

DeckerScope

News from DECKER SCHOOL OF NURSING

Decker welcomes new dean

Sarah Gueldner, DSN, RNC, FAAN, arrived at the Decker School to assume her new responsibilities as dean of the Decker School of Nursing March 3. Gueldner comes to Binghamton University from the School of Nursing at Pennsylvania State University, where she was director and tenured professor. She succeeds Mary S. Collins, PhD, RN, FAAN, who stepped down last May to become Decker Chair in Community Health Nursing and professor.

In announcing Gueldner's selection, Provost Mary Ann Swain noted that Gueldner's career has



Dean Sarah H. Gueldner, DSN, RN, FAAN

focused on the integration of nursing education, clinical practice and research. "Over the past 20 years, she has been involved in the startup of doctoral programs in nursing at three major universities: the Medical College of Georgia, the Medical University of South Carolina and Pennsylvania State University," Swain said. "She served as the director of doctoral studies at the Medical University of South Carolina at the time their doctoral program was being planned and implemented, and she led the planning, development and startup of the PhD program at Penn State."

Gueldner earned her doctorate in nursing from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, with a concentration in higher education. Her master's in nursing degree is from Emory University and her baccalaureate degree is from the

University of Tennessee in Memphis.

"I think I picked the right place," Gueldner said of the Decker School, noting its academic reputation and the fact that it has a solid base of endowed funding to move into the future.

"Without that base," Gueldner said, "it's harder to go to that next step."

Gueldner said her major priority is to continue fundraising efforts to build the school's scope and programs. When it comes to seeking external funding, "Nursing schools traditionally are always behind other units in a university because they are so busy with their clinical practice," she said.

Having done considerable research and clinical practice with the elderly and with rural populations, Gueldner said the fact that the Decker School was strong in both those areas was a plus for her.

"I grew up in a rural area," she said, explaining her lifelong interest in rural healthcare issues. Additionally, she said, most of her career has been spent in more rural areas — usually near her beloved Appalachian Mountains.

Gueldner was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 1990 and a fellow in the Association of Gerontology in Higher Education in 1999. In 2001, she was named a distinguished practitioner and member of the National Academies of Practice.

Searching for Decker Chair in Rural Nursing

The Decker School of Nursing is searching for an individual with a sustained record of publication and external funding to develop a cohesive program in research, practice and education in rural nursing.

Join a dynamic, committed faculty with a young and growing doctoral program in rural nursing! Appointment is at the senior rank, with tenure for candidates with commensurate qualifications.

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MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Greetings from Sarah H. Gueldner, DSN, RNC, FAAN

It is my privilege and pleasure to greet you as the new dean of the Decker School of Nursing. I have already had a chance to meet a number of you at graduation and community events, and I look forward to meeting others of you at the first opportunity. Please drop by the school if you are in the area, and introduce yourself to me when we happen upon each other at professional meetings.

I am known for bragging, and I have already found much to brag about at the Decker School. You may read more about the achievements of the faculty, students and alumni in the next pages, but I would just point out that one of the nursing faculty, Dr. Serdar Atav, won both University and Chancellor's Awards for Teaching Excellence; and Erin Howe, a nursing undergraduate, won a Chancellor's Award for Academic Excellence.

In July, the Decker School was awarded a federal grant (penned by

Dianne Miner) for \$937,000 to expand the Baccalaureate Accelerated Track (BAT) program over the next three years. I am very impressed with the school's 10-year involvement in offering this accelerated program that allows people holding baccalaureate degrees in other fields an opportunity to become baccalaureate prepared nurses in just 11 months of intensive study. Decker is one of only a relatively small number of nursing schools that offers such an option, and 50 new students have enrolled into the program for fall 2003. Several applicants even have master's or doctoral degrees in other fields. I am convinced that programs such as ours are perhaps the most effective way to address the severe nursing shortage that is gripping our nation and the world.

Several innovative activities going on within Decker have also caught my eye. For instance, the *PetNet* training program draws participants from across campus and even within the community, and has become a signature program for Decker. Participants in this outreach initiative bring their dogs (of all sizes, from Yorkshire terrier to Newfoundland) for several training sessions and then take them to visit area nursing home patients.

The top goal on our list for this year is to recruit a highly qualified person to fill the newly endowed Decker Chair of Rural Nursing. This is a particularly timely endeavor, given the school's long and nationally recognized history in working to improve the health of rural populations. Highlighting the school's thrust to address rural health concerns, the Decker School has hosted two international conferences during the past three years, bringing more than 250 rural-based professionals to our campus from more than 30 states and 12 countries for intensive dialog about health strategies for rural communities. The Decker Chair in Rural Nursing is the capstone that will take our school to an elite status among nursing schools that serve rural populations. We will continue to seek increased funding from federal agencies and foundations to support our excellent educational programs, and to build strong programs of research and practice that distinguish our school nationally and internationally.

Again, I am proud to be your new dean, and I look forward to working with you to help the school reach even greater national prominence.

Warmly,
Sarah Gueldner

DeckerScope

DECKER SCHOOL OF NURSING

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Decker News

Decker offers Web-based courses

Supported by a federally funded community health nursing grant, the Decker School now offers a 16-credit post-master's certificate in community health nursing education and has expanded the community health program to include two Web-based courses on biohazards and disaster preparedness.

One Web-based nurse educator course, "Information and Educational Technology in Nursing Education," was launched in summer 2003. The expanded educator role sequence allows master's-level community health nurses to prepare for college teaching or faculty careers as community health educators.

The two Web-based biohazard courses were developed using the expertise of Laura Terriquez-Kasey, a Decker clinical instructor and former U.S. Army nurse. Terriquez-Kasey is a member of a federal Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) that spent time at Ground Zero.

"Community Health's Response to Emerging Health Threats" ran in spring 2003 and is designed to enhance public health professionals' knowledge and preparedness in bioterrorism emergencies. The students' final project was to observe and evaluate the



During mock triage held in the University's East Gym, (from left) Nichole MacConnell '03, Althea Willie '03 and Thomas Eddie Jones '03 secure a volunteer trauma patient with consult from an Army nurse. The drill simulated a collision between a truck carrying chemicals and an Off Campus College Transport bus.

University's annual Disaster Drill held May 9 (photo at right).

"Community Health Planning for Natural, Man-Made and Na-Tech Disasters," running in fall 2003, prepares the community health nurse to take a leadership role in community disaster preparedness and disaster management. Particular emphasis is placed on the identification of vulnerable and at-risk populations, the coordination of resources and agency responses, the management of emergency shelters and community intervention for recovery.

2002-03* and 2003-04 Scholarship Awards

A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation Nursing Scholarship

2002-03: Rose M. Albano, Christy A. O'Donnell, Thomas J. Robinson

2003-04: Christy A. O'Donnell

Arnell Hall Scholarship

2002-03: Penny S. Boyer and Molly K. MacVean

2003-04: Molly K. MacVean

Binghamton General Hospital School of Nursing Scholarship

2002-03: Deborah Hoppe

2003-04: Christina M. Head

Decker School of Nursing Alumni Scholarship

2003-04: Julie M. Mangano, Tara E. Matteson, Mary Ayers, Heather L. Ungleich

Dr. and Mrs. Orville Nielsen Nursing Scholarship

2003-04: Kimberly D. Brady, Denise A. Cornell, Keleisha C. Knight,

Heather A. Young

Dr. G. Clifford and Florence B. Decker Scholarship

2002-03: Michelle L. Bohl, Kim S. Chung, Renee T. Husted, Martha L. Stivers

2003-04: Jennifer M. Blazey, Michelle L. Bohl, Desiree L. Cabot, Marlo S.

Capoccia, Amy L. Chmielewski, Jamie L. Cole, Tamra Cooney, Haley R. Engel,

Lisa J. Ewanow, Ralph J. Klotzbaugh, Kelly E. Marshall, Jessica S. Palmer,

Ruthann Rafacz, Linda A. Robinson, Martha L. Stivers, Antonette E. Tobin,

Jolene M. Wilson, Denise S. Wittlin-Horvath

Dyer-Johnston-Dixon Scholarship Program, given by Binghamton Rotary

2002-03: Nadia Aziz, Ryan D. Little, Sarah J. Young

2003-04: Sarah K. Fritsch, Emily R. Santobuono, Sarah J. Young

Good Shepherd-Fairview Foundation Scholarship

2002-03: Ma Ines D. Camacho

2003-04: Jennifer M. Blazey, Desiree L. Cabot

Lester Casper Nursing Scholarship

2003-04: Rikki I. Herman

M. Caroline Tirrell Scholarship Fund

2002-03: Pamela R. Sicina

2003-04: Kim S. Chung

Okin Scholarship for Student Support

2002-03: Emily J. Samberg

2003-04: Rebecca A. Young

United Health Services Nursing Scholarship

2002-03: Roman Hailu, Kimberly S. Fuller, Mirna S. Rodriguez

2003-04: Larry L. Jenkins, Tierra C. Oliver

Wasson Scholarship

2002-03: Sharon Kitchie

William H. Lane Incorporated Scholarship

2003-04: Kelly A. Acker

Wilson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Scholarship

2003-04: Jessica L. Wega

***2002-03 recipients listed were not previously acknowledged.**

Kudos

The Decker School congratulates



A. Serdar Atav, associate professor, winner of a 2003 Chancellor's Award and a 2003 University Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Congratulations to **Margaret L. Young, MS, PCNP '98**, named 2002 Rural Health Practitioner of the Year by the New York State Association for Rural Health at the 2003 annual awards ceremony.

Welcome to New Faculty and Staff
Steven Fahlbusch, project staff associate
Sarah H. Gueldner, dean and professor
Barbara M. Kelly, clinical instructor

Thomas C. Simons, clinical instructor

Promotions

Rita C. Bergevin, from clinical lecturer to clinical assistant professor

Yvonne Johnston, from clinical lecturer to clinical assistant professor

Patricia A. Mitchell, from clinical lecturer to clinical assistant professor

Carolyn Pierce, from clinical lecturer to clinical assistant professor

continued on back

Decker News

Decker School of Nursing Celebrates Commencement 2002 and 2003

Congratulations to the graduates of the Decker School of Nursing Classes of 2002 and 2003!

Binghamton University's Commencement for the Decker School Class of 2003 was held Sunday, May 18. Families and friends of 134 Decker School candidates gathered at Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena to witness the conferral of 113 bachelor of science and 21 master of science degrees to candidates.

Six post-master's family nurse practitioner (FNP) certificates were also awarded.

Binghamton University's Commencement for the Class of 2002 honored 97 Decker School degree candidates on Sunday, May 19. The first of two Decker School doctoral candidates (highlighted in the spring 2002 issue of *DeckerScope*) received degrees, alongside 71 bachelor's- and 24 master's-degree recipients. Two graduate nursing students earned post-master's family nurse practitioner (FNP) certificates.

Each year, the Decker School's annual recognition ceremony and reception is held prior to Commencement, honoring select students and faculty for outstanding academic work, clinical practice or other achievements. Receptions for 2002 and 2003 graduates were held at the Anderson Center Concert Theater. Recipients and awards received for both years are listed on page 5.



Undergraduate Renee Morturano '03 blows bubbles during Commencement, held May 18.



Jamina John '02, shown with SUNY Chancellor Robert L. King (right) and Lloyd (Skip) M. Howe, assistant vice president for student life and student affairs, received a 2002 Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. John also won a University Student Excellence Award in 2002.



Decker School of Nursing graduates celebrate at the graduate and professional schools ceremony in May 2002



Decker School of Nursing May 2003 graduates at the Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena Commencement



The August 2002 Recognition Ceremony and Reception honored Baccalaureate Accelerated Track (BAT) and Accelerated RN degree candidates. Accelerated program students were invited to march in the May 2003 Commencement ceremonies. (Front row, from left) Allison R. Savitt, Sharon C. Maddock, Anne B. Stefanini, Pamela R. Sicina, Carolyn A. Bryant, Aileen V. Quitoriano, Sarah M. Miner. (Back row, from left) Zachary R. Krom, Robert C. Hooko, Jamie L. Riffle, Darcy J. Lester, Nicole E. Wilson, Jessica A. Napoli, Rebekah A. Hattery, Lisa M. McGorry, Paulette B. Naranjo

Meet one of Decker's 2003 graduates

Even a brief interview with Decker School of Nursing alumna Dahlia Nichols would leave a pessimist thinking anything is possible. A widow with two teenage children and an ailing mother, Nichols moved in 1998 from New York City to Binghamton to give herself and her children that “white picket fence, big backyard and a dog” kind of life. She didn’t even know how to drive.

Trained as a pediatric physical therapy assistant, Nichols couldn’t find a job. With her mother suffering from Alzheimer’s, Nichols thought she could be a better caregiver if she knew what she was doing, so she enrolled in the Decker School’s undergraduate nursing program.

It’s been two very intense years for her. “I had to take several tough courses — microbiology, statistics, chemistry — but going to school here has opened my eyes,” she said. “I’ve started to realize the needs of the community. It’s a more global thing for me.

“We can empower ourselves so we can change things,” she said. “The program here is headed by very passionate people, and they’ve passed that passion along to me.”

Maureen Daws, clinical instructor, said Nichols is compassionate beyond words. “Her genuineness, her authenticity. She’s a blessing,” said Daws. “She has touched more lives here than I can comprehend or begin to tell you.

“My first encounter with Dahlia was in a lab on her first day of classes,” Daws added. “A knock came on the door, and it was another instructor coming to tell Dahlia that her mother had passed away. Yet she overcame that and brings out the best in everyone. She has been a role model for the entire class.”



Dahlia Nichols '03

Nichols feels she has blossomed since her move to Binghamton. “I uprooted my kids and it was rough, but my mother and stepfather gave me courage to look forward, to move ahead, to dream and to be kind to people,” she said. Her children have made the transition — her daughter is attending Broome Community College and her son hopes to attend Columbia University.

Originally interested in working in labor and delivery upon graduation, Nichols has decided she’s better geared toward end-of-life issues. Her mother’s strong religious beliefs, passed down to Nichols, played a role in her decision.

“I asked God and meditated on it, and I’ve decided to work in hospice,” she said. “It’s awesome. I’m hoping to work in oncology for six months to see what the patients go through, and then go right into hospice. It’s simply a privilege to be with people at the end — to make them and their families comfortable — and to look at them in a holistic way.”

Decker School of Nursing Recognition Ceremony Award Recipients 2002 and 2003

Air Force Nursing Excellence Awards

This was a new award for 2003, and many senior students were honored.

Bruce Weinberg Memorial Award

Amanda A. Banker '03

Chancellor's and University Awards for Student Excellence

Jamina John '02, Erin E. Howe '03

Decker Foundation Award for Academic Excellence

Kerri E. Lisi '01 (BAT), Anne Bethany Stefanini '02 (BAT)

Decker Foundation Award for Clinical Excellence

Wenjing (Wendy) Huang '01 (BAT), Darcy J. Lester '02 (BAT)

Distinguished Dissertation Award

Catherine Brownell Antonacci '02

Excellence in Advanced Nursing Awards

For Family Nursing — Debra Hoy '02, Angela Marie Nardella '03

For Community Health Nursing — Karen Marie Hatch '02, Tina Marie Rotzler '03

For Gerontological Nursing — Danielle Bellumori '02, Theresa Annette Leppert '03

Foundation Award for Academic Excellence

Jane Alice Schantz '02, Erin E. Howe '03, Erin L. Mahar '03

Geraldine M. Dowling Memorial Award in Gerontological Nursing

Anne Walls, RN, MSW (award received in '02), Kimberly Momot, MS, RN, GNP (award received in '03)

Henrietta Pitler Award for Scholarship and Leadership

Sarah Joanne Walker '02

Jessica Mally Memorial Award

Stacie Ann Phillips '02, Dahlia M. Nichols '03

José Reichel Research Awards

Sally Frances Tordonato Bennett '02, Sharon Kitchie '03 (award received in '02), Tina Marie Rotzler '03

Mary E. Mahoney Leadership and Service Award

Miguel A. Gibson '02, Angela R. Ayala '03, Mirna Socorro Rodriguez '03

Mary Pillepich Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice

Miguel A. Gibson '02, Ishmael Z. Coto '03, Erin E. Howe '03

Registered Professional Nurse Baccalaureate Award

Tatyana Pradun '03

Rural Nurse Organization Award in Recognition of Educational Excellence and Interest in Rural Nursing

Adelaide Helen Chute '03, Laura Lee Johnson '03

Sara Ainspan Memorial Award

Laurie M. Stefflik '01 (BAT), Sarah Mary Miner '02 (BAT)

Senior Service Award

Miguel A. Gibson '02

Sigma Theta Tau Zeta Iota Thesis Award

Catherine Brownell Antonacci '02, Sally Frances Tordonato Bennett '02, Louise Sherrod Ward '02, Iveta Valenova '02, Jeanne-Marie Havener '03

Spirit of Nursing Award

James Logan Glass '02, Dawn Michelle Eatough '03

Tyson Dean's Award; Dean's Award in Excellence

Danielle T. Belliveau, MS, RN, GNP, Mimi H. Updegraff, MS, RN (both received awards in '02), Joyce A. Ferrario, PhD, RN, Dr. and Mrs. Orville Nielsen (both received awards in '03)

University Award for Excellence

Nannette F. Van Dyke, MS '01

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

A successful third international congress

by Lindsay L. Morgan and Pamela Stewart Fahs

More than 150 people enjoyed the Third International Congress of Rural Nurses, hosted in Binghamton by the Decker School Oct. 3-5, 2002. Nurses from Australia, Botswana, Canada, Iran, Japan, the Philippines, Uganda, the United Kingdom (England and Scotland), the U.S. and Zambia attended.

Mary Wakefield, PhD, RN, FAAN, director of the Center for Rural Health at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, opened and energized the congress with her presentation, "Charting a Course Using Rural Research and Health Policy." At each of 25 congress sessions, three to four papers were presented with topics covering recruitment and retention, theory develop-

ment, community partnerships, policy, research techniques, clinical issues, rural practice, funding, special populations, education, healthcare delivery and disease prevention/health promotion.

As a result of the Third Congress, the International Federation of Rural and Remote Nurses (IFRRN) was formally established. Proposed bylaws were voted on and approved by congress delegates.

Threading together congress themes, the congress closed with remarks by Rita Carty, dean and professor of the College of Nursing and Health Science at George Mason University. Carty spoke on "Global Health Strategies to Meet Rural Health Needs."

Congress attendees earned International Council of Nurses (ICN) continuing education credit. The IFRRN will support future congress meetings. Sally Reel of the University of Arizona College of Nursing seeks sponsors for the next congress, in Europe. As information becomes available, Decker alumni and faculty will be notified.

The Decker School gratefully acknowledges the following congress sponsors:

- Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation
- A. Lindsay & Olive B. O'Connor Foundation
- Chateau LaFayette Reneau
- Delaware County Rural Healthcare Alliance
- Frito-Lay, Inc.
- Heluva Good LLC
- Kos Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Lourdes
- New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH)
- Organon Pharmaceutical Company
- Pfizer, Inc.
- Rural Health Education Network of Delaware, Otsego, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties
- Staples
- The Northeast Farm Credit AgEnhancement Program
- United Health Services Hospitals

This review was adapted from a report published in the Rural Health Nurses Organization (RNO) newsletter by Lindsay L. Morgan.



Kathleen Peterson Sweeney, MS, RN, PNP, associate professor at SUNY Brockport Department of Nursing (left), with Johann Fiore-Conte, MS, RN, CS, DSON clinical site coordinator, at the Third International Congress of Rural Nurses

Monograph from Fuld Institute released

In the summers of 2000 and 2001, the Decker School was privileged to offer an institute focused on rural nursing. Partially funded by the Helene Fuld Health Trust, the institute was named the Helene Fuld Summer Institute in Rural Community Health Nursing.

A monograph reflecting participants' contributions to the insti-

tute, edited by Mary S. Collins, is being distributed nationally to the more than 600 baccalaureate and higher degree programs in nursing. The hope is that this information will be helpful to nursing programs across the country as they contemplate the need to include content on rural nursing within their programs.



Helene Fuld Summer Institute monograph cover

Student News

Mary E. Mahoney News

The Mary E. Mahoney Nursing Support Group (MEM) received an office in the pre-professional suite when the University Union West opened in fall 2002, the first time MEM has acquired office space on campus.

MEM began the fall semester by participating in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk held at Recreation Park in October 2002. The group continued in the fall with blood-pressure screenings held at the University Union, and again in spring 2003 at the United Health Services Stay Healthy Center at the Oakdale Mall.

Members attended conferences throughout the academic year, with vice president Mirna Rodriguez attending the University of Buffalo Minority Graduate School Conference in October 2002. MEM

sponsored a bus trip in March 2003, allowing senior and junior students to attend the Nursing Expo in Teaneck, N.J. VP Rodriguez and classmate Chinyere Igboeli attended the statewide Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) Annual Conference, held at the Sagamore Resort at Bolton Landing on Lake George, April 4-6. Concluding the year's travel in April, treasurer Nadege Eloi attended the National Nursing Student Association meeting in Phoenix.

MEM concluded the year by co-sponsoring M. Elizabeth Carnegie to speak at its annual alumni banquet April 27. Current students and faculty attended the banquet, as did alumni Mary Mendez '02 and Samantha Lewis '00.



(From left) Dean Sarah H. Gueldner; Clinical Instructor Melissa Sutherland; Angela Ayala, president of MEM; M. Elizabeth Carnegie, guest speaker at the annual MEM alumni banquet; and Sharon Bryant, associate professor, faculty adviser to MEM and director of the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP)

Nursing Student Association Activities

The Decker School's Nursing Student Association (NSA) enjoyed a productive academic year in 2002-03. Members raised funds for the Alzheimer's Association as participants in Memory Walk 2002, held Sept. 28 at Binghamton's Recreation Park. A bake sale Sept. 30 netted proceeds for the American Cancer Society. NSA volunteers participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk Oct. 6, also at Recreation Park.

Fall continued with successful NSA T-shirt sales. Additionally, the NSA gathered needed clothing for the Binghamton SOS Shelter, a temporary refuge for victims of domestic violence.

As the holidays neared, NSA members organized a drive resulting in gifts for residents of the Binghamton Children's Home of Wyoming Conference Center. On Dec. 6, the NSA went caroling at Castle Gardens Special Needs Unit, a Binghamton senior living center.

In February, the NSA invited the Decker community to sign a giant Valentine's Day card for residents of the Oxford Veterans' Home in Oxford, N.Y. NSA reps reported that residents enjoyed the card a great deal.

In support of U.S. troops stationed in Iraq, the NSA collected donations of eye drops, lip balm, razors, shaving cream and flea-

resistant products to be shipped overseas. They continued efforts begun in fall by collecting box tops for the General Mills Box Tops for Education program, Yoplait yogurt lids for the Save Lids to Save Lives program benefiting the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and soda-pop tabs in support of Shriners' Children's Hospital of Boston.

On April 7, NSA guest speaker Greg Ronneburger spoke to students about financial planning after graduation.

Activities for the year concluded April 12 with the annual NSA Nursing Banquet, held at the Holiday Inn on the Vestal Parkway.

ALUMNI PROFILE:

Sharyn Janes, PhD, MS '88, RN, ACRN

A passion for population-focused healthcare

By Jennie M. Orton

“Mahatma Gandhi said that you must be the change that you want to see in the world. In public health, we are the change,” said Sharyn Janes, professing her belief in and passion for the practice of



Sharyn Janes, PhD, MS '88, RN, ACRN

population-focused healthcare in the U.S. and global communities. An expert in the field of community health nursing, Janes began her journey to this end while in graduate nursing school at Binghamton University in the late 1980s.

“I started out in the family health track. Gale Spencer taught family health courses that addressed community health issues,” said Janes. Spencer, PhD, professor and director of the Kresge Center for Nursing Research at the Decker School, provided Janes with opportunities to meet community health nursing leaders and top officials at community health conferences while Janes attended Binghamton. Ultimately, this tutelage and her developing love of population-focused healthcare brought her to actively research and study populations infected with HIV and AIDS.

“In 1987, public awareness of AIDS was increasing,” said Janes. “It was then that I became fascinated with the political, economic

and social implications for HIV and AIDS patients. At that time, New York was one of the top three states for fastest-growing AIDS cases.”

Graduating from Binghamton University in 1988 with a master’s in community health nursing and foci of clinical nurse specialist and nurse educator, Janes initially worked at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, becoming an associate tenured professor. After earning a PhD in higher education from Florida State University, Tallahassee, in 1993, she went to work for the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) School of Nursing in 1994.

Janes noted that although Mississippi wasn’t in the top three states, it was a state where HIV and AIDS were rapidly spreading among rural populations. She found state and federally funded grants enabling her to implement research-based HIV/AIDS educational programs in local Mississippi community schools, homeless shelters, adolescent drug addiction centers and prisons. Eventually, her interest in HIV and AIDS population-focused health care enticed her to cross international borders.

“The University of Southern Mississippi has one of the largest international programs in the country,” said Janes, referencing the Cuba and Caribbean studies programs of USM. Having traveled to Cuba eight times in the past six years, Janes developed and maintains relationships with Cuban nursing educators and healthcare professionals. Currently, she is the

U.S. representative on the organizing committee for the Second Central American and Caribbean Nursing Congress on STD, AIDS, and Other Communicable Diseases being held in Havana, Cuba, this fall.

Janes points to the Cuban public healthcare system as one that supports health promotion and illness prevention, versus the U.S. system that operates from a stance of illness and cure. Through the mindsets of its citizens, Janes observes the primary difference between “public health” as a specialty practice in the U.S., versus a healthcare provider system in Cuba.

“In Cuba, citizens take personal responsibility for their health,” said Janes. Her interviews with Cuban prostitutes on one trip brought to mind memories of them asking the question: Who will take care of my children if I fail to practice safe sex? Alternatively, Janes cites cultural and economic factors in the U.S. that too often place the onus of responsibility on another’s shoulders “to fix me” when illness hits home for citizens here.

Janes is director of the School of Nursing within USM’s College of Health and director of the USM Center for Leadership and Global Health — affiliate member of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Nursing and Midwifery. In 2001, the *American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award* was bestowed on Janes and co-author Karen Saucier Lundy, PhD, RN, for *Community Health Nursing: Caring for the Public’s Health* (Jones and Bartlett).

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Major student support renewed for Decker School

The Decker School continues to receive support that helps ensure access to an excellent nursing education, enriches the educational experience for its students and provides funds for academic and faculty development.

Beverly and William Lane pledged to double the size of the William H. Lane, Inc. Scholarship Fund, established in 1997 to benefit nursing undergrads. The Gertrude E. Skelly Charitable Foundation renewed its support of the Skelly Nursing Loan Program with a grant of \$25,000 that assists Baccalaureate Accelerated Track (BAT) students and upperclassmen in financial need (see photo).

Other scholarship donors of note were the Binghamton General Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association, Broome County

Community Charities, Good Shepherd Fairview Foundation, A. Lindsay and Olive B. O'Connor Foundation, Robert '77 and Susan Goodman '78 Okin, Rotary Club of Binghamton, Jeffrey '73 and Karen '76 Tanenbaum, and Wilson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association.

The Dr. G. Clifford and Florence B. Decker Foundation provided funding for the Decker Chair in Rural Health and Decker Nursing Fellowships to benefit doctoral students. The Crane Fund for Widows and Children renewed its support for the rural health studies program. Additional support for the Third International Congress of Rural Nurses is reported on page 6 of *DeckerScope*.



(From left) Eric Joh, trustee of the Gertrude E. Skelly Charitable Foundation, with Skelly Nursing Loan program participants: Maria-Teresa Mayorga '03, Althea A. Willie '04, Jayne Jadick '03 and Michael J. Hasselberg '04

A word to the wise . . .

You may make a gift to the **Decker School of Nursing** and receive guaranteed payments for life. In exchange for your irrevocable gift of cash and/or securities, the Binghamton University Foundation guarantees to pay a fixed sum each year for life to one or two annuitants, whom you name. In addition, your benefits include:

- A federal income tax deduction.
- Guaranteed, fixed payments for life.
- If you give stock, you will owe no capital gains tax at the time of your gift.
- Your estate may enjoy reduced probate costs and estate taxes.
- You will provide generous support for the **Decker School of Nursing**.

For example, if you made a \$10,000 gift in June of 2003 . . .

<i>and this was your age . . .</i>	<i>you would receive annual payments of . . .</i>	<i>and a charitable deduction of . . .</i>
55	\$550	\$1,649
60	\$570	\$2,269
65	\$600	\$2,869
70	\$650	\$3,401
75	\$710	\$4,006
80	\$800	\$4,585
85	\$950	\$5,017

By contrast, here is the June 2003 projected income from \$10,000 of these commonly held stocks:

<i>Stock</i>	<i>Market value per share</i>	<i>Annual dividends from \$10,000</i>
IBM	\$82	\$78.05
GE	\$30	\$253.33
Coca-Cola	\$65	\$153.85
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Every Gift Counts!

The Decker School experienced a 23 percent increase in donor participation this year due in part to the new annual giving program, the Binghamton Fund. Contributions from alumni, parents and friends in 29 states came from as far away as Alaska, Texas and California. The Binghamton Fund provides the opportunity for donors to earmark their gifts for the Decker School of Nursing or another area of the University. Every DSON gift makes a difference in our ability to provide an excellent nursing education and helps offset New York state budget constraints during economically uncertain times.

New! Decker Alumni News and Notes

DeckerScope and the Decker School of Nursing will begin to regularly feature news, notes and activities of alumni in annual online spring editions (see article this page). Send us news of your promotions, publications, marriages, babies, graduations, retirements or anything else you wish to share. We want to share the good news about our Decker alumni with Decker friends and family. Here's what a few of your fellow Decker alumni are doing:

Meredith Hudes-Lowder '92 works in labor and delivery at Lenox Hill Hospital along with **Ruth Yamoah-Coffey '93** and **Lynn Kroessler '92**. She still does three-dimensional computer

graphics — mostly medical and organic modeling — but it is predominantly a hobby. Her daughter, Abigail, put a temporary hold on her advanced nursing degree, but she has absolutely no regrets. Visit the Hudes-Lowder family at hometown.aol.com/meronhudson/myhomepage/abby.htm and send mail to meronhudson@aol.com.

Please send all information and photos (.jpg preferred) to Jennie Orton, *DeckerScope* editor, at jorton@binghamton.edu or by mail to Decker School of Nursing, Binghamton University, PO Box 6000, Binghamton, New York 13902-6000. **We look forward to hearing from you!**

DeckerScope to go online

Due to budgetary constraints, the spring 2004 issue of *DeckerScope*, and each spring edition published thereafter, will go online. Spring issues of the newsletter will be posted via an electronic link to be found on the Decker School's home page at dson.binghamton.edu.

If you would like to receive an e-mail notification as spring issues are posted to the Web and do not already have your electronic information on file with Binghamton University's Alumni Office, please send your name, class year and e-mail address via an e-mail message to alumni@binghamton.edu.

Kudos

continued from page 3

Vickie L. Slavetskas, from *clinical instructor to clinical lecturer*

Fran Srnka-Debnar, from *clinical instructor to clinical lecturer*

Ann E. Wetzel Fronczek, from *clinical instructor to clinical lecturer*

Appointments

Mary X. Britten, *appointed to the position of director of undergraduate programs*

Gary James, *appointed to the rank of professor*

Blenda E. Smith, *appointed to the position of coordinator of undergraduate learning activities and evaluation*

Retirements

Mimi H. Updegraff, *clinical assistant professor*

In Memoriam

Marie Michael (Bowman) '89, a BS nursing and CSTEP alumna, died July 25, 2002. She was employed as a charge nurse at Southern New Hampshire Regional Medical Center in Nashua, N.H., and also worked in the cardiac care unit at St. Joseph Hospital, Nashua, N.H.

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