to meditation and from spirituality to laughter and exercise, into comprehensive treatments for cancer.

Gaston-Johansson and colleagues compared two groups of breast cancer patients who were undergoing chemotherapy, one of which had been trained in specific strategies to foster relaxation and positive thinking. The women who used their newly minted coping strategies experienced less depression and anxiety as well as less nausea and fatigue during their bouts with chemotherapy. As Director of the JHUSON Center on Health Disparities Research, Gaston-Johansson is also working to level the health care playing field for underserved populations, including African-American women with breast cancer.

In a recent study, she found that the same spirituality and faith that influence African Americans’ general health practices, beliefs, and outcomes also have a positive influence on physical and emotional wellbeing during breast cancer treatment.

Gaston-Johansson’s suggestion that nurses can help make spiritual and faith-oriented coping strategies part of comprehensive breast cancer treatment plans for women of diverse ethnic and racial backgrounds resonates with Belcher, who has suggested in Oncology Nursing Society News that nurses should add expertise at the interface of clinical and spiritual issues as part of the skills they bring to the cancer treatment team. Belcher also adds a somewhat different take on the power of the mind-body connection. She prescribes humor in liberal quantities, which she says, “stimulates the release of endorphins that can help control pain and help people sleep better. There’s some evidence it boosts our immune system and, of course, it helps psychologically.” —TF
An astonishing 20 percent of the nurses on Hopkins’ Cardiac Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) are male—more than three times the national average. What makes it such an appealing work site? The men say it’s the fast pace, the technology and the perspective they bring to working with families of the critically ill.

“We have a lot of autonomy,” says Aaron Crowther, who came to work on the unit directly out of the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing two years ago. “The doctors trust us to make decisions and give us leeway with ‘as needed’ orders. If [a patient’s] potassium is low, we can give potassium. We don’t have to run for an order every time.”

Crowther’s co-worker, Michael Dawson, likes the immediate gratification that comes from that kind of independence, as well as the opportunity to work with his hands. Although he was a floor nurse before joining the Cardiac SICU six years ago, he feels that the unit, with its Swan and pulmonary artery catheters, its dialysis machines and balloon pumps, makes the best use of his analytical skills. “With all these gadgets, I get it. I get how they work, and I get what they do.”

Then there’s the matter of bringing emotional balance to a unit where reactions to illness among families vary widely. “When it comes to family members being ill, guys don’t look at it the same way that women look at it,” he says. “Having this mix on our staff lets us bring different perspectives to the table. I have gained so much from my female colleagues. This unit has been outstanding for me to develop as a nurse—emotionally, technically and professionally.”

—Mary Ellen Miller
And the Winners Are…

At this May’s Annual Nursing Awards Program, four awards were presented to nurses at The Johns Hopkins Hospital by Karen Haller, PhD, RN, Vice President for Nursing and Patient Care Services.

The Shirley Sohmer Award for Research
Dennis W. Jones, MS, RN, Clinical Instructor at JHUSON

The Linda Arenth Award for Innovation in Service Excellence
Halsted 8—a medical unit

The Nursing Publication Award
Webra Price Douglas, PhD, CRNP, IBCLC and Beth C. Diehl-Svrjcek, MS, CRNP, CCRN CCM, LNCC

The Josie King Grant for Innovation in Public Safety
Mary Cooper, MS, RN; Diane Kurowski, RN,BC; Janice Knowles, RN, BC; Rachel Worthington, RN, BC; Marina Needham, PMHNP, BC; Lorraine Curbeam-Giles, Clinical Associate; Tiffany Lindsey, Clinical Associate; R. Sam McGee, Clinical Associate; Joyce Parks, RN, CNS, BC

Notable Nurses
The Johns Hopkins Hospital Safety Stars program honors staff members who take bold steps to protect patients. Through actions that are proactive, courageous, patient-centered, and beyond the call of duty, these nurse safety stars have prevented medical errors and identified hazards: Catherine Desai, RN; Jenny Helzer ’03, RN; Estrellita Laurel, RN; Robin Lewis, RN; Elizabeth A. Luna, RN; Ronaldo Santos, RN; Leisha Todd, RN; and Caroline Umana, RN.

Kathy DeRuggiero, MSN, RN has been named director of nursing for emergency medicine. A 20-year Hopkins veteran, she began her career as a staff nurse at what is now Johns Hopkins Bayview. In 2005, she moved to the East Baltimore campus to become assistant director of nursing for emergency medicine.

JoAnn Ioannou, MSN/MBA ’05, RN, has been named assistant director for medical nursing. Most recently, she was nurse manager for Osler 4. Currently enrolled in the doctor of nursing practice program, she received the Human Resources Presidential Leadership Award in 2007.

Renay Tyler, MSN ’05, ACNP, CNSN, RN, has been named assistant director of nursing for advanced practice in the Department of Surgery. Tyler, a 23-year Hopkins veteran, will be part of the surgical nursing leadership team assisting with the recruitment, development, and retention of nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

What’s in a name?
The COWs (computers on wheels) on the WICU (Weinberg ICU) now each have their own name. One resident only wants to use Lulu, seen here with Donna Prow (BoN ’01), nurse manager on the WICU, who dreamed up the scheme. Another staff member favors Ethel. Or was that F. A. Mignon? The devices, which look like a herd of tall-size shopping carts, come complete with picture IDs.
Johns Hopkins Bayview Nurses Named Finalists in Nursing Spectrum’s 2008 Nursing Excellence Awards

Four registered nurses from Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center were named finalists in Nursing Spectrum’s 2008 Nursing Excellence Awards in the following categories: Advancing and Leading the Profession, Teaching, Management, and Clinical Care.

*Advancing and Leading the Profession—Carol Ball, RN, MAS, senior director of nursing, builds and justifies the patient care budget and advocates for nursing departmental needs so the professional caregivers at the bedside have what they need to provide the best care possible. Through her loyal leadership, she bridges the gap between finance and clinical care.

*Teaching—Ilene Jones, RN, MSN, CEN, CCRN, clinical nurse specialist, helped develop an innovative, interactive orientation program to prepare new graduates to work in the emergency department (ED). Five of the six nurses in the first cohort—and all nine in the second group—continue to work in the ED, which now has a zero percent vacancy rate. The success of the program led the hospital to expand the orientation to all acute-care units.

*Management—Elaine Gittings, RN, BSN, patient care manager, has stepped beyond routine management responsibilities to design, build, and plan the implementation of an executive service-rounding program. Her efforts have reduced patient falls, increased compliance for pneumonia vaccinations, and reduced the RN vacancy rate on her unit from 50 percent to less than 2 percent during her six-year tenure. Gittings is a contender for the National Nurse of the Year Award.

Clinical Care—A nurse for 27 years,

Lucinda (Cindy) Kahoe, RN, BSN, CNRN, advanced clinical nurse, draws on her knowledge, technical skills and critical thinking abilities to deliver quality, safe and compassionate patient care. Kahoe recently developed a program to decrease noise on the unit so patients can rest better. She also has assumed a leadership role in helping the hospital on its Magnet journey.

Notable Nurses

Ella Durant, LPN, received the 2008 Diversity Recognition Award from the Johns Hopkins Medicine Diversity Leadership Council. She was recognized for celebrating and embracing diversity both at Johns Hopkins Bayview and in her community.

John Preto, MSN, RN has been appointed director of nursing for medicine.

Kathy Owens, RN, BSN, has been named director of nursing for perioperative services.

Infection Detection

Howard County General Hospital sets up a successful MRSA project in its ICU.

When staff at Howard County General Hospital noted a steady increase in the number of patients with Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), they pulled together a team to slow the antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

Their screening program, which began in February 2007, was launched on the hospital’s 16-bed intensive care unit where many patients, especially those who are elderly and transferred from nursing homes, are considered at high risk of infection from MRSA.

Infection control manager Barbara O’Connor, who facilitated the team of nurses and physicians, says the mission was straightforward: Identify patients colonized with MRSA—those who are not sick and show no symptoms but carry the germ—and implement precautions to prevent those patients from transmitting it to others.
To screen patients, nurses swab each nostril of the patient's nose. Specimens are then sent to Hopkins Hospital's microbiology laboratory for testing. Patients are monitored weekly after the initial screen to ensure they have not contracted MRSA during their stay. Those found to have MRSA are placed on precautions, and bright colored signs are posted outside their rooms to alert health care workers and visitors to take precautions before entering.

Results from the screening program during the first 10 months were dramatic. Although HCGH's ICU-acquired rate for MRSA was below the national benchmark, the program reduced the unit's rate by more than half, to about 0.7 cases per 100 admissions. In addition, for the first time since 2004, MRSA is a significantly lower percentage of the hospital's total Staph infections.

“Before we began doing this, more than half of MRSA cases went undetected,” says O'Connor. “Although the program is based in ICU, it's impacted the entire hospital.”

The team's results were so striking, in fact, that the project captured the hospital's Tim Kelly Award for Quality and Excellence. In addition, O'Connor presented the initiative at the annual Maryland Patient Safety Conference in Baltimore in March.

At a time when state legislators and health officials continue to debate whether to require MRSA testing in all Maryland hospitals, O'Connor says HCGH is working to expand the screening program unit by unit, as training and resources catch up. The 30-bed oncology unit is next.

—Janet Anderson
As a Hopkins Nurse...

...a world of opportunity awaits.

As part of a team of world-class clinical experts, you will bring the latest advances in care and practice to your patients, throughout the world.

Unlimited career opportunities, educational assistance, and top-notch training give you endless possibilities for professional growth.

Be a Hopkins nurse. Visit workingathopkins.org to apply.
¡Bienvenido, Bebecito! Welcome to the World.

By Lauren Shimek ’09

On a cold Thursday morning in March, a warm squirming bundle taught Lauren Shimek ’09 what it means to be a nurse. This birth was the first that she attended as part of her clinical rotation on the Obstetrics and Gynecology unit at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center.

8:00 a.m. A 19-year-old Hispanic woman comes into the unit for a scheduled c-section. She speaks no English. With a few years of undergraduate Spanish and a recent medical terminology course under my belt, she’s designated to be my patient for the day.

8:30 a.m. As a translator, I help the nurse complete the assessment information and prepare the patient for the operating room.

9:00 a.m. I orient her husband to the recovery room, assist him in gowning up for the operating room, and explain what will happen during the procedure.

9:30 a.m. My patient and I are in the OR with the scrub nurse, resident and attending surgeon. As my patient receives her epidural, the attending anesthesiologist explains to me step-by-step what the resident will do to administer the pain medication. I help to translate this process to my patient.

9:45 a.m. I gown myself in sterile scrubs and gloves to assist in the operation with the surgeon and resident. Elbow to elbow with the surgeon, she explains to me the process of the cesarean. Layer by layer, my patient is sliced open. Upon reaching the uterus, one last precise incision is made and the bag of water ruptures. My gown is soaked in amniotic fluid; my hands and wrists are covered in blood.

10:04 a.m. The attending pulls out a 38-week-old baby boy. My hands catch part of the baby and cradle him as the umbilical cord is cut. The attending surgeon pulls the uterus out of the woman's abdomen while cleansing the patient’s inner cavity. She points out to me the ovaries and the fallopian tubes. I help the attending and resident by retracting the initial incision’s edges while my patient’s uterus is sewn back together and returned to the abdomen.

10:45 a.m. My patient is stitched up, her baby is in a bassinet nearby undergoing initial assessments, and the surgeons are leaving the OR. I speak with my patient about her delivery, ask her how she is feeling, and reenact the sensation of catching her baby from the uterus and describe how beautiful his little face was.

11:15 a.m. In the recovery room, I assess the vital signs of my new mom, put a warm blanket on her, and explain to her how to use her patient-controlled anesthesia pump.

11:30 a.m. I wrap up her new baby in a warm blanket, bring him to her chest, and we both admire his soft features and tiny body. He sucks on my finger.

11:45 a.m. A lesson in breast feeding—my new mom has never breast fed. I teach her how to cradle his head against her chest, listen for the sounds to assure that he is suckling, and explain the importance of her own milk during the first few hours of the child's life.

12:00 a.m. I recognize the phenomenal opportunity that I have as a nurse to support my patient. I was at her side from the moment she walked in the door to the unit until that priceless moment when her baby sucked from her breast for the first time. For a 19-year-old woman, these moments are scary, anxiety provoking, and extremely personal. As a nursing student and her advocate, I educated and comforted my patient while simultaneously acting as her voice and translator.

Why did I choose nursing? For priceless experiences like these: using the Spanish language to coach a fearful young patient through the process of receiving an epidural and catheter; the opportunity to teach her the process of breast feeding; and the ability to soothe this new mom’s worries by assuring her that I’ll be at her side through the entire process. The way I felt today is how I want to feel the rest of my life in nursing.

Read Lauren’s blog at www.son.jhmi.edu/lauren.