UBC NURSING TODAY

NEWS ITEMS

CARDIAC CARE NURSING COURSE TO BE OFFERED ON TELEVISION

The Continuing Nursing Education Division of the U.B.C. School of Nursing has received a $25,000 grant to prepare programming for a 30-hour continuing education series to be carried on the Knowledge Network. The series, which will be carried on the satellite educational network beginning in January 1982, will offer 15 two-hour programs on Assessment and Management of Acute Cardiovascular Disease.

The pilot project "telecourse" will provide Registered Nurses in three B.C. centres with an opportunity to develop some of the basic knowledge and skills necessary to assess cardiac status and manage acute cardiac problems. The course will be spread over a five month period to permit registrants to practice new techniques and to complete assignments and course work at home.

"The Knowledge Network is an interactive media especially appropriate for demonstration of assessment skills and recognition of cardiac dysrhythmias and other aspects of cardiac care management," said Shirley Brandt, director of Continuing Nursing Education and director of the project.

"It will make it possible for nurses outside the Lower Mainland areas to participate in clincially oriented courses while remaining in their home areas. A telephone feed-back system will be available through the local community colleges to allow the nurses to participate actively in the sessions and ask questions about the management of specific problems."

Funding to cover costs of programming was supplied by the Universities Council of British Columbia.

Glennis Zilm, a part-time lecturer in the School, has been hired as project co-ordinator for the series and will be available in the School an additional two days a week to work on the programming.

SENATE TO HAVE "FINAL SAY" ON RETRENCHMENT

At its meeting November 18, the UBC Senate reviewed its relationship to the President's Special Committee on Retrenchment and made it clear that final recommendations that might affect quality of education will have to be brought to it before these can be approved, said Sylvia Holmes, the elected representative for the Faculty of Applied Science.

Prof. Holmes, one of three nurses who sit on the 88-member senior governing body, recently took over the seat held by

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Rose Murakami, who resigned when she was appointed Director of Nursing in the Extended Care Unit, Health Sciences Centre.

"Nursing is fortunate that four nurses hold seats -- all of them elected positions," Prof. Holmes said following her first meeting. She holds one of two seats elected by all members of the applied science faculty.

Dr. Marilyn Willman, director of the School of Nursing, is one of 10 members elected by the joint faculties.

Ruth E. Robinson, a graduate of the UBC School, is one of 11 convocation members elected by the Alumni. Doris Wong, a recent graduate from the Nursing program, was elected from the student body.

The Senate has 14 Standing Committees. Prof. Holmes sits on those for continuing education and curriculum. Dr. Willman sits on the admissions and agenda committees.

Faculty should be aware of Senate and, if possible, arrange to attend as observers, Prof. Holmes said. Senate meets regularly on the third Wednesday each month.

GROWTH OF LEARNING CENTRE

by Eileen Campbell

It has now been a year and a half since the Learning Centre moved to its new home on the third floor of the Acute Care Unit. Since the move, the staff has been providing services to more areas than ever before.

As well as helping our own School of Nursing students and faculty members to find and use materials, the staff assists other faculties and departments. These include Rehabilitation Medicine, Continuing Nursing Education, the three Health Science Centre hospitals, other schools of nursing and other health care facilities within and outside the Vancouver area.

Learning Centre faculty also provide services in other areas and have had opportunities to share ideas with other colleges and universities in Canada. A number of nursing programs now are developing such centres and they have looked to UBC for ideas and suggestions.

One of the nicest things that has happened to us this year has been the increasing use of the facilities by the students. Students from all levels of the undergraduate as well as the graduate program are coming to the Centre. The planning for the revised undergraduate program has promoted the levelling of basic nursing skills through the four years of the program. This year this has meant that at times we have had first, second and third year students all in the nursing labs at the same time learning different skills. It has been great to see this happening.

One of the goals of the staff in the Learning Centre has been to create a pleasant and interesting environment where people can work and study. Another goal has been to make information more easily accessible to everyone. We hope these goals are being realized.

This month I will be leaving the Learning Centre. I'd like to thank Cheryl Entwistle, Barbara Iwasaki and Valery Bihrer for their tremendous support throughout the difficult move and the days that followed. Shelley Zaretsky, while only with us for a short time, also contributed to the functioning of the Learning Centre. Mariette West has just recently joined the team and is in a part-time role as Teaching Assistant. I would also like to say how pleased we have been to have Rosemary Knechtel "aboard" since August and "helping to run the ship" since September.

Good luck to you all.

MEET ROSEMARY KNECHTEL

Rosemary Knechtel, the new coordinator of the Learning Centre at the UBC School of Nursing, says her goal for the year is increased use of and interest in the Centre.

"The Learning Centre has been and is doing a great job," she said in an interview. "I'd like to continue along these lines, but also try working more with the teams to develop materials to meet their needs, and I would like to see more

senior students using the Centre."

Mrs. Knechtel took over as coordinator in August from Eileen Campbell, who has taken a leave of absence from the school.

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, Mrs. Knechtel grew up in Canada and holds a diploma from the Hamilton and District School of Nursing and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Western Ontario. She practised as a general duty and community health nurse in Ontario and in 1973 joined the faculty of the school of nursing at Mohawk College in Hamilton, Ontario. She helped set up the Learning Centre at Mohawk College when four diploma programs in the area amalgamated.

"One advantage of a Learning Centre is the coordination of resources and the shared physical facilities," she said. "Perhaps the most important aspect, however, is the opportunity for self-directed learning that can be found in the centre."

She is particularly interested in the use of new media and in self-learning modules that will help the students to learn outside the classroom.

She is also anxious to investigate opportunities for "peer-tutoring," whereby senior students could be hired as paid tutors. This could allow increased use of the Learning Centre, for example in the evenings and perhaps on weekends, she explained.

SEARCH FOR DIRECTOR FOR "OUTREACH" PROGRAM

Shirley Brandt, director of the Continuing Nursing Education Division, is chairman of the Search Committee for a project director for the new "Outreach Program" being proposed by the School of Nursing. Anyone with suggestions for a person to fill this post is urged to get in touch with Prof. Brandt.

The proposed Outreach Program will allow registered nurses to pursue a significant portion of a baccalaureate program in their own communities rather than attend classes on campus.

The new position will involve liaison with other educational institutions as well as assessing potential candidates, identifying resources and developing alternative instructional delivery methods.

The position is available immediately.

PRIZE-WINNING STUDENTS

Each year the UBC School of Nursing awards $14,950 in scholarships and awards to deserving students. Six scholarships, totalling $5,400, are awarded at the master's level and the remaining 21, worth $9,550, go to students in the undergraduate years.

The following are the 1981 awards:

MSN Awards
Frederick and Agnes Eatock Memorial Fellowship: Rhonda Kirk and Carol Robinson
Golden Jubilee Scholarship: Shirley Halliday
Ethel Johns and Isabel Maitland Stewart Memorial Scholarship: Linda Rose
Mabel Johnston Scholarship: Jill Peregrym
Helen Badenoch Scholarships (2): Not awarded 1981

BSN Awards
IV Year -- Graduation Awards
Helen L. Balfour Prize: Heather M. Abramenko
Sarah A. Service Prize: Christine Janz

III Year
Mary Graham Holland Scholarship: Patricia Barry
Hamber Scholarship: Catherine Jansen
Karen Elaine Florence Madsen Memorial Scholarship: Teresa Ng
Helen Badenoch Scholarships (2): Peggy Lee and Anabelle Lieuson
Jessie MacCarthy Scholarship: Karen Ryall
Helen Russell McKechnie Scholarship: Joan McDoanld
Doris Danis Pearson Memorial Scholarship: Lisa Nickerson
Provincial Health Branch Scholarship: Lori Stewart
Women's Canadian Club of Vancouver Scholarship: Marlene Hadikin

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UBC Nursing Division Alumni Association Scholarships (2): Awarded in Jan.
Hamber Scholarship: Awarded in Jan.

II Year
Hamber Scholarship: Cheryl Campbell
UBC Nursing Division Alumni Association Scholarships (2): Jacqueline Brown and Gwendolyn Rempel

I Year
Hamber Scholarship: Linda Grasswick
Pearl MacKenzie Scheel Scholarship: Geralyn Hogan
UBC Nursing Division Alumni Association Scholarships (2): Caroline Anne Fuller and Mary McCullum

In addition, Sally Thorne received one of the UBC Graduate Fellowships (up to $7,200), which are offered to graduates with first-class records proceeding to the master's degree. Competition is stiff for these awards.

-- Prof. Elizabeth Cawston
Chairman, Student
Affairs Committee

UBC NURSING STUDENTS "MOST SATISFACTORY" AT BANFIELD

Dorothy Babcock, administrator of the Banfield Pavilion and Long Term Care Unit at the Vancouver General Hospital, has assessed UBC nursing students' performance as vacation relief aides during the summer as "most satisfactory."

In a letter to Dr. Marilyn Willman, director of the School of Nursing, she said students adapted to new situations quickly, worked ably as members of multidisciplinary teams and completed work assignments.

"They were also good role models, and made meaningful and practical suggestions to improve resident care."

The letter was filled with praise for the students and instructors, saying that only one minor problem arose when some students did not remain as long at Banfield as they had originally agreed.

Mrs. Babcock said the unit can accommodate 24 students and three instructors and that she would look forward to continuation of the program.

CAUSN MEETING REPORT

Dr. Marilyn Willman, director of the School of Nursing, and Prof. Win Mills, of the faculty, attended the National Council Meeting of the Canadian Association of University Schools of Nursing (CAUSN) in Ottawa Nov. 24-25. The following are items of interest from the meeting.

Membership in the association has now reached 24, with the admission at the meeting of the University of Lethbridge, which has a post-RN program.

Prof. Mills, who is chairman of the committee on constitution and bylaws, said a new bylaw defining regions for CAUSN was approved. Regions had been established for some years but had never been officially defined in the bylaws. Several other sections relating to regions were referred to regional memberships for further discussion before final approval.

A report from Nursing Papers was presented at the meeting. Editor Moyra Allan said the journal is well stocked with manuscripts accepted for the next two issues and with others for review. However, she expressed the hope that researchers and writers will continue to submit papers for consideration for future issues. There now are 583 subscribers.

Budget problems were reported by most schools during the meeting, Prof. Mills said. As a result, a motion passed that reduced the annual fee to schools to $1,500 from $2,000.

During the meeting, participants were told that the W.K. Kellogg Foundation had turned down an application for funding for the National Accreditation Program proposed by CAUSN. However, a pilot project involving assessment of two schools, one in the east and one in the west, will go ahead using funds raised within the association, Prof. Mills said.

A series of proposals regarding the future of the accreditation program was approved by Council.

CAUSN Council also gave approval to a position paper setting forth "Guidelines for Graduate Education in Nursing Leading to a Master's Degree."

Further information about the meeting is available from Dr. Willman or Prof. Mills, UBC School of Nursing.

FAY BOWER SPEAKS TO FACULTY WORKSHOP

Dr. Fay Bower, professor and chairperson, San Jose State University, California, met November 5-6 with faculty of the UBC School of Nursing for a two-day workshop on "Innovative Teaching Strategies."

A Clinical Specialist in maternal-child nursing and community health nursing, Dr. Bower spoke on the ways that educators can improve the quality of their teaching. She discussed the criteria for selection of appropriate teaching methods when content, learner and environment are considered as well.

The program, part of the regular faculty inservice program, was recommended last spring by members of the UBC school.

RECENT RESEARCH

DIABETIC URINE/BLOOD TESTING NOT UP TO STANDARD

Registered Nurses in hospitals may not be carrying out diabetic urine tests and capillary blood glucose monitoring measures accurately, a recent research study by a UBC School of Nursing professor shows.

Prof. Ann Hilton carried out a study with RNs in an acute care hospital during the past summer to identify ways RNs perform and interpret such tests. Her findings indicate that such tests were not being performed accurately, according to standards.

"Knowledge of specimen collection procedures and drugs that affect urine testing results was not consistently high," she said in her research report. As well, "RNs perceived the definitions of hypoglycemia, normogylcemia and hyperglycemia more widely than standard ranges."

Factors such as these have implications for patient care, she said.

The study, which was supported by a 1981 Youth Employment Grant and with donations of materials from drug companies supplying test equipment, covered a wide range of data collection, including specific information on the relative accuracy between urine testing methods.

Information based on the study has been forwarded to those who participated, along with conclusions and recommendations.

Further information about the study may be obtained from Prof. Hilton, School of Nursing, ACU.

FACULTY NEWS

PAMELA THOMPSON has joined the faculty of the School of Nursing and will be an instructor in the first-year program. Ms. Thompson holds a Bachelor of Nursing from McGill and a Master of Science in Nursing from the University of Edinburgh. Before leaving to work on her MSN, she was a Community Health Nurse with the Burnaby Health Department.

ALISON RICE and ELAINE CARTY of the School of Nursing were interviewed recently on the CBC-TV program Pacific Reports during a current affairs program on Midwifery. Both professors are active in promoting the role of the nurse midwife and appeared as resource persons for the program. Prof. Rice said that the "call-in" portion of the program showed that 90 per cent of those who telephoned about the show were in favor of having midwives in British Columbia.

The Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Course offered to help faculty keep clin-

ical skills current was offered Nov. 27 and was attended by 12 participants. Course instructors JUDITH DEATRICH, DONNA WILSON and DAN JONES have also agreed to repeat the course in the Spring.

Support staff members EVITA DAMIAN and EFTIHEA WEST are leaving the School office in December. Evita Damian will take an extended visit to the Phillipines and Eftihea West is moving to take up a staff position in the Rehabilitation Medicine Office.

School of Nursing faculty are active in the RNABC's Vancouver Chapter this year, with DAN JONES appointed chairman of the Restructuring Committee. JILL CAMERON, JUDITH DEATRICH and ROSEMARY KNECHTEL are all members of the public relations committee for the chapter.

IN PRINT

CAROL JILLINGS. "Nursing Intervention with the Family of the Critically Ill Patient." Critical Care Nurse. Vol. 2, No. 5, September-October 1981, pp. 27-31.

GLORIA JOACHIM and SALLY THORNE. "Clinical Day Anxiety Syndrome: Help!" Imprint, Vol. 28, No. 3, September 1981, pp. 20, 64-66.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The annual meeting of the Learned Societies will be held in Ottawa in 1982. The CAUSN National Meeting, which is held in conjunction with the Learned Societies is scheduled for June 3-4, 1982, in Ottawa as well. The theme of the meeting and a call for papers will be announced shortly. Further information in the next newsletter.

The Nurses' Association of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists will hold a four-day meeting in Vancouver in September 1982. Roberta Hewat, instructor in the third year program, UBC School of Nursing, has been named Program Chairman for the meeting, which will bring together nurses from all parts of North America.

Faculty are reminded that news items and information for the newsletter -- especially items for In Print, Faculty News and Coming Events -- should be submitted in writing to Glennis Zilm, IRC Room 338 (telephone 228-2922). The next issue of the newsletter will be February 1982 and the deadline for submissions is January 20, 1982. Happy Holidays!