Being on the 'Front' or the 'Edge'?

The American Academy of Nursing has a ‘Raise the Voice’ campaign through which they profile colleagues and initiatives deemed ‘edge runners’ – those creating transformative initiatives in learning, discovery or practice. This triggered thinking as to whether we as UA Nursing are pursuing a ‘front runner’ (improving current landscapes) or an ‘edge runner’ (carving out new landscapes) status? Moreover, this led me to think more deeply about our present day frontiers in nursing. Two come to mind: the creative pursuit of comprehensive care and the innovative harnessing of health informatics technologies.

Many are talking about the huge need for expanded primary care and coordinating care. However, few evolving models go far enough. I note most if not all front runner models, e.g., transitional care, CareMore, EverCare (United Healthcare), retail clinic care, have nursing practice as key or at the core. As good as some models are, to transform our healthcare system; we still need a ‘C’ change! Community-centric (instead of hospital-centric), comprehensive care would be not just coordinated and connected but continuous, constant, centered (on patients), competent (best practices based on best knowledge), culturally-composed, and compassionate. Who better to envision, engage and innovate around this than nurses? Indeed, faculty practice leaders in our College are envisioning Healthcare 360 – with an eye to it becoming an edge-runner initiative.

What especially will make the continuous, connected, and constant features of comprehensive care is innovative harnessing of health informatics technologies – perhaps orchestrated through ‘cloud’ technology? Evolving is the ability to e-communicate and data share, e-coach and guide, e-treat and monitor and access e-protocol and decisional support. Couple this with enface connections as needed for the ‘best of both’ and care will be transformed – will move toward comprehensive.

Of course, as nurses, we are not in this by ourselves. A cross-cutting frontier is inter-professional collaboration and how to create stellar education, research and practice models. In this newsletter see two examples of our commitment under headline Interprofessional Collaboration and ad for unique CAB-III conference (College sponsor).
Faculty Researcher Receives 2011 Path Finder Award

Ida (Ki) Moore, DNSc, RN, FAAN, professor and director, Biobehavioral Health Science Division College of Nursing, will be receiving the 2011 PathFinder Award from the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research (NIH). This prestigious national award is given to a nurse researcher whose work demonstrates a sustained program of scientific contributions in a field that advances understanding of human health and healthcare.

Dr. Moore has a long-standing externally funded program of research focused on children with cancer, especially leukemia. Her work translates to critical insights for promoting cognitive and school performance recovery from the potentially devastating childhood cancers and their associated medical treatments.

Dr. Moore accomplishments will be recognized at the FNINR NightinGala on October 14, 2011 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington DC.

Welcome New Faculty!

Mary Doyle, PhD, RN, CPHQ, has expertise in informatics and quality management, home health care, hospice and implementation science. mdoyle@nursing.arizona.edu

Judith Follbaum MSN-edu, RN, a specialist in medical surgical nursing, cardiology and critical care has an abiding interest in the ways to alleviate multisystems failure. jfollbaum@nursing.arizona.edu

Lisa Kiser, MSN, RN, CNM, WHNP, certified nurse midwife and women’s health nursing practitioner (NP) and ’Wildcat' Nurse Alumna (2003) is a master clinician in women’s health care and health promotion, midwifery, childbirth education and breast feeding. lkiser@nursing.arizona.edu

Melanie D. Logue, PhD, DNP, APRN, CFNP, first ’Wildcat’ nurse alumna to earn a dual DNP/PhD. A family NP, she participates with fellows from the other three UA Health Sciences Colleges (medicine, pharmacy and public health) immersed in the UA inter-professional faculty fellowship (see next page). mlogue@nursing.arizona.edu

Rebecca Lee Ross, PhD, RN, PMHNP-BC, psychotic and mental health NP pursues understanding the intersect between chronic mood disorders accompanying chronic widespread pain and chronic sleep deprivation. rross@nursing.arizona.edu

Audrey Russell-Kibble, DNP, FNP-C, with extensive experience as a Family NP, joined us as Director of Clinical Practice Innovations and will be advancing our collaborative and nurse-led comprehensive care nursing practice initiatives. audreyrk@nursing.arizona.edu

Kate Sheppard PhD, RN, FNP, PMHNP-BC, psychiatric and mental health NP is focused on advancing practice in emergency, primary and pre-hospital care. She is studying compassion fatigue among health care providers, and depressive symptoms among vulnerable populations. ksheppard@nursing.arizona.edu

Jason T. Shuffitt, DNP FNP-BC, Family NP, is pursuing the role of health information technology (HIT) in standardizing care delivery, increasing access to evidence-based health care, and improving care delivery. jshuffitt@nursing.arizona.edu

Machelle (Shelly) A. Strand, MSN/Ed, BSN, RN, has shifted to the College after seven years at The UAMC-UC and is highly experienced in Critical Care and Emergency Nursing. mstrand@nursing.arizona.edu

Patty Wilger, MS, RN, has expertise in behavioral health, addictions, and organizational learning and development, and particularly is focused on alcohol and drug detoxification and rehabilitation. pwilger@nursing.arizona.edu
Inter-Professional Collaboration

Melanie Logue, PhD, DNP, APRN, CFNP, clinical assistant professor, is the nursing faculty fellow in the Arizona Area Health Education Centers (AzAHEC) Inter-professional Academic Fellowship. Faculty fellows, one each from the four UA Health Sciences Colleges (Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health) are pursuing collaborative practice and clinical outcomes and comparative effectiveness research.

Focused on primary care delivery to underserved communities in Southern Arizona, the aim is to develop clinician-educator-researchers knowledgeable and experienced in cross-disciplinary rural, patient-centric primary care. The two-year fellowship began July 1, 2011.

Faculty and Staff Attend NAHN

Joanne Douthit, Cheri Lacasse, Linda Perez, as faculty, and Sue Habkirk, Student Affairs staff, networked, shared ideas/resources and reached out to hundreds of Hispanic student nurses and nurse leaders at the 2011 National Association of Hispanic Nurses (NAHN) conference this summer in Las Vegas, NV.

ENVISION

Engage

LinkIN! Leader Opens New Insights

AConn, a member of the Diné nation was never aware of Integrative Therapies before Mary S. Koithan, PhD, RN-C, CNS-BC, College of Nursing LinkIN! leader placed her in an internship. One generated at UA by collaboration between with the Undergraduate Biology Research Program, and Partnership for Native American Cancer Prevention, aligned with the Native American Research and Training Center. Until a recent family illness, AConn did not understand the basis of cancer treatments or what cancer meant to people.

Within Navajo culture, talk of cancer is avoided. During weekly team meetings, AConn could share her non-biomedical perspectives from the Native American community and in turn gained cross-cultural knowledge about cancer and integrative therapies.

As an intern, AConn travelled to Niagara Falls, NY for the 23rd Annual Native Health Research Conference and learned from Native American students from all over the world. She also attended the NACP Summer Institute, focused on prevention and treatment of cancer for Native Americans.

LinkIN! Community Cancer Connections was seeded by the Sunstone Legacy Grant to establish a program for cancer survivors, focused on the incorporation of integrative therapies for healing body, mind and spirit. http://linkin.nursing.arizona.edu

Imagine Life Without Toilet Paper

In Yuma, Arizona, three energetic recently graduated UA BSN alums, while students, engaged their community to help meet a basic need for a faith-based shelter. During a community research project, Eugenia Johnson-Barton, Laura Monks, and Sarah Strom, discovered that The Crossroads Mission in Yuma, which supports needy men, women, and families, had run out of money for toilet paper.

In response, these ‘Wildcat’ nurses planned and organized a two-day event at a local shopping center to collect toilet paper donated from shoppers, an event published in The Yuma Sun. While braving 114 degree F temperatures, Eugenia, Laura, and Sarah publicized their project by holding signs that declared Imagine Life without Toilet Paper! Having set a goal to collect 1,000 rolls, by the end of the 2nd day, they had collected over 2000 rolls of toilet paper!
On August 11th, Commencement was held to recognize the 8th class of students already holding a university degree for having earned a BSN degree. Degrees were conferred by President Eugene G. Sander, PhD.

Many of the 92 graduates received generous tuition support and these graduates were welcomed into the profession by Julie Hunt, MSN, RN, Northwest Medical Center (MC) assistant chief nursing officer (CNO); Cheryl Young, MS, RN, Tucson MC vice president (VP) and CNO; Vickie Began, MS, RN, The UAMC-UC VP patient care services and CNO; and Sally Reel, PhD, RN, FNP, BC, FAAN, FAANP, Director, Arizona Area Health Education Centers. Since June 2003, a total of 550 students have graduated from this program.

Awards (graduates):
- College of Nursing Alumni Council
  Sarah A. Strom
- Gladys E. Sorensen for Academic Excellence
  Julie A. Allen
- Pearl Parvin Coulter
  Abby Marie Sprenger

Awards (faculty):
- Excellence in Teaching
  Judith Mueller, MSN, RN, clinical instructor

Additional photos are available at www.nursing.arizona.edu/photogallery.asp

Note: Next convocation to be held December 16, 2011