As 2018 comes to a close, it seems an appropriate time to reflect back on some of the important achievements we have accomplished this past year. These accomplishments would not have been realized without the many wonderful individual and collective gifts, talents, and hard work of each and every person who touches and supports the work of the College of Nursing. Below is a summary of just some of the many activities and successes the college had in 2018.

- We celebrated the College of Nursing’s 135th Anniversary with a gala that was attended by more than 500 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the college.
- We were ranked 3rd for ‘best online graduate programs’ in the country by U.S. News & World Report. This makes the third time in the past five years the graduate program has ranked No. 1, 2, or 3. In addition, the publication also ranked our DNP program 21st in the U.S.
- We ranked 13th in NIH (National Institutes of Health) funding among U.S. colleges of nursing with more than $11.6 million in research funding secured in FY2017-18.
- We received the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Innovations in Professional Nursing Education Award for its innovative approach to interprofessional education through its Virtual Interprofessional Learning, an innovative asynchronous platform using avatars to engage learners in interprofessional learning opportunities across disciplines, universities, and geographies.
- We achieved 93.5 percent NCLEX-RN pass rate for 2017 per the National Council of State Boards of Nursing National Council.
- We achieved a 100 percent pass rate for both the FNP certification exam and the A/GNP certification exam from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Achieved a 91 percent pass rate from the American Academy of Nurse Practitioner Certification Program.
- We awarded more than $1.2 million in scholarship money to 179 students.

I am truly grateful for the wonderful ideas, positive attitudes, respect shown for others and their ideas, and the joy that you have each brought to the college each day. Your spirit of kindness and generosity can be seen in the compassionate
Greetings...continued from page 1

guidance as you help our students be successful in their educational journeys, in the kind and gentle care you give to patients and their families, and to the extraordinary service provided to the many communities we serve in Charleston and across the state of South Carolina. This year has also been a year of transition, as many of our long-time faculty, employees, and leaders in the college retired and now have time to enjoy new adventures. At the same time, this time of transition created opportunities for us to explore new ideas as new leaders brought fresh perspectives and ways of doing and being. Through all these changes, we have focused on building a stronger sense of collectiveness, respect, transparency, and openness to discussing ideas and a new vision that will guide us in how we prepare, grow, and lead in the next decade. At this time, it gives me great pleasure, at this special time of holiday spirit and new beginnings, to wish you, your family and friends, times of great joy, love, and laughter.

Happy and joyful holidays to all! - Dean Linda Weglicki

Sights from the MUSC Angel Tree Parade

News Briefs

Debbie Bryant, DNP, RN, FAAN, was selected to a three-year appointment on the American Academy of Nursing’s Fellow Selection Committee. As a volunteer leader, Bryant will help direct the procurement of future Academy Fellows.

Felisia Bowen, DNP, Ph.D., APRN, director of undergraduate programs, was selected to a three-year term on the South Carolina Nurses Foundation Board of Trustees. Her term will begin in 2019 and run through 2021.

In November, the DNP faculty attended the American Association of Nurse Practitioners Regional Leadership meeting to advocate for student nurses and nurse practitioners across South Carolina. Connecting with other nurse practitioners in the region provides opportunities to collaborate with others who share a passion for practice and removing barriers to NP services. Pictured left to right: Khalil Demonbreun, DNP, AANP, Nurse Practitioner State Rep. for S.C. Jennifer Rice, DNP, Sheryll Matthews, DNP, and Catherine Durham, DNP.
**DECEMBER**

December 4 / Noon - 1 p.m.
SPARC: Researcher Support Overview
CON 513

December 6 / 10 a.m.
Convocation
Charleston Music Hall

December 7 / Noon
Schwartz Center Grand Rounds
*Topic: Sex Trafficking. Panelists include Dr. Stephanie Armstrong*
BSB 349

December 10 / 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Faculty & Staff Retreat
Room 202

December 10 / 12:45 - 2 p.m.
Holiday Lunch for Faculty & Staff
Drawing Room

December 12 / Noon - 1.p.m
DOTS Brown Bag Lunch
*Topic: Sexual Assault: A Partisan Issue or a Humanity Issue?*
CON 202

December 13 / 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Clinical Instructor Orientation
CON 202

December 13 / Noon - 1.p.m
Research Think Tank: Dr. Teresa Kelechi’s R21 Proposal: Addressing Chronic Wound Trajectories Through Social Genomics Research
CON 513

December 13 / Noon - 1.p.m
Identifying and Referring Elder Mistreatment: Live CME/CEU Training
*Register at MyQuest*
CON 221

December 24 thru January 1
**Holiday Closings**
CON Closed (will reopen Jan. 2)

**JANUARY**

January 5 / 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Telehealth Conference for Graduate Nursing Faculty
MUSC Campus / [Register Here](#)

January 11
Interprofessional (IP) Day
Campus Wide

January 21
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
CON Closed (federal holiday)

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**IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER**

This holiday season, consider giving your IRA Charitable Rollover to MUSC. This tax-free gift is a smart way to make a difference and avoid income tax on IRA withdrawals.

Make your gift before Dec. 31, and you could exclude up to $100,000 from your 2018 taxable income. Call 843-792-9562 or visit [muscgiving.org](http://muscgiving.org) to get started.
Winter Convocation - Dec. 6
One-hundred and fifteen students are expected to walk across the stage to receive their degree this month. The College of Nursing's Convocation Ceremony (hooding for MSN, DNP, and Ph.D. students and pinning for ABSN students) will be held December 6 at 10 a.m., in the Charleston Music Hall (37 John St.). Graduates should plan to arrive by 9 a.m. wearing their graduation gown and hood, no caps. Faculty should dress in full regalia. Carpooling is recommended. Parking is available in adjacent lots, but is limited.

DNP Students Visit Campus

Tambasco Makes Presentation to State Policy Makers
Suzanne Tambasco, DNP student, gave a presentation in October titled Update on Catastrophic Case Management and Rehabilitation in GEORGIA, at the Georgia Group Funds Association, an event for large group employer funds and many state regulators. Pictured left to right: Roger Lane, chair of the State Oilman’s Association, Tambasco, and Sen. John Wilkinson (R-GA).

Student Receives USAF Commission in Front of Nurse Peers
On November 16, Maylin Taylor, DNP student, took the first step toward joining the ranks of the U.S. Air Force as a military nurse. In front of her peers, faculty mentors, family, and friends she took an oath to defend the U.S. Constitution and received her commission as a 2nd Lieutenant. She will be inactive reserve while completing the DNP program, but upon graduation, she will receive the rank of Captain. Additionally, Taylor was selected for the highly competitive Air Force Health Professions Scholarship. Only 10 family nurse practitioner students in the country scholarships were awarded this scholarship this year. Read more about Taylor and hers future plans in The Catalyst.
Graduate Inducted into AAN

In recognition of her significant contributions to nursing and health care, College of Nursing graduate, Rebecca Freeman, Ph.D., RN, PMP, (BSN ’08, Ph.D. ’13) was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) last month in Washington, D.C. Induction as a fellow of the AAN is one of the most prestigious honors in the nursing field. Those nominated for induction into the fellowship are recognized leaders who have made significant contributions to nursing and health care.

Freeman was one of only two South Carolina nurses selected for induction this year. The Class of 2018 was made up of 195 highly distinguished nurses chosen from around the country to join the prestigious group. AAN is composed of more than 2,400 of nursing’s most accomplished leaders in education, management, practice, policy, and research.

According to Freeman, the way the health community presents electronic health records, integrated devices, handheld devices, the acquisition of data, and the addition of informatics expectations into job descriptions and clinical ladders needs a lot of work.

"I am incredibly lucky to have a job I love, helping nurses understand that technology is a core competency of their practice just like all of their other clinical skills," Freeman said. “I’m grateful to MUSC for arming me with the core education I needed to impact these domains on a daily basis.”

Freeman is the interim chief nursing information officer for the University of Vermont Health Network. She is also the owner and principal consultant of R Freeman and Associates. Previously, Freeman was the chief nursing officer of the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) in Washington, D.C.

Freeman earned her first bachelors degree in psychology from the College of Charleston and worked in the field of information technology for several years before returning to school to pursue a second undergraduate degree. This time in nursing. She graduated from MUSC in 2008 with her BSN and worked as a critical care nurse while continuing her academic studies. In 2013, she received her Ph.D. in nursing (also from MUSC) and began on a career path that successfully combined her practical nursing experience with her extensive information technology expertise.

AAN fellow selection criteria include evidence of substantial contributions to nursing and health care, and sponsorship by two current academy fellows. Applicants are reviewed by a panel of elected and appointed fellows, and selection is based, in part, on the extent the nominee’s nursing career has influenced health policies and the health and well-being of all. New fellows are eligible to use the FAAN credential (fellow of the American Academy of Nursing) after the induction ceremony.

This holiday season, the best gift you can give isn’t found under the tree. It’s found in the pages of textbooks, in group projects and late night studies, and in classrooms. As you make your year-end charitable gifts, give the gift of education to a MUSC College of Nursing student through supporting scholarships.

Scholarships are truly essential for many of our students at the MUSC College of Nursing, and we witness first-hand how meaningful it is for students to receive financial support to pursue their dreams.

Make your gift to a nursing scholarship by Dec. 31, 2018 and have it counted toward our Take Nursing Higher Scholarship Campaign.
Grant Submissions

**PI:** Gigi Smith, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC  
**Sponsor:** HRSA  
**Title:** Nurse Faculty Loan Program  
**Goal:** This competing continuation application is a request for financial loan support for students enrolled in a PhD in nursing program and the post-master’s DNP at the MUSC with a career goal to serve as nurse faculty upon graduation.

**Sub-PI:** Tatiana Davidson, PhD  
(PI: Teresa Maria Bell, PhD)  
**Sponsor:** Sub. Indiana University /NIH/NIMHD  
**Title:** Mobile Screening of Opioid Use after Traumatic Injury in Adolescents and Telehealth Intervention to Improve Access to Behavioral Health Treatment  
**Goals:** This study will pilot the use of a mobile app to identify injured adolescents who would benefit from mental health services after injury and examine the efficacy of using a telehealth intervention to increase access to treatment in underserved populations.

**Sub-PI:** Frank Treiber, PhD  
(PI: Shaoyong Su, PhD)  
**Sponsor:** Sub. Augusta University /NIH/NIMHD  
**Title:** Psychosocial stress, epigenetics and health disparity in hypertension  
**Goal:** To identify DNA methylation changes and evaluate whether their roles differ between African Americans and European Americans.

Faculty Presentations


- **Stephens, T.M.** (November, 2018). Building Resilient Teams. Presented at the South Carolina Hospital Association’s 8th Annual Working Well Fall Training in Columbia, SC.


- **Stephens, T.M.** (October, 2018). Holocaust Whispers: Lessons in Resilience. Presented at the South Carolina’s Council on the Holocaust Teacher Advisory Committee Workshop in Columbia, SC.

- **Stephens, T.M.** (October, 2018). Building Resilient Teams. Presented at the South Carolina Nurses Association State Convention in Columbia, SC.
Recently Published Work


CON Student Recognized for Presentation at Student Research Day

Congratulations to PhD student, Michelle Pembroke, for taking first place in the PhD Student: Social Behavioral Division for her poster titled, Breast Cancer Survivors’ Unmet Needs after Completion of Cancer Treatment including Radiation Therapy (co-authors: Julie Bradley, MD and Lynne Nemeth, PhD, RN, FAAN). Pembroke was the only “current” PhD student to present her work at Student Research Day held on November 2.
Telehealth Conference for Graduate Nursing Faculty

Learn how to integrate telehealth into the graduate curriculum from experts in the field.

January 5, 2019  |  8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
MUSC Campus | Charleston, S.C.

To register:
musc.edu/nursing/conhub

For more information, contact:
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