UBC NURSING TODAY

NEWS ITEMS

RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM "HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL"

The Interdisciplinary Research Symposium in the Health Sciences, sponsored by the School of Nursing and held Oct. 23, 1981, was "highly successful," reports Dr. Marilyn Willman, director of the School.

"We were pleased with the turnout, which brought together members from various faculties across the campus as well as about 20 representatives from community health agencies," she said following the conference.

More than 100 were in the audience for the opening address by Dr. Arthur Kleinman, professor and head, division of cultural psychiatry, and adjunct professor of anthropology, University of Washington, Seattle.

Dr. Kleinman, a noted medical anthropologist, spoke on the value of using clinically applied anthropological concepts in looking at health care in today's modern world. He has been reviewing recent research to see whether the material can help those who deliver health care to give it better.

Research has shown that patients and their families have different concepts than health workers about what kinds of care should be given, he said in his address.

"Patients are more concerned with the personal and social significance of an illness, that is, with the life aspects of the illness. Health workers are more concerned with the biomedical and physiological processes. The patients want to know how to manage their illness; the health workers are more concerned with fixing the disease."

Dr. Nancy Waxler, associate professor in the department of health care and epidemiology at UBC, also spoke at the symposium. She noted that her research in Sri Lanka and in Boston has shown that a society seems to produce "its own kind of disease, a kind of illness that fits the system."

"Societal expectations about the illness affect the outcomes," she said.

Patricia Porterfield, Mental Health Nurse Clinician at Lions Gate Hospital, reported on her recent research on clients diagnosed as schizophrenics and living in the community. She said health workers should be doing more social sciences research into how patients understand the directives for and comply with the directions for taking medications at home.

Dr. Joan Anderson, assistant professor in the School of Nursing and the organizer of the conference, said the application and use of social science research in the health disciplines is vital. It offers new opportunities for dialogue within the university and within health care agencies.

"We hope we can offer more such seminars in the future," she said.

STUDENTS "MORE MATURE" IN 81-82 POST-RN PROGRAM

The largest ever class of "returning RNs" has joined the UBC School of Nursing. Seventy-five Registered Nurses who had completed basic nursing education and prerequisite courses have joined the four-year basic baccalaureate program at the beginning of third year.

Janet Ericksen, co-ordinator for Nursing 302, said two of the 75 are baccalaureate students completing basic nursing qualifications before entering the graduate program.

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Glennis Zilm, editor
Vol. 3, No. 2
November 1981

A profile of students entering N. 302, prepared by third-year instructor Louise Tenn, shows that the average age of the RNs is 30.4 years and the average length of nursing employment before entering the program was 4.9 years.

"A significant change in this year's class is that the group is more mature and the experience is greater," said Ms. Ericksen. "A number have had quite a bit of managerial experience as well as considerable experience in health care settings."

This fall, a slightly larger number of the post-RN students came from community nursing settings, including one nurse from a small health unit in rural Saskatchewan where she was the only health worker in the area, Ms. Ericksen said. Some nurses in the class also have worked in health care agencies in developing nations.

The significance for the UBC School of Nursing, and for the health care community generally, is that this group of students represents a core of mature nurses who are returning to nursing education programs because they have identified a need for more education, said Ericksen.

"They are not just here for a degree, for a piece of paper that would make a change in jobs easier," she said. "Instead, they are here because they want to learn more about the trends in modern health care and take the advances back to the kinds of settings they already worked in."

Profile of N 302 Students

No. of files reviewed:		72
Average age of RNs		30.4 years
years		
-- in their 20s	56.9%	
-- in their 30s	34.8%	
-- in their 40s	8.3%	
Average years of work:		4.9 years
-- less than 1 year	9.7%	
-- 1-5 years	43.1%	
-- more than 5 years	47.2%	
Work setting		
-- hospital	88.9%	
-- community health	11.1%	

"PROJECT FAMILY FOCUS" DEVELOPS USEFUL TOOL

A research tool developed by a UBC Nursing Research Team is being used by the University of California at San Francisco in a new nursing masters' and doctoral program.

The tool was developed as part of "Project Family Focus," a research study funded by the B.C. Health Care Research Foundation. Professor Clarissa Green of the UBC School of Nursing and Barbara Warren of the B.C. Cancer Control Agency are principal investigators for the jointly-sponsored project.

The tool was developed especially for exploring family reactions when a member is diagnosed for and treated for cancer, Prof. Green said. However, the tool is useful for exploring reactions in the family that accompany any crisis situation and the researchers hope that others will use it in research as well.

"Project Family Focus is looking into the ways families react to the diagnosis and treatment of cancer," she said in an interview. "The project involves 19 surgeons in the Lower Mainland who are referring a total of 60 families."

Families are interviewed twice about household routines and support services, she said. The interviews take place four-to-eight weeks after surgery and about six months postoperatively. Work on the project is expected to be completed in about 18 months.

Working on the project with Prof. Green and Mrs. Warren are Research Associate Mary Adlersberg, Statistician Dr. Mark Starr and three nurse interviewers.

A report on the project was presented at the 1981 American Cancer Society's Cancer Nursing Research Conference in Seattle in August. Another report will be given at the National Nursing Research Conference in Victoria in April.

SHEENA DAVISON FUND GROWS

On December 21, 1981, it will have been just over one year since the sudden death of our friend and colleague, Sheena Davidson, assistant professor in the School of Nursing.

The growth of the Nursing Research Fund established in her name has been gratifying. The current total is just over $8,700 -- almost halfway to our goal of $20,000. Donations are much appreciated, as are faculty inquiries about her family.

The children have resumed active physical, social and scholastic lives. Karina has returned for her second year at Queen's University. Bruce completed Grade 12 and is helping friends in the Cariboo build a barn. In December, he will be having surgery to remove the plates from the long bones of his legs and he discarded his cane months ago. For him, college or university in the Spring Term is a possibility. Ross is fully involved in Grade 12 at school, with sports and in playing his drums.

Grandfather Olof Davidson has taken on the role of both mother and father since Grandmother McGibbon left for her own home in early August. He is carrying out his culinary, handyman and executor responsibilities competently, as well as providing a warm, quiet atmosphere for the children. He feels lonely at times for his friends in Mountainview, Alberta, but is enjoying the opportunity to be with the family.

The children have expressed a wish to be at home for Christmas this year and some of their relatives will be joining them here.

Since her death, three of Prof. Davidson's articles have appeared and a paper she had prepared was read on her behalf at a recent conference in San Francisco. (The publications are listed in this month's In Print column.)

Additional brochures about the Sheena Davidson Nursing Research Fund are available through the School of Nursing Office. We urge you to pass these along to your friends.

-- Donelda Ellis, Assistant Professor
UBC School of Nursing

WHO FELLOW VISITS UBC NURSING SCHOOL

Dorothy Y. Kilgour, senior lecturer in nursing studies, Glasgow College of Technology, Scotland, spent a week in late October with UBC Nursing Faculty observing Canadian teaching methods. Ms. Kilgour was visiting Canada on a World Health Organization Fellowship and arranged to visit only UBC and the University of Toronto. The visits were co-ordinated through the Department of Health and Welfare in Ottawa.

Ms. Kilgour was particularly interested in use of nursing models in educational programs for nurses. She spent several hours with UBC faculty discussing the new "UBC Model of Nursing," which was developed by UBC faculty and is in use in the school. Glasgow College is just beginning to explore use of models.

As well, she spent some time with Professor Elizabeth Robertson observing care given by student nurses on wards in the Acute Care Unit. She also observed student practice sessions in the Learning Centre, ACU.

NURSING STUDENTS BLEED FOR GOOD CAUSE

UBC's Nursing students earned the title "Biggest Drips on Campus" in mid-October when they proved that nurses are always willing to bleed for a good cause.

Nineteen per cent of the nursing student body donated blood during the Red Cross Blood Drive, the largest percentage of any student group on campus. The Nursing Undergraduate Society received the "Challenge Cup" awarded by the undergraduate societies.

The drive, which was sponsored by the UBC Engineers, set a provincial record for the most blood donated in one place in any one week.

As well as the Challenge Cup, NUS received $875 put up by the undergraduate societes participating in the drive. The money has been donated to the NUS charity, the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation.

BALANCE RESEARCH/EDUCATION/PRACTICE, NURSES CONFERENCE TOLD

Nursing must strive for a better, more balanced relationship between research, education and practice, speakers told delegates to an international con-

ference in Scotland. As well, nursing research must be made more relevant to those in practice.

These were two of the main themes of a conference titled "Research -- A Base for the Future?" sponsored by the Department of Nursing Studies, University of Edinburgh, September 22-25.

Dr. Joan Anderson, UBC Nursing, was a speaker at the four-day conference, and reported back that about 250 delegates from Great Britain, Europe, North America and Hong Kong had gathered for the meeting.

Canadian nursing was well represented on the program, with 12 other Canadians also presenting papers.

Dr. Anderson reported that a paper by Dr. Moyra Allen, National Health Scientist and director of the research unit, school of nursing, McGill University, Montreal, was particularly well received. Dr. Allen described the organization of nursing programs at McGill and how research questions currently being addressed there related to the conceptual model for nursing used at McGill.

Dr. Anderson's paper dealt with the two distinctive theoretical perspectives affecting nursing research today. She stressed that the social sciences perspective is bringing a new focus to nursing research, which has been dominated by the empirical, natural sciences perspective.

Some conference participants expressed interest in organizing a research conference for summer 1982, Dr. Anderson said on her return. The week before the International Nursing Conference to be held in Sweden was suggested.

NURSING PROFESSOR PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL NUTRITION SESSIONS

UBC Nursing Professor Linda G. Leonard was one of six health professionals from across Canada to be invited to participate in the first session of a special, year-long, multidisplinary examination of nutritional needs of pregnant women.

The session, held in Montreal, was sponsored by the federal health department. Health Minister Monique Begin met with the six-member group to express the government's concerns about perinatal nutrition.

Focus for the three-week conference was nutrition in pregnancy, Prof. Leonard said on her return. The group discusssed nutritional needs throughout pregnancy and in the perinatal period. The mother's diet shows marked effects on the baby at birth and in infancy.

Prof. Leonard, currently on leave, will be incorporating some of the findings of the session in two articles to be released early next year.

Seven sessions, each with six health care workers participating, are planned for the 1981-82 year. Prof. Leonard was one of only five or six nurses who will take part.

FACULTY NEWS

JOCELYN BENNETT, fourth year nursing student, was organizer and chairman of planning for the UBC Student Leadership Conference held in September at Camp Elphinstone. The annual conference brings together student leaders from every faculty on campus. This is the second straight year that a nursing student has had the honor -- and all the work -- of the planning. Delegates congratulated Ms. Bennett on a job well done.

SHIRLEY BRANDT, assistant professor in the School of Nursing and director of Continuing Nursing Education, Continuing Education in the Health Sciences, was a speaker at the closing day of a course "Epidemiology for the Infection Control Team" in San Francisco in mid-October.

Prof. Brandt helped develop the first certificate program in the United States, in 1974, to prepare infection control nurses and this is a continuation of that program. The courses, which involve three weeks of classes spread over a period of several months of study and research projects, have been sponsored by the University of California, San Diego. This was the first program to be offered

outside San Diego and was given in San Francisco at the request of the nurses in the area.

Taking part in the course are nurses, physicians and microbiologists working in infection control areas. The course may be offered next year in Los Angeles and in 1983 in Denver. Text for the course is Epidemiology for the Infection Control Nurse, of which Prof. Brandt is a co- author.

ADA BUTLER will be giving a one-day workshop on "Coping With Stress" for health professionals on Nov. 14, 1981. The course is part of the UBC School of Nursing Continuing Nursing Education program. It will be given at ACU Room 295 (3rd floor). For further information: Continuing Nursing Education.

ROBERTA HEWAT has been named to the program committee for a four-day international meeting of the Nurses' Association of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (NAACOG) in Vancouver in September of 1982. Theme for the meeting, which will bring together nurses from western regions of North America, is "Accountability through Nursing Practice." Program plans call for general sessions and smaller, concurrent workshop meetings of interest to nurses working in obstetrics, gynecology, neonatology or community health settings as well as to nursing administrators, educators and researchers.

SYLVIA HOLMES has replaced ROSE MURAKAMI as one of the representatives for the Faculty of Applied Science on the UBC Senate. Prof. Holmes had been runner-up to Prof. Murakami in the faculty elections last Spring.

CAROL JILLINGS attended the annual meeting and scientific sessions of the Canadian Council of Cardiovascular Nurses, held jointly with the Canadian Cardiovascular Society, in Montreal during the last week of October. Prof. Jillings is a member of the executive committee and board of management of CCCN and is chairman of the association's continuing education committee. In September she was re-elected for another two-year term as provincial director for B.C. for the group and, as such, will be a member of the Board of Directors of the B.C. Heart Foundation.

TERE ROSTWOROWSKI, manager of the Nursing Office, leaves on vacation at the end of November and will be away until January 25th. She's off to visit her family in Lima, Peru.

SHELAGH SMITH, MSN student, has had a paper accepted for presentation to the Health Sciences Student Research Day on November 5. PAT PORTERFIELD, who recently completed the MSN program, also will be presenting a paper at the Research Day, which brings together students from all the health sciences disciplines.

LOUISE TENN, third-year faculty member, is in hospital with a compound fracture of her arm following a home accident and will be away from the School for an extended period.

PAT VALENTINE, currently on leave, is recovering from chemonucleolysis therapy for her back pain. The chymopapain treatment was carried out in Shaughnessy Hospital in late October. She reports her progress so far as "good."

IN PRINT

SHEENA DAVIDSON and LINDA LEONARD. "Appearance, Behavior and Capabilities: Teaching New Parents Infant ABC's." The Canadian Nurse, Vol. 77, No. 2, February 1981, pp. 37-39.

SHEENA DAVISON. "Smoking and Alcohol Consumption: Advice Given by Health Care Professionals." Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing, Vol. 10, No. 4, July/August 1981, pp. 256-258.

SHEENA DAVIDSON, LYNN ALDEN and PARK DAVIDSON. "Changes in Alcohol Consumption After Childbirth." Journal of Advanced Nursing, Vol. 6, No. 3, May 1981, pp. 156-198.

GORDON, ILEN TANZ. "Inroads in Consumer Participation." The Canadian Nurse, Vol. 77, No. 8, September 1981, pp. 38-42.

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

CAROL JILLINGS. "Teaching School-Age Children About Cardiovascular Health." Bulletin of the Canadian Council of Cardiovascular Nurses, Vol. 5, No. 4, Summer 1981, pp. 3-13. (Also translated into French for the same Bulletin.)

LINDA G. LEONARD. "Postpartum Depression and Mothers of Infant Twins." Maternal-Child Nursing Journal, Vol. 10, No. 2, Summer 1981, pp. 99-109.

COMING EVENTS

November 5-6, 1981

Faculty Inservice Program. Dr. Fay Bower, professor and chairperson, San Jose State University, California, is guest speaker at a two-day workshop on Innovative Teaching Strategies. Cecil Green Park, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information: Ada Butler, UBC, local 82-7457.

Thursday, November 19, 1981

Research Colloquium, UBC School of Nursing. Acute Care Unit Rooms 187-188. Topic: "The Process of Gaining Approval from Local Agencies to do Research."

For more information: Dr. Mark Starr, UBC, local 82-7502.

November 25-27, 1981

National Nurse Administrators Forum, Ottawa. Sponsored by the Canadian Nurses Association. Theme: Power and Responsibility. Opening address by Doris Anderson, past president Advisory Council on the Status Women and former editor of Chatelaine.

For information, see September issue of The Canadian Nurse or write Alberta Casey, CNA 50 The Driveway, Ottawa K2P 1E2.

December 3, 1981

UBC Nursing Student-Faculty "Pub Night." Date is definite, and place is tentatively SUB Room 207-209 at about 7 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity for faculty and students to get together informally over food and drink and faculty are urged to attend.

For information: NUS Office, local 82-7450.

September 20-23, 1982

NAACOG MEETING. Nurses' Association of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Bayshore Inn, Vancouver. Theme: "Accountability." Meeting will feature general sessions and concurrent workshop meetings of interest to obstetrical, gynecological, neonatal and community health nurses and to nurse administrators, educators and researchers.

For more information, see Roberta Hewat, UBC School of Nursing.

The Canadian Nurses Association has issued a "Call for Clinical Abstracts" for papers to be presented to clinical sessions to be held during the CNA Annual Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland in June 1982. Abstracts will be reviewed by a selections committee and authors of papers judged to be of an innovative nature and of general interest will be asked to present papers. Deadline for abstracts is Dec. 15, 1981.

For further information, check with Glennis Zilm, UBC School of Nursing.