Beyond the Bedside
Alumni make their mark outside the traditional clinical setting

Inside: THE CDC NURSE | CAMPAIGN WRAP-UP
COGNITION AND CHRONIC ILLNESS | REMEMBERING MARY HALL
The health of Delta Air Lines workers comes first for Lynn Zonakis 80N. As managing director of health strategy and resources for Delta, Zonakis oversees the corporate health program for 80,000 employees and dependents.

She is among many nursing alumni whose careers have taken them beyond the bedside. Nancy Langston 72MN, newly retired dean of the Virginia Commonwealth School of Nursing, again chairs the National League for Nursing (NLN) Foundation for Nursing Education. She first chaired the foundation during her tenure as NLN president. Mary Lambert 81MN now teaches at the School of Nursing after a distinguished career in public service with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Food and Drug Administration, and other federal agencies. Eve Byrd 86N 98MN/MPH traveled to Liberia for the Carter Center to train nurses as mental health clinicians. J. Michael Pate 81MN has held assignments in Tokyo, Kuwait, Baghdad, and now London with the U.S. Department of State. What these alumni have in common is the uniqueness of their career paths. Here at Emory, we pride ourselves in preparing nurse leaders, and our alumni never fail to exceed our expectations.

Our proximity to the CDC offers diverse opportunities for many of our graduates. During National Nurses Week, more than 250 Georgia nurses gathered there for a symposium on public health and health care collaboration. Shauna Mettee 09MN/MPH organized the daylong event as president-elect of the CDC/ATSDR Nurses Work Group. Its members—nearly 200 nurses in all—represent all branches of the CDC and the ATSDR (Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry) in the United States and abroad.

Mettee has made it a goal to expose more of our students to the variety of career opportunities at the CDC. “I’ve always felt that the CDC was the perfect place for me,” says Mettee, who has investigated disease outbreaks as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer and now serves in the Office of the Associate Director for Policy.

In this issue of Emory Nursing, you’ll get a glimpse into the careers of alumni who are shining examples of the many ways Emory prepares nurse leaders who are creative, strategic, and patient-focused, wherever they choose to serve. I hope you are as proud of our nursing legacy as I am!

Sincerely,

Linda A. McCauley 79MN PhD RN FAAN FAAOHN
Dean and Professor
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Beyond the Bedside

By Dana Goldman, Marlene Goldman, and Sally Wolff King 79G 93PhD

What do a primate researcher, camp director, health management consultant, attorney, ministry of health leader, educator and disaster volunteer, and community health training leader have in common? All are nursing alumni who work outside the traditional health care setting. To date, the School of Nursing has 6,538 living alumni. Whether they work in Georgia, the Southeast, or beyond, all are bound by their Emory nursing education, which prepared them for careers in diverse settings. The following pages showcase alumni whose work takes them beyond the bedside.
The story of how two Emory nurses founded a summer camp for kids with cancer began with an assignment. “I have to give Emory credit for the fact we had to write a thesis,” laughs Dorothy Jordan 82MN PMHCNS-BC, now a clinical instructor at the School of Nursing.

In the early 1980s, Jordan’s thesis research led her to a summer camp for kids with cystic fibrosis. The camp provided medical care that ordinary camps did not, as well as a uniquely normal experience for kids whose lives were often anything but. Quickly she became convinced that the camp provided healing that medicine could not.

“Camp engendered a sense of community, the sense that they’re not alone in what they’re experiencing,” she remembers. “I was just blown away.” She began thinking about what it would take to create a camp for kids with cancer.

No matter that just a few similar camps existed around the nation. Soon, Jordan started meeting with doctors, fund-raisers, and other nurses, including pediatric oncology nurse Sally Hale 80MN RN. In 1983, Camp Sunshine opened near Atlanta to provide a normal childhood experience for children with cancer. Hale volunteered as camp nurse, and Jordan served as camp director.

“At the time, there were a lot of amputations and prosthetics,” says Jordan. “A lot of kids wore wigs in an attempt to feel normal.”

When Jordan walked down to the lakefront one day, she witnessed a remarkable sight. “Kids were getting in the lake, and there were wigs and prosthetics strung across the dock and kids laughing and screaming and not hesitating to whip off their wigs and play and not feel different. I can’t tell you how powerful that was.”

Five years later, Jordan asked Hale to become the executive director of the then-young nonprofit. “I believed in the camp, so I told her I’d do the job for a year until we found someone else,” says Hale. “That was in 1987, and I haven’t left yet.”

As Camp Sunshine grew, Hale learned that her nursing education had prepared her well for running a nonprofit. “It teaches critical thinking and how to multitask and assess a complicated situation and come up with a plan. It teaches you to work on a multidisciplinary team and to be a leader of that team.”

Hale also reassured parents worried about sending their medically fragile children to camp. “When they find out my background is nursing, it reassures them a lot that we understand what their child’s treatment is all about,” she says.

These days, Camp Sunshine runs not just summer camps for kids and teens with cancer, but also year-round programs for patients, parents, and siblings around the state. Its headquarters are located near the Emory campus. Many adult volunteers include past campers, including a recent School of Nursing graduate. Nursing students also volunteer throughout the year.

Jordan now serves on the board and, like Hale, keeps busy with behind-the-scenes work to keep the camp going. But come summer? Thirty years after its founding, Jordan and Hale wouldn’t miss camp for the world.—DG
Just a few years ago, Victoria Horner’s family and friends didn’t mince words when she told them she would be attending nursing school. You’re totally insane. Why would you want to go back to school? That’s crazy, they said. After all, the Scotland native had already earned a PhD and spent years researching chimpanzees, first in Uganda and most recently at Yerkes National Primate Research Center, where she worked with the highly esteemed primatologist Frans de Waal.

Horner hadn’t fallen out of love with her chimp research, she told her friends. But she was ready to pursue her longtime dream of nursing.

“I had been interested in nursing since I was a little girl,” says Horner 11N PhD. She was equally drawn to working with chimpanzees and eventually moved to Atlanta in 2003 for a position at Emory and Yerkes. “The nursing bug was always there,” she adds.

In Atlanta, she discovered that American nurses were well respected. Finally, she says, “I just decided I’m going to do it. I’m going to go back to school and become a nurse.”

It didn’t hurt that Emory had a top-notch nursing program and that as a current employee she could qualify for the courtesy scholarship program. Her experience at the School of Nursing affirmed her decision.

“I was more impressed with nursing than I thought I was going to be, and I had pretty high expectations,” she says. “I didn’t realize how sophisticated nursing is.”

From there, a focus on oncology seemed like a good match, in part because of the rapidly changing protocols based on new research. Says Horner, “It seemed like a really good fit for me.”

These days Horner splits her week between Yerkes and her oncology patients at Emory University Hospital. The skills she honed as a primate researcher now help her quickly understand and integrate new oncology protocols and research.

“I love working with chimps, and I love being a bedside nurse,” she says. “You need to use a lot of intuition and empathy to work in both environments.”

Most of Horner’s nursing colleagues know little if anything about her other life as a Yerkes postdoctoral fellow at a prestigious lab. And that’s fine with her.

“I work with nurses who are just amazing,” she says. “We all bring our own personal experience into our jobs. Mine just happens to be chimpanzees.”—DG

“I love working with chimps, and I love being a bedside nurse. You need to use a lot of intuition and empathy to work in both environments.”

—Victoria Horner
Legal Eagle for Children

It’s 4:00 a.m. and the ring of Samantha Steiner’s cell phone jars her from a deep sleep.

On the other end is one of her many “clients” from Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. A social worker wants to clarify who can give informed consent for a procedure for a child brought to the hospital by her grandmother. The child’s parents are divorced with a complicated custody order.

The early hour and complex question are common for Steiner ’05OX 07N JD, who has grown accustomed to being on call 24/7 as a risk manager for Children’s three hospitals and 22 outlying facilities. The former emergency room nurse shares call with four other risk managers who help hospital staff navigate the legal challenges in health care today.

“We deal with a broad spectrum of what goes on in the hospital—it could be a security issue, a consent or custody matter, or handling difficult family situations,” Steiner says. “Sometimes, the staff member just wants to give me a heads up. Other times, they want advice and want to make sure I’m okay with how they’re dealing with a situation.” She also helps educate staff about policies regarding end-of-life issues, safety, and other areas of the law.

Growing up in Duluth, Georgia, Steiner was fascinated by the intersection of health care (her mother is a respiratory therapist at Emory University Hospital) and law (several relatives are attorneys). By her second year of nursing school, she was seriously considering pursuing law as well and was encouraged by her mentor, nursing faculty member Corrine Abraham ’85MN DNP RN. In 2009, Steiner enrolled in an accelerated program at the University of Dayton School of Law in Ohio and earned her juris doctorate two years later.

Her education is ongoing, says Steiner, who notes that risk management is a gray area of health care. Originally focused on insurance and risk analysis, risk managers of today also deal with complex regulatory issues and interact with almost every discipline, including in-house counsel, security staff, quality and patient safety, social workers, physicians, nurses, and educators.

Issues involving children are often more complex than those for adults since children cannot make their own medical decisions. “It’s often unclear who can consent for a minor’s treatment,” says Steiner. “We deal with families from many different backgrounds, so I help social workers sort through court orders to determine who can make medical decisions.”

Her nursing background and experience come in handy in her job. “At Children’s, we deal with many complicated medical issues, so my training at Emory definitely helps,” she says.

“My nursing experience taught me a strong work ethic that I was able to carry through law school.”—Samantha Steiner

“My nursing experience taught me a strong work ethic that I was able to carry on through law school.”—Samantha Steiner

“Knowing how to read medical records saves time when a physician comes to me with a concern and lets us move quickly past the medical piece. My nursing experience taught me a strong work ethic that I was able to carry on through law school. Having real-world nursing experience first made me tough.”—MG
In a world where health care and business are inextricably linked, Eddie Gammill 01N 05MN advocates for the patient’s best interest. That’s good for the bottom line too.

As a health management consultant for Towers Watson, a global consulting firm, Gammill applies his nursing background to the business side of medicine by helping business leaders understand how their decisions could impact the health and quality of their employees.

He works with teams of actuaries, generalists, specialists, and project managers to present and analyze benefit plans and data about national trends and support plan design and vendor selection. His clients—some with as many as 400,000 employees—come from industries as diverse as hospital, education, retail, energy, and manufacturing, even rocket science.

“A key part of my job is to bring a clinical perspective to discussions related to health and benefits design,” Gammill says. “As health care becomes more costly, it’s important to consider the clinical impact of health care, the scope of those services, and the implications if programs are scaled back or eliminated.

“We also evaluate health management programs and services and implement changes to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of those programs to ultimately improve the clinical delivery of services and hopefully the health of employees.”

Towers Watson works closely with organizations to help control health care costs while keeping employees healthy and productive, according to its website.

“The beauty of consulting is that we provide our clients with data to help them decide how aggressive or not they want to be in their benefits packages—for example, how many of their peers are levying tobacco surcharges or what are the costs and benefits of offering on-site medical services?” Gammill explains.

“Clients want to know what their peers are doing and how the rest of the world is approaching health care benefits. We help our clients analyze where they are and where they want to be. If they want to implement a new program, we advise them on how to implement and integrate it with other carrier partners such as care management programs, disease management programs, behavioral health, pharmacy, dental, and eye.”

The former opera singer and emergency, trauma, and cardiac nurse discovered the field of corporate health and wellness while earning his master’s degree in nursing leadership and administration at Emory. After a graduate residency in corporate health and the wellness program at Coca-Cola, he spent six years as Emory’s manager for wellness programs before joining Towers Watson.

He advises other nurses interested in consulting that it’s essential to have a good understanding of business and how business impacts health.

“But once a nurse, always a nurse,” Gammill says. “I still help people every single day but in a different way. Rather than giving medicine or doing a procedure, I help clients make decisions that have the potential to affect the health of thousands.”—MG

“Clients want to know what their peers are doing and how the rest of the world is approaching health care benefits.”—Eddie Gammill

Health Care and the Bottom Line
Triplet Skills, Triple Rewards

In sports, the term “triple threat” describes a player who is adept in three areas. The same can be said of Barbara McLean ’92MN in her roles as clinical specialist, global educator, and disaster volunteer.

In her part-time position at Grady Memorial Hospital, McLean provides clinical care expertise and education for the 30-bed trauma-surgical unit and the 30-bed medical intensive care unit. She spends 30 hours per week in nursing rounds, consultation, and practice as well as impromptu bedside education and discussion. She offers advanced education for critical care personnel, including house staff and nursing staff in the Level 1 trauma center at Grady, develops critical care case studies and protocols, mentors senior nurses, assists in the direct care of high-acuity patients, and helps resolve family issues.

Outside of Grady, McLean has spoken at critical care conferences and taught in hospitals in the United States, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. She lectures to both nurses and physicians. “I talk about how to collaborate and rely on each other for evaluation in critical care,” she says.

“Physicians rely on the data delivery of nurses,” she adds. “Nurses have to demonstrate a high level of skill at the bedside and be able to transfer that information to others in an organized approach.”

In recent years, she has regularly taught a 10-week intensive care course in Tanzania and visited Haiti 14 times to educate clinicians and assist with disaster relief. She was on the ground in Haiti three days after the 2010 earthquake. Following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, she connected with the University of Texas to provide disaster relief. Last fall, she traveled to New York to help fill the profound need for nurses after Hurricane Sandy. In addition, McLean travels twice yearly to Nicaragua as a consultant on critical care at Hospital Aproquen Los Ninos.

Her efforts have not gone unnoticed. She is the recipient of the Norma Shoemaker Excellence in Critical Care Nursing Award, a lifetime achievement bestowed by the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM), and the Distinguished Service Award, presented by the same society, for her volunteerism. McLean has received other awards from SCCM and the American Association of Critical Care Nursing.

“I do what I do,” she says, “because that is the most intimate and rewarding experience one can have—caring for people.”—SWK
In 1980, Robin Davis 76MN RN had the good fortune to represent at a meeting in Washington, D.C., the International Nursing Services Association (INSA)—a nonprofit founded by Emory School of Nursing leaders to train nurses from other countries. There she met an Episcopal priest from Haiti who described the need for community health workers in his country. Thus began Davis’s foray into developing in-country workshops and programs to broaden health workers’ skills in primary care, leadership, program management, and community outreach.

“INSA started the community health program in Haiti that is still a flagship program of Global Health Action (GHA),” says Davis, who became GHA executive director in 1985. “At the same time, we were getting similar requests in India from nurses, doctors, and other health professionals who had skills for clinical facilities but were not trained to do community-based outreach and primary health care.”

Today, GHA has an in-country staff in Haiti, and INSA/India operates as a sister program of GHA, which marked its 40th anniversary in 2012. Since its founding, GHA has trained thousands of community health leaders in 97 countries. It specializes in community-based health care delivery, women’s health, reproductive health, program management, and rural development in underserved areas of the world.

GHA is rooted in the School of Nursing through the leadership of its founders, the late Ada Fort, longtime dean of the School of Nursing, and Virginia Proctor 50G 50T, former director of student development. Established in 1972, INSA was renamed Global Health Action in 1993.

Those trained by GHA have become chief nursing officers in their own countries. Still others safeguard health in communities and villages with limited resources in the face of political and environmental challenges. “It’s been wonderful to see over the years how health professionals and community leaders continue the work that we help them start,” says Davis.

Kamal Das, a GHA program graduate in India, became director of nursing for a government-owned hospital in Bhopal. In 1984, when a chemical plant leaked deadly gas in the densely populated city of Bhopal, Das mobilized the hospital to respond. She received the National Nursing Award of India that year for her efforts. “The award was presented by Mother Teresa,” Davis recalls.

Prior to the formation of INSA, Davis led the skills lab and taught clinical pediatrics at the School of Nursing. During her tenure with GHA, she has served on the board of directors of the Global Health Council (GHC) in Washington and as national board president of Christian Connections for International Health. She recently co-chaired the Faith and Global Health Caucus of GHC.

After 40 years, Davis still draws inspiration from the leaders behind INSA. “We have had stellar leadership in the School of Nursing for so many years,” says Davis. “We are indebted to Ada Fort and Virginia Proctor for their vision that created and nurtured Global Health Action.” —SWK
Moving Farther Down the Wicket

I am not sure whether I chose Emory, or Emory chose me,” says Jamaican nursing leader Leila McWhinney-Dehaney ’06PhD.

Prior to studying at the School of Nursing, McWhinney-Dehaney was an experienced nurse-midwife who had long been involved in the dialogue on the health sector in Jamaica, the Caribbean, and the rest of the world. She met Marla Salmon, then dean of the School of Nursing, who was working with Caribbean health leaders to address nursing workforce issues in the region under the auspices of the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility. Salmon encouraged McWhinney-Dehaney to enter the doctoral program.

A year after completing her PhD, McWhinney-Dehaney became the chief nursing officer with the Jamaican Ministry of Health. She is past chair of the Regional Nursing Body of CARICOM (Caribbean Community), serves with the Global Leadership Collaborative of the World Health Organization, and formerly advised a research initiative on HIV policy development in sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean at the University of West Indies School of Nursing. For these efforts, she received the 2012 Sheth Distinguished International Alumni Award from Emory last fall.

McWhinney-Dehaney credits Salmon with shaping her career path and strengthening nursing education and practice in Jamaica and the Caribbean. “Marla focused on nursing leadership and opportunities to develop and sustain the nursing workforce,” she says. “She had a tremendous influence on the Regional Nursing Body. She recognized the need for Emory to have an international presence in nursing.”

Like many countries, Jamaica struggles to promote health and prevent disease. Nurses are poised to provide solutions. “They are the ones who are always in contact with the patient,” McWhinney-Dehaney explains. “Once a nurse is in place, then there ought to be a significant difference in the life of the client and the nation.”

Jamaica is striving to meet the eight Millennium Development Goals set by the United Nations to address problems related to health, education, poverty, and the environment. As part of this pledge, nurses are charged with promoting immunizations to reduce childhood mortality and acquiring advanced skills in midwifery to improve maternal health.

“Our infant mortality rate is going down. Not as much as it ought to, but it is a significant change for a country like ours.”
— Leila McWhinney-Dehaney

“Our infant mortality rate is going down. Not as much as it ought to, but it is a significant change for a country like ours,” the chief nursing officer says.

Other factors are critical to good health—education, social support, and collaboration among health care providers. When doctors, nurses, midwives, and pharmacists work as a team, “that gets us farther down the wicket,” says McWhinney-Dehaney, referring to the scoring method in cricket, the national sport in Jamaica. “We move closer to our goals.”—SWK
The CDC Nurse

While Emory nursing alumni who work at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention share the credential “RN,” they hold various positions with titles other than “nurse”—program manager, epidemiologist, public health adviser, statistician, behavioral scientist, contractor, and deputy director. Currently, 25 alumni serve with the CDC. Whatever their job description, all share a commitment to improving the health of people and communities.

By Pam Auchmutey

Bracing for Influenza
When someone asks Lisa Koonin 86MN 86MPH what she does for a living, she has a ready response.

“I plan and prepare,” says Koonin, senior adviser for the Influenza Coordination Unit at the CDC. “I think through things that people don’t have on their radar screens. If there’s an outbreak of influenza, it could present a lot of thorny problems.”

This past spring, Koonin spent long hours in the CDC’s Emergency Operations Center to help monitor the outbreak of avian influenza in China. Whether it’s H7N9 or the H1N1 flu, which spread rapidly from Mexico to the United States in 2009, Koonin leads the task force that considers and plans for providing medicines to ill persons and guidelines to health care providers if a pandemic occurs.

During the 2009 H1N1 pandemic, Koonin led an initiative to deliver flu vaccines to pharmacies to get them to the public more quickly. Within days, her unit put together a plan to distribute 5.4 million doses around the country with the help of large pharmacy retailers like CVS and Walgreens and pharmacies in grocery and big box stores.

In 2009, the Minnesota health department developed a nurse triage line to advise callers on how to treat H1N1. The health department also used a protocol whereby nurses provide patients with antiviral medicines under physician supervision. Currently, Koonin is leading a CDC effort to test this concept for nationwide use during a future pandemic. This effort aims to reduce treatment delays by speeding up the availability of medicine and reducing surge demand on medical facilities.

“Most people with a health insurance plan are likely to have access to a nurse triage line. We would like to create a triage line for those who don’t have access,” says Koonin. “The CDC project is trying to leverage the existing resources of entities that do this work every day. There are 57 poison control centers in the United States staffed by nurses and pharmacists. We’re looking at these services as a way to expand the triage network.”

The project, still under development, “capitalizes on the unique talents of nurses to teach, coach, and provide timely information to help people make health decisions during a public health emergency,” she adds.

Since joining the CDC in 1987, Koonin has served as chief of reproductive health surveillance, director of the Office of Healthcare Partnerships, and branch chief for Public and Private Partnerships. She first worked as a nurse with a family practice in rural North Carolina. In May, she received her doctorate of public health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

“I never thought in a million years that I would end up with a career in public health,” says Koonin. “It’s been a wonderful career to have.”
AT THE HEART OF PUBLIC AWARENESS

Each year in the United States, 600,000 men and women die of heart disease. Despite all that is known about prevention and risks, heart disease causes one in four deaths annually.

“The public doesn’t realize that heart disease is the leading cause of death,” says Amy Valderrama 01MN 06PhD of her motivation as an epidemiologist with the Division for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention at the CDC.

Valderrama relies daily on her skills and training as a nurse clinician and researcher to guide the collection and analysis of data to answer questions that arise in working with state health departments and various divisions at the CDC.

“In my division, very few people have a clinical background,” she says. “When questions come up that require a clinical opinion on heart disease or stroke, they are sent to one of us.”

Among her accomplishments, Valderrama led the development of the CDC’s Vital Signs September 2012 program on uncontrolled hypertension, which included an article in the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. In conjunction with publication of the article, the CDC hosted a virtual town hall to answer questions from state and local health officials and a teleconference for health bloggers who could then post information about hypertension on the web, Twitter, and Facebook. She also has collaborated with the CDC’s Division of Reproductive Health on several journal articles about hypertension screening and treatment among women of childbearing age.

Valderrama has treated heart and stroke patients in open heart ICUs in West Virginia and Georgia. As a doctoral student at Emory, she studied the predictors of fatigue in patients with permanent atrial fibrillation. At the CDC, she is now on temporary assignment with the Center for Global Health to provide expertise on hypertension.

“The CDC has been a great experience,” Valderrama says. “You’re working with a variety of colleagues and learning at the same time.”

FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL HEALTH

Tuberculosis is Kay Lawton’s favorite disease. She developed her affinity while working as a public health nurse with the DeKalb County Health Department. She regularly treated TB patients at home and came to know them and their families.

“A lot of them were very cool characters,” says Lawton 78N 84MN, who rose through the ranks of the health department to become director of nursing. But that was as far as she could go. In 1988, she joined the CDC’s Division of TB Elimination as a nurse consultant.

“I worked with nurses all around the country who were managing tuberculosis care and prevention programs in state health departments,” she says.

Intent on moving into the management track, Lawton joined the Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention in the early days of the AIDS epidemic. She remained with the division for 10 years and ultimately became deputy chief of the Prevention Services Research Branch. During the next decade, Lawton served as deputy director of the Division of Parasitic Diseases, part of the National Center for Infectious Diseases. She logged thousands of miles worldwide and traveled primarily to field stations in Guatemala and Kenya, both rich environments for testing malaria interventions.

In 2011, Lawton joined the Center for Global Health to oversee its management, operations, and infrastructure. Of the 1,500 people who staff the center, 350 live and work in other countries. “It’s a very dynamic environment,” says Lawton of the center. “There’s always an evolving, urgent situation that requires us to quickly deploy lots of people to build the infrastructure to support a particular investigation or endeavor.

“We’re always looking to bring young professionals into the field of global health,” continues Lawton, a participant in the School of Nursing’s speed mentoring program for students. “You need that constant infusion, which drives the care and feeding of our student and fellowship programs to make sure we are always bringing in new blood.”
TALKING UP SEXUAL HEALTH

CDC health scientist Rheta Barnes 99MN/MPH thinks and talks about sexual health every day. Discussing it is paramount in her work to prevent sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

“Sex affects just about everybody,” says Barnes, who leads a training unit in the CDC’s Division of STD Prevention (DSTDP). “It's an important part of people’s health care, but it's often overlooked because providers and patients may be uncomfortable talking about it. Some of the training we provide is designed to make providers more comfortable. By talking about sexual health, you can have a positive effect on someone's life by preventing or promptly treating an STD.”

Barnes saw the effects of STDs while practicing at Hughes Spalding Pediatric Hospital and as a visiting nurse in Atlanta. After completing her dual degree at Emory, she accepted a fellowship at the CDC focused on STD control to prevent HIV. The fellowship led to her position in the DSTDP, where she now manages two training programs for health professionals.

One program targets disease intervention specialists at state and local health departments. The other program provides funding for STD/HIV Prevention Training Centers. Through this network of regional centers, specialists train clinicians nationwide who serve populations at risk for STDs and HIV.

“These centers train about 4,000 clinicians per year face-to-face,” says Barnes. “About 40% of them are nurses. Of those, about 15% to 20% are nurse practitioners. That’s in addition to clinicians who receive online training.”

Barnes’ unit took the training modules for STDs and translated them into web-based self-study curricula for clinicians. Trainers are now updating the curricula to include the latest STD treatment guidelines. Her unit also developed a ready-to-use curriculum for nursing and medical faculty.

For many nurses, direct contact with patients drives them in their work. The nurses in Barnes’ division are far removed from that. “We provide training to clinicians so they can provide optimal care to their patients,” she says. “That’s where we can focus to make a difference.”

BAND OF NURSES

During National Nurses Week in May, more than 250 Georgia nurses gathered at the CDC to brainstorm on ways to bridge public health and health care. Shauna Mettee 09MN/MPH, president-elect of the CDC/ATSDR (Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry) Nurses Work Group, led the development and coordination of the daylong symposium.

“As trained ‘system thinkers,’ nurses are uniquely poised to address prevention and quality of care,” says Mettee. “Nurses can bridge the cultural gap between public health and clinical care and be innovative leaders in this time of health system change.”

The CDC/ATSDR Nurses Work Group includes nearly 200 nurses across the globe who support the CDC’s mission of protecting health and saving lives.

“While ‘nurse’ is rarely in our official title, nursing expertise and training strengthen our impact at the agency and in the communities we serve,” says Mettee.

A former laboratory scientist, emergency room nurse, Epidemic Intelligence Service officer, and CDC fellow, Mettee is now a public health adviser in the CDC’s Office of the National Prevention Strategy (NPS). Mettee provides technical assistance to the National Prevention Council, led by U.S. Surgeon General Regina Benjamin, which developed the NPS to increase the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life.

The CDC/ATSDR Nurses Work Group is looking to expose more Emory nursing students to learning and career opportunities at the CDC. Mettee hopes to replicate the success of the Student Outbreak Response Team (SORT), a volunteer group at Rollins School of Public Health that assists with local outbreak investigations and emergency preparedness. As a student leader with SORT, Mettee helped strengthen its ties with the CDC.

“Nursing students are often unaware of the exciting array of opportunities available to them beyond the clinical realm,” says Mettee. “Working at the CDC, I’ve had the chance to use my nursing training and clinical experience to try to improve health at the population level. It’s a wonderful place to work.”
In the largest fund-raising effort ever undertaken in Georgia, Campaign Emory raised more than $1.69 billion university-wide. When the campaign ended last year, the School of Nursing also had set a record, with more than 3,000 individuals, corporations, and foundations contributing a total of $27.5 million for student scholarships, faculty research, service-learning projects, and academic programming.

“We are grateful to our donors,” says Dean Linda McCauley. “Because of their support, we are advancing our mission to educate nurse leaders and scholars, generate knowledge, and improve health and health care—all in service to the global community.”

LEARN MORE: View our thank-you video for Campaign Emory donors at bit.ly/SONcampaign.

FACT: In 2012, Emory nursing students logged 17,000-plus service-learning hours locally, nationally, and globally.

The MyEmory Connection
Sally Lehr 65N 76MN PhD APRN- BC FAACS, clinical associate professor, served as health sciences co-chair of MyEmory, the employee and retiree component of Campaign Emory. Joyce King 95PhD RN CNM, clinical professor, chaired MyEmory at the School of Nursing, where 70% of faculty and staff participated in the campaign. They joined with university colleagues to raise $108 million for Campaign Emory.

View our thank-you video for Campaign Emory donors at bit.ly/SONcampaign.
Caring for Vulnerable Populations

Each June, Emory nursing students travel to Moultrie, Georgia, to provide health care services to seasonal farm workers and their families. By collaborating with the Ellenton Clinic in Colquitt County, the Farm Worker Family Health Program treats nearly 1,000 people each year.

Since the program began in 2002, students and faculty have treated more than 8,000 adults and children. The program is supported through private funding, including a $50,000 gift from the Stahl Family Foundation and alumna Lynn Heilbrun Stahl 76C during Campaign Emory.

Emory nursing students also take part in service-learning projects in Atlanta, West Virginia, the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

FACT: More than 50% of students choose to enroll at the School of Nursing because of its commitment to service. Among BSN students, 47% are second-career students.

SERVICE-LEARNING

A Healthy Start for Mothers and Babies

Mothers and babies in rural Ethiopia have a greater chance of survival because of a project led by the School of Nursing. The Maternal and Newborn Health in Ethiopia Partnership takes a community approach to strengthening health services from birth to 48 hours after delivery when mothers and newborns are most vulnerable.

These efforts are supported with more than $12 million in grants, including $8.1 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and $4.5 million from the Micronutrient Initiative. Lynn Sibley PhD RN FAAN FACNM leads the project in collaboration with Emory nursing students and health partners in the United States and Ethiopia.

FACULTY RESEARCH

Changing the World

The Fuld Fellowship Program covers tuition for second-career nursing students like Christina Cummings 13N 15MN. After earning her college degree, Cummings worked to alleviate family poverty in Central America and Seattle, Washington. In doing so, she discovered the connection between nutrition, health, and primary and preventive care. Cummings plans to use her voice as a family nurse practitioner to help shape low-cost, quality health care for all families. Her fellowship is funded by a gift from the Helene Fuld Health Trust for nurses wishing to serve vulnerable populations.

THE SECOND-CAREER STUDENT
Gaining Research Expertise

When researching health interventions for rural populations in Southeast Georgia, assistant nursing professor Tami Thomas PhD CPNP RNC FAANP was on the road many mornings by 5:30, undergraduate student research assistants in tow. Sam Snell 13N and Amy Blumling 09OX 12N spent hours interviewing community members and performing any other tasks that Thomas assigned.

“I could have hired a research assistant, but I chose to work with undergraduate students in the honors research program and put them on these grants because they are the future of nursing,” says Thomas, whose work was funded by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. She has published a number of papers based on her research into disseminating information on health care innovations to rural populations experiencing health disparities.

“Dr. Thomas readily sought out the thoughts and perspectives of her student research assistants, and I felt like a genuine partner in her research team—contributing to the course of our projects and collaboration,” says Snell, a Dean’s Leadership Scholar.

—Maria Lameiras

Dream Come True

Andrew Koroma 12N first heard about Emory as a high school student in Africa. He came to the United States in search of education and a better life. He worked nights at a gas station and eventually became a surgical technologist, which exposed him to all of the career opportunities that the health field had to offer. Koroma eventually enrolled at the School of Nursing, aided by scholarships funded with gifts to Campaign Emory and the advice of his mentor, J. David Allen 67C 70D 75DR, Campaign Emory co-chair for the school. Koroma now works in the neuro ICU at Emory University Hospital.

Says Koroma, “I hope to have a successful career as a nurse and give back to the Emory community the way that so many helped me.”

Looking to the Future

A growing number of alumni and friends are supporting the priorities and projects that mean the most to them through planned giving. Susan Smith 70MN PhD made a planned gift to create a scholarship named for retired faculty member Barbara Reich MN RN, who influenced her life and career.

“Because of her, I continued my education and received a PhD in nursing from the University of Texas at Austin in order to teach at both the graduate and undergraduate level,” says Smith. “I taught for more than 30 years and taught all subjects, but my favorite subject to teach was pathophysiology because of the interest Barbara sparked in me during my time at Emory.”

Today Smith works as a family nurse practitioner in the emergency department at Presbyterian Healthcare Services in Albuquerque. “Barbara has been my inspiration all the way through my career,” she says. “I still have my original notebooks from her class and have referred to them over the years.”
Lillian Carter made a lasting impression on her famous son when he was a child—even when she wasn’t around. Her absence from home meant that she was out in the community providing nursing care, primarily to poor African American families.

“We didn’t see her for weeks at a time,” recalled Nobel laureate and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter during a lecture sponsored by the Emory Student Nurses Association (ESNA). “My mother devoted her life to caring for people in need.”

Carter and his three siblings grew up in Archery, Georgia, just west of the town of Plains, where his mother practiced nursing at Wise Sanitarium, his birthplace. “I was the first president born in a hospital,” Carter told his audience of more than 400 nursing, public health, and medical students this past spring.

Since joining Emory as University Distinguished Professor in 1982, Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, have led the efforts of the Carter Center to advance health and peace worldwide. In the years since, the center has strived to eliminate Guinea worm disease in Africa and Asia and make it the second disease to be eradicated after smallpox. They also have worked to observe elections and resolve conflicts in other countries, pioneer public health approaches to prevent or control neglected tropical diseases, and improve mental health care and reduce stigma.

“You can tell where my heart is because of my mother and background,” Carter said of his life’s work. “There’s no way to separate political freedom and democracy from the basic rights of food, health, security, and human dignity.”

“Nurses and public health professionals are the ones who see the adverse effects of the absence of health care. They are the ones who have the strongest voices,” he told students. “Speak up every way you can. It’s your responsibility as a health care professional.”

—Pam Auchmutey

Board members of the Emory Student Nurses Association posed with former President Jimmy Carter before his lecture to students in the schools of nursing, medicine, and public health.

Carter’s upbringing shaped his view of nursing and health

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“You can tell where my heart is because of my mother and background,” Carter said of his life’s work.

At the School of Nursing, the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility addresses health and social issues in the spirit of Miss Lillian who, in her late 60s, cared for the poorest of the poor as a Peace Corps volunteer in India.

In her son’s view, the growing chasm between rich and poor is the biggest challenge of the millennium.

“There’s no way to separate political freedom and democracy from the basic rights of food, health, security, and human dignity,” Carter said.

“Nurses and public health professionals are the ones who see the adverse effects of the absence of health care. They are the ones who have the strongest voices,” he told students. “Speak up every way you can. It’s your responsibility as a health care professional.”

—Pam Auchmutey

Virtual Connections

Connect with the Emory nursing community and learn the latest news through our social networking sites at bit.ly/interactson.
Fuld Fellow Mary Micikas 13N 15MN is leveraging her Tylenol Future of Care Scholarship to support her goal of becoming a family nurse practitioner at the clinic she founded in Guatemala. She is one of 10 U.S. health students to receive a $10,000 Tylenol scholarship last year.

After graduating from college, Micikas volunteered with the Organization for the Development of Indigenous Maya in rural Guatemala. The experience altered her views of social responsibility—and her plans for the future. Initially, she planned to stay a year but remained 3 1/2 years to establish a health clinic for the communities of San Juan la Laguna and San Pablo la Laguna.

With few resources, Micikas worked with volunteer teams to convert an abandoned Methodist church into a medical and dental clinic in rural Guatemala. She served variously as construction coordinator, fund-raiser, finance manager, volunteer coordinator, and community builder before taking on the role of clinic director. She worked alongside local volunteers and staff to establish and manage the health clinic and trained health care workers to serve as staff and volunteers. She organized and trained health promoters to complete a community-directed health needs assessment and oral history project. Eventually her team expanded their services by establishing auxiliary clinics in neighboring communities that now provide enhanced access to care.

The clinic opened in April 2009. “The first week, we had not a single patient, but people started showing up little by little for consults, and we started gaining trust in the community,” says Micikas. “Now we see on average 20 patients a day in the four hours we are open and sometimes have to turn away others. We have more than 1,700 families registered at our clinic, which is pretty big in a village of 5,000 people. People travel from surrounding villages to visit our clinic. We now have our fully equipped dental clinic up and running and staffed with foreign volunteers and a local dentist.”

Micikas realized that nursing skills would strengthen her clinic work. She learned of the Fuld Fellowship Program at the School of Nursing from a friend who worked at the Guatemalan health clinic. Funded by the Helene Fuld Health Trust, the program supports second-career BSN to MN students with an interest in vulnerable populations. Micikas received her undergraduate degree in May and will enter the Emergency Nurse Practitioner Program this fall.

After completing her master’s degree, Micikas plans to return to her clinic in Guatemala to work as a family nurse practitioner, care coordinator, and trainer of local providers.

“My scholarships have provided an incredible opportunity,” she says. “I could not have come to Emory without them. I formed friendships and relationships with people who have similar interests and experiences. That has provided an important support system.” —Sally Wolff King 79G 83PhD

Leveraging scholarships to improve health in Guatemala

With few resources, Micikas worked with volunteer teams to convert an abandoned Methodist church into a medical and dental clinic in rural Guatemala.

Aided by her nursing scholarships and training, Mary Micikas (above right) plans to return to Guatemala to work as a family nurse practitioner.
Emory helps address shortage of nurses in the VA health system

The School of Nursing and the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) will train more nurses for the specialized field of veteran health care.

Emory is one of six nursing schools nationwide selected for the VA Nursing Academic Partnership program through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The new partnership will provide $4 million to fund 10 additional faculty positions at the School of Nursing and increase the undergraduate class by 100 students over a five-year period.

Students admitted under this partnership will be part of a two-year cohort who complete clinical rotations in mental health, traumatic brain injury care, home-based health care, palliative care, women's health, homeless care, and more at the Atlanta VAMC.

In addition to Emory, the VA is partnering with Arizona State University, Marquette University, New Mexico University, Oregon Health & Science University, and the University of Minnesota. These partnerships will help meet the increasing demand for health care among aging and returning veterans and fill the void created by a wave of nurse retirements. The VA is the largest employer of nurses in the country.

A closer look at cognition and chronic illness

Without question, nurses see their share of patients and families affected by chronic disease. Diabetes, Alzheimer’s disease, cardiovascular disease, HIV, and other chronic illnesses are associated with cognitive decline and higher rates of depression and anxiety. How patients think and feel about their health can make them less able and motivated to practice self-care.

A new center in the School of Nursing aims to generate new understanding in this area. Funded with a five-year, $2.1 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Center for Neuropsychological Studies (CNS) is led by neuropsychologist Drenna Waldrop-Valverde PhD. CNS will promote and support research into the biological and behavioral basis of how chronic illness can influence patients’ thoughts, decisions, and emotions. It is one of three new NIH Centers of Excellence in the nation that will generate new knowledge in symptom science research through interdisciplinary collaboration and sharing of resources and expertise.

CNS is partnering with one of them—the Adaptive Leadership for Cognitive Affective Symptom Science (ADAPT) Center at Duke University—to study cognition and affect in chronic disease. Each is taking a different tack. Emory is focusing on identifying symptoms and understanding their causes, while Duke is undertaking a more functional approach in helping families manage symptoms. The two centers have begun sharing resources. This past year, Duke hosted three research-focused simulcasts in which Emory participated. In the coming school year, Emory will offer simulcasts for ADAPT center colleagues.

Waldrop-Valverde expects CNS to grow into a “one-stop-shop resource for research related to cognitive and affective symptoms associated with chronic disease” at Emory to complement local and national studies. Potential partners include Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, the Sibley Heart Center, the Side by Side Brain Injury Clubhouse, the Kennedy Krieger Institute, the Interactive Autism Network, the National Database for Autism Research, the Emory Center for AIDS Research, and the Emory Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center.

“As the U.S. population continues to age, the prevalence of chronic illness and related cognitive and affective symptoms will also increase,” says Waldrop-Valverde. “CNS will help advance our understanding of the complexities of chronic disease management and the critical role that nursing can play in helping patients and families manage their conditions.” —Sally Wolff King 79G 83PhD
Putting patients first

Mary Hall 49N 62MN 83PhD, a longtime School of Nursing educator and administrator, died on May 6, 2013, at Emory University Hospital.

Hall, 86, was a public health nurse first and foremost. After receiving her undergraduate degree, she taught at the nursing school for a year and then worked locally as a public health nurse for Fulton County. Her two young sons often waited in the car when she made home visits and, in the process, learned valuable lessons about caring for others with little or no access to health care.

In 1962, Hall rejoined the nursing school faculty to expand the public health nursing curriculum. She helped launch a partnership with the DeKalb County Board of Health and secured a grant to fund several community-based clinics. She also secured funding to establish nurse practitioner programs in occupational health and family practice and set the criteria for the dual master’s degree in nursing and public health.

After completing a PhD in public health policy at Emory, Hall served as interim dean of the nursing school from 1985 to 1986. When she retired in 1990, she had attained the rank of professor and chaired the Division of Community Health Nursing. Hall then took a job coordinating the Children First Program for the College Point/East Point region of the Fulton County Health Department. The role suited her as a lifelong resident of East Point and as a visiting nurse committed to helping mothers and families care for high-risk infants in their homes. She remained with the Fulton County Health Department for more than 15 years.

“The far-reaching impact you can have as a public health nurse has always been my motivation,” Hall once said. “I’ve just recycled myself.”

Hall received several honors during her career. She was the first recipient of the Silver Bowl Award, established in 1949 by the late Nell Hodgson Woodruff to honor a graduating senior. In 1986, the Nurses’ Alumni Association presented Hall with its Award of Honor. During Reunion Weekend last fall, the Class of 1952 made a $4,000 gift to the Emeritus Faculty Scholarship Fund to honor Hall and fellow classmates who had died.

Betty Marie Stewart 52N was among the first students taught by Hall and Elizabeth Mabry EdD RN, head of nursing arts. “Mary was not much older than we were, but she handled it well,” Stewart remembers. “She had a professional demeanor and an ability to put the patient first. It made us better nurses, and our patients got better care.”

Hall is survived by sons David and Danny, their wives, and two grandchildren.—Pam Auchmutey

Honoring Retired Faculty
Memorial gifts honoring Mary Hall may be made to the Emeritus Faculty Scholarship Fund. Gifts may be sent to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, 1520 Clifton Road N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30322. To learn more, please contact Betsy Oliver, senior associate director of development, at 404-727-5291 or betsy.oliver@emory.edu.
School offers new degree options for BSN, MN, and DNP students

Doctor of Nursing Practice
The School of Nursing is launching a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program to prepare students for advanced roles in health care. “It caters to students who want to advance their education without disrupting their careers,” says Melissa Faulkner DSN RN FAAN, associate dean for educational innovation.

The DNP program includes an advanced practice curriculum, leadership development, residency hours, and a capstone project in a focused area of study. Courses will be taught online and in the classroom.

Students may choose from two tracks—health systems leadership and population health. Advanced practice nurses with MN degrees can complete the program in two years. BSN-prepared nurses must complete four additional semesters of study in an advanced practice specialty.

To learn more about the admissions process, call 404-727-7980 or visit nursing.emory.edu/dnp.

Health Systems Leadership
The new graduate program in Health Systems Leadership combines coursework with experiential learning in health care.

Students will learn the inner workings of leading hospital systems, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations by interacting with nursing executives within Emory Healthcare (EHC) and partner organizations such as the CDC and the Health Systems Institute at Georgia Tech. In addition to EHC leaders, guest lecturers will include faculty from Emory School of Medicine and Rollins School of Public Health and executives from companies such as Cerner Corporation, Virtua, and Gentiva Health Services.

Bonnie Jennings DNSc RN FAAN, program coordinator, and Nate Spell, chief quality officer in Emory University Hospital, currently co-lead an elective on quality and safety in health care for nursing, public health, and medical students. It is part of the new MN curriculum and helps illustrate its interdisciplinary direction and underpinnings.

“Although the program initially will focus on educating nurses, the goal is to quickly move the program into an opportunity where health care leaders from numerous disciplines can be educated and prepared together,” says Jennings. “This vision is important to foster the kind of communication and collaboration needed for effective leadership in the 21st century.”

To learn more about the program, visit bit.ly/son-healthsystems.

Dual Degree in Bioethics
The Emory Center for Ethics now offers dual master’s degrees in nursing, public health, medicine and law, adding to a dual-degree program in theology. Based in the Laney Graduate School, the program accommodates full- and part-time students, including those who work full time.

While dual-degree programs in medicine and bioethics are relatively common, few schools offer options such as the MN/MA degree.

“Health professionals routinely face ethical dilemmas in the workplace,” says Toby Schonfeld PhD, director of graduate studies for the MA-Bioethics Program. “This program offers a foundation in the major principles and theories of bioethics to help them make sound, ethically justified decisions.”

To learn more about the MN/MA degree in bioethics, visit bit.ly/nursing-ethics.

New Option for CDC Employees
A new alliance between Emory and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has opened the door for qualified employees to enroll in several schools, including the School of Nursing.

The HHS University Partnership Program offers accredited, flexible degree options for HHS employees, including those who work for the CDC near Emory.

Tuition discounts are available to HHS employees who enroll in the School of Nursing’s BSN and MN degree programs. Two HHS employees will enroll at the School of Nursing this fall.

To learn more about eligibility requirements for nursing, visit bit.ly/nursing-hhs.

LEARN MORE:
For additional information about these degree programs in the School of Nursing, contact Carmen Jones, admission adviser, at 404-727-6674 or carmen.r.jones@emory.edu.
Faulkner leads educational innovation

Melissa Spezia Faulkner DSN RN FAAN is looking to help transform Emory’s undergraduate and graduate nursing education as the new associate dean for educational innovation.

Since joining the nursing school in February, she is working with faculty in their ongoing efforts to revise the BSN and MN curricula, strengthen clinical partnerships, and enhance the use of new technology, interactive teaching, and simulation training across programs and disciplines. She has met with her counterpart in the School of Medicine, William Eley MD, to formalize the structure and sharing of resources for interprofessional team training and is looking to introduce online hybrid course instruction for MN students. She also oversees formation of the new doctor of nursing practice program, which will enroll its first students in fall 2014.

Faulkner also will partner with practitioners at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta and Georgia Institute of Technology to continue her research in pediatric diabetes, particularly the psychosocial and psychological factors that affect patient outcomes. She comes to Emory from the University of Arizona, where she was the Gladys E. Sorenson Endowed Professor of Diabetes Research and Education. She also served on the faculty at Arizona State University, the University of Illinois at Chicago, the University of Tennessee, and Southeast Missouri State University.

Her new appointment comes at a crucial time for nursing education at Emory, notes Linda McCauley, dean of the School of Nursing. “Dr. Faulkner is the driving force for incorporating emerging technologies into the nursing curricula and developing educational programs that meet the complex needs of today’s health care delivery system.”

Faculty appointments

Marcia Holstad DSN FNP-BC FAANP FAAN is the first Marcia Stanhope Professor in Public Health. Her new professorship is named in honor of Marcia Stanhope 71MN PhD, a retired academic leader and public health nurse at the University of Kentucky College of Nursing. Holstad has taught at the School of Nursing for more than 20 years and provides primary care for HIV-positive women through the Grady Hospital Health System. She is known for her National Institutes of Health-funded research to promote antiretroviral therapy adherence and reduce risky behaviors among women with HIV/AIDS.

Anne L. Dunlop MD 00MPH, associate research professor, previously directed Emory’s Division of Preventive Medicine and the Preventive Medicine Residency Program. Her research focuses on racial disparities in reproductive and pregnancy outcomes and developing interventions to improve outcomes. She serves on the Women’s Health Workgroup of the National Maternal Health Initiative, U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, and on the CDC’s Clinical Workgroup of the National Preconception Health and Healthcare Initiative and the expert panel on Reproductive Health and Preconception Care of HIV-infected Women.

Awards & Honors

Tami Thomas PhD CPNP RNC FAANP, was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners at the organization’s 28th annual conference in June. Thomas is a pediatric nurse practitioner and assistant professor whose research focuses on reducing health disparities among adolescent and pediatric populations in rural areas. She is also an alumna of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Nurse Faculty Scholars program and co-leads AIM HIGH (Aligning Innovative Methods, Helping Improve Global Health), a collaboration with other universities to reduce health disparities worldwide.

Awards & Honors continued on page 23
Awards & Honors

Clinical Professor Judith Wold 81MN PhD RN will be inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and the National League for Nursing. She currently leads the annual Farm Worker Family Health Program in Moultrie, Georgia, where nearly 100 students provide health care services to migrant farm workers.

In 2012, Wold was named Georgia Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. She is the first Emory professor to earn this honor.

Elizabeth Corwin PhD RN will be inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing at the October annual meeting of the organization in Washington, D.C. Corwin serves as associate dean for research, helping broaden services and support for faculty and student research in the School of Nursing. An expert on the biological basis of postpartum depression and fatigue, she currently leads a federally funded study examining the psychoneuroimmune contributors to postpartum depression.

Sandra Dunbar PhD RN FAAN FAHA was inducted into the International Nurse Researcher Hall of Fame by the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. Dunbar was honored for her body of work examining how nursing interventions help improve function, mood, and quality of life for people affected by heart failure. Dunbar serves as the Charles Howard Candler Professor of Cardiovascular Nursing and associate dean for academic advancement.

Kathryn Moore DNP RN, clinical associate professor, will be inducted as a fellow of the American College of Critical Care Medicine at the annual congress of the Society for Critical Care Medicine in January 2014. She is the first critical care nurse at Emory to earn this distinction. Her studies encompass volume resuscitation in trauma patients, hypothermia in trauma, measuring initial clinical competency, and sustainability of critical care providers using high-fidelity patient simulation. Moore is a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Christine Nell-Dybdahl 98MN/MPH NP-C received the 2013 Life Changer Award at the 28th National Conference of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP) in Las Vegas. The award, presented by AANP and the Health Monitor Network, recognizes exemplary service to patients and community care by nurse practitioners. Nell-Dybdahl is an adjunct faculty member at the School of Nursing and clinical nurse director of the Emory Center for Heart Disease Prevention.

Carolyn Clevenger 02MN DNP RN, clinical associate professor, was named by the Atlanta Business Chronicle as a 2013 Health Care Hero in the allied health professional category. Clevenger, who specializes in gerontology, leads a new palliative care project funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration and is associate director of the Atlanta Veterans Administration Quality Scholars Program. She also serves as assistant dean for MN education.

Professor Bonnie Jennings DNSC RN FAAN was a finalist in the military service category of the Atlanta Business Chronicle’s 2013 Health Care Hero Awards. She was cited for her work at Emory and her service in the U.S. Army, for which she earned the Distinguished Service Medal and the Army Nurse of the Year Award. She is the program coordinator for the nursing school’s new graduate program in health systems leadership.

Assistant Professor Jenny Foster PhD CNM MPH FACNM received the Emory Williams Teaching Award during commencement. The award honors faculty members who convey to students the highest standards in their profession. Foster, a public health nurse-midwife, is known for her work to reduce health disparities among underserved populations, most recently in the Dominican Republic.

Kate Yeager 84N 12PhD is chair of the Special Populations Committee of the National Cancer Institute’s Radiation Oncology Group. A research assistant professor at the School of Nursing, Yeager studies symptom management with an emphasis on pain management, especially among underserved communities, where the burden of cancer is highly significant. Prior to completing her doctorate in nursing at Emory, Yeager worked for 15 years as a clinical research project manager.
**Class News**

**1970s**

Dr. Nancy Langston 72MN is retiring this summer from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Nursing, where she has served as dean for 22 years. Under her guidance, the school doubled its enrollment, grew its education programs, established a base in biobehavioral clinical research, opened a new building, and created a national model for community outreach. Langston is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and the Academy of Nursing Education and former president of the National League for Nursing. In 2011, she received the Nancy Vance Award, the highest honor for nursing excellence, from the Virginia Nurses Association.

Sandra Segrest Van Sant 73OX 75N 78MN 02MPH published "Impacts of Climate Change on a Local Public Health System" in the NACCHO Exchange (Summer 2012). Van Sant works at Monmouth County Regional Health in Ocean Township, N.J. She and her husband, Mark, live nearby.

Naomi Fistel Teperow 77N relocated to Erie, Penn., after practicing for 29 years at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. She now serves at UPMC/ Hamot Medical Center as director of Advanced Practice Providers for Cardiovascular Surgery and coordinator of the Transcatheter AVR program.

Dr. Nancy Langston 72MN

Dr. Susan Sullivan-Bolyai 78MN will be inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing this fall. She serves on the faculty of the Graduate School of Nursing at the University of Massachusetts, Worcester.

Dr. Susan Armstrong Ashford 79MN 05PhD is an associate professor at Clayton State University in Morrow, Ga.

Dr. Victoria Smith Harkins 79N graduated in 2012 from Medical University of South Carolina with a doctorate in health care administration.

**1980s**

Carol K. Biery 80MN is a family nurse practitioner in the women’s health division of the Orange County Health Department in Florida. She also serves on the adjunct faculty at the University of Central Florida, where she leads the women’s health practicum in the graduate program.

J. Michael Pate 81MN completed his assignment at the American Embassy in Baghdad. He now serves as the first secretary for medical affairs in the U.K. and is assigned to the American Embassy in London for three years.

Dr. Cecilia Jevitt 83MN joined Yale University School of Nursing as an associate professor in midwifery. Her research focuses on obesity prevention and weight maintenance in women’s health, especially in the prenatal and postpartum periods. Last year, Jevitt was named Reviewer of the Year in the Journal of Midwifery and Women’s Health.

Dr. Debianne Villines Peterman 84MN was appointed vice president Women & Children’s Hospital of Buffalo, N.Y. “I am very excited to return home to Buffalo and the hospital where I was born,” she says.

Dr. Corrine Abraham 85MN completed her DNP at the University of Minnesota. Her capstone project was titled, “Achieving Zero Central Line-Associated Blood Stream Infections.” She is a VA Quality Scholars Advanced Fellow at the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center and will return to her Emory nursing faculty position next year.

Martha Ford Heubach 89MN is CEO of Promise Hospital of San Diego, a long-term acute care hospital that is part of Promise Healthcare.

**1990s**

Marjorie (Margie) Johnson 90MN is promoting health in her church and community in Tennille, Ga. After learning that the nearest cancer support group was 30 minutes away, Johnson and the Rev. William Jeffrey Cook 11T launched the Washington County cancer support group, which meets monthly at Tennille United Methodist Church and inspired other congregation members to become involved. Johnson and Cook were featured in the South GA Advocate (see sgaumc.org/news/detail/9602). She is assistant professor emeritus at the Georgia College and State University School of Nursing in Milledgeville.

Renice A. Washington 91N is a nurse practitioner at Northside Hospital in Atlanta.
A Golden Heart

Each year, Emory alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago don golden robes to march with graduates during commencement. They are members of Corpus Cordis Aureum (CCA), the Latin term for “the golden corps of the heart.” This year, CCA member Barbara Reed 57N 79MN received the Judson C. Ward “Jake’s” Golden Heart Award, presented by the Emory Alumni Association (EAA) for service, generosity of spirit, and loyalty to the university.

During her nursing career, Reed specialized in geriatrics and pain management. As the first clinical nurse specialist in pain management at Emory University Hospital, she developed protocols for managing acute, chronic, and cancer pain. She served as a clinical researcher and adjunct clinical faculty member in the School of Nursing and remains an active member of the EAA and the Nurses’ Alumni Association, which she led twice as president. She has supported the School of Nursing for more than 40 years by volunteering and providing financial support through annual and planned giving.

Reed is the fourth recipient of the Jake’s Golden Heart Award, which honors the memory of Ward 33C 36G, who spent more than 80 years at Emory. When Ward died in 2009 at age 97, he held the title dean of alumni.

LEARN MORE: To view a video of award recipient Barbara Reed, visit bit.ly/barbara_reed.

Dr. Christina Mehriary 92N has published her first book, Hybris... End of Days. The work of fiction depicts cyberterrorism, involving the use of drones to calculate GPS coordinates for missile delivery, with global implications for humankind. Christina practices family medicine in Kissimmee, Fla.

Glenn Prescott 94N is a nursing program manager in the clinical recruitment section of the Shepherd Center in Atlanta.

2000s

Paul A. Robinson 00MN is a regional medical scientist in the Division of HIV & Virology with Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals. He has extensive experience in educating patients and health care providers in HIV pathogenesis, treatment options, and metabolic disorders.

Lerryn Upton Crocker 01MN is chief nursing officer at Frye Regional Medical Center in Hickory, N.C.

Katrina M. Dryer 01MN is a nurse practitioner at Innovative Healthcare Management, LLC, based in Phoenix, Ariz.

BORN: To Adele Iskra Clay 03MN and her husband, Chris, a daughter, Emory Maeve, on Jan. 24, 2013. She joins big sister Linnea and big brother Chase. The family lives in New Britain, Conn.

Emily Mason Beard 04N is a multidisciplinary care coordinator at Northside Hospital Cancer Institute in Atlanta.

Corinne (Corie) Wafler Braender 02OX 04N 10MN is a pediatric nurse practitioner in pediatric neurosurgery at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.

Kimberly Ann Brinker 04N 12MN/MPH is an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer and nurse epidemiologist at the CDC.

Dr. Laura M. Wagner 04G will be inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing this fall. She serves on the nursing faculty at the University of California, San Francisco.

Robin Richins 05MN is working at Northside Hospital in Atlanta.

Benson C. Wright 05N is president of professional nursing staff at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.
MARRIED: Christine L. Johnson 06N and Conrad Elton Hyde on Nov. 3, 2012, at St. Jude Catholic Church in Sapphire Valley, N.C. She practices at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn., where they reside.

Amy Lahey 06N (pictured on page 25) received the Laura Snitzer Boozer Nursing Award for outstanding nurses at the Aflac Cancer Center and Blood Disorders Center of Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta.

Melissa Linville 06MN is a certified pediatric nurse practitioner—acute care in neurosurgery services at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston.

Maureen E. Newton 06MN is a nurse practitioner at Skyland Trail, a residential mental health treatment center in Atlanta.

Alexandra Brennan 08N saw firsthand the impact of Hurricane Sandy on people and property as an American Red Cross volunteer in New Jersey last November. For 14 days, she assisted with community outreach and worked 12-hour shifts in various shelters, primarily in South Jersey. “I was drained and fulfilled—all at once,” she writes. “I realized just how flexible I had become since that first day of clinical as a student nurse.” Alexandra now serves as a clinical research coordinator at the Neurological Institute of Savannah and Center for Spine.

Randy Evans 08N received the Outstanding Patient Advocate Award from The Emory Clinic during National Nurses Week. Evans works in the cardiology clinic at Emory University Hospital Midtown—the very hospital where he nearly died during quadruple bypass surgery. “He uses his own history of triumph over adversity to form therapeutic and symbiotic relationships with his patients,” writes manager and colleague Diana Harmon, who nominated Randy for the award. “These relationships enable Randy to have an intuitive knowledge of what his patients need and to bridge gaps regardless of race, age, or gender.”

MARRIED: Martha Lincoln 06OX 08N and Sean Tamblyn on Sept. 15, 2012.

Andrea Christine Maclin 11MN joined Athens Women’s Clinic as a nurse practitioner.

Last fall, Kim Hanks 12N and Christy Rieke 12N organized a Compassion Health Fair in Walton County, Georgia. The fair provided free health care to residents age 55

Mary Erickson 70N 71MN read her copy of Emory Magazine on a visit to Zakopane, Poland, last fall. She is also a fan of Emory Nursing. Erickson taught nursing at the University of West Georgia for 30 years. Where are you reading Emory Nursing? Send your photos from near and far to elizabeth.powell@emory.edu.
and older. What began with fewer than 10 booths grew to more than 40. County and local hospitals participate, as did Emory nursing students, who used the fair as a clinical placement. Learn more at compassionhealthfair.org.

Arielle Hayden 09OX 12N is working at North Carolina Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill, N.C.
Jenna Walck 12N is working at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston.

BORN: To Andrew Koroma 12N and his wife, Marla, a son, Tunde Abraham, on April 3, 2013.

Esha Deepak Parikh 12N is a nurse at Saint Joseph’s Hospital in Tampa, Fla.

Sudan Assignment

Earlier this year, Megan Benckert 11MN completed an assignment with Doctors Without Borders (Medecins Sans Frontieres or MSF) in Southern Sudan. She provided emergency medical relief in Yida refugee camp, where the population swelled from 20,000 to 65,000 refugees just prior to her three months there.

“When I arrived, our mortality rate for children under 5 was 25%, which we brought down to 2% through various methods. It was a team effort,” she writes. Benckert was in charge of the outpatient department, which served 1,500 to 2,200 patients a week. She also entered statistics into the MSF epidemiological database and shared them with other relief agencies. The data captured trends to compare with national averages and follow spikes in disease so that refugees could be treated accordingly.

“I also collaborated closely with the outreach manager to ensure public health messages were being shared with the community, including how to properly use soap and water, carry water safely from borehole wells, use safe cooking practices, and use newly built latrines,” adds Benckert, who is now back in Southern Sudan on her second assignment as an outreach activities manager. She is responsible for epidemiological surveillance and immunization activities throughout the state of Northern Bahr el Ghazal.
In Memory

1930s

Lucile Goins Newhard 31N of Smithfield, Va., on Sept. 24, 2012, shortly after her 102nd birthday. She practiced nursing in Illinois for several years after graduating from Emory. In 1962, she moved to Wytheville, Va., where she lived for more than 30 years, raised a family, and served the community. In 1994, Lucile moved to Virginia Beach and lived there until relocating to Suffolk/Smithfield in 2006.

Virginia McCain Kelly 45N of Auburn, Ala., on Feb. 21, 2013, at age 89. Virginia and her husband, Wymon T. Kelly, married in 1946 and raised three daughters in Phenix City, Ala. She served there as director of the Cobb Hospital Nursing Home and as coordinator of the hospital cardiac care unit. She retired from the hospital in 1983. After losing her vision because of macular degeneration, she inspired others by singing in the Lakewood Baptist Amen Choir and dancing at the Monarch Estate Senior Living Facility in Auburn.

Henryetta Watkins 45N of Manchester, Ga., on Dec. 12, 2012, at age 89. As a young nurse, she worked with a local physician and later at the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, where she became a head nurse. In 1950, she married H.M. Hendricks Sr., the new veterinarian in Manchester. They set up one of the largest vet practices in Georgia. Her children and grandchildren were the focus of her life. In 1995, she married lifelong friend Bill Watkins, a retired Air Force colonel, and they began a new chapter of retired life together. Watkins preceded her in death.


1940s

Dorothy Marett Rumble 44N of Redlands, Calif., on Aug. 6, 2012, at age 89. She died peacefully at home from complications of congestive heart failure.

Rose Leverett Robinson 48N, formerly of Hartford, Ala., died peacefully on Jan. 18, 2013, at age 84. She was living with her daughter, Rosemary, in Oakland, Calif. Rose married Dr. Rodney J. Robinson, whom she met at Emory, in 1950. She worked as a nurse in Birmingham, Ala., while he completed dental school. They moved to Hartford and set up a dental practice. She managed the business and worked as a dental hygienist. They had three children.

Mary Hall 49N 62MN 83PhD of East Point, Ga., on May 6, 2013. See story on page 20.

Carol Van Brackle Turrentine 49N of Atlanta on May 25, 2013. A native of Winter Park, Fla., she moved to Atlanta to attend Emory, where she met her husband, Julian 50B. Carol was a master gardener and quilter with the sewing ministry at Peachtree United Methodist Church. She was also a member of the Associates at the School of Nursing.

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1950s

Doris (Dot) West Powers 50N of Sarasota, Fla., on Oct. 18, 2012, after a valiant fight against cancer.

Mary Taylor Godwin 51N of Conway, S.C., on Jan. 6, 2013, at age 83.


Sarah Janet Cox Randall 54N of Phenix City, Ala., at home with family, on March 2, 2013, at age 80. She is survived by her husband of 58 years, Norris Ashley Randall.

Dr. Patricia Ann Moxley 57MN of Mt. Pleasant, S.C., on March 3, 2013, at age 86. Pat was a dedicated nurse who loved nursing education. She attended Columbia University Teachers College, where she received her doctorate of education in 1973. She worked in hospitals in Atlanta, New Orleans, and Americus, Ga. She taught at Southwestern School of Nursing in Shreveport, La., LSU School of Nursing, and Texas Woman’s University in Huntsville, Ala., at her home on July 22, 2012. A native of Greenville, Miss., she attended nursing school in Little Rock, Ark., before earning her MN in psychiatic nursing at Emory.

Rolland L. Buckner 67MN of Leonville, La., on Dec. 23, 2011, at age 72. He was a native of Cominig, Ark. and served in the U.S. Air Force. He was an RN and an avid motorcyclist.

1970s

Joyce Wheeler Zahner 70MN of Roswell, Ga., on March 16, 2013, at age 86. A native of Penn Yan, N.Y., she graduated from the University of Cincinnati Nursing School and was a practicing nurse for many years before completing her master’s degree in psychiatric nursing at Emory. She married James Lloyd Zahner and lived in Ohio and Illinois before returning to Georgia. They raised their three children in Atlanta. She spent her later years in Roswell.

Barbara Ann Graham 71MN of Charlotteville, Va., on Aug. 19, 2012. In 1949, Barbara entered nursing school in Lynchburg, Va., and worked as an RN at Lynchburg General Hospital. Later, she was a public health nurse in Fairfax County, which inspired her to complete her BSN at the University of Virginia and her MN in public health nursing at Emory. In 1971, she joined the nursing faculty at the University of Virginia, where she completed a doctorate in education and taught until retiring in 1994. Her research focused on health promotion and education and women’s health, including the prevention of osteoporosis.

Benigna H. Meacham 71MN of Brunswick, Ga., at her home on July 22, 2012. A native of Greenville, Miss., she attended nursing school in Little Rock, Ark., before earning her MN in psychiatic nursing at Emory.

1980s

Col. Betty Cochran Jones 85MN of Townsend, Tenn., on Nov. 13, 2012, at age 64. She was a retired U.S. Army nurse. A specialist in infectious disease, she served as chief of nursing and director of managed care at various locales. After retiring from the military, she became president of E-Care Solutions, a company that developed electronic patient records for civilian hospitals.

Kelly Jean Reed 87MN of Woodstock, Ga., on Jan. 8, 2013, at age 51, after a long battle with cancer. After working several years with Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at both Scottish Rite and Egleston, she served with PAMPA (Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, P.A.) for 16 years. Earlier in her nursing career, she was a volunteer at Camp Sunshine and served on the national board of directors for nurse practitioner certification.

1990s

Frances Eugenia Davis 04MN of Duluth, Ga., on April 3, 2011, at age 64. She was a retired nurse clinician with Emory Healthcare.

In Memory

Tribute gifts are an extraordinary way to honor your classmates. You can designate a gift for any occasion—a birthday, anniversary, special achievement, or the passing of a loved one, colleague, or friend. To make a gift, please contact the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 404-727-6917.
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