

EMORY | nursing

SPRING 2012

How to move mountains

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. offers lessons in social activism to promote health

Inside: THE LILLIAN CARTER CENTER TURNS 10 | ARC OF PROGRESS IN AFRICA
HARD SCIENCE, SAFE MOTHERHOOD | SERVICE-LEARNING IN ATLANTA, WEST VIRGINIA

Making Miss Lillian proud

When I became dean of the nursing school, I was struck by how so many of our programs allow faculty and students to go beyond traditional clinical settings to provide care to the poorest of the poor. Emory nurses provide care everywhere—in health clinics and homeless shelters, on farms in Georgia, and in developing countries across the globe—all because of the values instilled in them through the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility.

The center's namesake—Miss Lillian Carter (1898-1983)—was known for her work as a public health nurse and change agent for social justice and health care. The Lillian Carter Center has stayed true to Miss Lillian's vision of care, and her legacy continues to inspire scores of Emory nurses to care for those most in need.

As we complete the 10th anniversary of the Lillian Carter Center, it is fitting to dedicate this issue of *Emory Nursing* to showing the center's impact and how we celebrated its first decade. In our cover story, you'll read about Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s visit to the School of Nursing, where he shared stories about his personal experience with Miss Lillian during an interactive session with our students. Mr. Kennedy also served as the keynote speaker for our anniversary event, which attracted more than 900 faculty, students, and community members.

Another story looks at our new immersion experience for accelerated BSN/MSN students—a dynamic program that takes them to sites in Georgia, West Virginia, the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica to provide care to underserved communities.

In this issue, you'll also see how two of our



doctoral students—Michelle Dynes and Valerie Mac—are contributing to important research in Ethiopia and Florida.

The school's success in global health and social responsibility is driven by our dedication to transforming health and healing through education, practice, and research. I hope you are as proud of the students, faculty, and alumni featured in this issue of *Emory Nursing* as I am. They represent the great strides being made by the Lillian Carter Center and the School of Nursing.

Sincerely,

Linda A. McCauley, 79MN PhD RN FAAN FAAOHN
Dean and Professor



To learn more about the Lillian Carter Center, read the Decade Report 2001-2011 at bit.ly/decadereport.

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On the Cover: Environmental lawyer Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was the keynote speaker for the 10th anniversary of the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility.

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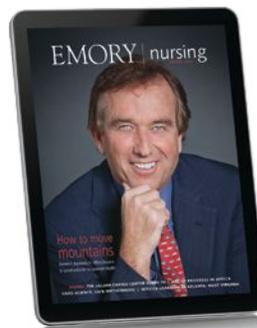
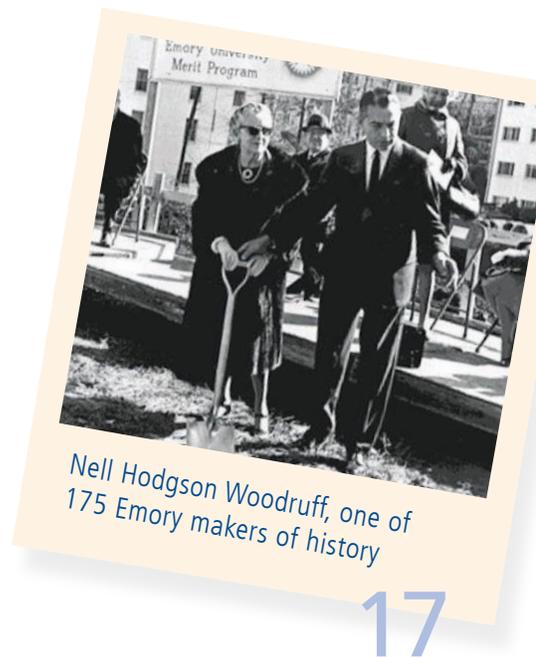


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Environmentalism Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
offers lessons in social activism during the
10th anniversary of the Lillian Carter Center



How to move mountains

BY PAM AUCHMUTY

Emory nursing students now know firsthand what makes environmental lawyer and author Robert F. Kennedy Jr. a force for change. He doesn't ever STOP.

His energy and drive were evident as he spoke to nursing students and faculty during the 10th anniversary celebration of the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility. The night before, he had stayed up all hours on a business call to the Middle East before catching an early morning flight from New York to Atlanta. "There was lots of yelling," Kennedy joked to explain his hoarseness.

A strained voice didn't deter him from describing his experiences as a social activist or his admiration for Lillian Carter (right), the center's namesake. He met the former nurse and Peace Corps volunteer in 1978, when he and his Harvard roommate showed up on her doorstep in Plains, Georgia. They hoped that she and her son, U.S. President Jimmy Carter, could stop the execution of his roommate's father, the deposed president of Pakistan. Sadly, their efforts proved unsuccessful.

"Lillian Carter was very kind to me personally," Kennedy told nursing students last fall. "I am happy to be in a place that bears her name."



Fuld Fellows Brandon Johnson, Jodie Simms, Danielle Lungelow, Laura Ellis Hilb, and Jodie Simms learned firsthand about social activism from Robert F. Kennedy Jr. during the 10th anniversary of the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility.



Above: Lillian Carter Center leaders Kathryn Kite (left) and Martha Rogers (right) with Kennedy and Dean Linda McCauley. Right: Kennedy signs one of his books at Glenn Auditorium.



It was October 15, 2001, when President Carter dedicated the center named for his late mother, who died in 1983 at age 85. While she and her husband Earl raised their young family near Plains, Miss Lillian worked as a registered nurse, caring equally for patients regardless of race in the days before integration. Upon joining the Peace Corps in 1966 at age 67, she was assigned to India, where she worked as a family planner and nurse in a clinic 30 miles from Mumbai. There she encountered leprosy and other forms of human suffering unlike any she had ever seen.

“Miss Lillian was known for her work as a public health nurse and advocate for social justice and health care,” says Linda McCauley, dean of the School of Nursing. “The Lillian Carter Center has stayed true to her vision of caring for those in need.”

The center’s creation marked the realization of a dream shared by two former deans. Ada Fort planted the seed for a global nursing center by convincing health, business, faith, and community leaders to

form the International Nursing Services Association (INSA) as an independent organization in 1972. Among INSA’s first board members was Miss Lillian, who lent her insight as a Peace Corps volunteer. Today, INSA operates as Global Health Action, led by former Emory nursing instructor Robin Davis 76MN. When Marla Salmon became dean in 1999, she

“If we want to meet our obligation to our families, communities, and our health, we’ve got to protect assets that belong to the people.”—Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

envisioned what became the Lillian Carter Center with a focus on nursing leadership, research, and social responsibility.

A decade later, nursing students and faculty follow in Miss Lillian’s footsteps in a number of ways. They work with underserved populations in the Caribbean during winter break, assess the health of migrant farmworker families in South Georgia each June, and work with homeless populations and provide care to senior

citizens in Atlanta throughout the year. Last summer, students partnered with Cabin Creek Health System in the coal-mining region of West Virginia. In Florida, the Dominican Republic, and Africa, faculty and student researchers seek to improve the health of women, new mothers, and babies. In Kenya and Zimbabwe, nursing leaders collaborate with Emory faculty to build and sustain the health workforce.

“I’m so impressed by the commitment of this school!” said Kennedy during the 10th anniversary celebration.

In addition to his forum with nursing students, the Lillian Carter Center hosted a reception and public lecture given by Kennedy.

It also sponsored the Second Annual International Scholars Day—featuring the work of students in Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Bangladesh, and India—and the “Lillian,” a new event honoring the nursing school’s 50-plus community partners. All play a vital role in service-learning, which is integral to the nursing school’s undergraduate and graduate curriculum.

“Our partners allow students to apply



Kennedy leads a forum with nursing students (center photo and below left) and discusses *Our Environmental Destiny* (left and below right) in a packed Glenn Auditorium. See more photos at flickr.com/emorynursing.



experience to their academic development while giving back to the community,” says Martha Rogers MD, director of the Lillian Carter Center. “Our students help address needs that otherwise go unmet.”

Last fall, Laura Ellis Hilb 10MPH 13N helped teach stress reduction to clients in the health recovery program at Gateway Center, which serves Atlanta’s homeless population. Hilb is one of the nursing school’s Fuld Fellows, second-career nursing students with a special interest in social responsibility and at-risk populations.

“I met clients at Gateway with amazing skills, talents, and stories,” she says. “My time there was a reminder that the homeless are people like us but whose health problems greatly influence their financial situation.”

Hilb attended the forum with Kennedy to learn more about the role nurses can play in protecting health by preserving the environment.

“Nurses must stay knowledgeable about current global issues and political climates because they greatly influence our work,” Hilb says. “We have a responsibility to speak out against activities that contribute to illnesses in our patients.”

How to be a social activist

Kennedy—inspired by his late father, Senator Robert F. Kennedy, and his late uncle, U.S. President John F. Kennedy—felt the call to protect the environment as a young boy. Now the environmental lawyer leads the Waterkeeper Alliance, an international network that protects the world’s waterways. In 2010, *Time.com* named him as one of its “Heroes for the Planet” for aiding restoration of New York’s Hudson River.

For Kennedy, the pollution of water and air is far worse than most crimes. Asthma attacks in children, including three of his sons, are triggered by ozone and power plant emissions. “The air is being stolen from my children’s lungs,” he told nursing students. “That’s theft.”

Consider also the pregnant woman who eats fish caught in water contaminated with PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls, now banned in the manufacture of multiple products). When the daughter she bears enters school, the youngster can’t read as easily as her classmates because her brain was damaged in the womb by PCBs.

“Imagine the humiliation of a girl who

can’t read in class,” Kennedy said. “The damage to her self-esteem is worse than robbing a bank. If we want to meet our obligation to our families, communities, and our health, we’ve got to protect assets that belong to the people.”

The week after his visit, Emory students viewed *The Last Mountain*, an award-winning documentary that chronicles the fight of West Virginians to halt coal strip mining in their community. Kennedy is featured, along with residents who describe the health risks posed by the mining practice of mountaintop removal. The film premiered in southern West Virginia last June, the night before nursing students arrived to work with patients served by Cabin Creek Health System.

The film and Kennedy’s visit to Emory demonstrated what it takes to move mountains to protect the environment. Because nurses see firsthand how the environment impacts health, he noted, they can play critical roles in debates about the health and future of the country.

“Get involved in the political process,” Kennedy urged nursing students. “The only thing that can save our environment is democracy.” **EN**

Nurses take charge of their regulation in sub-Saharan Africa

ARC of progress

By Martha Nolan McKenzie

A little money can go a long way in the right hands. In this case, those hands belong to nursing and midwifery leaders in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility is part of an

innovative program aimed at improving health care in 14 African countries by working directly with nursing leaders to improve professional regulation and education. The African Health Profession Regulatory Collaborative for Nurses and

Midwives (ARC) is a four-year collaborative project with the CDC; the East, Central, and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA-HC); and the Commonwealth Secretariat, a voluntary association of 54 countries that work together toward shared goals.

“We are working at a regional level with country teams to help ensure that the nursing and midwifery standards of practice for each country are aligned with global standards, that regulatory frameworks reflect current practice and education, and that issues such as task shifting and continuing professional development are addressed,” says Maureen Kelley PhD CNM FACNM, Independence Chair and ARC project leader in Emory’s nursing school.

Adjunct faculty member Patricia Riley MPH CNM FACNM, a health workforce expert with the CDC’s Division of Global HIV/AIDS,

conceived the vision for ARC. “Pat’s idea was to put together a team of nursing and midwifery leaders and ask them to work together on a regulatory problem that the CDC calls a ‘winnable battle,’” says Kelley. “Instead of telling each country what to do, we have posed the question, ‘In your country, around nursing and midwifery regulation, what discrete problem could you address in a year’s time?’ The aim was to build strong country collaboration through country-led initiatives.”

Accordingly, in February 2011, ARC assembled four nursing and midwifery leaders from each of the 14 ECSA countries in Nairobi, Kenya. Leaders included the chief nursing officer (CNO), the nursing registrar, a representative from the nursing/midwifery association, and a representative from nursing education. All were divided into their specialty groups to discuss common and unique problems.

“They learned from each other about what was happening in education or regulation,” says Kelley. “Then they developed a report on the most pressing issues facing their professional group.”

Next all of the leaders reassembled as country teams charged with identifying an issue to address in their nation in a year’s time. Each team then was invited to submit a grant proposal to have their project funded.

ARC selected five proposals to fund at \$10,000 each in Lesotho, Swaziland, Seychelles, Mauritius, and Malawi. The country teams moved forward using a model based on the Institute for Healthcare



Maureen Kelley leads ARC, a collaboration with African nursing leaders to better align nursing practice and education with global standards.



Through ARC, nursing leaders like Glory Msibi of Swaziland are learning and sharing methods to overcome issues in practice and education.

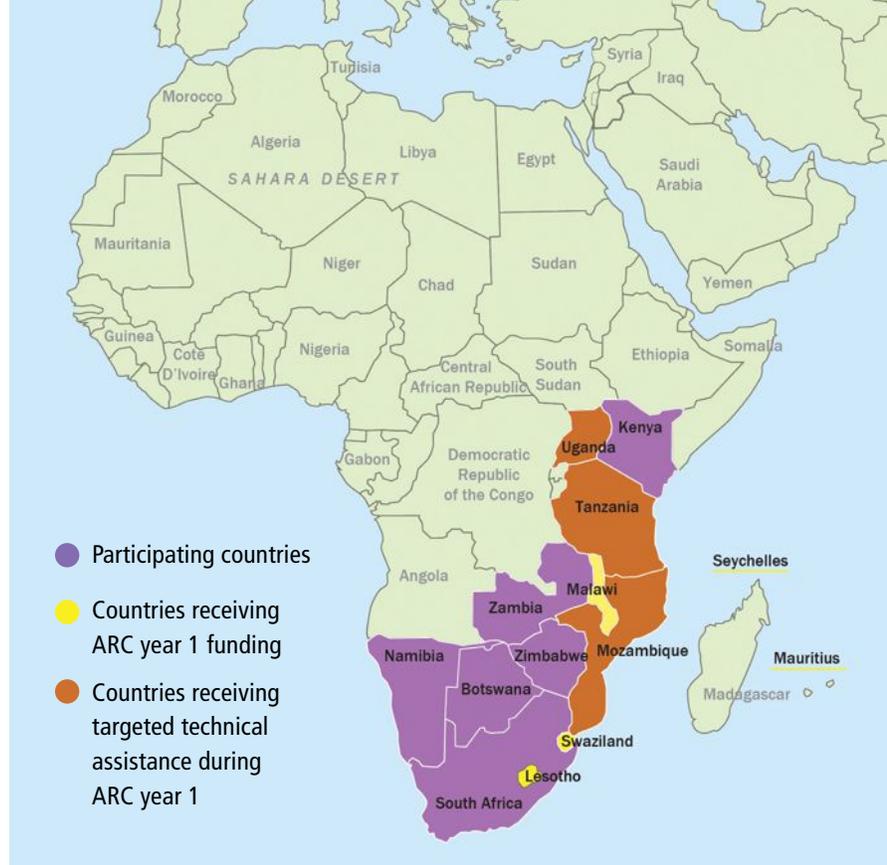
Improvement Design for Rapid Change. The five teams implemented their projects in country and reconvened twice for learning sessions led by ARC. During these sessions, the groups also shared their experiences and knowledge, fueling what Kelley calls “south-to-south” collaboration, or learning from each other.

In February 2012, representatives from all 14 countries met again to hear leaders from funded countries share their experiences. Leaders from all of the countries then were invited to submit grant applications for the next round of funding—a process that will continue annually for the next three years.

The effectiveness of ARC’s approach can be seen in the remarkable progress made in the first five countries. Consider Swaziland and Lesotho, where country teams identified continuing professional development (CPD) for nurses and midwives as an area to address.

“Both countries had almost no CPD,” says Jessica Gross 07N 09MSN/MPH, a public health consultant with the African Health Professional Regulatory Collaborative. “Within just seven months, they developed a framework to specify what constitutes CDP, what type of activities will be included, how nurses can access those activities, how those activities will be monitored and logged, and how many activities nurses need to renew their licenses. Leaders involved nurses every step of the way, soliciting their ideas and options, so they will have buy-in when CPD is implemented. It’s amazing how far they’ve come in such a short period of time.”

Kelley and her team believe the momentum created during ARC’s first year will continue. One positive outcome has been the formation of a unified group among the four nursing leaders in each country.



Map of countries participating in the African Health Professional Regulatory Collaborative for Nurses and Midwives (ARC)

“This is a group of people who might not have even talked to each other before, and now they have come together as a cohesive unit,” says Kelley. “They have even given themselves a name—they call themselves ‘The Quad.’ Many now meet monthly to discuss issues and brainstorm solutions.”

The Quads now are well versed in the fine art of grant application and management. Each was required to write and submit a grant proposal—a new experience for most, if not all—and prepare a budget and quarterly reports.

“Almost all of the development money flowing into sub-Saharan Africa goes to nongovernmental or bilateral organizations, which partner with local leaders. But the money rarely makes it to the leaders on the ground,” says Gross. “By directly awarding money to the country teams, national leaders can develop a track record for fiscal management, which in turn can help them approach local donors for future funding.”

Getting the money directly and deciding which issues to tackle have empowered and motivated the leaders. “In the world of grants, \$10,000 isn’t much money,” says Gross. “But it’s amazing what these country teams have been able to do with it.”

Jill Iliffe, executive secretary of the Commonwealth Nurses Federation and an ARC faculty member concurs. “The ARC initiative is one of the most successful I have encountered, delivering outcomes that are truly of value to the countries in which you are working.” **EN**

Hard Science, Safe Motherhood



Valerie Mac is helping develop an education program to reduce health risks for women who work in nurseries and ferneries in Florida.

Assessing health risks of female farmworkers in Florida

Inside the commercial greenhouses of central Florida, farmworkers, mostly young Latina and Haitian women, work in oppressive conditions tending and harvesting plants to be sold in retail stores across the country. The repetitive motion of bending over to cut the plants often causes chronic lower back pain. Skin irritations also are common, resulting from heat and exposure to pesticides and fungicides that the women apply to the plants, sometimes with nothing more than

From commercial greenhouses in Florida to rural villages in Ethiopia, doctoral students investigate ways to protect women and their unborn children. *By Poul Olson*

a garbage bag wrapped around their bodies for protection.

“These women are doused in these chemicals because of the direct contact that they have with the plants,” explains Valerie Mac 07N FNP 19G, a doctoral student specializing in environmental health nursing. “Many of these chemicals haven’t been studied in women of childbearing age, so we don’t know the risks for them and their unborn babies.”

As part of a four-year study funded by CDC’s National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Mac works with a team of researchers in Florida to assess occupational and environmental health risks for female farm-

workers in four counties. Led by Emory nursing Dean Linda McCauley, the study is providing information to develop an education program to help these women better protect themselves. The study is one of several research projects under way in the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility.

More than 260 women working in nurseries and ferneries are taking part in the study. Surveys are conducted by leaders in farmworker communities or who have worked in these settings in the past. This approach, says Mac, is essential to building

trust so that the women feel comfortable participating in the study.

Through focus groups and surveys, researchers seek to understand the women’s attitudes and beliefs toward risk associated with their work. Urine samples also are being collected to identify biomarkers of pesticides. Some studies have suggested that repeated exposure to pesticides might be harmful to a developing fetus.

Mac and the team find that women often lack information about the health risks of handling the chemicals used in their work. Safety labeling on the products typically does not describe risks for pregnant women. In addition, employers may not provide appropriate personal protective equipment or adequately train women to minimize their risks.

A key component of the study is understanding how health care providers perceive the environmental and occupational health issues facing female farmworkers of childbearing age. Through interviews with providers working in various clinical settings, the study team learned of the need for doctors and nurses to receive training and continuing education, especially on how to address occupational exposures in the care of these women.

“Some pregnant women work all the way up until the day they give birth,”

says Mac. “We are buying the plants that these women are producing for us. Thus, we have a responsibility to take care of their health needs and those of their unborn children.”

Building teamwork for safe deliveries in Ethiopia

That concern is utmost for Emory nursing researchers in rural Ethiopia. All too often, when a pregnant woman goes into labor but starts experiencing complications, her traditional birth attendant, accustomed to working alone to assist with deliveries, doesn’t know or feel compelled to call on a skilled health extension worker for help. The woman and her unborn baby later die.

Preventing such scenarios is the focus of the Lillian Carter Center’s Maternal and Newborn Health in Ethiopia Partnership (MaNHEP), which partly aims to bring more frontline health workers together to provide safe maternal and newborn health (MNH) care.

Doctoral student Michelle Dynes RN CNM 17G is helping shed light on attitudes and beliefs about teamwork among various cadres of health workers. This information will inform MaNHEP as it works to scale up interventions to build community-based MNH care systems

throughout the country.

In rural areas, traditional birth attendants and health extension workers primarily provide care to mothers and newborns. But the disparity in experience, training, and education among these groups necessitates a team approach to safe delivery.

“Each of these groups has something significant to contribute to community MNH care,” says Dynes. “Health extension workers have extensive training but lack hands-on experience, while traditional birth attendants have deep experience but lack formal training. Ultimately, the goal of community-level MNH care should be to tap into the knowledge and skills of each health worker group to maximize the quality of health services.”

Using an anthropological approach in her study, Dynes found that health extension workers feel that they are a part of MNH care teams and have a sense of strong teamwork. Most traditional birth attendants, however, do not see themselves as team members, even though health workers and families trust them to provide MNH care.

“Without having a sense of ‘we are all in this together,’ individuals may act only for their own interests,” says Dynes. “But if health workers are all working toward

a common goal—such as safe delivery—then they will not hesitate to engage with each other.”

Dynes describes this belief in a common goal as “oneness,” which Ethiopian health workers consider an important element of trust. Tapping into this shared sentiment, she says, could be an effective approach for harnessing teamwork among health workers.

To develop her research, she interviewed health workers on local concepts of trust and teamwork and used the data to design culturally relevant instruments to measure trust and sense of team. Now she is conducting a social network study of 165 health workers from each cadre to gauge their level of trust in each other and identify other factors influencing teamwork. She also is measuring distances between health workers’ homes to understand how physical distance influences teamwork.

Dynes’ work fills a gap in research on teamwork in health care systems. “Most research on trust and teamwork has been conducted in Western countries and only recently has been investigated in the context of health care,” she says. “In addition to guiding MaNHEP, I hope the findings from my study will inform other projects that are being implemented in rural, low-resource settings.” **EN**

Michelle Dynes is working in Ethiopia to fill a gap in research on teamwork in health care systems. This area of research is relatively new even in Western countries.



Providing Care and Comfort Closer to Home

By Dana Goldman

Last summer, students in the accelerated BSN/MSN program immersed themselves in clinical care at five different sites in the United States and the Caribbean. Among them were new sites in Atlanta and West Virginia, where students discovered two vastly different domestic patient populations.



Atlanta's City of Refuge

When it came time to pick one of the nursing school's immersion-learning trips last summer, Robin Goodwin 10N 12MN briefly considered the Bahamas and the Dominican Republic but then thought about how her two kids and spouse might react.

"Telling my husband I was going to the Bahamas for two weeks didn't sound like the best idea," she says in jest.

So with the good of her marriage in mind, Goodwin instead signed up for a local two-week immersion program with City of Refuge, a community-based nonprofit that provides shelter, medical care, food, and other assistance to poor and homeless city residents.

Before heading out, Goodwin assumed it would be an "immersion" in name alone. After all, nursing students working at City of Refuge could go home each night, and Goodwin had lived in Atlanta since kindergarten. How different could a community four miles from her home be?

And then came the first day of the program. To get to City of Refuge, she drove four exits west on I-20 and was there within 10 minutes. But the community west of downtown was nothing like the Atlanta she knew.

"There are broken down buildings everywhere," Goodwin says. "There's kudzu growing up over buildings. The sidewalks aren't safe. You don't see police officers stopping and talking to people like they do in other neighborhoods. They're on the go. There are very limited resources. There is no grocery store within walking distance. Here we are in this big glamorous international city, yet there's this pocket of sheer poverty."

Quickly, a fun summer program became a challenging experience for Goodwin and her four classmates, led by faculty instructor Hope Bussenius 93MN. Over two weeks, they helped out in different programs at City of Refuge, serving meals,

Web Connection: Listen as Robin Goodwin describes how nursing students improved sleep quality and hygiene for residents at City of Refuge. Visit bit.ly/careandcomfort1.



Web Connection: West Virginia is never far from mind for Ashley Deringer. Listen as she recalls a special patient there. Visit bit.ly/careandcomfort2.

providing day care to homeless children, and giving care to patients in the on-site clinic. They also designed and completed a quality improvement project to improve sleep hygiene for shelter residents.

For Goodwin, the hours spent with patients had special significance. “It was the first time that people in the community identified me as a nurse,” she says. “To go out in the community and have people say, ‘Oh, this is a nurse who knows what she’s talking about and is here to help me’ and having a total stranger say, ‘You know what, I trust you’ was priceless.”

She continues to think about how the immersion will inform her career as an emergency nurse practitioner at places like Grady Memorial Hospital.

“At Grady, you’re dealing with underserved populations. You’re dealing with homeless people. Sometimes as a practitioner it’s easy to say, ‘Take your medicine, go home, you’ll feel better.’ But what if there is no home, no way to take the medication? My experience at City of Refuge keeps reminding me, ‘Don’t just take a look at the chief complaint. Look at what this person’s going through.’ And also be not so quick to judge.”

Now immersed back in nursing school, Goodwin has no regrets about

her intown adventure last summer. This summer, she and her family will head to Hawaii to celebrate her graduation.

West Virginia’s coal country

Last summer found Ashley Deringer 11N 12MN following a creek up through a hollow in West Virginia. In some ways, she had come home.

Deringer grew up in rural Alabama. “All I wanted to do was escape,” she remembers. But 20 years later, something shifted.

“The more I traveled, the more I realized that sometimes you really need to look in your own backyard to realize what kind of culture there is and what you can take from it and what you can learn from it,” she says. “It doesn’t need to be on the other side of the globe.”

So when it came time for Deringer’s accelerated BSN/MSN class to immerse themselves in a clinical setting, she wanted to learn how nurse practitioners transfer cutting-edge research and contemporary nursing practice into rural environments with scant medical resources. The trip to West Virginia seemed just right: A high poverty level and careers spent mining coal had taken their toll on many residents.

For two weeks last June, Deringer, six

classmates, and faculty leader Carolyn Clevenger 02N 04MN GNP-BC DNP made a temporary home for themselves up near a hollow, working with four rural health clinics run by the community-owned Cabin Creek Health System.

For much of the time, the students focused on initiating a “quality improvement SWAT team” that reviewed 250 medical records, examining reasons why patients sometimes missed appointments. Deringer and her classmates plan to publish their findings in academic journals and have since provided feedback to Cabin Creek.

They also worked with patients suffering from mining-related ailments. “We saw a number of people with hearing damage from working in the mines and with explosives,” says Deringer. “We also saw a fair number of retired coal workers with chronic back injuries and some addiction and substance abuse that they trace back to the chronic pain.”

Yet other patients had never asked for chronic pain medication for fear of addiction. Here, Deringer and her classmates found they could be useful. “They were suffering in silence, so the opportunity to talk with them about options available to them short of narcotics was an enlightening experience.”

But the enlightenment went two ways. While rural West Virginia has few of the resources that city-dwellers expect, community members come together to fill in gaps, such as building ramps at the homes of elderly residents for easier mobility.

“The level of community was astounding,” Deringer says. She also learned how Cabin Creek had initiated successful programs to narrow health disparities usually seen in rural areas by providing home visits, on-site psychotherapy appointments, and an on-site pharmacy offering prescriptions for just a few dollars.

Deringer is applying what she learned in West Virginia to her graduate studies.

“You hear a lot in the classroom about ‘know your community’ and be familiar with what the community needs. I realized every community is different, and the way you serve each one is different as well.”

When not in class, Deringer works and lives in Gainesville, Georgia, which serves as a regional safety net for the large rural population in several surrounding counties. This time, she has no desire to escape. “It’s kind of brought me back to my roots,” she says.

The Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility oversees service-learning for students in Atlanta, West Virginia, South Georgia, the Bahamas, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic.

Visit our new blog



Read what students have to say about their service-learning experiences on *Emory Nursing Now*. Go to emorynursingnow.com.

The Longest

By Kay Torrance

Riding on a bus down a bumpy dirt road in a rural area of the Dominican Republic, the Emory nursing students bounce in their seats. They are helping nurses at a nearby hospital keep track of mothers who recently gave birth to pre-term babies. When the bus reaches its destination several hours later, the students spread out around town to track down the names on their list. As in many developing countries, addresses in the rural countryside are known by word of mouth, and the students ask any neighbor they find if they know the mother.

The aspiring nurses are spending their semester break in the country’s third largest city, San Francisco de Macorís, and are led by faculty members Jenny Foster PhD FACNM CNM MPH, a midwife with a doctorate in medical anthropology; Safiya Dalmida 01MN 06G APRN-BC, a nursing expert in spirituality and health; and Sara Pullen DPT MPH CHES, an Emory School of Medicine physical therapist committed to serving HIV/AIDS patients.

The challenges facing nurses in the Dominican Republic are not new to Foster, who has worked there for a number of years. Few paved roads, limited financial resources, and a transient health workforce have made following the mothers difficult. Foster thought helping locate the mothers and perform well-baby checkups would be the perfect project for her student nurses.

“It’s been difficult to get data because we can’t find the mothers,” says Foster. “The real-life challenges have been huge—cell phones get disconnected, locating the homes is difficult—so it’s a work in progress.”

These mothers were taught in the hospital to use the “kangaroo mother” technique—skin-to-skin contact between mother (or another caretaker) and baby 24 hours a day. Most of the kangaroo babies were thriving, the students found.

“It empowers the mothers—you can see it in their eyes,” Foster says. “They are so proud to see their babies grow and thrive.”

The students also conducted a role-playing workshop for volunteer doulas to refresh their knowledge. The drama proved popular—the nurses and residents at Hospital San Vicente de Paul in San Francisco de Macorís also watched it.

Foster is known among the nurses there for helping them reduce

Bus Ride

Checking up on new mothers and babies in rural Dominican Republic is no small feat

maternal deaths in recent years. Despite a large network of public hospitals with trained staff and approximately 97% of pregnant women giving birth in hospitals, women were still dying. Foster helped the nurses determine that maternal deaths usually occurred because mothers were unable to get appropriate care in a timely manner.

At Foster's recommendation, the Dominican nurses attended a number of educational conferences to update their skills and made a plan to increase patient follow-up through more proactive behavior on the labor ward. The nurses also trained community health workers who can identify early warning signs to help pregnant women in rural areas seek medical care earlier.

Out of Foster's partnership with the nurses came a project to give cell phones to pregnant women to track them to prevent maternal and newborn deaths. She also is seeking funding for a study on teamwork skills and communication for urban and rural areas in the Dominican Republic.

Hunter Keys 13MSN/MPH, a student who traveled with Foster during semester break last year, is completing a different study on the mental health of Haitian migrants. He was drawn to the subject after taking part in an earlier public health study in Haiti on mental health. Haitian migrants in the Dominican Republic, he learned, face a host of issues: homesickness, language barriers, racial discrimination, and a lack of documentation, which often leads to their exploitation. Though he observed that many migrants couldn't access health care because of financial restraints, he did find a strong family and community network to care for those with mental health issues. He also leads an interdisciplinary team of students, funded by a grant from the Emory Global Health Institute, to study the impact of cholera on the relationship between Haitian migrants and Dominicans.

"Eventually, I would like to see Haitians and Dominicans engaged in what's called 'té ansanm,' which means 'heads together' in Haitian Kreyol," says Keys. "The migrants expressed a desire to do a té ansanm with their Dominican neighbors, so hopefully both groups can come together and really get to know one another. I think they would find they have a common goal—working for the betterment of their community." **EN**



MSN/MPH student Hunter Keys and assistant professor Jenny Foster

Jenny Foster thought that helping nurses in the Dominican Republic keep track of new mothers and their babies was the perfect project for her nursing students.

Targeting health literacy among African Americans with HIV/AIDS

Even as a young child growing up in Alabama, Drenna Waldrop-Valverde PhD knew she wanted to help people who were less fortunate than she.

“I was always aware of the injustice and unfairness that was present in our world,” she says. “I just knew there must be something we could do, but I wasn’t always in a place to do something.”

Waldrop-Valverde, a neuropsychologist with a dual appointment in the School of Nursing and Rollins School of Public Health, is channeling her desire to help underserved populations as the principal

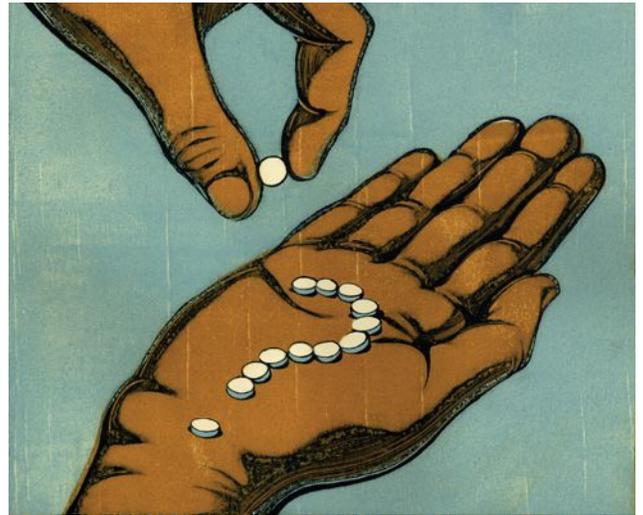


Web Connection: Watch a video as Waldrop-Valverde discusses HIV/AIDS and African Americans. Visit bit.ly/dwvnhiv.

investigator of Project READ (Research to Eliminate AIDS Disparities). Funded with a five-year \$2.9 million NIH grant, her study aims to determine if African Americans with HIV/AIDS are more likely to misunderstand their medication instructions because of poor health literacy skills, putting them at greater risk for advanced disease. It is part of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy to prevent new infections, increase access to care, and reduce health disparities.

For the study, participants are asked to come in for an office visit where they answer personal questions via an auditory computer-assisted survey. Next they are asked to show how they take their medicine. Then they will come back six months later for a follow-up appointment.

“I basically say, ‘Show me how you take your medicine,’” says Waldrop-Valverde, who will recruit study participants from Emory University Hospital Midtown and the Ponce de Leon Center, an outpatient clinic operated by Grady Health System. “We find that people, especially those with low health literacy, can interpret medication instructions



“Through all of my studies, I am struck by the similarities between me and the participants. We’re all so very similar.”—Drenna Waldrop-Valverde

differently. With HIV medications, patients need to have a higher level of adherence for the medications to be optimally effective. Even with as much as 80 percent adherence, patients can develop a resistance to their medications.”

This is the fourth NIH grant awarded to Waldrop-Valverde to study treatment adherence issues among HIV/AIDS patients. Her primary research focuses on health literacy and HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders and their effect on self-management abilities, particularly medication adherence and engagement in care.

“Through all of my studies, I am struck by the similarities between me and the participants,” she says. “We all have goals, dreams, and believe in the importance of family. We’re all so very similar.”—Kerry Ludlam



Web Connection: Watch “The Belly Cast,” the award-winning video by Emory nursing students, at bit.ly/ENbellycast.

And the award goes to...

If the Emory Student Nurses Association (ESNA) were a movie, it would rank right up there as a potential Academy Award winner. Last fall, ESNA brought home seven of 13 awards from the Georgia Association of Nursing Students (GANS). The awards are akin to winning the Golden Globes as a precursor to the Oscars, or in this case the upcoming National Student Nurses’ Association (NSNA) awards in April.

Among the state awards ESNA received was **Chapter of the Year**, based on excellence in member recruitment, community service, mentorship of students, political action, and participation in state and national nursing student activities. Other GANS awards follow.

Political Involvement

During the 2011 Georgia General Assembly, Emory nursing students lobbied for passage of a Senate bill that prohibits using the title “nurse” by anyone other than a licensed registered nurse or practical nurse. The Senate passed the bill, which now awaits final action by the House of Representatives.

Community Health and Service

ESNA held the first of an annual series of bake sales to support pediatric cancer

research. Together, faculty, staff, and students raised \$2,400 for this cause.

Newsletter of the Year

Published five times a year, *The Sentinel* highlights the experiences of Emory nursing students.

Member of the Year

ESNA president Colette Bernstein (shown above right photo) received the Emily McNelley Scholarship, named for the nurse who established what became GANS. An aspiring pediatric nurse, Bernstein has volunteered in Israel to help children with cerebral palsy and at Georgia’s Camp Sunshine for children with cancer.

Breakthrough to Nursing

Amy Blumling received the Mary Long Breakthrough to Nursing Award, which honors a student for outstanding leadership and peer mentoring. Blumling is past president and co-founder of Emory’s Pre-Nursing Club, which engages students from diverse backgrounds. Long was the first African American to lead the Georgia Nurses Association.

Image of Nursing

ESNA received the “best picture” award for “The Belly Cast,” a prenatal education video starring and produced by students and inspired by maternity nursing

instructor Kate Woeber CNM MPH. In the YouTube video, “pregnant” students rap about proper nutrition during pregnancy.

ESNA faculty adviser Kathy Markowski MS RN ICCE (shown above far left with students and their awards) was amazed by the recognition the chapter received from GANS. “It’s a joy to watch the students develop as leaders and grow professionally,” says Markowski, who will be there when NSNA announces its awards at the 2012 convention in Pittsburgh.—*Pam Auchmutey*

Virtual connections



Connect with the Emory nursing community and learn the latest news through our social networking sites at bit.ly/interactson.



Get them while they're young to stop HIV

Dennis Flores was a toddler in the Philippines when the first cases of AIDS were reported nearly 31 years ago. In the years since, he developed an appreciation for how AIDS affects the gay community.

The graduate nursing student and HIV/AIDS nurse is one of the newest spokespersons for Greater Than AIDS. Led by the Kaiser Family Foundation and Black AIDS Institute, the movement aims to increase knowledge and reduce stigma through national media and community outreach. Flores (shown right) is featured in the “Deciding Moments” campaign, which focuses on everyday opportunities to take a stand against the disease. Outlets include an online video, public service ads in national magazines, billboards, and other outdoor placements.

Flores points to several deciding moments in his own career. Although his mother initially urged him to become a nurse, he chose instead to work as a social worker in Georgia. Several years later, nursing came knocking again after a health scare in his family. This time, he was ready.

“My mother will never let me live that down,” says Flores, an MSN student in public health nursing leadership. “But I knew the time was right and that it was a good fit.”

During nursing school at Kennesaw State University, he took a community health course and was hooked. He also did a clinical rotation in the HIV/AIDS unit at Grady Memorial Hospital, where he now works as a charge nurse on weekends.

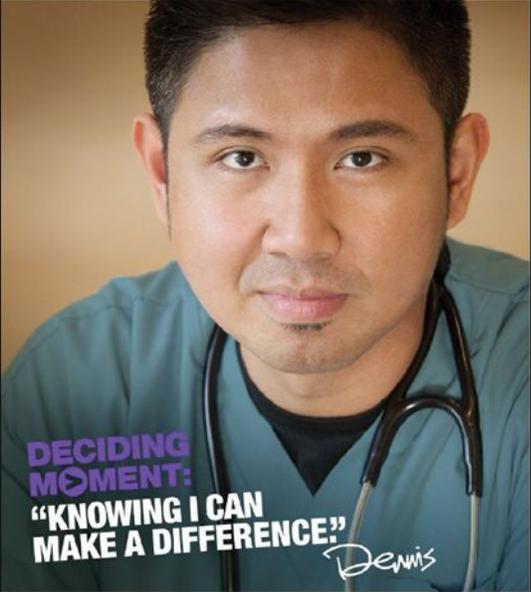
“I realized that HIV/AIDS was something I could relate to,” he says. “As a gay man, I owe it to the generations

of men before me who suffered through the early days of the epidemic. In return, someone has to uphold their legacy and take care of the community they built.”

Flores just completed a term as president of the Atlanta chapter of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care. Last fall, he co-wrote his first article in the *Journal of the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care*. The title, “Get Them While They’re Young: Reflections of Gay Men Newly Diagnosed with HIV Infection,” stems from his interviews with young HIV-positive gay men. Although his study participants understood the risks associated with unprotected sex, they did not take the necessary precautions or believe that HIV could happen to them. Flores sought to understand why.

“There is a distinction between being sick and having to deal with it for the rest of your life,” he says. “A lot of young gay adults can’t make that distinction because HIV/AIDS is now a manageable disease. The question is why would you subject yourself to a chronic condition if you can be healthy otherwise?”

The answer lies in creative interventions to raise awareness, such as more inclusive sex education in



DECIDING MOMENT:
“KNOWING I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.”
Dennis

As a nurse and as a gay man, I am confronted by the reality of HIV/AIDS every day. That's why I make sure my patients are educated about their care and treatment so they can stay healthy. I'm also an advocate in my community to help stop the spread of HIV. Above all, I practice what I preach. We all have a responsibility in this fight.

I AM DENNIS AND I AM GREATER THAN AIDS.

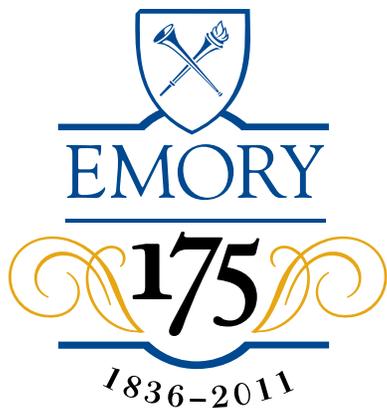
 **SHARE YOUR DECIDING MOMENT AT**
greaterthan.org/pride **WE > AIDS**

schools and community tactics like Greater Than AIDS.

“We need more aggressive efforts to keep people from becoming infected,” says Flores. “There are some great programs out there. But the mentality of younger people who are at risk of AIDS is not the same as the first people who had to confront it. We have to adapt to these changes in mindset and keep AIDS in the public consciousness to make it as relevant as possible.”—Pam Auchmutey

Web Connection: To view the Greater Than Aids video featuring Dennis Flores, visit greaterthan.gay.com/deciding-moments/dennis.





Ada Fort



Edith Honeycutt



Nell Hodgson Woodruff (center)

175 years of Emory history

The year 2011 ended in historic fashion when Emory celebrated its 175th anniversary. To mark the occasion, the university named 175 Emory makers of history, including the following School of Nursing leaders. For the full list, visit bit.ly/Emory175.

- **Nell Hodgson Woodruff 46H**, volunteer nurse leader and philanthropist for whom the school is named.
- **Edith Honeycutt 39N**, oncology nursing pioneer and private nurse to the Woodruff family.
- **Ada Fort**, School of Nursing dean from 1950 to 1975.
- **Betty Marie Stewart 52N**, nursing alumni leader and the first female president of the Emory Alumni Association.
- **Allie Saxon 63MN** and **Verdelle Bellamy 63MN**, the first African American students to enroll full time at Emory.
- **Twilla Haynes 80N**, who co-founded a clinic and orphanage for medically fragile children in Haiti with her daughters, **Angela Haynes 91MPH 08N 09MN** and **Hope Haynes Bussenius 93MN**.



Verdelle Bellamy, Twilla Haynes, Betty Marie Stewart, and Allie Saxon attended the 175th anniversary celebration, each wearing a medal presented to Emory makers of history.



Win free nursing goodies

Take our short survey for *Emory Nursing*, and you'll be entered in a drawing to receive a tote bag full of School of Nursing goodies. We'll get your valuable opinion, and you'll get some neat stuff. Drawing to be held June 1. To get started, visit svy.mk/readnursing.



Deborah Watkins Bruner



Ann E. Rogers



Ken Hepburn



Ruthanne Porreca



Ashley Darcy

New appointments

Two faculty members have been named to endowed chairs, the highest of university accomplishments. The School of Nursing also welcomed a new administrator and faculty member and congratulated another administrator's return to research.

Deborah Watkins Bruner PhD RN FAAN has been named the Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Nursing. She is the first nurse to hold a Woodruff professorship, the highest distinction for Emory faculty.

Bruner joined Emory last fall as professor of nursing and associate director of cancer outcomes at Winship Cancer Institute. She is known for her work with the National Cancer Institute (NCI)-supported Radiation Therapy Oncology Group (RTOG). She is the first and only nurse to lead research in an NCI national clinical community oncology program and serves as RTOG vice chair for outcomes.

Ann E. Rogers PhD RN FAAN now holds the Edith F. Honeycutt Chair. An expert on sleep disorders and chronic disease management, Rogers led the Staff Nurse Fatigue and Patient Safety Study, which led to sweeping changes in nursing policies in clinical settings throughout the country.

The chair that Rogers holds was established in 1990 by the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta to honor Edith

Honeycutt 39N, an oncology nurse at Emory University Hospital and a private nurse to the Woodruff family. The Honeycutt Chair is the first endowed chair at a major university named for a staff nurse.

After serving as associate dean since 2006, **Ken Hepburn** is stepping down to pursue his own research interests. Under his guidance, the school garnered the largest research grant in its 107-year history, attracted the nation's top nurse scientists to Emory, launched evidence-based practice programs with hospital partners, and created more research opportunities for undergraduate students.

Hepburn is widely recognized as one of the nation's foremost authorities on caregiver stress and Alzheimer's disease. He and Marsha Lewis, formerly associate dean for education, developed the Savvy Caregiver Program—a transportable caregiver education program now used in nine U.S. states and Italy.

Ruthanne Porreca has been named assistant dean for

research administration. In this newly created position, Porreca will facilitate grant preparation for the Office of Nursing Research.

She is a certified research administrator who previously oversaw grant preparation at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing.

Research Assistant Professor **Ashley Darcy PhD RN NNP-BC** is an expert in neonatology, infant health, developmental pediatrics, and brain injury. Her current research focuses on developmental outcomes of high-risk infants. Darcy completed her MSN and PhD at the University of Pennsylvania, where she served as the research assistant for the Late Preterm Infant Initiative, led by the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses and Johnson & Johnson. After completing her studies at Penn, Darcy served as a neonatal nurse practitioner in her hometown of Miami. She currently chairs the research committee for the Florida Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners.

Corwin named associate dean for research



Elizabeth Corwin PhD RN has been appointed associate dean for research. In her new role, Corwin will lead the development of a strategic research plan; create a high-quality research infrastructure and support system; lead robust and high-impact, interdisciplinary research;

and promote the scholarship of faculty and students both nationally and internationally. She holds the position previously held by Ken Hepburn, who will devote more time to his own research (see opposite page).

“Dr. Corwin is an extraordinary scholar, and we are fortunate that she is taking on this new position, which will allow her to strengthen our commitment to scholarship,” says Dean Linda McCauley. “Her extensive research and educational program experience makes her a very strong leader for our research programs.”

Previously a professor of nursing at Emory, Corwin is an expert on the biological basis of postpartum depression and fatigue. She currently is leading a multi-site, NIH-funded study on the psychoneuroimmune contributions to postpartum

depression. Her research has been published in a number of leading journals, and she is the author of the *Handbook of Pathophysiology*, used by nursing students in the United States and China.

“I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with the faculty as we move the School of Nursing to the next tier of excellence in research,” says Corwin. “The knowledge discovered and advanced by our researchers affects the health of all the citizens of Georgia as well as those around the country and the globe.”

Corwin came to Emory from the University of Colorado. She also served on the faculty at Pennsylvania State University and Ohio State University and holds a doctorate in physiology from the University of Michigan.—*Jasmine G. Hoffman*

Notes of distinction



Linda McCauley

Dean Linda McCauley is featured in the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* 2012 Health Care Who's Who list of 100 administrators and clinicians. This year's

list includes 11 leaders from Emory, including Wright Caughman, executive vice president for health affairs; Thomas Lawley, dean of the School of Medicine; and James Curran, dean of the Rollins School of Public Health.



Marsha Lewis

Marsha Lewis PhD RN, associate dean for education since 2005, is now dean of the University of Buffalo's School of Nursing. While at Emory, she oversaw the launch of the accelerated BSN/MSN program and dedicated education units at Emory Healthcare, the Atlanta VA Medical Center, and Saint Joseph's Hospital. She also began revision of the BSN and MSN curriculum.



Lynn Sibley

Associate Professor **Lynn Sibley PhD RN FAAN FACNM** is the first nurse to receive Emory's Marion Creekmore Award for Internationalization. Sibley is one of the architects of the Home-Based Lifesaving Skills program, regarded as a 21st-century model for birth attendant education. The program has helped families and saved lives in India, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, and Belize.

2011 Alumni Awards

The Nurses' Alumni Association presented the following honors during Homecoming 2011. These annual awards recognize nurses and others for their many contributions to the field.

Distinguished Nursing Achievement Award

Colleagues regard **Pam Melbourne 89MN** as a selfless leader who listens to patients, families, and staff at the Hospice of the Upstate in South Carolina. As CEO and president, Melbourne has developed groundbreaking programs for patients facing life-limiting illnesses. She also chairs the United Way's Center for Nonprofit Excellence Advisory Council, which builds stronger communities by increasing the performance and impact of nonprofit organizations.

Award of Honor

Emory clinical nursing professor **Judith Wold 81MN** leads the Farm Worker Family Health Program, based in the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility. Wold is retired from Georgia State University (GSU), where she directed the School of Nursing and where the Farm Worker Family Health Program began. When GSU discontinued it, Wold brought it to Emory. The program has served more than 15,000 people since 1994.

Recent Graduate Award

Anjli Hinman 06N 08MN was the only advanced practice nurse to serve on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing. The committee, working under the auspices of the Institute of Medicine, prepared the



Berta Laney (along with James Laney), Judith Wold, Anjli Hinman, and Pam Melbourne were honored by the NAA for their many contributions to nursing education, leadership, and practice.

landmark report on *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*. Hinman practices at Intown Midwifery in Atlanta and is in the process of opening a birthing center.

Honorary Alumni Award

James and Berta Laney, president emeritus and former first lady of Emory, are ardent supporters of the nursing school. During his tenure as U.S. ambassador to South Korea, the couple helped establish an exchange program between Yonsei University and Emory's nursing school. Mrs. Laney is a longtime member of the Nursing Associates, who serve as goodwill ambassadors in the community. Their daughter, **Susan Castle 83C 01N 08MN**, is a nurse practitioner with a local pediatric practice.

SAVE THE DATE Homecoming 2012 & Reunion Weekend

September 28-30



Come visit your alma mater and catch up with your classmates. Weekend highlights include the Nurses' Alumni Association (NAA) Awards Dinner & Celebration, building tours, a student and faculty panel discussion, reunion celebrations for class years ending in 2 or 7, and more. If you would like to help plan your reunion, please contact us at 404-727-8735 or alumni@nursing.emory.edu. For event details and updates, visit nursing.emory.edu/homecoming. To nominate a classmate, colleague, or friend for an NAA award, see the brochure in this magazine.

Share Your News With Us

Please send your news and latest contact information to alumni@nursing.emory.edu. Or visit alumni.emory.edu/updateinfo.php.



class news



Edith Young West 54N

1950s

Edith Young West 54N has published *Memories of Haiti* (Trafford 2011), chronicling 33 years and updated after the 2010 earthquake. In her book, West describes her experiences as a missionary in Haiti and her extended family there and in the United States. After graduating from Emory, she earned a master's degree in psychiatric nursing education at Boston University. Her nursing career took her to Florida, California, and Pennsylvania as well as Haiti. West currently lives in Apex, N.C. Her book is available on Amazon.com and www.Trafford.com.



Dr. Mona Counts 70MN

1970s

Dr. Mona Counts 70MN of Waynesburg, Pa., was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nurses in 2011. She holds an endowed chair at Penn State University, teaches NP students, and works in community development and outreach, including part-time work at the Primary Care Center of Mt. Morris.

Dr. Nancy Langston 72MN, dean of nursing at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), received the 2011 Nancy Vance Award for nursing excellence from the Virginia Nurses Association (VNA). The award was created in 1948 in memory of Vance, whose work improved the health of thousands of Virginia children. "Dr. Langston is the ideal recipient for this honor, given her commitment to the highest nursing standards throughout her career," said Susan Motley, VNA executive director. "She has made a significant impact on nursing education, research, and service in the community." Langston served several nursing schools prior to joining VCU in 1991.

Dr. Rebecca Dick Peinhardt 74N, associate professor of nursing at Jacksonville State University, was



Dr. Nancy Langston 72MN

appointed director of graduate studies for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. She lives in Birmingham, Ala.

Brenda S. Rowe 75MN was appointed by Gov. Nathan Deal to the Georgia Board of Nursing in 2011. Rowe is an associate professor at Georgia Baptist College of Nursing of Mercer University. She served 28 years in the Army Nurse Corps with the U.S. Army Reserves. Rowe is a member of the Georgia Nurses Association and the State Bar of Georgia, having earned a law degree from Georgia State University. She and her husband, Grant, live in Grayson, Ga.

Dr. Pamela Sue Chally 77MN, dean of Brooks College of Health at the University of North Florida, received the Celebration of Nurses Inspiration Award from *HealthSource Magazine* last June. The award recognizes nurses for helping people and inspiring others in the field. As dean, Chally oversees the administration of clinical and applied movement sciences, nutrition and dietetics, public health, the School of Nursing, the Center for Global Health and Medical Diplomacy, and the Center for Aging Research.



Dr. Pamela Sue Chally 77MN



J. Michael Pate 81MN

1980s

J. Michael Pate 81MN was promoted to foreign service senior executive in the U.S. Department of State. He completed his assignment in Kuwait and now serves at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

Elizabeth (Hilliard) Sexton 81N earned her master's in nursing at Western Carolina University, where she is now an assistant professor in community nursing, reports her husband, **John Sexton 82N**. He holds a master's in community health and a family nurse practitioner degree from the University of Virginia. While the Sextons' permanent address is Arden, N.C., they are considered "international" because of their 20 years of mission service with Presbyterian Church of America.



Hannah, Elizabeth 81MN, John 82MN, and Rachel Sexton

photography by: Paige Rohrer/The Carter Center



The 2011 Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy, held at the Carter Center last fall, brought together mental health leaders, stakeholders, and practitioners from across the country. Among them were **Dorothy Jordan 82MN**, an adjunct faculty member in the School of Nursing, and five students from the accelerated BSN/MSN program. Pictured here with Mrs. Carter (center) are Anne Englehart (left), Nichole Costa, Aaron Druck, Jordan, Shawn Marie Fox, and Erin Graham.

The Sextons first lived in the Amazon of Peru and Caudal Jared, Mexico and subsequently served in Belize, Southern Sudan, Ethiopia, Cambodia, and Bangladesh. They train village health workers in remote areas, teach missionaries in health and medicine to serve in those areas, and assess needs for future work in countries such as Mexico, the Philippines, and Mali.

John recently returned from Myanmar, where he taught health workers in the mountain region. Although Elizabeth travels less of-

ten since they have two daughters at home, she continues to work with the Cree People of Alberta, Canada. The entire Sexton family takes a mission trip each summer.

Anne Levorsen Hammer 82N won the first "Sure Shot Award" given by the Colorado Children's Immunization Coalition for dedication and leadership in attaining full vaccination coverage in the community. Hammer is a nursing clinical coordinator for the Denver Health and Hospital Authority.



Brenda Clark 95MN

1990s

Brenda Clark 95MN was promoted to director of clinical operations with CVS MinuteClinic. She oversees development and implementation of new programs and initiatives and identifies areas for improvement in daily clinic operations. Clark began her career with MinuteClinic as a clinical provider in the Atlanta market and for the past five years served as district manager of operations for Atlanta West. She is now based in the corporate office in Rhode Island.

Dr. Penny Louise Flavin 95MN completed her DNP at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul, Minn. In her capstone project, she assessed the impact of a pre-diabetes practice change intervention led by nurse practitioners in primary care clinics.

Kim Kathleen Kuebler 95MN (adult oncology) completed her DNP at Vanderbilt University.

MARRIED: Anna M. Simon 95N and Jeff Hollabaugh on Aug. 20, 2011, in Newtown, Pa. She works at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia as a pediatric nurse practitioner and serves on the exam committee for the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board.

Merrie Elizabeth Wallace 95MN was named executive vice president of product solutions at Awarepoint Corp. For 20 years, she held executive roles with McKesson Corp. and other health care technology companies and health care provider organizations. She and her husband, Stephen, live in Jonesboro, Ga.



Nancy (King) Curdy 96MN

Nancy (King) Curdy 96MN was elected to a three-year term as director-at-large for the National Association for Healthcare Quality. She is a founding member of the Georgia Association for Healthcare Quality and served as president the first year. Curdy has been a nurse for 33 years, primarily as an adult nurse practitioner/clinical nurse specialist (CNS) for critical care. She also helped develop and oversee an outpatient heart failure clinic. She served several years as the CNS for quality and now serves as the CNS for critical care and ED at Emory Johns Creek Hospital north of Atlanta.

Emory Nursing in the World



Susie Reynolds 06N (left) and her mother **Cheryl Murphy 77N** took along their copy of *Emory Nursing* during a trip to Milan, Italy. Where are you reading *Emory Nursing*? We'd love to know. Send your photos from near and afar to elizabeth.powell@emory.edu.



Maggie Marie, daughter of Molly Graybeal
01N 04MN

Teaching with heart in Mongolia

“Can you teach me how to pump the chest?” the Mongolian nurse asked **Anita Rich 81N** (shown above center in blue scrubs) through an interpreter.

The question came up three years ago during Rich’s lecture on airway management for nurses at Third Hospital in Ulaan Bataar. Rich was in Mongolia’s capital city on a medical mission with the humanitarian organization Samaritan’s Purse. The nurse wanted to learn CPR, a skill typically performed by doctors.

“Something clicked,” says Rich, who has spent most of her nursing career in cardiac care at Emory University Hospital and now Emory Johns Creek Hospital. “I realized I took for granted something the nurses there didn’t do.”

The nurse’s question motivated Rich to form Nurses Heart to Heart, a nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching advanced nursing skills in developing countries.

In May 2011, Nurses Heart to Heart sponsored its first trip as Rich returned to Third Hospital with two other nurses to teach CPR. She raised the money to cover their travel expenses and provide three sets of adult and pediatric mannequins to leave behind for nursing instruction.

Each of the three U.S. nurses taught five to six students, twice a day for a week. Students who picked up CPR quickly helped instruct others, whose clinical experience ranged from 30-plus years to eight months. On the first day of class, 12 nurses from a remote village arrived and stayed for the week. They now teach CPR in their village using one of the mannequin sets that Nurses Heart to Heart provided.

The class, to say the least, was successful. “The nurses loved it and want us to come back,” says Rich. “In addition to the hospital, they want us to teach at their nursing school and in some of the villages.”

Rich attributes her Mongolian colleagues’ desire to learn CPR to one basic reason. “Their hearts go out to their patients. That’s why I named my organization Nurses Heart to Heart.” —*Pam Auchmutey*

2000s

BORN: Maggie Marie Graybeal to Molly Tripp Graybeal 01N 04MN and her husband, Craig, on Sept. 24, 2011. Molly is a women’s health NP at Open Door Community Health Services in Muncie, Ind. She writes that she and Craig have been married for five years, they have a dog named Rupert, and they were excited to welcome Maggie Marie into the family.

Frank Edward (Eddie) Gammill 01N 05MN joined Towers/Watson in Atlanta as a health management consultant last July. He previously served six years as manager of Wellness Programs with Emory’s Faculty Staff Assistance Program.



The following five alumni were recognized in 2011 by the March of Dimes for nursing excellence. Nurses were honored in 16 different specialties.

Judith Wold 81MN
Public Health – Nell Hodgson Woodruff
School of Nursing

Alice Kerber 85MN
Oncology – St. Joseph’s Hospital

Ora Douglass 91MN
Hospice, home health, and palliative care
– Atlanta VA Medical Center

Carolyn DeSandre 99MN
Advanced Practice – North Georgia College
& State University

Thomas Flynn 10N
Rising Star – Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

in memory

1930s

Virgie M. Misenheimer 30N of Snellville, Ga., on Feb. 23, 2003, at age 96. She previously lived in Stockbridge, Ga.

Emma Ruth Rossman 39N of Marianna, Fla., on Oct. 18, 2006, at age 94.

1940s

Janette Rainey Calhoun 41N of Milledgeville, Ga., on May 5, 2011, after a 21-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was 92.

Jocelyn (Jo) Shearouse McLean Shaw 42N of Slidell, La., on Oct. 19, 2011, at age 90. Shaw served in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in England during WWII. For more than 30 years, she worked as a labor and delivery nurse at Baptist Hospital in New Orleans.

Fay Mangham Knight 43N of Gainesville, Fla., on Dec. 8, 2011, at age 91. She co-founded Hospice of North Central Florida 33 years ago. Today the nonprofit serves 18 counties with more than 800 volunteers. She was the first recipient of the annual Fay Knight Volunteer Award, created by the hospice in her honor.

Mary T. Custar 44N of Tavares, Fla., on July 10, 2011, at age 90. A lifelong resident of Tavares, she worked as a visiting home nurse during the 1940s and 1950s and later in a private practice.

Margaret Thompson Brown 46N of Alexander City, Ala., at home on July 21, 2011, at 86. She had been in declining health for some 10 years. A native of Atlanta, she worked many years as a nurse and especially enjoyed surgery and pediatrics.

Anne Rhodes Dishner 46N of Little Rock, Ark., on Aug. 1, 2011, at age 90. She was born in Quitman, Ga., and grew up in Atlanta. She had a long career as an RN, working in Georgia, Missouri, Nebraska, and Arkansas. She retired from International Paper in Pine Bluff, Ark., after 18 years.

Carolyn Lewis Hodges 47N of Clarksville, Ga., on June 9, 2011, after battling cancer. She was 85. Born in Ann Arbor, Mich., she moved to Georgia at age 2. She married Dr. Thomas L. Hodges in 1944. After graduating from Emory, she taught nursing arts at the school for one year. The couple moved to Habersham County in 1958 and raised six children. A long-time member of the Methodist Church, Hodges went on many mission trips.

Harriet Hanner Tucker 47N of Loganville, Ga., on Nov. 4, 2011, at age 86 after a short illness. She first worked at Emory University Hospital and then joined Grady Memorial Hospital, specializing in pediatrics for many years. In the 1970s, she began breeding and showing Welsh Corgis, starting with Pembrokes (the same breed

associated with Queen Elizabeth) but later switched to Cardigan Welsh Corgis (known as Cardis). Tucker's survivors include her "children with tails," Lily and Joe.

Ellen Randle Zeliff 48N of Bloomfield, N.J., on July 5, 2011, at age 85. She had a fulfilling career as an RN at Bergen Pines Hospital and Hackensack Hospital in New Jersey.

1950s

Laurel Post Shore 51N of Clearwater, Fla., on Sept. 10, 2010, at age 80.

Anne Adams Wallace 54N of Sanford, Fla., on July 4, 2011, at home with family. She taught nursing at the University of Florida in the 1950s. Her first husband, George Shinaberger, died in an auto accident while she was pregnant with their son George. She returned to her family in Sanford and in 1960 married Al Wallace. He passed away in 1990.

Anne was active in real estate in the 1970s and was competitive in ballroom dancing for many years. Survivors include companion Braxton Godwin, two sons, and a daughter.

Martha Colquitt Baron 56N of Greenville, S.C., on Oct. 29, 2011. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Martha grew up in Thomaston, Ga. She lived in Glen Head, N.Y., before moving to Greenville in 2005 to be closer to family.

Edna Gay Wilson 56N of Keystone Heights, Fla., on May 25, 2011, at age 77. During her distinguished career, she served as head nurse, nursing educator, and administrator at many prominent institutions, including St. Vincent's in Jacksonville. She retired from Northeast Florida State Hospital in



Martha Colquitt Baron 56N

Macclenny, where she served as nursing administrator for 13 years. Edna was loved and respected by scores of nurses who studied under and worked for her.

1960s

Kathryn DuPree Ransbotham 60MN of Stone Mountain, Ga., on Aug. 23, 2011, at age 88. She was director of the Georgia Baptist School of Nursing for 24 years. Ransbotham received awards from Mercer University, Georgia State University, and the Medical College of Georgia for outstanding administrative and educational work.

Alma J. Leonard-Johnson 64MN of Atlanta, on Sept. 14, 2008. At one time, she worked at Tuskegee University School of Nursing in Alabama.

Fay F. Russell 66MN of Moscow, Tenn., on Dec. 24, 2008, at age 83. She worked for the University of Tennessee.

Mary Frank Clonts Wynn 66N 67MN of Dahlonega, Ga., on Nov. 9, 2011, at age 68, of complications from chemotherapy. She was retired from the mother-baby unit at Northeast Georgia Medical Center in Dahlonega. After graduating from Emory, she taught nursing at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta and later at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She designed

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With love from Down Under

Harriet Harper Williams McDonald 32N 51N 57MN, a retired faculty member and alumni leader who split her time between two continents, died in Brisbane, Australia, on Nov. 12, 2011, at age 98.

McDonald grew up in Bogart, Ga., and enrolled in the nursing diploma program at Wesley Memorial Hospital (now Emory University Hospital) in 1929. She began her career as a private duty nurse and surgeon's assistant at the hospital. In 1952, McDonald joined the School of Nursing faculty and taught students in the operating room, where she was known as a stickler for aseptic technique to keep patients safe.

"If there was a break in technique, I called it, no matter who was to blame," she once said. "I couldn't sleep at night if my nurses learned a sloppy technique."

She also loved music—a joy she shared with her first husband, Ellis Williams. From the time she joined the faculty until years after she retired in 1967, McDonald served as an alumni leader and volunteer. She led the Nurses' Alumni Association (NAA) as president and represented the

nursing school at the university level as NAA director and vice president of Emory's alumni association. For her efforts, she received the Award of Honor from the NAA (1979) and Emory (1981).

Before Ellis died unexpectedly in 1983, the couple agreed to use the proceeds from his life insurance policy to establish the Harriet and Ellis Williams Scholarship. McDonald asked that the scholarship be used to reward BSN and MSN students who excelled academically during their first year.

McDonald's life took an adventurous turn following a visit to the Australian outback, where she met James McDonald, one of the continent's top 100 cattle producers. The couple married in 1988, and Harriet joined him on a cattle station in Queensland, 100 miles from the nearest town (population 2,000) and 1,000 miles from Brisbane.

The former nurse embraced her new world, riding in a jeep with her husband to check on the cattle and the jackeroos and jilleroos who looked after them. She returned regularly to Atlanta, where she



owned an apartment near Emory.

Surviving McDonald are her husband Jim, five stepchildren, 17 step grandchildren, 27 step great-grandchildren, and several cousins, including Zoe Hicks 76L of Atlanta.—*Pam Auchmutey*

Memorial gifts honoring McDonald may be made to the Harriet and Ellis Williams Scholarship Endowment, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, 1520 Clifton Road, Suite 442, Atlanta, Georgia 30322.

the curriculum for the LPN-to-BSN program at Golden Triangle Vo-Tech Center in Columbus, Miss. Recently, she was auditing courses in art history and medieval history at North Georgia College and State University.

Dr. Betty E. Smith 67MN of Ruston, La., on March 29, 2010, at age 80. She began her career as an LPN, practicing at several facilities, including what is now the Atlanta VA Medical Center. She received her doctorate in nursing from the University of Southern Mississippi and taught at the University of Louisiana at Monroe from 1967 to 1982. She was instrumental in establishing the nursing

program at Grambling State University in Louisiana and was dean of the College of Professional Studies until she retired in 2006. Following Smith's death, the Louisiana legislature passed a resolution expressing condolences and recognizing her outstanding contributions to nursing.

Dr. Katherine Snyder Gallia 68MN of Minneapolis, Minn., on June 19, 2011, at age 66. After graduating from Emory, she worked as a nurse and nursing instructor and married Charles Gallia in 1969. After moving to Austin, Texas, Gallia earned a PhD at the University of Texas. She was a nursing professor at the University of the Incarnate Word in San

Antonio for 13 years and, since 2004, at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her research focused on the spiritual care of cancer patients and their families.

1970s

Barbara A. White 72MN of Annandale, Va., on May 16, 2011, at age 68. She was retired from the Virginia State Health Department.

1980s

Martha Rebecca Barrow 85N 95A of Aledo, Texas, on Oct. 13, 2011, at age 49. In addition to her nursing degree, Barrow earned a master of

science in anesthesiology from Emory. She was an anesthetist at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and Northwest Anesthesiology in Houston. A proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Barrow enjoyed studying her family's history. Her greatest passion was animals and the elimination of homeless pets through adoption and spay/neuter programs. Survivors include her sister, best friend, and fellow nursing grad **Ann Barrow Harris 81N** of Atlanta.



Melanie Baron-Alpert 95MN

was raised on Long Island in Glen Head, N.Y. She earned her BSN at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. She worked as a family nurse practitioner in several medical practices in the Greenville area and was loved by her patients and co-workers. Her mother, **Martha Colquitt Baron 56N**, survived her by only four months.

1990s

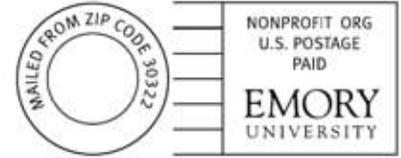
Melanie Claire Baron-Alpert 95MN of Greer, S.C., on June 16, 2011, at age 41. She



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