

UT Arlington PhD in Nursing News

DECEMBER 2007

First PhD in Nursing Graduates

December 13, 2007, was a historic day for the PhD in Nursing Program, with the graduation of our first graduates.



Maxine Adegbola and Gloria Carr received their degrees during the School of Nursing graduation. Prior to the graduation ceremony, Dr. Elizabeth Poster, Dean of the School of Nursing, hosted a reception in Pickard Hall to honor the graduates and their families. During the reception, Dr. Gray recognized the faculty members who wrote the original proposal for the PhD program: Dr. Mary Lou Bond, Dr. Carolyn Cason, Dr. Nancy Burns, and Dr. Mary Elaine Jones, now on faculty at the University of Incarnate Word in San Antonio. The SON gave Dr. Adegbola and Dr. Carr each a marble nameplate with the UT Arlington logo. Dr. Kenneth Shine, the UT System Executive Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, attended the reception. During graduation, Dr. Shine, a retired physician and keynote speaker, gave an inspiring speech, describing three patients who had changed his life.

Upcoming Events

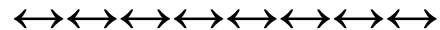
- **January 18, 12 Noon, Room 209, PKH- Welcome Back Brown Bag**
- **January 28, 4 PM, Learning Resources Center, PKH- Ribbon Cutting for the Genomics Translational Research Lab**

Orientation for New Students

We have three new students joining us in the spring: Jeannette Crenshaw, Anita Jacobs, and Rodica Pop. Orientation for the new students will be held on January 4 and 11.

Dr. Maxine Adegbola Appointed to CGFNS Committee

Dr. Maxine Adegbola has received notification of her appointment to the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools (CGFNS) International Examination Committee. This committee prepares international candidates for the NCLEX exam. CGFNS is an immigration-neutral, non-profit organization that evaluates the credentials of health professionals educated in other countries. Congratulations, Maxine, on this honor!



PhD Candidates

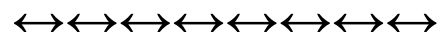
Glenda Daniels successfully defended her dissertation proposal on November 13. Her chair is Dr. Marilee Schmelzer.

Kathy Daniel successfully defended her dissertation proposal on December 13. Her chair is Dr. Carolyn Cason.

Susan Baxley and Marygrace Leveille are collecting data for their studies.

Barbara Raudonis Recognized

Associate professor, Barbara Raudonis, PhD, APRN, BC, was recognized as one of the 25 "INSPIRATIONAL SURVIVORS" at the 2007 Joanie Hatcher Memorial Survivor Brunch. Dr. Raudonis' current research is in the area of health outcomes of bereaved family caregivers of hospice patients; hospital-based palliative care; effects of symptom combinations on quality end of life; and older adults' use of hospice services in Texas. A breast cancer survivor, Dr. Raudonis was recognized for her research that guides effective and compassionate patient care for end-of life breast cancer patients. Lynn Kutler, PhD student, nominated Dr. Raudonis for her inspiration to students as well as staff and patients.



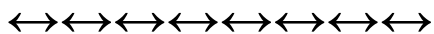
Linda Denke and Johnnetta Kelly Appointed to NLN Task Group

After attending the National League for Nursing Summit in Phoenix, Linda Denke and Johnnetta Kelly submitted information to NLN indicating their willingness to be more involved. They were both appointed to the Task Group on Diversity that will work under the auspices of the Nurse Educator Workforce Development Advisory Council. They were appointed to serve four-year terms beginning January 2008 and continuing through December 2010. This Task Group will function under the auspices of the Nurse Educator Workforce Development Advisory Council. The Diversity Task Group will meet primarily through telephone conferences, and have one annual face-to-face meeting. Discussions will also take place through utilizing an electronic community.



Phi Kappa Phi Induction

Two of our PhD students, Renee Manworren and John Dixon, were inducted into the UT Arlington chapter of Phi Kappa Phi in November. Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and largest honor society that inducts members from all disciplines. Its motto is "Let the love of learning rule humanity." The honor society promotes academic excellence and involvement in service. The UT Arlington chapter began last year. Dr. Pat Turpin, SON faculty, is a member of the chapter.



Renee Manworren's Trip to China

Renee Manworren is a nationally rated US women's judge in gymnastics. This fall she was the gymnastics coach for Team USA for the World Games for the Special Olympics. The World Games were held in Shanghai, China. Team USA received national news coverage, including reporters and photographers from Good Morning America. Renee shared her experiences with faculty and students during the Brown Bag on November 16.

Sponsors for Brown Bags

Do you know an individual or employer that would be willing to buy lunch for one of our Brown Bags? The cost ranges from \$150 to \$225, depending on the menu. We cannot use grant funds or academic funds for this purpose and would love to have sponsors. Interested persons should contact Dr. Wendy Barr (barr@uta.edu).

Thank You to Forest Pharmaceuticals

James Tucker, representative for Forest Pharmaceuticals, provided a delicious meal of fajitas with all the trimmings for a Brown Bag. A big thank you to Marygrace Leveille for arranging for this donation.

Thank you for keeping us informed of your accomplishments.

Submit information to Dr. Gray by January 3 for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Professional Presentations

At the meeting of the American Nephrology Association in San Francisco, Kathy Daniels presented a poster, Determinants of CKD Progression in the Indigent Elderly. The poster was based on the findings of a study conducted in collaboration with Dr. Carolyn Cason and Dr. Pat Gleason-Wynn.

Thoughts for Reflection

Maya Angelou said, "Achievement brings its own anticlimax." In the weeks between semesters, allow yourself to experience the natural letdown that follows effort exerted over time and the completion of another phase of your doctoral work. Also, take time for renewal and recommitment to the challenge of realizing your long-term goals.