Yale Nursing Matters

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Yale Nursing Matters Magazine received
two distinguished awards this year.
In June of 2005, YSN was awarded
the Mercury Award (Gold Prize) for
Best Magazine from the Connecticut
Valley and Southern New England
Chapters of the Public Relations Society
of America. Also in 2005, the Honor
Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau
International, selected Yale Nursing
Matters as recipient of the 2005
Pinnacle Award for Best Magazine
in the Public Media Category.

mater n. Something that occupies space and can be perceived by one or more
senses; a physical body, a physical substance, or the universe as a whole. A subject
of concern, feeling, or action. Something printed or otherwise set down in writing.
v. To be of importance or value. Signify.
This issue of Yale Nursing Matters covers the events that took place in the spring/summer 2005
YSN’s New Dean, Margaret Grey

President Richard C. Levin has named Margaret Grey as dean of the Yale School of Nursing for a five-year term, beginning September 1, 2005.

Dr. Grey is the Annie Goodrich Professor of Nursing Research and, prior to this appointment, served as Associate Dean for Scholarly Affairs at YSN. A graduate of the school who joined the faculty in 1993, her responsibilities have included oversight of the school’s scholarly activities and teaching in the doctoral program.

“She has mentored many faculty in developing research programs, spurring a tremendous growth in faculty research,” President Levin said. “Due in part to her leadership and support of others, the Yale School of Nursing now ranks sixth among nursing schools in NIH funding.”

Dr. Grey is an internationally known researcher in the natural history of adaptation to chronic illness in childhood, especially children with diabetes mellitus. She has developed and studied behavioral interventions that improve both metabolic control of diabetes and the quality of life in young people and their parents. Preventing type 2 diabetes in high risk youth is a more recent scholarly interest. She has been instrumental in the development of practice-based research networks in nursing. In addition, she has been principal investigator for grants totaling over $15 million.

The author of over 160 journal articles, chapters and abstracts, Dr. Grey is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. She holds a BSN from the University of Pittsburgh, an MSN from Yale, and a Doctorate in Public Health from Columbia University.

More information about the new dean is available on the YSN website at: http://nursing.yale.edu/Faculty/grey.html.

Reading through this issue of Yale Nursing Matters reminds me yet again why I came back to Yale twelve years ago, and why this is the only deanship I have ever wanted.

The Yale School of Nursing is a unique place—where practice, scholarship, and teaching combine in ways that are not simply additive. It is through all these aspects of our work that faculty and students are making a real difference in each of our communities; at Yale, in New Haven, and in society at large. Translating practice to partnerships and policy is one of the things we do exceptionally well. This issue of Nursing Matters highlights just a few of these endeavors.

More than half of our faculty members have joint clinical appointments, many of them in Greater New Haven. This issue of the magazine highlights several examples of this work in the community and also features YSN’s funded research initiatives and our faculty’s scholarship for the past year. Much of that scholarship focuses on improving health and quality of life in and around New Haven.

In addition to their academic and professional responsibilities, many of our students, faculty, alumnae/i and staff are very active volunteers in the community. By partnering with neighborhood organizations and other institutions at Yale, they provide a vast array of services to local residents.

Many of our faculty members also serve as leaders throughout Yale University. Their contributions have been significant in supporting the university’s mission and in raising the stature of YSN campus-wide. In partnership with the university’s Office of New Haven and State Affairs, we are improving health education in public schools and supporting local high school students in continuing their education at the college level.

Our faculty and students are also advancing nursing education, practice and scholarship around the world. There is great need and potential for further international collaboration, and one of the ways we are currently exploring this is through our participation in President Levin’s Council on International Activities. This leadership group was formed by President Levin to advance his goal of transforming Yale into a truly global university.

It is clear that we could not have forged these many partnerships without the dedication of current YSN faculty, students and staff to the school’s mission, to their community and to one another. Nor would we be facing such a bright future without the vision and courage of those leaders who have guided the school as past Deans. It is an honor and privilege to serve as the ninth Dean of the Yale School of Nursing. I look forward with excitement to working with each of you, as we chart the future of our school and step together into the next chapter of YSN’s illustrious history.

Margaret Grey, DrPH, RN, FAAN

Annie Goodrich Professor of Nursing Research and Dean
YSN NEWS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

YSN has moved from 48th to sixth among nursing schools nationwide in support from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for research, training and fellowship activities, according to rankings released recently by the NIH.

YSN Ranks Sixth in NIH Awards

“This rise, from #48 in 1994, is an extraordinary accomplishment, and reflects the caliber of YSN faculty,” said Acting Dean Katherine Jones. “We have much of which to be proud. This particular success is quite stunning given its achievement in such a brief period of time,” she said. The school’s leadership in 1994 committed to the development of a doctoral program and to the development and support of a research-intensive environment. Investments included opening the Office of Research Affairs, hiring an associate dean for Research Affairs, adding incremental research support staff, and dedicating space and equipment. For more information about research areas of distinction at YSN, please visit the YSN website at nursing.yale.edu/Research.

Former U.S. Commissioner of the Social Security Administration Speaks at YSN

Dr. Shirley Chater was the keynote speaker at the 2005 Sybil Palmer Bellos Lecture, which took place at YSN on April 20, 2005. Dr. Chater’s lecture was titled, “What’s Secure About Social Security: A Personal View.” She is pictured above with Yale Vice-Provost, Stephanie Spangler (left) and YSN Acting Dean, Katherine Jones (right).

With personal anecdotes, Dr. Chater showed how aspects of Social Security focus safety net protections on women and provide a kind of longevity insurance for Americans who live beyond the age of 65 in America today. She spoke vividly of her work as Commissioner, traveling to community centers around the country and hearing primarily from elderly women. Dr. Chater also gave practical advice on ways that concerned citizens could express their views about the federal government’s current focus on addressing the program’s long-term viability. She urged direct contact with members of congress as the future of Social Security is debated in our nation’s capital. Finally, Dr. Chater reminded us that if the Social Security program had never been created by Franklin Roosevelt in 1935, the need for such a program would be apparent to us today. She concluded by saying, “If we didn’t already have it, we would have to create just such a program ourselves.”

YSN Welcomes a New Cohort of Yale-Howard Scholars

Five new scholars from Howard University spent part of the summer of 2005 working with YSN mentors to develop a research project in the area of health disparities. Richard Phillips worked with YSN mentor Coretta Jenerette to investigate “Differences in Intra-Personal Resources, Self-care Management and Health Outcomes in Younger and Older Adults with Sickle Cell Disease.” Katherine San Gabriel worked with Sheila Santacroce to investigate “Post-Traumatic Growth.” Jessica Holmes worked with Dena Schuman-Green to investigate “Patient-Physician Communication among Minority Women with Advanced Breast Cancer.” Nightingale Gacheru worked with Kris Fennie to investigate “Association between IV Drug Use and Adherence to HAART.” Elizabeth Akoth worked with Marge Funk on a study titled “Dying with Dignity: Do Perceptions Differ between Older and Younger Critical Care Nurses?” In the photo below the scholars are featured with their mentors from Yale and Howard Universities. For more information about these outstanding scholars and their experiences at YSN, please visit the YSN website at: nursing.yale.edu/Centers/YHP/Program/Scholars.
Developing future leaders in health care for older adults

In 2004 YSN welcomed two new faculty members who will play an instrumental role in developing YSN’s leadership role in gerontology nursing practice. Meg Bourbonniere, PhD, GNP contributes clinical gerontology and health services research expertise to students and faculty in all programs. She was previously on the faculty of Brown University’s Department of Community Health in the multidisciplinary Center for Gerontology and Health Care Research. Dr. Bourbonniere enjoys the interdisciplinary nature of gerontology nursing practice, education, and research and shares her enthusiasm with her students and colleagues. Sheila L. Molony, PhD, RN, GNP has provided primary care and wellness care for older adults in a variety of institutional and community settings. Prior to coming to YSN, she provided quality improvement and clinical consultation for Connecticut Community Care, Inc., with a focus on assessment and management of high-risk clients, medication risk assessment and ethical decision-making. Her clinical practice emphasizes prevention of excess disability, use of best practices in geriatric nursing and assessment of quality of life outcomes in geriatric care settings.

Grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration will support YSN’s new master’s specialty in Nursing Management, Policy and Leadership

Sally Cohen, Associate Professor and Director for Health Policy and Ethics, will be the Project Director for a grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to support YSN’s new master’s specialty in Nursing Management, Policy and Leadership. Dr. Cohen and the other YSN faculty in the new YSN specialty received funding for 3 years beginning July 1, 2005. The new program prepares RNs for leadership positions in health care delivery and health policy, focusing on patient safety and quality of care. It relies on innovative web-based methods combined with intensive monthly campus sessions, both of which are designed to be responsive to students’ busy personal and professional lives. More information about the new program is available on page 13.

Linda Pellico Tapped for the AYA Board of Directors

Assistant Professor Linda H. Pellico has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Association of Yale Alumni (AYA), an organization that facilitates communication between the alumni and the university and oversees the direction of Yale alumni organizations and programs. Dr. Pellico is the fourth YSN alumna to be elected to the AYA Board. Past members, Ruth Benedict, Sandy Bialos, and Maureen Doran, have all held leadership positions, including that of Chair of the Board of Directors. For more information about Dr. Pellico and this prestigious appointment, please visit the YSN website at nursing.yale.edu/News.
In April 2005, YSN’s Office of International Affairs (OIA) participated in a presentation to the President’s Council on International Activities (PCIA). This group of external advisors was formed three years ago by President Levin to advise him and receive annual progress reports regarding his goal of transforming Yale University into a truly global university.

This year the presentation to the council focused on international health initiatives and included presentations by faculty from School of Nursing, School of Medicine and Public Health, with Acting Dean Katherine Jones and OIA Director Pamela Minarik representing YSN. Their presentations, coordinated out of University Secretary Linda Lorimer’s office, featured several ongoing initiatives including YSN’s partnership with Mahidol University in Thailand and the international role of nursing leadership to enhance the delivery of health care and health policymaking. In this regard, YSN’s new Masters Program in Nursing Management, Policy and Leadership was highlighted (for more information on this program see box on page 13).

The intended outcome of the PCIA presentation is the continued development of interdisciplinary international initiatives across the professional schools that make up the university’s health campus. In the coming year, YSN will also be participating in several evolving health campus committees related to global health challenges. These committees will have members appointed from the health schools and are intended to work collaboratively to set united direction.

**YSN faculty abroad: AIDS treatment in Cambodia**

Terri Clark, YSN Lecturer in Nurse-Midwifery, spent eight weeks in Cambodia this past spring. While there, she took part in an anti-retroviral medication nurse education initiative based on a model developed by the Cambodian Ministry of Health (NCHADS) and sponsored by the International Center for Equal Health Access. Upon her return, YSN’s OIA was pleased to sponsor a slideshow and talk by Dr. Clark as part of our ongoing series of International Perspectives brown-bag lunches. She shared her remarkable collection of photos and described the insights she had gained from this experience with heart-aching stories of the people she met and their struggle for day to day existence in this developing country.

**Faculty exchange: visiting scholar from Japan**

As part of YSN’s ongoing partnership with Aomori University of Health and Welfare in Japan, YSN’s OIA recently arranged for visiting scholar Yumiko Nakamura, RN, PhD to shadow YSN faculty and Yale-New Haven Hospital nursing staff. Dr. Nakamura’s trip received sponsorship from a Japanese government grant. During her three month visit to YSN she studied family nursing with Dr. Kathleen Knafl and other faculty members. Upon the conclusion of her stay in March 2005, Dr. Nakamura presented an International Perspectives brown-bag lunch to faculty and staff.
Before YSN students set off for Esteli, a small city situated in the mountains of Nicaragua, to participate in their community health rotation this summer, they took time to help remedy the critical shortage of medical supplies in developing nations such as Nicaragua. REMEDY is a remarkable initiative started in 1991 by Dr. William Rosenblatt (pictured with students, far right) at Yale School of Medicine (YSM) which collects open-but-unused medical supplies discarded from U.S. hospitals and sends them to the developing world. Yale-New Haven Hospital alone has donated over 30 tons of recyclable materials to date and this year’s YSN students spent a day packing up another few pounds. (For more information, visit www.remedyinc.org).

YSN welcomes international visitors from China

In April 2005, YSN hosted a touring delegation from the Bilingual Nursing Education Association of China (BNEAC). The group consisted of thirteen members of an academic consortium of nursing schools and healthcare institutions in China, including heads of nursing schools and hospital nursing departments. While in New Haven, the delegation took part in two days of programming arranged by YSN’s OIA to acquaint them with the curriculum design, nursing practice and teaching strategies of the school. YSN was introduced to the work of BNEAC through a colleague of Dr. Rhoda Shih-Luan Lee Sun, YSN alumnus and 2003 Distinguished Alumna Award winner. BNEAC’s mission is to promote innovation in nursing and enable Chinese nursing students to communicate in both Chinese and English. The visitors met with YSN and YSM faculty to learn more about the work of various committees at Yale and examine the differences between health care education systems in China and the US.

International Council of Nurses meets in Taiwan

The ICN 23rd Quadrennial Congress took place in Taiwan this past May and YSN’s OIA Director Pamela Minarik as well as many friends of YSN were there to take part in the international gathering of nurses. At the conference Dr. Margretta Madden Styles, a distinguished YSN alum and member of the YSN-OIA Advisory Committee, was the recipient of nursing’s most prestigious international award, the Christiane Reimann Prize, in recognition of her remarkable achievements and contributions to the nursing profession internationally.

International nurses gather at ICN, including (third from left) Afaf Meleis from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, YSN’s Professor Minarik and Dr. Hiroko Minami, who was elected President of the ICN at the meeting in Taiwan.
MEMORIES:

ONCE
Friends
Family
Now
Angels

I believe in angels

Faith
Love
This young woman has been through a lot in her life, too much, some would say, and on many days Sharese would agree. At other times, however, she grasps onto the most painful of her memories and uses them as a force to compel her to move forward. “There are times when I still think I cannot go on,” she admits, “but deep inside I know I need to keep moving forward with my life. I am learning to use my memories to help me to do that.”

On October 26, 2003, Sharese lost her mom, Sheryl Maybery, to cancer. At the time, Sharese was 14 years old. “The first year after my mom passed away had been so hard,” she recalls. “At home I did not feel comfortable discussing my feelings with my brother and sisters, and at school I felt alone, different from everyone I knew.”

In the fall and winter of 2003 Sharese found it increasingly difficult to concentrate on her school work. In class she would daydream about where she would be and what she would be doing if her mom were still alive. At night she would lay awake in bed turning over in her head the frightening possibilities of a life that she had not prepared for. Instead of doing her school assignments she would write in her journal everything that came to her mind; the things she felt, the things she feared, the things that were tearing her up inside. These were pages no one else saw. Sharese did not share her writing or her feelings with anyone. Soon she became, in her words, “completely unable to function,” and so, she stopped coming to school.

She recalled; “I just couldn’t keep going on with a regular life, couldn’t keep doing what I’ve always done in the past. I had so much build up inside of me, and it hurt so much. I had no way to let any of it out. I felt trapped.”

“Remembering what Sharese was like then and seeing her now is like night and day,” marvels Maria Silva, the clinical social worker at Hill Regional Career High School (CHS), school-based clinic in New Haven, who counseled Sharese in the months following her mother’s death. Together with Alison Moriarty-Daley, an assistant professor at YSN and the director of the school-based clinic at CHS, Maria worked with Sharese and other CHS students in the months immediately following their loss of loved ones. For several years Maria and Alison had discussed the difficulties they experienced in reaching these kids on an individual basis, and shared a vision of a group bereavement program for teens that would help these students better process their grief. “Numerous students at CHS had experienced loss in their families,” explained Alison, “but it was in talking with Sharese that we decided that we really needed to do something now.”

Alison and Maria knew that art therapy for adolescents in a group setting had been shown to have positive outcomes and in the spring of 2004 they were finally able to realize their vision. They called the program “Memories,” and asked Sharese whether she thought this type of an activity would help her to process her grief. Sharese urged them to move ahead with this project and agreed to participate. She was joined Natasha Clark and Sheila Gomez who had also recently lost loved ones.

(Continued on page 10)
she comes to one with a photograph of Feliciano's 15-month old son. “He had just been born when his father died,” she explains. “For a long time I could not bring myself to talk about it.” Next to the photograph is a poem Shelia wrote for her nephew about his dad. When asked to read it aloud, she hesitates. Then she slowly nods her head and begins to read. Aside from her softly spoken words, the back room of the school-based clinic is silent. This is the first time since her uncle’s death that she has gathered the courage to read this poem aloud.

After the scrap book is complete, Shelia will give it as a present to her grandmother. “My grandma loved her son so much,” explains Shelia. “I hope it will help her as it has helped me to keep some of the best memories of Feliciano alive.”

When asked if she has found this group’s activities helpful, Shelia readily agrees. “Being part of this group taught me that it’s okay to feel certain things—angry, frustrated, scared and sad—and that others feel them too. It is all part of accepting what happened and moving on with your life.”

Natasha Clark, the final student in the group, echoes Shelia’s remarks. “Talking one-on-one about my loss was hard,” she explains. “I felt like all the attention was on me, and that I was the only one going through this. I could not get comfortable enough to talk.

“But then,” she recalled, “a miraculous thing happened—they just started talking! It was like a well of emotions had burst.” In hearing the experiences of others in the group, these young women learned that they were not alone in how they felt. Understanding that their peers’ emotions were similar to their own is an idea, according to Alison, that would have been much more difficult for an adult to convey to them in a one-on-one situation. “This understanding enabled them to talk openly about their own grief with us and with the other students in the group,” she said.

“Hearing about what others in the group went through was like a huge weight being lifted off my shoulders,” said Sheila Gomez, whose uncle, Feliciano, passed away in 2004. In the months following her uncle’s death, Shelia experienced similar emotions to those of Sharese Maybery’s. She found it difficult to control her frustration and melancholy, and soon lost her ability to concentrate on her school work.

“The most difficult thing before I joined Memories was not being able to talk to anyone about how I felt,” Sheila said. “I didn’t know that others felt the same things I did. It would have helped to know that.”

Proudly Shelia reveals the contents of the scrapbook she is compiling to commemorate the memory of her uncle. She turns each page carefully until

(Continued from page 9)

Encouraged by Maria and Alison, these young women identified the materials they would need to create scrap books that would honor the memories of their loved ones and help them to cope with their loss. With funds from the Yale School of Nursing and the Yale Office of New Haven and State Affairs, they bought scrapbooks, poster paper, stickers, scissors, pencils and markers. They began to fill their scrapbooks with family mementos, photos, drawings and writings that they never before dared to share with anyone. In a room at the back of the CHS school-based clinic, round a table piled high with supplies, eventually they began to trust one another and to speak out about their feelings.

The group met once weekly during lunchtime. Using their artistic talents and the supplies available to them, the students found creative ways to address each week’s new theme laid out for them by Maria and Alison. The students answered such questions as, “The world would never be the same because...; The one thing I will never forget is...; This person gave me my...”

“We were trying to get them to open up,” explained Alison, “but it wasn’t easy going at first. They were reluctant and needed a lot of prodding and encouragement to help them to share their feelings.”

(Continued from page 10)
“This is how I think of her now, as my angel,”

honestly about how I felt. But I trust this group,” she adds. “I feel as if they really understand me because they went through it too.”

With Maria and Alison’s encouragement Natasha has worked to compile a scrap book that honors the memories of several family members and friends she has lost recently. “In our group I learned how important it is not to keep my feelings inside. Instead, I put them all on paper,” she explains. “All my anger and sadness goes into these pages,” she says, flipping through her scrap book of poems, drawings, newspaper clippings and photographs. “It helps to keep me sane...to look ahead instead of always wishing things in the past did not happen as they did.”

Alison says, “These girls, who did not know one another before the Memories program began, have grown to trust one another and are now there for one another on the most difficult of days.” As an example of that support, she points to the fact that these students, of their own accord, have decided to share home phone numbers. Natasha explains: “In case one of us feels really sad at home on the evenings or weekends, we always know there is someone we can talk to who will understand. This is a good feeling to have—just knowing someone is there—when I feel especially sad.”

Tears well in Alison’s eyes as she describes the overall experience: “It has been an interesting, often difficult, but overall, a positive and an incredibly rewarding trip for me and for these young women,” she says. “We’ve watched each other laugh and cry. In the process these girls learned a lot about themselves; they now realize that there are a variety of ways to handle grief and bereavement; and they have compiled beautiful books to honor the memories of people they love.” She adds, “I truly believe this has helped them to move in the direction of dealing with their loss and to see that there is a whole life ahead of them.”

Looking ahead, Sharese Maybery plans to study child psychology at a university in Virginia following her graduation from CHS next year. “Children out there need people to talk to,” she says. “They need to know that others have been through similar experiences and that they are not alone. I want to help them to do that as Alison and Maria have helped me.”

Sharese opens to a page in her scrap book where a drawing in colored pencil reveals her mom as an angel in the foreground. “This is how I think of her now, as my angel,” she explains. She points to the drawing and then to her heart. “She will always be with me in here,” she says. “I am brave and determined, as she was. This is the best gift that she left me.”

Four additional CHS students joined the Memories program in the spring of 2005.

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**God’s Love** A POEM GIVEN TO SHARESE MABERRY BY HER MOTHER

I asked God to take away my pain. God said: No.
It is not for me to take away, but for you to give up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.
God said: No. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience. God said: No.
Patience is a product of tribulations; it isn’t granted, it is earned.

I asked God to give me happiness. God said: No.
I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain. God said: No.
Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said: No.
You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life. God said: No.
I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me love others as much as he loves me.
God said... Ahh, finally you have the idea.
On a cold day in early March, Professor Jane Dixon set out for the state capital in Hartford. She was determined to speak out on behalf of YSN neighbors in the eastern section of New Haven who had grown accustomed to seeing their community bear the brunt of environmental impact from air pollution.

As a young woman, Dr. Dixon had been involved in the civil rights movement. Now, in her professional roles as a professor in YSN's doctoral program and a funded researcher, she found herself full circle, focusing on ways to make a difference in her community once again. After participating in the formation of the New Haven chapter of an activist group, the CT Coalition for Environmental Justice, she began to see how two threads of her life came together; her training as a health researcher and her passion to advocate for improvement of the human condition as a citizen in her own community.

Jane Dixon, PhD, has been teaching at YSN since 1977 and began working in the school's doctoral program in 1993, the year after its creation. Her research work explores environmental health engagement. Given the known relationships between environmental health hazards and health outcomes, Dr. Dixon believes it is important that people act to protect themselves from these health hazards.

In the course of her research and analysis of the perception of environmental impacts on the health of residents, Dr. Dixon became concerned with the public health issues in this neighborhood, which includes Fair Haven, the East Shore, and the East Rock area of New Haven. She decided to take action.

As the state legislature considered a bill that would define and protect 'overburdened communities' from sources of pollution Dr. Dixon was in attendance. Then as the agenda turned to public comment, she simply sat down, identified herself, listed her credentials and began to share the insights she had gathered through her work.

In recounting her story, she paused to smile, "I'm not used to selling myself like that, but on this occasion I did it to make the leap from 'member of the public' to so-called 'expert' status. I went through my testimony, and then one of the legislators started asking me questions" she said, marveling at the transformation.

"It was a bracing experience and I tried my best to give good answers to these questions." After this first encounter testifying before her state legislature, she is clearly primed for more—vowing, "I will do even better next time!"

Dr. Dixon's latest NIH/NIEHS funded research project, Measuring People's Engagement in Environmental Health, involves the development of a tool for assessing and promoting environmental awareness among neighborhood residents. As part of this work she is engaging close to 450 area residents in in-depth phone interviews.

This project will develop and validate an Environmental Health Engagement Profile, which is meant to stimulate and facilitate further needed research on human behavior and environmental health. Dr. Dixon's ultimate hope is that this tool will be helpful in enabling health care professionals to partner with individuals and communities to take a more proactive approach to improving environmental health and safety in areas where they live and work.

The bill before the Connecticut legislature the day Dr. Dixon offered her testimony highlights the potential of the role for such research to guide policy development. The bill, An Act Concerning The Incidence Of Pollution In Overburdened Communities (HB6853), would have required state agencies, when considering applications for licenses, permits or authorizations, to consider the impact that additional pollution will have on communities that currently have high amounts of air pollutants, toxic emissions, waste water and stored solid waste—so-called overburdened communities.

Explains Dr. Dixon, "Right now, policy seems to work the other way;
if there’s already something bad in a neighborhood there’s a tendency for there to be an underserved population living there. And then that community’s lack of access to services and representation to protect their interests attracts additional projects that have further negative health impacts.”

According to Dr. Dixon, environmental health hazards in this eastern New Haven neighborhood include a power plant which is “one of the biggest point sources of air pollution in the state.” She said, “This is due to the sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide that comes out of the smokestacks there.” Close to the power plant is a sewer sludge incinerator which, according to Dr. Dixon, is another significant source of pollutants.

“People are becoming concerned that the environment might affect their health and want information to help them do something about such concerns.” According to Dr. Dixon, these include actions individuals can take—such as not smoking, or being around people who smoke—or actions that communities can take, like neighbors meeting to address concerns about pollution and talking to their local and federal representatives in government to seek protection in laws governing pollution.

Through her knowledge of research data collection and published studies, Dr. Dixon could see the connection between pollutants in the environment and the negative health effects that can be measured in the populations exposed. She recounted in her testimony to the lawmakers, “environmental pollution has known negative effects on a wide range of health conditions including; asthma, heart disease, cancer, birth outcomes, child development and mortality in both adults and infants.”

Dr. Dixon also explained in her testimony that people who live in places with more air pollution experience more risk of health effects. For this reason, such legislation as the overburdened communities bill “would add a measure of protection that doesn’t exist in current laws, so that existing levels of pollution can be taken into account as new sources of pollution are considered,” she said as she concluded her testimony.

In describing her experience at the capital, Dr. Dixon said, “If healthcare professionals wish to influence people to take an active role in safeguarding their own health, both care providers and patients alike must first become aware of and engaged in such environmental questions as air pollution and how it impacts their health.” Dr. Dixon concludes, “I want to encourage advocacy and leadership from health professionals to protect their patients from containments in the environment that affect health.”

By conducting research, analyzing data and now with her additional experience offering expert testimony to lawmakers, Dr. Dixon is doing some of the heavy lifting required to ease the burden on communities. “The goal of my work is to provide tools and inspire others to act as role models to promote better health outcomes,” she said.

### Training Nurses for Leadership Roles in Health Care Policy and Management

Dr. Dixon’s experience is a good example of the ability of individuals to inform policy makers on issues that impact quality of life in their community. However, Dr. Dixon recognizes that improving health care through policy change is a team effort. In preparing her testimony to the state legislature, she consulted with her colleague, Dr. Sally Cohen, who directs the Yale Center for Health Policy and Ethics. Dr. Cohen also directs YSN’s new master’s specialty in Nursing Management, Policy & Leadership. The program prepares RNs for leadership positions in health care delivery and health policy, focusing on patient safety and quality of care.

The format of the new program is responsive to the needs of today’s practitioners and will prepare nurses to lead in an increasingly complex health care environment. It relies on innovative web-based methods combined with intensive monthly campus sessions, both of which are designed to be responsive to students’ busy personal and professional lives. The curriculum includes courses in management, policy, leadership, organizational behavior, ethics, evidence-based practice and management, health care finance, and patient safety. Clinical placements are tailored to students’ individual academic goals. Two and three year programs of study are available. The program satisfies the academic criteria for certification in nursing administration by the American Nurses’ Credentialing Center.

Core faculty of the YSN Center for Health Policy and Ethics lead the specialty. Other YSN and Yale faculty, including Jane Dixon, are also contributing to the program. “This is a great opportunity for RNs to acquire the skills necessary for leadership and managerial positions in health care delivery systems, government, and other private and public settings,” said Dr. Cohen. The first group of students will matriculate in January 2006.
The many hats of Vanya Hamrin

Vanya Hamrin treats the whole child through her work as a child and adolescent clinical nurse specialist at West Haven Mental Health Center. For the past 15 years she has provided individual, family and group therapies as well as psychopharmacological management to children and adolescents. As part of that work she sees a full spectrum of psychiatric disorders—childhood depression, ADHD, learning disabilities, behavioral disorders, childhood schizophrenia and anxiety disorders. “Once we diagnose the child, we provide comprehensive psychiatric treatment and work with the parents and the child’s school system,” she explains. “We then advocate for the child’s learning and emotional needs within the school system.”

Because the Mental Health Center is funded through the Department of Children and Families, clients are not limited to a certain number of mental health visits and therefore have comprehensive options for longer term access to clinicians. Nurse practitioners and other mental health professionals can visit the school to check in on a child she is working with. As a result of the Mental Health Center’s close working relationship with the West Haven Public School District, Vanya and her colleagues are “available for the child throughout his childhood, as he moves from elementary to middle school to high school,” explains Vanya.

“We are bridging a gap to help children—to provide them with comprehensive evaluation, diagnostic and treatment plan—to offer full support,” she says. “Because I can prescribe medications that might be needed, this can help minimize the shuffle that families may otherwise have to go through to receive mental health services.”

Vanya can also see the family mem-
bers of the child to help address issues that the whole family may be experiencing, such as parenting concerns or relationship problems. This work has helped her to develop an anger management group for adolescents as well as to coordinate parenting groups. “Services such as anger management can impact a whole family to make positive home life changes,” she says. “These in turn result in better outcomes for the child’s education and his functioning with peers at school, as well.”

Like many of the faculty at YSN, Vanya splits her time between teaching and her clinical work, and these activities inform her scholarship. She has published numerous articles contributing to greater insight into pediatric psychiatric disorders. “In my writing I have focused on treatment for childhood depression,” she explains. “I find it directly correlates with my work in West Haven because I see a lot of children who are depressed and can follow them through evidence-based therapies to secure long-term positive outcomes.”

Vanya has examined data related to the prescription of anti-depressants known as SSRI’s to children—a controversy that has arisen as a result of the Food and Drug Administration warning that came out regarding the rise in suicidal thought and agitation in children on anti-depressant medication. Her scholarship has focused on the good assessment and the best treatment interventions for children suffering with depression. She has also researched the effects of gunshot injuries and other traumatic events in children’s lives. In two of her published studies she has evaluated acute stress disorder in the pediatric gun shot injured population. Her findings show that children are more psychologically vulnerable to developing acute and post-traumatic stress following such incidents.

In mentoring YSN students, Vanya continues to shape the experiences of future nurses and help expose them to clinical situations that cover the full range of adolescent and family psychiatric treatment. Typically she oversees student clinical rotations by designing a schedule that allows each student to take part in the treatment of a variety of conditions for a period of nine months. For each student Vanya is careful to assign children of a variety of ages with differing mental health needs. “This hands-on experience helps fine-tune the students’ diagnostic skills,” she says.

YSN alumna Maryellen Pachler, who is now employed at the Yale Child Study Center, worked at the Mental Health Center under Vanya’s supervision. Through this clinical training, she was involved in diagnosing and treating psychiatric and behavioral problems of children and families. She says, “Working with an interdisciplinary team and receiving input from social work, medical and nursing perspectives helped me to develop a holistic approach. Vanya directed me with her feedback but emphasized a ‘do it yourself’ approach to managing my patient load. As a result, I felt well prepared for a busy, fast-paced clinical environment.”

Vanya flanked by collegues, takes part in YSN’s commencement ceremonies in May 2005.

While her teaching, research and clinical work are “a huge part” of who she is, these activities still do not begin to describe all of the hats that Vanya Hamrin wears. A wife and mom to her seven year old daughter, Brittany, Vanya also enjoys playing golf and traveling with her family. “So many of us at YSN balance multiple priorities,” she says. “We are passionate about our work which informs our personal lives, and our personal lives, in turn, help us to better understand and to provide better care for our patients.”
The evening of October 10th, 1996 was a defining time for Kaisha Ortiz. It was on this day that she gave birth to her first child, her daughter Samari. For the Ortiz family this date had added meaning: October 10th was also the birthday of Kaisha’s mother who had recently passed away. “Your grandma is with you on this special day, and that makes you very special too,” whispered nurse-midwife Heather Reynolds to Samari as Kaisha held the newborn in her arms.

For Heather too, the day held special meaning. She had cared for Kaisha’s mom, sister and grandmother, and as a result had become, in Kaisha’s words, “a part of the family.” Later, Heather provided nurse-midwifery services to Kaisha while she was pregnant with Samari’s brothers, Willi and Gabriel.

As the two women drank coffee at Kaisha’s house in June of 2005, they reflected on their decade-long friendship. They marveled at the three lives that Kaisha brought into the world, discussed the fourth that was “en route,” and talked of the many ways in which Kaisha’s life changed as a result, “more than I ever imagined,” admitted Kaisha. The trust that had developed between the two women was evident in the easy-going manner in which they sat side by side, sipped coffee and spoke of the past and the future without breaking stride.

“Not only does developing a trusting, respectful relationship with patients make my work more meaningful, it also helps to ensure better health outcomes,” explains Heather. “When you develop...
Partnership Program.

of the City of New Haven’s Perinatal Service Corporation and is a member as an Ambassador in The National Health Yale-New Haven Hospital. She also serves of young women having their babies at midwife caring for two generations wisdom gained from her role as a nurse-

Nursing. There she speaks with the Services Administration, Division of Consultant in the Health Resources and for the underserved.”

really inspired me to become an advocate who had very poor health outcomes, school and indigent people in the south with migrants when I fi  rst got out of clinical experience, explaining, “Working with migrants when I fi rst got out of school and indigent people in the south who had very poor health outcomes, really inspired me to become an advocate for the underserved.”

She currently serves as a Nurse Consultant in the Health Resources and Services Administration, Division of Nursing. There she speaks with the wisdom gained from her role as a nurse-midwife caring for two generations of young women having their babies at Yale-New Haven Hospital. She also serves as an Ambassador in The National Health Service Corporation and is a member of the City of New Haven’s Perinatal Partnership Program.

Kaisha Ortiz at home with son Willi and daughter Samari.

It is through public health work that Heather says she has been able to more fully understand and act on the issues that impact the lives of the people of New Haven. She says, “I hope that I am providing public policy leaders with a model of how to interact with families that is respectful and values what they bring to the relationships. I am particularly concerned that there not be this powerful ‘I know what you need’ approach to the community.”

She continues, “I think outreach to the underserved community should instead come from the perspective of giving them information and having them inform me how to best meet their needs. I want to be sure I am appreciating where they’re coming from.”

Heather sees a connection between providing for individual patient needs and training the next generation of advance practice nurses, saying, “For me, the two are very easily wedded —appreciating the dynamics of the population here in New Haven and teaching what I know about this community to those who would serve it.” She goes on to explain: “I realized, because patient advocacy is an issue that’s very near and dear to my heart, that I needed to cultivate a group of students—future health care providers—who would be sensitized to the needs of that community and would be prepared to provide services that would be culturally competent.”

Heather’s dedication to the various aspects of her work is evident the moment one walks into her ofice at YSN. Her desk is piled high with reports, correspondence, her writings and those of her colleagues and students. Her bookshelves are lined with tomes on nurse-midwifery, psychology, social work and health care policy. Her walls are adorned with photographs of smiling families and their newborns; “My extended family,” she explains. Chances are high that when one knocks on Heather’s door they would find her working on more than one project at once, often a lot more. Yet, her door is always open, and this, according to Heather, is vital to her being an effective clinician and student mentor. “The ultimate goal of my work is to provide students and patients with the knowledge they will need to make smart, independent choices that positively impact their lives and the lives of those around them,” she says, “but I am also there for them when they need me.”

“Heather doesn’t just treat you as a patient, she cares for you as a person,” says Kaisha Ortiz. With a fourth child on the way, Kaisha is no longer as nervous as she was in 1996 when she was pregnant with Samari. “Heather and I have been down this road before,” she says. “I am really lucky to have had her along for the ride.”

In October of 2005, as the Ortiz family celebrates Samari’s 9th birthday, Heather and her classmates will celebrate the 25-year reunion of their graduation from YSN. In the course of her career, Heather has cared for more than 2000 women and has delivered more than 600 babies. Looking back on her work over the past quarter century, Heather says, “Every experience has been unique. The women I have cared for and the students I have mentored have offered me an opportunity to learn more about my work, about myself and about life.”

“I teach my students that nurse-midwifery is hard work,” she says. “You have to be smart, patient, flexible, and perseverant. But most of all, you have to do it with love.”
Any pregnancy can present a moment of transition in a woman’s life. But when that woman is a teen, the decision to have a baby and prepare to care for a child, along with the changes this will bring can be very difficult to navigate. Besides all the hormonal and physical changes, there are the many relationship changes that accompany becoming a teen parent. ‘What will my family and friends think? What is my future going to be like, will I be able to graduate from high school? How will I support myself and the baby?’ All these questions can merge and overwhelm.

This is where YSN’s Dr. Lois Sadler’s work teaching both pregnancy prevention and parent education classes to inner city teens can make a difference. Twin aspects of Dr. Sadler’s clinical work are preventing primary pregnancy in teens and working with teen mothers after they have their babies. An additional focus of her clinical work with young mothers is preventing subsequent pregnancy. According to Dr. Sadler, “Focused, comprehensive care is key with this population, because teen mothers are experiencing unique developmental issues that emerge when two critical periods in life—adolescence and new parenthood—occur simultaneously.”

Since 1979, Dr. Sadler has worked with teen parents in New Haven and currently teaches parent education classes to student-parents enrolled in the Polly T. McCabe Center, a transitional school for pregnant students in grades eight through twelve in the New Haven Public School district. The curriculum at McCabe covers nutrition, childbirth and parenting. Students are assigned a flexible schedule to keep them on track to graduate while balancing the responsibilities of motherhood.

“The goal is to keep these teens in school, moving along on a normal adolescent trajectory, because the research has documented that if they can be supported at this transitional time, teen mothers do much better through their lives—and so do their children,” explains Dr. Sadler.

Ann Cowlin, an on-site childbirth educator at McCabe, agrees. Her work providing creative physical activity in combination with the parent education that Dr. Sadler presents to expectant teen mothers, helps to reinforce parenting skills, healthy coping behavior and recovery from childbirth. “There is evidence that healthy mothers have fit babies and fit moms avoid delivery complications, such as pre-eclampsia,” she says. Ann explains how the McCabe Center approaches instruction for its students, “We help to build self-efficacy skills in these teens. We also take into account ethnic background and work on self esteem issues these teens may have.”

Dr. Sadler explains the link between her research on teen mothers and how these insights have influenced the development of the curriculum tailored to the complex needs of the student-mothers. “Due to the cognitive developmental stage typical of teenagers, we have found that teen mothers are best able to learn when we present topics that are immediate issues for them, as well as using examples from student mothers with older infants,” she says. These discussions, along with role playing and exercises that focus on problem solving, help students navigate the bridge between experience and insight that they can then use to plan for future events in their lives and anticipate the needs of their children.

Dr. Sadler also teaches masters and doctoral nursing students at YSN in the areas of family studies, child development, pediatric health promotion, research, and adolescent primary care. Her background as a clinician and scholar enables Dr. Sadler to engage nursing students by sharing with them real-life experiences from her practice and from her scholarly work.
Dr. Sadler’s research has focused on the transition to parenthood among urban adolescent mothers and their families, adolescent pregnancy prevention, and evaluation of specialized support programs for adolescent parents. Currently, she is collaborating with colleagues at the Fair Haven Community Health Center and with Drs. Arietta Slade and Linda Mayes from the Yale Child Study Center on a study, funded by the Irving B. Harris Foundation and the NIH, Minding the Baby: Home Visiting for Teen Mothers. She has just completed a study funded by the Patrick and Catherine Weldon Donaghue Foundation on Clinical Care of Adolescents with Negative Pregnancy Test Results.

She has also recently completed a number of studies centered on her work at McCabe and the parent support program of the Wilbur Cross High School in New Haven, including Care of Adolescent Mothers and Their Children through High-School Based Child Care, and Ambivalent Grandmothers Raising Teen Daughters and Their Babies, as well as Combining Parent Education with Creative Physical Activity, co-authored with Ann Cowlin. Dr. Sadler’s recent scholarship also includes co-authoring a manual for the clinical care of sexually active adolescent women, entitled Teen C.A.R.E. (see box, page 23).

Dr. Sadler’s research, in turn, has helped to inform her practice and to improve care for pregnant teens and their mothers. “At the Yale School of Nursing, scholarship is energized by the interchange between practice and knowledge, based on the belief that theory develops from practice and then, in turn, influences it,” explains Dr. Sadler. “This is very true of my own practice and scholarship.”

Dr. Sadler’s research, in combination with her practice in the community, ends up having a net social effect, as a steady stream of young women emerge from the McCabe Center prepared to make educated choices about their lives and empowered to take responsibility and control for themselves. She says, “My work is about helping young mothers succeed in their own life courses and become nurturing and competent parents.”

The Connecting Sisters project hosted a conference this past November at YSN, consisting of a keynote address, panel discussion and breakout sessions (above). According to Dr. Knobf (right), the conference was designed to bring African American breast cancer survivors and key stakeholder groups together to share knowledge gained from survivors within the community.

Each year, about 200 women of African descent in Connecticut have a common experience; they are diagnosed with breast cancer, according to YSN Associate Professor Tish Knobf. But once that diagnosis is made, each of these women may feel alone in the experience of breast cancer treatment, as they join support groups only to find few other black women at their side. As Dr. Knobf explains, that’s because even though breast cancer occurs at the same rate in blacks and whites, as a result of overall demographics, the overwhelming majority of breast cancer diagnoses occur in white women.

Dr. Knobf is Principal Investigator of an ongoing research study that seeks to develop an academic-community partnership to address the unique needs of this group of women in Connecticut. The project is titled “Connecting Sisters: Women of Color with Breast Cancer” and is funded by the Yale-Howard Partnership Center to Eliminate Health Disparities (see box). Dr. Knobf describes examples of concerns that are distinctive to this community of breast cancer survivors, such as the need for appropriate wigs and special consideration for the effects of radiation therapy on dark skin, as well as ways that ethnic dietary preferences can be taken into account by oncology providers.

The Connecting Sisters project is based on the philosophy of Participative Inquiry, which helps groups explore problems from their perspective, produce knowledge directly useful to the group, empower them in the use of the knowledge and generate ideas to manage or resolve problems. As the initial project focus groups were formed, relationships with existing support groups were forged, such as with the Hartford area’s Witness Project, which had already brought together members of one church community who were breast cancer survivors to help spread the word and influence others to seek cancer screenings.

According to Dr. Knobf, focus group participants talked of a “bond of sisterhood” in describing the cultural connection of black women who often times attend church together and have similar life experiences and viewpoints. As a result of these initial state-ments by participants she says, “We saw the importance of providing resources and mecha-nisms to connect black women, so they could provide support to each other in ways that would be culturally sensitive and more meaningful to them as black women.”

Dr. Knobf says, “As information and resources for breast cancer specific to women of color become more known and available, this knowledge will be shared with families—sisters, daughters, mothers, grandmothers, aunts and cousins—and with all women of color to better serve their unique needs as they fight breast cancer.”

Additional Partnership Center Studies
In 2002, YSN and Howard University’s Division of Nursing launched the Yale-Howard Partnership Center on Reducing Health Disparities. The Center is funded for 5 years, and builds on the collaborative work of YSN and Howard faculty. In addition to the Connecting Sisters project featured here, the following pilot studies are described further on our website at http://nursing.yale.edu/Centers/YHP/Research/:

• Menopause and Midlife Health Risks: Black Women’s Views
• Colorectal Cancer Self-Management in African Americans
• Diversity, Poverty Initiative Title Management of Severe Asthma
• Self Management in African American Women with Diabetes
• Locus of Control and Factors that Influence African American Women’s Breast Cancer Experience
• Preparing At-Risk Youth for Success (PAYS)
• Nursing’s Impact on the Quality of Life Outcomes in Minority Family Caregivers
• Successful Aging with Sickle Cell Disease
Scholarship

July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

YSN SCHOLARSHIP

Faculty Publications

Ivy Marie Alexander


Patricia Jackson Allen

Allen, P. J. (2004). Leaves of three, let them be: If it were only that easy! *Pediatric Nursing*, 30(2), 129-135.


Patricia Jackson Allen

Allen, P. J. (2004). Leaves of three, let them be: If it were only that easy! *Pediatric Nursing*, 30(2), 129-135.


Nancy Cantey Banasiak


Margaret Winston Beal


Meg Bourbonniet


Denise Buonocore


Sally Cohen


Cynthia A. Connolly


Jessica Marie Covillo


Angela A. Crowley


Jane Karpe Dixon


Kris Paul Fennie


Marge Funk


Catherine L. Gilliss


Meredith F. Goff


Sarabeth F. Gottlieb

Teen C.A.R.E. (Comprehensive Adolescent Reproductive Education)
By Alison Moriarty Daley, Lois Sadler, Heather Reynolds and John Leventhal (2005)

A manual for the clinical care of sexually active adolescent women, Teen CARE provides the clinician with a teen-friendly approach to help teens reduce the occurrence of unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and become more effective in their use of contraception. By restructuring the intensity of care provided to teens with negative pregnancy tests, or who are sexually active but not using contraception or condoms, the authors seek to help teenagers reduce their rates of STIs and avoid unintended pregnancies and the associated emotional, social, educational and financial consequences for teens, families and communities.

**Katherine R. Jones**


**George J. Knafi**


**Kathleen Astin Knafi**


**Mary Tish Knobf**


Gail D’Eramo Melkus


Pamela A. Minarik


Sheila Molony


Alison L. Moriarty Daley


Douglas P. Olsen


Olsen, D. P. (in press). Nursing at Yale University. [Russian Nursing Journal].

Linda Honan Pellico


Heather Dawn Reynolds


Reynolds, H. D. (2005). Contributions in Practice: Context, in Celebrating the Contributions of Academic Midwifery: A Symposium on the Occasion of the retirement from the faculty of the Yale University School of Nursing (YSN), of Professor Helen Varney Burst. Yale University School of Nursing.
Mary Ellen Rousseau


Lois Siebert Sadler


Sheila Judge Santacroce


Lawrence D. Scahill


Lynne Schilling


Dena Schulman-Green


Karen Stemler


Marianne Terisa Stone-Godena


Martha K. Swartz


Sandra Lee Talley


Karen Stemler


Marianne Terisa Stone-Godena


Martha K. Swartz


Sandra Lee Talley


Knoff, G. (Principal Investigator), Bova, C., Dieckhaus, K., Fennine, K., Friedland, G., Williams, A. Modeling Health Subjects’ Electronic Monitoring Device Data. Funded by NIH/NAID (RO1AI70743), 2/1/04-12/31/07, $450,000

Knoff, K. (Principal Investigator). Computer Assisted Family Management of Childhood Chronic Illness (Pilot Study). Funded by the Center for Self-Management Interventions for Populations at Risk, 10/1/02-8/31/05, $20,000

Knoff, K. (Principal Investigator), Dietrich, J., Dixon, J., Gallo, A., Grey, M. Assessing Family Management of Childhood Chronic Illness. Funded by NIH/NIHR (R01NR08048), 5/1/03-2/28/06, $785,952

Knoff, K. (Principal Investigator), Grey, M. Use of a Handheld Personal Computer to Support Family Management of Type 1 Diabetes. Funded by Yale University School of Nursing Intervention. Funded by the Center for Self-Management Interventions for Populations at Risk, 10/15/03-8/31/05, $20,000

Knobf, T. (Principal Investigator), DiPietro, L., Insogna, K. Exercise Intervention on Physical Bone Mass in Premenopausal Women. Funded by NIH/NIHR (R01NR07778), 8/1/03-7/31/06, $9,838,006

Melkus, G. (Principal Investigator), Chyun, D., Grey, M. Self-Care Interventions for Black Women with Type 2 DM Funded by NIH/NIHR (R01NR08431), 7/1/01-7/31/06, $5,150,367

Piacentini, J. (Principal Investigator), Schall, L. Behavior Therapy for Children with Chronic Tic Disorders. Funded by NIH/NIHR (R01NR07802), 8/5/04-7/31/08, $470,166 (subcontract with Tourette Syndrome Association)

Sadler, L. (Principal Investigator), Morarity Daley, A., Reynolds, H. Intensive Care for Teens with Negative Pregnancy Tests. Funded by The Donaghue Foundation, 1/1-12/31/04, $179,073

Sadler, L. (Principal Investigator), Mayes, L., Slade, A. Minding the Baby: Home Visiting for Teen Mothers (Pilot Study). Funded by the Center for Self and Family Management of Vulnerable Populations, 10/1/04-7/30/05, $20,000

Santacroce, S. (Principal Investigator). Reducing Symptoms of Posttraumatic Stress in Parents of Children with Cancer (Pilot Study). Funded by the Center for Self-Management Interventions for Populations at Risk, 10/1/02-8/31/05, $20,000

Santacroce, S. (Principal Investigator), Grey, M., Kadan-Lottick, N. Reducing Uncertainty in Childhood Cancer Survivorship. Funded by NIH/NCI (R21CA16728), 1/1/04-7/31/06, $294,300

Santacroce, S. (Principal Investigator), Grey, M., Knoff, L. Monitoring Fidelity to a Remote Research Integriti Funded by NIH/NIHR (R01NR08357), 9/30/04-9/29/06, $516,185

Schall, L. (Principal Investigator), Anderson, G., Handen, B., Johnson, C., Martin, A. RUPP PM Program at Yale University School of Nursing Funded by NIH/NIHR (1UL0MH66764), 8/1/02-7/31/07, $2,640,005

Schall, L. (Principal Investigator), Johnson & Johnson Risperidone Study Funded by Johnson & Johnson, 9/12/03-9/30/04, $30,000

Schall, L. (Principal Investigator), Sukhodolsky, D. Anger Control Training for Patients with Tourette Syndrome Funded by NIH/NIHR (R01NR08271), 12/1/03-11/30/05, $400,000

Schall, L. (Principal Investigator), Koenig, K., Bailey, K. Social Skills Development in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Funded by the Organization for Autism Research, 3/1/04-2/28/05, $20,000


Schilling, L. (Principal Investigator). Measuring Self-Management of Type 1 Diabetes in Youth. Funded by Yale University School of Nursing (Interuniversity grant), 11/1/04-12/31/05, $5,000

Schilling, L. (Principal Investigator). Dixon, J., Grey, M., Knoff, L., Kahn, G., Lynn, M., Murphy, K. Measuring Self-Management of Type 1 Diabetes in Youth. Funded by NIH/NIHR (R01NR08757), 8/1/06-5/31/07, $1,820,075

Schulman-Green, D. (Principal Investigator). Women’s Role in the Management of Advanced Breast Cancer. Funded by the Center for Self-Management Interventions for Populations at Risk, 10/15/03-8/31/05, $20,000

Schulman-Green, D. (Principal Investigator), McCorkle, R. Women’s Role in the Management of Advanced Ovarian Cancer (Pilot Study). Funded by the Center for Self and Family Management of Vulnerable Populations, 10/1/04-7/31/05, $20,000

Talley, S. (Principal Investigator). Understanding Changes in Primary Care Practices with Seriously and Persistently Mentally Ill Clients. Funded by Yale University School of Nursing (Interuniversity grant), 2001-2005, $3,000

Talley, S. (Principal Investigator). Understanding Physical Health Promotion Activities and Concerns in the Seriously Mentally Ill. Funded by the Center for Self-Management Interventions for Populations at Risk, 10/1/02-8/31/05, $20,000

Viens, D. (Principal Investigator), Grey, M. Expansion of the APNet. Addition of YSN Faculty to Study YSN Faculty Practice Patterns. Funded by the Beatrice Renfield-Yale School of Nursing Clinical Research Initiatives Fund, 11/1/05-12/31/05, $73,485

Williams, A. (Principal Investigator). Adherence Interventions for Drug Users. Funded by NIH/NIDA (R13DA169794), 3/1/05-2/28/06, $54,834

Whitemore, R. (Principal Investigator). An Expressive Arts Intervention to Promote Psychosocial Health in Adults with Type 2 Diabetes. Funded by Yale University School of Nursing (Interuniversity Grant), 11/01-12/31/05, $30,000

Zawalich, W. (Principal Investigator). Phosphonoesterase Hydrolysis and Beta Cell Secretion. Funded by NIH/NIDDK (R01DK12230), 7/1/03-4/30/07, $880,003

Zawalich, W. (Principal Investigator). Effect of CNS Compounds on Cholinergic Regulation of Insulin Secretion from Isolated Perifused Rat Islets. Funded by Pfizer, Inc., 11/17/03-3/31/05, $64,655


Funded Training includes ongoing and completed during period 7/1/04-6/30/05

Chyun, D. (Program Director). Creating Careers in Geriatric Advance Practice Nursing. Funded by American Association of Colleges of Nursing, 7/1/02-6/30/05, $60,000

Grey, M. (Program Director). McCorkle, R. Research Training in Self and Family Management. Funded by NIH (NINR 1R01NR05836), 4/1/04-3/31/08, $1,790,928

Jones, K. (Program Director). Professional Nurse Traineeship. Funded by HRSA/Division of Nursing, 7/1/04-6/30/05, $15,268

McCorkle, R. (Program Director). Interdisciplinary Research Training in Breast Cancer. Funded by the Department of Defense, 7/1/00-6/30/05, $7,949,342


Funded Doctoral and Postdoctoral Research includes ongoing and completed during period 7/1/04-6/30/05

Amend, A. SES, Health Factors & Diet in Black Women with Diabetes. Funded by NIH/NIHR (F31NR08835), 9/15/03-3/14/06, $97,940

Davidson, M. Family Management of Adolescent Obesity. Funded by NIH/NIHR (F31NR08082), 9/27/04-9/26/06, $58,895

Haozous, E. Understanding the Cancer Pain Experience in Southwestern Native Americans. Funded by American Cancer Society, 8/1/04-7/31/05, $90,000

Haozous, E. Exploring Cancer Pain in Southwestern American Indians. Funded by NIH/NIHR (F31NR08314), 11/16/04-11/15/07, $84,551

Newlin, K. Spirituality and Health Factors in Women with Diabetes. Funded by NIH/NIHR (F31NR08190), 9/1/02-10/31/05, $162,412

Sun, Y. Disclosure of Breast Symptoms by Chinese Women in the US. Funded by Oncology Nursing Society, 7/1/04-9/15/05, $160,000
CLASS NEWS

Richard Sullivan, the husband of Betty Due Reilly Sullivan ’46w passed away on 02/10/2003 at Greenwich Hospital. Mr. Sullivan died of myelodysplasia syndrome, a rare blood disease complicated by pneumonia, according to his family.

Margretta “Gretta” Madden Styles ’54 has been awarded the 2005 Christiane Reimann Prize by the International Council of Nurses (ICN) for her remarkable achievements and contributions to the nursing profession internationally. The Christiane Reimann Prize is known worldwide as nursing’s highest international award recognizing outstanding nursing achievement. The Christiane Reimann Prize was awarded officially to Gretta in May, 2005 during the opening ceremony of the ICN 23rd Quadrennial Congress in Taiwan.

Barbara Norton Klaus ’57 and her husband, Bob, are still at Lake Tawakoni in Point, Texas and have set aside any plans for change indefinitely. Bob has kept their “park” in beautiful shape. Barbara has completed her responsibilities for Vacation Bible School; serves in the church nursery weekly, and is active in their tiny city as Election Judge. They “continue to host picnics and other occasions for friends….Retirement? What’s that?”

Kathleen Dooley Stokes ’66 moved her family from Northern New Jersey ten years ago to Texas.
She earned her MD from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey in 1988 and has opened her practice in pediatrics in Frisco just north of Dallas. Her practice is flourishing and she credits much of her training in nursing at YSN for her success. “My nursing background is great and adds value to my practice.” Kathleen adds, “retirement is not an option since I plan on practicing for as long as I possibly can”. Kathy and Bob have been married for 38 years and have three grandchildren by their 3 children, Bob Jr., Christine and Jim.

Charlotte Houde Quimby ’72 has been elected to the New Hampshire House of Representatives. Formerly Director of the Nurse Midwifery Service at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center for the last 15 years, Charlotte has been involved in Safe Motherhood activities in Africa and Asia. Last year, she served as a Visiting Senior Associate at the Lillian Carter Center for International Nursing at Emory University. She is assigned to the Executive Departments and Administration Committee and expects to be dealing with nurse practice issues during this session.

Suzan D. Boyd ’73 is Executive Director of the South Carolina Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. Suzan was presented with the Women of Distinction Award in March 2005 by the Girl Scout Council of the Congaree Area, Inc. in conjunction with Blue Cross & Blue Shield of South Carolina. This award recognizes exemplary accomplishments in community service, professional achievement, and the ability to positively influence the lives of girls and young women.

Margaret Grey ’76, new YSN Dean, traveled to Thailand in December 2003 as a Visiting Professor at Mahidol University School of Nursing. She was able to meet with doctoral students Pawana and Kusuma who both spent one year with YSN in 2003-04. Margaret also visited with Poonsook Siriaporn ’73, former faculty member at Ramathibodi, and now retired. Margaret reports that Poonsook is a “shopping expert extraordinaire”! Margaret also met up with Panwadee, who did a postdoc at YSN few years ago, Kusuma, Wantana (DNSc ’98— one of our first DNSc grads), and Wantana’s daughter, Onaran, at the Grand Palace in Bangkok.

On December 11, 2004, The President and Fellows of Yale University voted to award tenure to YSN Associate Professor Lois Siebert Sadler ’79 effective January 1, 2005. Dr. Sadler practices as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and teaches master’s and doctoral nursing students in the areas of family studies, child development, pediatric health promotion, research, and adolescent primary care.

Susan M. Bonini, RN, MSN ’89
Sue is Director, Cardiology Services at University of Colorado Hospital in Denver, CO and a Professional Nursing Consultant for medical malpractice lawsuits in Colorado and practice. She has been a critical care clinical nurse specialist/educator as well as Traveling Nurse. Sue is an accomplished presenter and a published author.

Jordan Hampton, RN, MSN ’97, ’98
Jordan is a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner serving as clinician and program director of the MGH satellite school-based health at Chelsea High School. She is the point person for WK Kellogg Foundation grant. Jordan is active in several school and community programs designed to increase graduation and attendance rates for pregnant and parenting students (GAPPS) and to address issues facing women students. Jordan is a Precept for MGH Institute of Health Professions PNP and YSN PNP.

Karla A. Knight, RN, MSN ’77
Graduating with the 1st CEPN class at YSN, receiving an MSN with concentration in pediatric nursing, Karla is a contributing writer for Nursing Spectrum/Nurse Week. She was a Founder of and Consultant with Working Parents Resource Consulting, Maynard, MA. Karla served as a medical consultant to the Risk Management Foundation, serving Harvard Medical institutions. Karla is an accomplished author of both published articles and books. She is very active in community organizations.

Deborah Cibelli ’81 and Linda Lisk ’79 are thrilled to announce the opening of their midwifery practice, Women’s Health Associates, LLC. Debbie and Linda have worked together for 23 years as physician employees and will now have their own practice with offices in New Haven and North Branford, Connecticut. They will continue to attend births at Yale-New Haven Hospital.

Beth K. Boyarsky, ’82 writes “Hi YSN… Here’s an update of my circular travels since graduation. After graduation from YSN in 1982, I married Greg Boyarsky, worked in and around Yale for 10 years, moved to Galveston Texas with Greg where he was on faculty at UTMB. I attended medical school there and moved back to CT to finish my residency and fellowship in Addiction Psychiatry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Greg is now a PGY-3 resident in Psychiatry there and I’m the Chief of Sub-
Judith Cheek Hays ’86 has joined the Duke University School of Nursing as an associate research professor and ABSN program director. Since completing a post-doctoral fellowship in Duke’s Center for the Study of Aging and Human Development in 1992, Dr. Hays has served as a senior fellow at the Center. She has also held the titles of associate medical research professor of geriatric psychiatry and gerontological nursing at Duke. She earned her doctorate from Yale in 1991 in chronic disease epidemiology and aging.

Paula “Polly” Carmona ’86 coauthored in 2004 with John McQuaid, Ph.D., the book, Overcome Depression. Cognitive Behavioral Psychology to Overcome Depression. She has been on multiple radio shows throughout the county in the last year promoting the book. Accepted by the journal, Cognitive Therapy and Research is the article, “The Effect of Mindfulness in Cognitive Process and Affect in Patients with Past Depression,” which describes some of the original research that prompted the writing of Peaceful Mind. Paula has been working as a CNS at the Department of Veteran Affairs Medical Center in San Diego since 1987. She also has a small private practice. She is married to Fred Conway, a cultural anthropologist, and they have two children, Mattie (13) and Luke (9).

Anne Aquila ’89 has been named director of critical care and surgical services at Bridgeport Hospital, CT. Anne is a clinical nurse specialist and joined the hospital in 2002 from the Hospital of Saint Raphael in New Haven, CT.

Diane D. St. Pierre ’91 is delighted to report that she will be a grandmother this year. This is Diane’s first grandson and the first child for her eldest daughter Sarah. But Diane is still a “young” mother with 3 year old Elizabeth keeping her busy as well. Diane retired in June 2004 to devote her time to home school Elizabeth. She also works with her husband David Meardon who is a professional photographer in Sanibel, Florida.

Cynthia B. Flynn ’96 traveled recently to Sri Lanka to lend her assistance following the devastating tsunami. You can read her fascinating journal entries by logging onto www.mytripjournal.com/TsunamiFlynn-05. The password is “Cynthia”.

Deirdre “Dede” Holden Carroll ’00 and Jonathan Erulkar, MD (YSM, 2000) were married on Sunday August 1st, 2004 in Lake Forest, Illinois. They met at Yale in 1999 while both were in their respective graduate programs. Dede spent the following three years doing research as a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner and YSN clinical faculty member at the Yale Child Study Center while Jonathan began his surgical residency in the Dept. of Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation at Yale New Haven Hospital. She is currently a third year PhD student at the Boston College William F. Connell School of Nursing. He is beginning his fifth year of residency. In June 2006, they will be moving to Boston where she will continue her PhD work and he will begin a Spine Surgery Fellowship at the New England Baptist Hospital. They are expecting their first child (a baby boy!) in October. Last summer she co-authored “Methylphenidate: Mechanism of action and clinical update” with Larry Scahill, MSN, PhD in The Journal of Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Nursing. She and Larry have also co-authored “Risperidone.”

Judith R. Lentz, PhD, MA, MSN ’76, BSN… Judy is an Adjunct Assistant Professor teaching psychiatric nursing clinicals at Virginia Commonwealth University and J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Judy was a recent presenter at the International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses meeting in PA. Judy received her PhD from Rice University in Cultural Anthropology. She is a published author as well as a manuscript reviewer. Judy is an active participant in the Alumnae/i-Student Connection Program.

Perry Mahaffy, RN, MSN ’64… Perry is a diplomate for the American Board of Quality Assurance Utilization Review Physicians and Board Chairman of G.L.O.B.E Ministries in Chadds Ford, PA. He also serves as a workers compensation case manager for Genex Services, Inc. In 11/1995, Perry sat for the examination for the American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians, Inc. and was awarded Diplomate of ABQAURP, currently certified through 12/31/2006.

Luc R. Pelletier, RN, MSN ’82, BC, FAAN…Luc is Project Director/Researcher with Danya International, Inc., a health communications company in Silver Spring, MD. He is Editor-in-Chief of the Journal for Healthcare Quality, NAHQ’s peer-reviewed journal. He is a Fellow in NAHQ, and a member of the faculties of The George Washington University and California State University, Dominguez Hills. Luc is also a healthcare consultant based in San Diego, California.

Continuing Board Members during 2005
Bonnie Baloga-Altieri, RN, MSN ’89, CNAA
Carol Ann Wetmore, RN, MSN ’94
Sally Richards, RN, MSN ’97
Elaine M. Gustafson, RN, MSN, ’86, CS, PNP
Sue Langerman, RN, MSN ’99
Linda Honan Pellico, RN, MSN, ’97
Mary Bartlett, BA, CN, MSN ’00
Nina Relin Adams, RN, MS, MSN ’77
Alumnae/i-Student Connection!

Become a mentor to current YSN students via the YSN Alumnae/i Fund.

This program has been created to build relationships between alumnae/i and new YSN students. Each incoming student is paired with an alumna/us, who will welcome the student to the YSN community and be accessible to the student via phone, mail or email throughout her/his tenure at YSN. Alumnae/i are a source of support for our students and can offer invaluable wisdom about school, career and life.

If you would like to participate in the YSN Alumnae/i-Student Connection, all it takes is a gift to the YSN Alumnae/i Fund and a few minutes during the year to make the connection.
In Memoriam

* indicates no degree

Leota F. Riddick ’30
Died 09/1963
Marjorie Everingham Edgerly ’32 RN
Died 04/23/2003
Katherine Schutze ’32
Died 02/13/1980
Mary Olean Taylor ’32
Died 09/18/1999
Violet H. Amidon ’33 RN
Died 10/10/1987
Shirley Carlson Bown ’33 RN
Died 02/05/2003
Margaret J. MacWilliam George ’33 RN
Died 03/02/2002
Verna D. Smith Rogier (Mrs Jean F. Rogier) ’33 RN
Died 04/16/2005
Anna Wertz MacNeish ’36 RN
Died 10/29/2004
Margaret Birchard Schussman ’36 RN
Died 06/01/1997
Mary Louise Maloy ’37 RN
Died 11/20/2004
Muriel Maxwell Crosby ’38 RN
Died 03/16/2004
Maxine Petersen Sutretman ’43 RN
Died 01/26/2005
Marian L. Crouse Stone ’45 RN
Died 03/28/2005
Jeanne E. Mercier ’46 RN
Died 12/23/2004
Dorothy Dick Miller ’46 RN
Died 10/20/2004
Eleanor J. Magri Piras ’46 W RN
Died 10/09/2001
Bonnie I. Rankin ’46 RN
Died 06/05/2004
Julia Shenton Morris ’47 RN
Died 02/17/2005
Sydney Paul Johnson ’48 RN
Died 04/09/2003
Mary Wyli Stoltz ’49 RN
Died 05/02/2004
Helen B. Lowe ’53 RN
Died 08/04/2004
Maria J. Rinella Bosnak ’54 RN
Died 12/21/2004
Jean Lasher Weed Youngen ’54 RN
Died 12/23/2004
Patsy Irene Bennett ’55 RN
Died 09/16/2004
Winifred Squire Gee ’54 RN
Died 09/25/2001
Loueva C. Mabee ’56 RN
Died 09/25/2001
Contributing to New Haven’s Renaissance: The Partnership Between Town and Gown

Yale University has called New Haven home for three centuries and the fates of the city and the university are inextricably intertwined, more so now than ever before. Fifteen years ago, some saw New Haven as a poster child for urban distress and the university as disengaged from its surroundings. While both perceptions were no doubt overblown, it is clear neither are true now.

This summer the Christian Science Monitor described New Haven as a turnaround city. In April the New York Times devoted nearly a full page to New Haven’s strong real estate market and emergence as a thriving destination for culture, cuisine, and shopping, while the Lonely Planet Guide heralds the city’s “renaissance.”

Yale has contributed to New Haven’s renaissance through a strategy of active urban citizenship led by President Richard C. Levin. Under his leadership, Yale has mobilized its resources in a sustained strategic partnership for economic development, neighborhood revitalization, better public schools, and a lively downtown.

The results have been impressive. The university has helped foster a growing biotech sector locally, with 25 new companies created from scientific research on campus, 17 of which are in New Haven proper. Yale has promoted homeownership through our employee Homebuyer Program that gives Yale staff and faculty grants to purchase homes in city neighborhoods. Since 1994, 700 employees have participated, with the university committing grants totaling more than $45 million that have leveraged home purchases of more than $100 million.

During the school year, hardly day goes by without numerous New Haven public school children visiting campus for a variety of enrichment programs or without Yale volunteers working in classrooms across the city. This summer, more than 700 local children came to Yale for free, full-day academic and recreation programs sponsored by the university.

President Levin institutionalized Yale’s commitment as an urban citizen in the Office of New Haven and State Affairs, established in 1995, which serves as a catalyst and coordinator for partnerships with the community. We work with schools and departments throughout the university and no place has been a more creative or active partner than the Yale School of Nursing.

Indeed, the School of Nursing has always been a vigorous urban citizen and the outstanding community work of nursing faculty, staff, and students has served as an inspiration to the entire university. YSN today supports extensive community partnerships with the Hill Regional Career High School, the local health department, Fair Haven Community Health Center and Hill Health Center, among others. These efforts have grown deep roots under the leadership of Judith Krauss, Catherine Gilliss, and Katherine Jones and will no doubt flourish further with Dean Margaret Grey, who has worked closely with the New Haven community.

These YSN partnerships with New Haven provide direct benefits in city classrooms and clinics. They also give a human face to the university and help build a sense of real community among the people of Yale and our neighbors in New Haven. That truth might be the most important one of all and this increased sense of trust and community between town and gown is perhaps the greatest reason for optimism that New Haven’s renaissance will continue and the partnership Yale has built will grow.

by special invitation from Michael J. Morand, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT, NEW HAVEN AND STATE AFFAIRS YALE UNIVERSITY