

Test of Skill, Test of Faith

Emory nurses set the standard in caring
for the first Ebola patients in the U.S.

FROM THE DEAN

Stepping up: it's what nurses do

It doesn't get any better than when the President of the United States pays you a compliment. Last September, President Obama came to Atlanta for a briefing on the Ebola crisis at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC,) where he also met with the Emory doctors and nurses who successfully treated the first Ebola patients in the nation. Here's what he said afterward:

"I have got to commend everybody at Emory University Hospital. I just had the opportunity to meet with Drs. [Bryce] Gartland and [Bruce] Ribner and members of their team and the nurses who—sorry doctors, but having been in hospitals, I know they are the ones really doing the work—and I had a chance to thank them for their extraordinary efforts in helping to provide care for the first Americans who recently contracted the disease in Africa."

President Obama was referring to the 21 critical care nurses who served on the Ebola team, some of whom are graduates of the School of Nursing. You'll meet three of them in this issue—Crystal Johnson, Laura Mitchell, and Jason Slabach—who stepped up quickly when asked to work in Emory's isolation unit.

"Someone obviously trusted me enough to feel I would be a good fit for the unit," Jason later reflected. "When they asked, and I learned more about it, I was 100 percent all in. That's a mindset that Emory promotes to its students. Do what you can to help. If you have an opportunity, go for it. Get more training, further your education. It felt very normal for me to do that."

We pride ourselves on instilling that mindset in our



nursing students, including Michelle Dynes, a graduate of our doctoral program who serves as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at the CDC. Michelle spent six weeks in Sierra Leone applying her skills in an Ebola treatment center there. When she later spoke at the School of Nursing, the room was filled to capacity with students and faculty eager to hear about her role in helping address an unprecedented health crisis.

Susan Grant, chief nurse executive for Emory Healthcare, said it best in describing Emory's commitment to helping Ebola patients in our country and thousands of miles away in West Africa: "We can fear, or we can care."

Linda A. McCauley 79MN PhD RN FAAN FAAOHN
Dean and Professor



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On the Cover: Alumnus Jason Slabach suits up in the Serious Communicable Disease Unit at Emory University Hospital.
Photo by Jack Kears

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"By simply including your baby in everyday conversations and talking with them about everything, you can drastically improve their chances of academic success."
— Ashley Darcy-Mahoney on *Talk With Me Baby*



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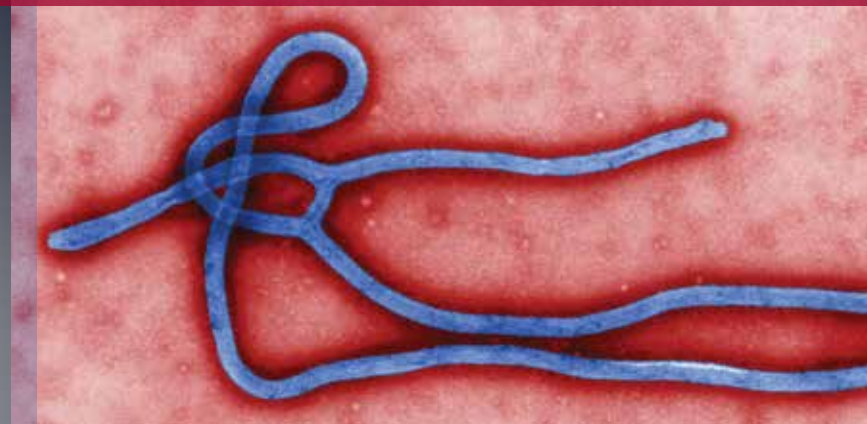
Crystal Johnson



Jason Slabach



Laura Mitchell



Test of Skill, Test of Faith

Emory nurses set the standard in caring for the first Ebola patients in the U.S. By PAM AUCHMUTEY

THE IMAGE IS ICONIC. As news helicopters hover overhead, physician Kent Brantly, clad head to toe in white protective gear, steps out of an ambulance and slowly enters Emory University Hospital to become the first patient treated for Ebola hemorrhagic fever on American soil. He contracted the Ebola virus while serving as a medical missionary in Liberia.

Crystal Johnson RN felt a sense of relief when she watched the news coverage on TV last August. The fact that Brantly could walk with assistance into the hospital was a good sign, she thought.

That night, when she began her shift in the hospital's special isolation unit, she realized her patient's condition was grave. "I could see he was really sick," says Johnson, who suited up in full personal protection equipment (PPE) to care for Brantly in four-hour stints. "Every hour, we were all on edge because he was decompensating quickly."



Suiting up: Jason Slabach dons the personal protection equipment vital to keeping nurses safe as they care for Ebola patients in Emory's isolation unit.

Though the situation was intense, the team of nurses and physicians in Emory's Serious Communicable Disease Unit (SCDU) knew what to do. Their skills and training kicked in to restore Brantly to health, as they would do for three more Ebola patients, including an American from Sierra Leone and a nurse from Dallas, Texas.

Eight years earlier, Johnson had volunteered to help staff the isolation unit while working in the cardiovascular surgery ICU at Emory University Hospital Midtown. Built in 2002, the SCDU stood ready to isolate CDC staff exposed to highly contagious pathogens in the line of duty.

"All I could think of was the movie *Outbreak*. I wanted to dress up in that white suit," says Johnson of her decision to volunteer. "The unit was at Emory Hospital, just down the street from the CDC. I just wanted to get started. It was exciting."

She convinced Laura Mitchell 95OX 97N to join her. "Crystal said it was a great opportunity—give it a try," recalls Mitchell, who staffs the same unit at Emory Midtown. "That's the great thing about nursing. You can try many different things."

Since then, the two Emory nursing alumni have trained yearly with other clinicians to work as needed in the SCDU. Last August, the unit was activated to receive its first Ebola patients—Brantly, followed by fellow aid worker Nancy Writebol three days later.

Things ratcheted up quickly the day before Brantly arrived. Unit clinicians received upgraded protective gear and more training. Most important, they learned to carefully don and doff their full PPE to prevent exposure to the Ebola virus and watch out for one another to prevent potentially deadly mistakes.

"In nursing, we're taught that patient and family come first," says Johnson, now a post-anesthesia care unit nurse at Emory Midtown. "That day, the priority was our safety. The training was intense, like in the military. They tested us to see if we

would crack under pressure."

Adds Mitchell, "That's how our team became a family in one afternoon."

TAKING CARE OF ONE'S OWN

Jason Slabach 13N learned the donning and doffing procedure by heart like the rest of his "kin." The steps were familiar to him, since he had worked with different levels of PPE as a paramedic in Virginia before following his future wife to nursing school at Emory. When Slabach joined Emory Hospital's cardiovascular ICU in 2013, he had no idea he would help care for the first Ebola patients in the U.S., let alone be among the Ebola fighters named by *Time* magazine as its 2014 Person of the Year. He was asked to join the SCDU to ramp

up the staffing needed for the Ebola patients' care.

"I was very glad they brought Dr. Brantly to Emory," says Slabach. "He's an American citizen, and I'm a believer in taking care of our own. And he's a health care worker and a missionary. I wanted to support that."

The nurses and physicians in the SCDU bonded quickly with their patients, who had no physical contact with the outside world. The unit comprises two ICU hospital rooms separated by an anteroom. Generally, three nurses staff the unit at a time. One nurse is dedicated per patient, while a third nurse observes them from the anteroom. With staffing at a minimum to prevent contamination, each nurse must assume multiple roles.

"We had to be the physical therapist. We had to be the respiratory therapist. We were housekeeping. We had to be everything for that patient," says Johnson.

Most important, each nurse provided supportive care to maintain vital functions that enable the patient's immune system to fight the virus and recover. As the SCDU team quickly learned, replacing fluids and electrolytes lost primarily through vomiting and diarrhea was key to their patients' recovery. Other treatments such as blood transfusions and experimental drugs were given in hopes of ensuring their survival.

"Coming from the critical care environment, we're used to caring for very sick patients and constantly looking for changes, constantly watching our patients," says Mitchell. "It was very easy to transfer those skills into this type of setting."

Caring for the Ebola patients underscored the importance of following nursing protocols, both in the isolation unit and in the regular units where Mitchell, Johnson, and Slabach work. During nursing school, the course on the nursing process was Johnson's least favorite. "I'm never going to use this," she thought at the time. But in the SCDU with an Ebola patient, the importance

of this theory quickly became apparent.

"We had to look at what our patients needed besides medication," Johnson explains. "We had to go back to the nursing process to look at them as a whole—mind, body, and spirit. We had to evaluate their needs from all aspects and be everything to them."

It also reminded nurses to think more carefully about basic steps easily taken for granted.

"We take off our gloves 10,000 times a day or week. But now we *think* about how we take off those gloves," Mitchell says.

A FAMILY GROWS

When an Ebola patient is in the isolation unit, team members attend "family" meetings every morning to review standard operating protocols and discuss successes, mistakes, and lessons learned.

"It's probably the healthiest environment I've worked in where critique is encouraged because we are all in this together," says Slabach. "Any mistake I make not only affects me but also my co-workers and their loved ones. We also check our temperature and record our symptoms twice a day. We make sure we all do that."

The nurse-physician relationship grew stronger as they learned from the process of treating the first Ebola patients in the Western Hemisphere. "Nurses are used to doctors telling them what to do," Johnson says. "But sometimes people forget what nurses really do. A patient might grab us, hold onto us, or get things on us. We aren't working in a controlled setting. We became more confident in telling the physicians what did and didn't work. They would listen and say, 'OK, let's try this instead.'"

Team members remained vigilant of their patients' morale. To buoy Writebol's spirits, Mitchell turned off the TV in her room to block out Ebola news coverage. As Brantly improved, Slabach played Nerf basketball with him and discussed their faith and a mutual friend in Liberia. All of the nurses listened as their patients shared stories about family, work, and life experiences. The nurses' spirits soared

when their patients felt well enough to eat a meal and take a shower.

"Listening to Nancy made me a stronger person," says Mitchell. "She's been a missionary for over 20 years. Her family is amazing. They are unconditional in

want them to worry. But the cat was out of the bag when family members and friends spotted her on TV during a press conference when Brantly was discharged from Emory.

"You come from a good background and a good foundation," Mitchell's fans



Slabach and Johnson wear helmets containing fans that help keep them more comfortable while working in the isolation unit.

their faith. I found that very inspiring."

The Emory nurses formed a different bond with their fourth patient, nurse Amber Vinson, who contracted Ebola while treating a patient from Liberia at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital in Dallas.

"Although she worked in a different state and under slightly different circumstances, I felt like she and her colleagues were one of our own," says Johnson. "It made me think about how I would handle it if someone

from our team fell ill. We were able to discuss and compare feelings about this crisis on a level that only those who walk this road would understand."

When Brantly and Writebol arrived at Emory, Mitchell at first didn't tell her family where she was working. She didn't

told her afterward. "We don't expect anything less of you."

Shortly before the press conference began, Johnson watched Brantly step out of the isolation unit for the first time and hug his wife, who placed his wedding band back on his left ring finger.

"When they walked down the hall together hand-in-hand, it was like they had gotten married all over again," Johnson says. "It was beautiful." **EN**

LEARN MORE:

■ Watch Crystal Johnson, Laura Mitchell, and Jason Slabach talk about caring for Ebola patients at Emory in the video at bit.ly/Ebola-nurses.

■ Also watch them during a recent panel discussion at the School of Nursing. Visit bit.ly/Ebola-alumni-panel.

In the HEART of the EBOLA OUTBREAK

For EIS officer Michelle Dynes, the decision to serve in Sierra Leone came easily. The tough part was telling her children why. By DANA GOLDMAN

Late last summer, nurse-midwife Michelle Dynes 13PhD MPH RN sat her three kids down to tell them she was going on an extended business trip. That part wasn't so unusual. All were used to her travels as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) officer with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

What was unusual was where their mother was headed: Sierra Leone, right to the heart of the Ebola epidemic.

"I explained to them what type of work I would be doing," Dynes recalls. "The main thing they really wanted to know about was the risk. It was as if they needed to know how much they needed to worry."

After all, the Ebola virus was in the news on a daily basis with thousands

of confirmed cases in West Africa. But Dynes knew she needed to go.

"Anytime there's an outbreak anywhere in the world, it's common for EIS officers to be sent to investigate," she says. "Essentially, they asked who was interested in responding to the Ebola epidemic. I definitely wanted to get involved. I had a certain set of skills that would allow me to contribute to the CDC's response."

Those skills include experience in global health and health promotion as well as research expertise honed by her doctoral studies at Emory's School of Nursing.

"My PhD was really important and connected my clinical background with my global health experience so I could see the situation from multiple angles," Dynes says. "A PhD opens your eyes to the types of questions people should ask. Those questions guide the type of information you need to collect. Knowing how to collect data and make it meaningful so it can guide public health actions is critical."

Dynes soon found ample opportunity to put her skills to work at an Ebola treatment center at a government hospital in Kenema, the third-largest city in Sierra Leone. The outbreak devastated the city. Businesses and schools were closed, the economy was stalled, and impoverished citizens who already lived day-to-day struggled to survive, regardless of whether they had Ebola. Hospital workers were among those hardest hit by the virus.

"They had lost 20 nurses by the time I arrived," says Dynes, "and many more died while I was there."

Every day, Dynes looked out the hospital's window to get a view of the triage tent where health care workers evaluated people for Ebola. "You could get a sense of how the epidemic was going based on how many people were waiting in that tent to be seen," she says. She also could see the Ebola treatment center from her office window. "The kids in the doorway would wave to us if they were recovering."

WHEN WILL IT END?

Nurses and other health care professionals still have an important role to play in halting the Ebola crisis in West Africa. According to the World Health Organization, more than 24,000 cases and 10,000 deaths have occurred in Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Liberia. The highest numbers are concentrated in Sierra Leone, where more than 11,800 people have contracted the virus and more than 3,700 have died. Experts predict the epidemic will end later this year.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Children would stand in the doorway of the Ebola treatment center in Sierra Leone and wave, signalling their recovery. “I described that to my children (bottom photo) so they would understand why I had to be gone.” —Michelle Dynes

Dynes and her colleagues quickly got to work helping teach local health care professionals how to reduce the chances of contracting and spreading Ebola. They began by training the nurses working in the Ebola treatment center to pay methodical attention to safety, some of which seemed counterintuitive.

“In a regular hospital, if someone passed out in front of you, a nurse normally would rush up and help them,” Dynes explains. “In an Ebola treatment unit, you can’t do that. It’s just not safe to rush in and take care of someone the way it is in a normal hospital.” Instead, Dynes and her colleagues taught nurses to stop before every action and consider possible consequences.

They also spent considerable time figuring out strategies to support local health care workers grappling not only with the outbreak but also with the loss of many colleagues and friends to Ebola.

“These are nurses who recently finished school and are

ready to step into an Ebola treatment center,” Dynes explains. “Their families often were not supportive, and yet many nurses were willing to help because they felt it was their professional obligation.”

Knowing that stress, fatigue, and trauma would make it harder for the surviving nurses to perform their jobs effectively, Dynes created a counseling space in the hospital to provide ongoing psychosocial support for health care workers and Ebola survivors.

She also recognized two ancillary victims of the Ebola outbreak: routine health care services usually provided by the hospital and patient trust in the health care system itself. Neither was insignificant. Sierra Leone already has one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the world, and mothers and babies are at risk of dying without appropriate medical care.

Dynes quickly learned the reasons why many people avoided the hospital. “There are common misconceptions that health care workers will give people Ebola or inject them with the virus,” she says. “If a woman is in labor with complications, she may decide not to come to the hospital. Infants may not be immunized and may die of preventable illnesses such as measles.”

The Ebola outbreak further strained Sierra Leone’s already under-resourced health care infrastructure. “Health workers weren’t able to provide the types of services they usually provided because they had to focus on Ebola,” Dynes says. “So many services became out of reach.”

After conducting interviews and focus group sessions with new mothers and health workers, Dynes and her colleagues identified ways the hospital could continue to serve patients without Ebola—and figured out ways to spread the word that the hospital was safe for those without the virus.

“The traditional birth attendants were more than happy to spread messages about coming to the hospital and sharing that it was safe,” she says.

Throughout her six-week deployment in Sierra Leone, Dynes stayed in close touch with her children to tell them about her experiences. “I often called them while sitting on the steps of the office, facing the Ebola treatment center where the kids who were recovering would stand in the doorway and wave,” she says. “I described that to my children so they would understand why I had to be gone, even though it meant being away from them.”

Now back at home, Dynes is spreading the word that the Ebola virus is still a large threat to Sierra Leone. To date, more than 11,800 cases and 3,700 deaths have occurred in that nation. “The attention still needs to be in West Africa,” she says. “The world can’t afford to back down from our response.”

With that in mind, she’s considering going back to Sierra Leone this year. “I wouldn’t hesitate to do it,” Dynes says. “I just want to make sure I’m filling some gap that exists.” **EN**

By PAM AUCHMUTEY

More than a disease

The Ebola outbreak becomes a timely topic for a new course on Complex Humanitarian Emergencies



ZOOM DOSSO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

As their December 2014 graduation date neared, MSN students Mary Micikas and Becky Schicker were making plans for a dramatic career step. Both had been hired by the Boston-based agency Partners in Health to care for Ebola patients in West Africa. Both are now emergency nurse practitioners also trained to assist with complex humanitarian emergencies (CHEs) around the world.

The nurses came by their CHE training via different paths. Schicker 14MN/14MPH earned a certificate in Global Complex Humanitarian Emergencies at the Rollins School of Public Health, while Micikas 13N 14MN, a Fuld Fellow in the School of Nursing, completed a new CHE course at the nursing school this past fall. Funded by the Helene Fuld Health Trust, Fuld Fellowships prepare second-career students like Micikas to serve vulnerable populations.

She signed up for the three-day course last June, weeks before the world knew the full extent of the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and before the first U.S. patients with the virus arrived from Liberia for treatment at Emory University Hospital. The timing of the course proved serendipitous for Micikas, who received a job offer from Partners in Health the day after the CHE course began.

"It's a great model," she says of the class. "It's amazing how much we learned in three days."

In that short period, 21 students interacted with CHE experts from Emory, the CDC, Doctors Without Borders, the Carter Center, and CARE. They examined the global standards that guide humanitarian practice such as Sphere Project guidelines, widely used by the humanitarian aid community, and the Minimum Initial Service Package for reproductive health in crisis situations. They also collaborated on case studies illustrating the scope and challenges of humanitarian aid work during and after a crisis.

Students quickly learned that CHEs require nurses to be strong leaders who can step into different roles as needed and understand cultural and other factors unique to each situation. The Ebola epidemic exemplified in real time the complicated nature of CHEs, which are defined as manmade disasters that far surpass a country's ability to abate a crisis. CHEs are rooted in conflict and poverty and may be triggered by a natural disaster or health epidemic.

"When you work in CHEs, you have to be aware of the social, political, economic, epidemiologic, and cultural aspects of everything that's going on," says course co-leader Elizabeth Downes 04MPH DNP MSN RN CNE FAANP ANEF. "In West Africa, the impact of Ebola on direct patient care alone is huge. But it's also taken a toll on health care workers who have lost colleagues and are exhausted."

Downes speaks from experience, having worked in Africa as a Peace Corps volunteer, family nurse practitioner, and nurse educator. Among her assignments: managing a project to assist war and

landmine victims in Mozambique, including amputees. She currently is an academic consultant for a Carter Center program in Liberia that trains nurses and physician assistants to diagnose and treat mental health disorders. The Ebola epidemic has further strained the nation's fragile mental health system, which has one psychiatrist and one psychiatric hospital serving a population of 4.2 million people. Of the 144 mental health clinicians trained by the Carter Center thus far, one has died and one has survived Ebola. With Downes' help, the Emory International Student Nurses Association conducted a fund-raising drive to support the mental health clinicians.

In the CHE course at the School of Nursing, Downes and co-leader Holly Williams PhD MN RN, a nurse anthropologist/epidemiologist with the CDC and a captain in the U.S. Public Health Service, provide insight on the myriad roles that nurses play in emergencies—managing a hospital or its staff, providing patient care, educating health care workers, caring for orphaned children, or running a pharmacy, nutrition center, or mental health facility. "Nurses have to be everywhere," says Downes.

The instructors also stress that nurses plan ahead to stay healthy. That includes finding a safe place to live, arranging for safe food and water, paying attention to cultural norms and surroundings to ensure their safety, and knowing what to do in case of

Tailored specifically for nursing students, the Complex Humanitarian Emergencies course prepares them to step up as leaders and fill any number of roles to help abate a crisis such as the current Ebola outbreak in West Africa.

evacuation. Such details are spelled out the first day of class.

"It's critical that you take care of yourself," says Williams, who serves with the CDC's Emergency Response and Recovery Branch (ERRB). "If you can't take care of yourself, you can't take care of others. Your judgment starts to fail and you make mistakes. That can be deadly with diseases like Ebola."

Williams is among the ERRB experts who teach students in the Global Complex Humanitarian Emergencies certificate program at Rollins. She proposed creating last fall's CHE course tailored just for nursing students. Williams also serves on the advisory board of the Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility at the School of Nursing.

"CHE work isn't for everyone," she cautions. "It takes a personal toll when you work in these settings. Nurses must use skills way beyond what we traditionally teach them. The reward comes in seeing an immediate outcome by touching someone's life in a situation of extreme distress."

Schicker and Micikas were mindful of the challenges as they prepared for their assignments in West Africa. While there are many unknowns, they are confident in their ability to partner with health care workers, community and government leaders, and others to bolster health systems weakened by Ebola.

"Integrating what we know from our advanced nursing training at Emory into another country's context goes beyond our traditional training in emergencies and necessitates incorporating the skills we learned from the CHE classes," says Schicker. "Regardless of how damaged their current health care system is, we are there at their invitation, and it behooves us and everyone else to coordinate with the systems already in place."

The new graduates also expect to experience heartbreak. "The thing I've thought about most is dealing with death—both patients and staff members," says Micikas, who founded a rural health clinic in Guatemala before studying at Emory. "I think that will be the hardest thing to cope with."

Schicker is more accustomed to facing death, having worked as an emergency room nurse in Michigan and New York, where she had ready access to modern health care tools like technology, medicines, equipment, and specialized expertise.

"When a patient died, I felt I had done everything in my power to keep them alive or alleviate their suffering," she says. "That's more difficult in resource-poor settings like West Africa. Doing the best you can with what you have for a patient is a hard thing to come to terms with when you're used to taking care of patients with all of the resources imaginable available to you." **EN**



Taking Stock

Nursing leaders reflect on Emory's role in the Ebola response

By PAM AUCHMUTEY

The epidemiologist in her drives Emory nursing Dean Linda McCauley to read the news coming out of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) almost every day. So she naturally took notice when the number of cases of Ebola hemorrhagic fever in West Africa spiked dramatically last summer.

"A friend of mine does research in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DCR), and I asked her if she was worried about it spreading there," says McCauley. "She reminded me that Ebola was first detected there in 1976 and the DCR was able to contain it. But Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia were unable to control it because of the economic and social conditions there."

Susan Grant MS RN NEA-BC FAAN, chief nurse executive for Emory Healthcare, followed the Ebola outbreak on the news. It never crossed her mind, at least not directly, that Emory University Hospital would soon treat patients with the deadly disease in its Serious Communicable Disease Unit.

"I don't think Emory is immune or off the list for anything," Grant says. "We're here for that reason, and we're going to see patients that other hospitals don't see. That's our whole purpose."

But some in the general public didn't see it that way and used social media to voice concern that Emory risked spreading Ebola in the United States. Grant countered by writing a *Washington Post* op-ed on why treating Ebola patients benefits the nation.

At the School of Nursing, faculty responded in kind by incorporating Ebola into classroom discussions, holding forums for students, helping train members of the military for safe

deployment to West Africa, writing journal articles, and proposing research projects. Three students volunteered to work in West Africa.

In many respects, the Ebola epidemic exemplifies how Emory nurses see the world and respond to those in need during a crisis. McCauley and Grant reflect on this and more in the following Q&A.

What were your thoughts when you learned that Emory would admit the first Ebola patients in the U.S.?

LM: All positive. I knew that Emory had the capacity to handle this type of contagion. It was not a surprise to me that patients would be transported here.

SG: It's what we do. We thought, "Let's get ready, let's make sure we have what we need and that staff have what they need." We made sure things got done and that we were prepared. We didn't know how sick our patients were going to be, but we knew we were equipped to care for them.



Linda McCauley

Why did the first Ebola patients come to Emory? Why not the isolation unit at NIH?

SG: The CDC is right down the street. We have a biocontainment unit that has been up and running for several years and physicians and nurses specially trained in infectious disease. So I would say, "Why wouldn't patients come here?"

In your op-ed for *The Washington Post*, you addressed public concerns about treating Ebola patients at Emory. Did the backlash from the public surprise you?

SG: What surprised me most was not that there was a backlash but what was fueling it—a lack of knowledge about what health care professionals do and what organizations like Emory are here for. That was lost in the fear, and I was not alone in realizing this. We had an obligation to educate people about what nurses and doctors are trained for and what they are called to do. We're here to meet people's needs. That's why Emory is here; that's our mission. It was important to remind people of that.

Several School of Nursing alumni were on the team that cared for the Ebola patients. How did the school prepare them for such an important role?

LM: That's a really good question because I'm constantly asked, "What's the Emory difference?" Nursing students come to Emory to study because of where we are and our strong, rich history of educating nursing leaders. We talk about leadership from the first day students arrive and encourage them to be bold and explore and do new things. Many students come here with that expectation already. They know that we are located next to the CDC and have a close

relationship with Rollins School of Public Health. Our students also get a good flavor of taking care of some of the sickest patients in the United States because of our close ties to Emory Healthcare.

And how are alumni and students prepared to care for Ebola patients in other countries?

LM: Three of our students have gone to West Africa to care for Ebola patients. They are very brave individuals who want to be out front as leaders. One thing that distinguishes us from other nursing schools is this multi-layered global exposure. Many schools focus on training nurses to care for patients in the hospital. Ninety percent of the nursing dialogue around Ebola in the United States has been on preparing nurses to care for patients in the hospital. That's not the case at Emory. We're preparing nurses to care for Ebola patients here and in West Africa.

Last fall, we introduced a course for students on Complex Humanitarian Emergencies (CHE), led by Elizabeth Downes

here at the school and Holly Williams at the CDC. Very few schools of nursing in the United States offer this type of course. Two of our faculty members, Dian Evans and Kate Moore, worked with the CDC to train military troops deployed to West Africa to help contain the epidemic.

From day one, the nurses and physicians who cared for the Ebola patients at Emory Hospital regarded themselves as a family. Is that unusual?

SG: No. That's how this team saw themselves, and it was such a great metaphor because families tell you what you need to know whether you want to hear it or not. A lot of it revolved around safety for everyone on the team. To hold each other accountable and keep each other safe, the hierarchy had to be left at the door.

If I miss a step in doffing my protective gear, and I don't know it, then you as a family member who cares about me and wants to keep me safe will say, "Hey, you've missed a step, back up" and not be afraid to speak up.



Susan Grant

When it came to the direct care of our patients, all voices had to be heard. The team discussed the family rules every morning and every time they did a hand-off to the second shift, they went over the family rules and recited them every time. Calling themselves a family was very powerful.

Was the media attention surrounding the Ebola patients distracting?

SG: There was a lot of media attention, but the team stayed very focused on their patients and their needs. The untold story is the rest of the Emory Healthcare staff who kept doing what they needed to do to meet the needs of thousands of people in our clinics and hospitals every day. They maintained the same high quality of care, the same focus on safety and service. That's part of the culture we've developed over many years.

How would you characterize the relationship between nurses and physicians on the Ebola health care team?

SG: It was collaboration at its best. They had to consider the science behind what they were doing and the precautions they were taking. And there were physical and emotional comfort aspects in conjunction with the personal protection equipment they had to use. There were other qualitative factors—things you can't necessarily measure that are powerful. The nurses listened to their own instincts, listened to each other, and created an extra level of safety. The physicians listened to that as well. The art of nursing, the art of medicine, the art of caring and science all came together.

The fourth Ebola patient at Emory was a hospital nurse from Dallas, Texas. Was it different having a nurse as a patient?

SG: She wasn't treated any differently. As a chief nurse, I thought that could be one of our nurses. It added another level of thought and reflection for people on the health care team.

Emory set the standard of care for treating Ebola patients. How is that information being shared?

SG: We post all of our protocols on our website and update them as we improve them. We have done countless calls and emails with colleagues across the country and the world and held a number of webinars, conference calls, presentations, and training sessions.

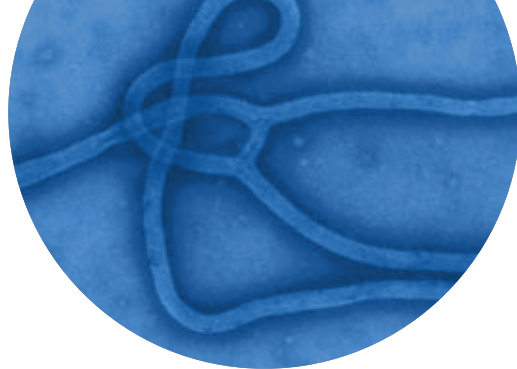
For example, we partnered with the Georgia Hospital Association on a daylong seminar for hospitals all over the state to review Ebola preparedness and care of the Ebola patient. We did a presentation for the University HealthSystem Consortium, which includes 110 academic health centers across the country. We led webinars for the American Nurses Association, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, and the Emergency Nurses Association, with thousands of participants. We serve on the Georgia Ebola Task Force and the Emory Ebola Task Force. It just keeps going.

How has the Ebola epidemic influenced nursing education and research?

LM: For the past five years, Susan Shapiro has led efforts in the School of Nursing to strengthen our academic partnership with Emory Healthcare, which leads the nation in disseminating protocols and information about the treatment of Ebola patients. There has been renewed interest in Ann Connor's work on "intentional comfort touch"—something that nurses at Emory and in West Africa have faced as they strive to provide compassionate care from behind the protective gear they must wear. Just recently, our faculty published articles on these topics and

our new CHE course in *Nursing Outlook*, the journal of the American Academy of Nursing. Woodruff Professor Deborah Bruner serves on the Emory Ebola Task Force and co-chairs a university-wide discussion series examining Ebola from different perspectives.

SG: Our experience has informed teaching in the nursing school. We are working with faculty on a potential research study on the experience of nurses caring for Ebola patients. The Ebola outbreak reminds us about the importance of emergency preparedness and sharing what we know about Ebola with faculty, students, and others. It has energized people around the idea that the world is not large anymore. When we have an outbreak in West Africa of this magnitude, we are all affected by it. So education, communication, and treatment fall under the same umbrella.



President Obama speaks with the Emory Healthcare team during his visit to the CDC.

There is a tremendous difference in the level of care available to Ebola patients in the United States and in West Africa. How can nurses address this disparity?

SG: We can help by sharing our knowledge and doing the research. We learned a lot from taking care of the four patients here at Emory. We were able to study them in a controlled environment. That knowledge feeds scientific knowledge around the world. So it actually helps us to improve the care for Ebola patients everywhere, not just here.

As nursing professionals and educators, we have a responsibility to educate others to correct misinformation and dispel fears around Ebola. It's our way of caring for the public. We sometimes forget how much nurses can influence others.

What has the Ebola epidemic taught us? And what challenges lie ahead?

LM: There are many parallels between AIDS and the Ebola epidemic—learning

how to prevent and treat a deadly disease, conducting research to find an effective vaccine, and educating others to prevent fear and stigma. There are 48 medical centers in the United States that have been designated as Ebola-ready. What we learn from Ebola will make us better equipped for the next big thing that happens. An epidemic in Africa is no longer just an epidemic in Africa. As other disasters have taught us, it requires a global response.

Emory is a special place because it believes in that type of outreach as a global citizen. It attracts nursing students who are committed to serving others and who want to learn how to provide the very best care. Our student applications are up for this fall, and we attribute that in part to the interest in Ebola. If you want to learn how to provide the best care to the sickest patients, Emory is where you want to be. **EN**



On the day of his discharge, Kent Brantly thanks his nurses.

LEARN MORE: ➤

- Read Susan Grant's op-ed in The Washington Post at bit.ly/GRANT-OP-ED.
- Read articles on Ebola by Emory nursing faculty at nursingoutlook.org. Search for individual authors Ann Connor and Elizabeth Downes and co-authors Susan Shapiro, Kristy Martyn, Susan Grant, and Linda McCauley.
- Access the Emory Healthcare protocols on Ebola preparedness at emoryhealthcare.org/ebola-protocol.



New Studies Target Farmworkers and African American Preemies

Farmworkers who are prone to heat-related illnesses (HRIs) and African American women at high risk of preterm births will ultimately benefit from two major grants awarded to Emory nursing researchers.

In the case of the former, emergency rooms are seeing more and more extreme cases of HRIs among agricultural workers. Unfortunately, many seek help too late: the average annual heat-related death rate among farmworkers is nearly 20 times higher than for other occupations.

The School of Nursing has stepped up efforts to document the physiological changes that lead to heat stress among farmworkers in Central Florida. Led by Dean Linda McCauley, Emory researchers and community partners from the Farmworkers Association of Florida are conducting the largest, most in-depth study ever undertaken to look at heat stress in farmworkers.

This four-year study is supported by a \$2.1 million grant from the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health. Researchers are using advanced biomonitoring equipment in the field—portable devices that capture body temperature, heart rate, energy expenditure, and signs of dehydration in some 400 workers laboring in nurseries, ferneries, and fields in Central Florida.

The study will determine how to offer better guidance to farmworkers so they can protect themselves from heat hazards. During peak seasons, many toil 12 hours a day, seven days a week, often in high humidity and temperatures in the 90s and 100s. The goal behind the research is to provide workers with better information about how to protect themselves from extreme heat, including how much water to drink, how often to rest, and what kind of personal factors put them at highest risk for HRIs.

Innumerable research studies have characterized the hazardous work environment for this vulnerable population, but this is the first study to do intensive physiological monitoring of farmworkers on the job, according to McCauley.

"The study is very relevant now, especially with climate change," adds Valerie Mac 07N FNP 19PhD, who developed the grant pilot as part of her doctoral dissertation. "We need to anticipate how to handle HRIs before

we're so far down the road that we don't know how to take care of these workers who are so crucial to the food supply system in this country."

"People need to understand more about heat stress," adds McCauley. "Whether it's young children or pets in cars, the elderly in urban settings, or farmworkers in agriculture, there are groups of people who will suffer the consequences of rising temperatures more than others, and this study is an important one in that regard. It's all about prevention."

EPIGENETICS AND PRETERM BIRTHS

The School of Nursing also received a five-year, \$1.9 million award from the National Institute of Minority and Health Disparities to investigate risks and protective factors that contribute to high rates of preterm births in African-American women.

Preterm birth is the leading cause of African American infant mortality, and African American women are more than 1.5 times more likely to have a preterm birth than Caucasian women.

The research team, led by Anne Dunlop MD MPH, research associate professor in the School of Nursing, and Alicia Smith PhD, assistant professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences in Emory's School of Medicine, will determine whether biobehavioral factors (biological, social, behavioral, and environmental elements) influence the expression of genes that contribute to preterm births among African American women.

"If we can define these risk factors for African American women, we can begin to identify important intervention strategies," says Dunlop.

In this study, researchers will leverage data from an ongoing NIH-funded prospective cohort study of pregnant African American women from diverse sociodemographic backgrounds. They will assess women's prenatal stress, dietary intake, and health behaviors; microbiome composition; and birth outcomes. Their goal: to identify modifiable factors that influence the epigenetic regulation of genes involved in preterm birth.

Epigenetics is the investigation of the outside components, or biobehavioral factors, influencing the carefully orchestrated chemical reactions that activate and deactivate parts of the genome. Unlike DNA, the epigenome reacts to biobehavioral factors and affects the expression of specific genes in response.

"Our study," notes Dunlop, "is a vital step in promoting the understanding of the biological mechanisms involved in conditions that disproportionately affect minority populations." —*Marlene Goldman*



BUNDLE program aims to increase nursing workforce diversity and health care access

Twelve students from under-represented groups are being groomed as potential public health nurse leaders, with the hope that they will eventually return to their communities and educate people about health issues, improve community health and safety, and increase access to care.

These students comprise the first cohort to enroll in the Building Undergraduate Nursing's Diverse Leadership at Emory (BUNDLE) program, courtesy of a \$970,000 Nursing Workforce Diversity grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration.

The grant to the School of Nursing is designed to build nursing leaders for underserved populations by increasing nursing education opportunities for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Emory is one of 12 nursing schools in the country to receive this competitive nurse-training grant and will eventually recruit a total of 45 students into its BUNDLE program over the next three years.

A major focus of BUNDLE is reducing barriers to enrolling and retaining students. It provides stipends, scholarships, and mentorship and networking opportunities for racial, ethnic, and economically disadvantaged minorities



Angela Amar

who are under-represented among registered nurses.

"With the changing demographics of the U.S., it's important that the health care provider population mirror the general population and that all providers are trained to provide culturally sensitive care," says Angela Amar PhD RN FAAN, program director and associate professor.

"Our program aims to address the increasing diversity and health disparities in the populations we serve," she adds. "This diversity increases the richness of the patient experience, not only for these students but also for every student who will have to interact in our diverse world." —*MG*

Scholarships fill growing need for nurse practitioners and midwives



As the health care landscape continues to change, the roles of nurse practitioners and midwives are becoming increasingly significant. To help meet demand for these specialists, the School of Nursing will award 70 students with \$10,000 scholarships over the next two years.

Funded by a \$700,000 award from the Health Resources and Services Administration's Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship program, the scholarships will help increase the number of advanced practice nurses who can deliver primary care in high-need areas. Scholarship recipients will focus on adult care, pediatrics, geriatrics, family care, midwifery, and women's health.

"Nurse practitioners and midwives play vital roles in expanding access to care and improving health outcomes across specialty and primary care services," says grant program director Carolyn Clevenger O2MN DNP RN GNP-BC FAANP. "Training future nurses in these specialized areas is critical to the future of health care."

Students interested in applying for scholarships through this program should complete the online form at bit.ly/AENT-form. —*MG*

Emory joins ranks of top 10 nursing schools

The School of Nursing ranks 10th among its peers in U.S. News & World Report's 2016 edition of "America's Best Graduate Schools" guide.

The new ranking is the highest in the school's history and is based on new statistical and reputational data introduced this year by *U.S. News*. Previously, the magazine ranked master's programs in nursing every three years based solely on peer assessments. The school ranked No. 21 in 2012.

Three of the school's advanced practice specialty programs were also ranked for 2016—the nurse-midwifery (9th), the family nurse practitioner (11th), and the adult/gerontology primary care (14th) programs. Other Emory schools were ranked as well, including Rollins School of Public Health (7th) and the School of Medicine (23rd among research-oriented medical schools and 42nd among primary care schools). —*PA*





Talk With Me Baby Campaign goes to the White House

Talk with your baby about everything, says Assistant Professor Ashley Darcy-Mahoney PhD RN NNP-BC. The payoff will be huge.

Darcy-Mahoney and colleagues took that message to the White House last fall when the School of Nursing and Emory's School of Medicine shared Georgia's "Talk With Me Baby" (TWMB) initiative at a daylong workshop. It was part of President Obama's call to bridge the "word gap" among America's youngest children and improve their chances for success in life. The event highlighted federal, state, and local best practices.

While the value of early word exposure has long been recognized, systematically spreading the word that social and language interaction is important to babies' development, both inside and outside the womb, is Darcy-Mahoney's goal. To that end, she and the TWMB Coalition developed a training component and public awareness campaign to help coach caregivers and parents of all Georgia babies by 2017.

In addition to Emory's nursing and medical schools, the broad coalition of TWMB partners includes the Marcus Autism Center, the Georgia departments of Public Health and Education,

Atlanta Speech School, Get Georgia Reading, and Georgia Institute of Technology. "We come at this from different perspectives," Darcy-Mahoney says, "but we all have the same idea in mind: to maximize and optimize every child's potential."

Eighty-five percent of a baby's neurons are developed by age 3, so early language nutrition is key to helping bridge a 30-million word gap between children from high- and low-income families. Talking with babies from birth stimulates brain development and builds language, literacy, and social emotional skills. That's important because children who do not read at grade level by third grade are four to six times more likely to be school dropouts. This word gap can affect health outcomes, income, and family stability for decades.

TWMB integrates language nutrition coaching through presentations, webinars, and printed materials for postpartum, labor and delivery, NICU, and newborn nursery nurses, as well as Women Infants and Children nutritionists and early education professionals who see about 60 percent of all Georgia children. The goal is to help ensure that

Ashley Darcy-Mahoney (far left) is helping train nurses to coach parents on how to develop their baby's vocabulary skills.

children read on grade level by the end of third grade by increasing their vocabulary and conversation skills.

Through a pilot program that targets the largest birthing centers in 13 metro-Atlanta hospitals, Darcy-Mahoney's team is training nurses how to model TWMB concepts of language nutrition as they demonstrate other skills (such as diapering and bathing) that new parents need to know before taking baby home from the hospital.

Talking with a baby (not over or around a child in third person) is far more effective than radio, TV, or video games. "Babies can hear all that, but it's the active engagement with a person that helps babies learn," Darcy-Mahoney says, noting that the Georgia Department of Health has developed TWMB videos for parents in English and Spanish.

"Including your baby in conversations and talking with them about everything can drastically improve their chances of academic success," she adds. "Our goal is for nurses to coach parents how to be baby's first teacher. Nurses are in an incredibly powerful position of trust to do that."

Learn more at talkwithmehome.org.—MG

LEARN MORE:

Watch Ashley Darcy-Mahoney discuss the benefits of Talk With Me Baby in the video at bit.ly/talk-baby.

Virtual Connections



Connect with the Emory nursing community and learn the latest news through our social networking sites at bit.ly/interactson.

Sarah Freeman retires after 21 years

Letting go is tough for students and faculty when someone like Sarah Freeman PhD ARNP FAANP retires from the School of Nursing, where she taught for 21 years. They will miss her homemade cookies and muffins. And her sense of humor.

"Sarah is a no-nonsense, tell-it-like-it-is truth-teller," longtime colleague Maureen Kelley PhD FACNM, Independence Chair and clinical professor, told guests at Freeman's retirement celebration. To illustrate, Kelley quoted one of Freeman's trademark lines: "You are about to exceed the limits of my medication."

All kidding aside, Freeman has made an indelible mark during her 47-year nursing career. A nurse practitioner since 1981, Freeman led the way in women's health and chronic disease management. She helped establish national accreditation for advanced practice nursing programs and served on the board of the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health for 18 years.

Freeman also coordinated the nursing school's advanced practice programs in women's health and women's health/adult health and was a founding member of the Emory Center for Ethics, an extension of her passion for bioethics. She holds several Emory honors for teaching, the University Scholar/Teacher Award and the Emory Williams Teaching Award among them. In 2005, Freeman was appointed as the first Betty Tigner Turner Clinical Professor, an endowed professorship named for a 1953 alumna.

Jaimie Chausmer O2MN would not have become a family nurse practitioner had it not been for Freeman. Chausmer did not perform well on standardized tests and sought out Freeman to plead her case for entry into the



Tribute gifts honoring Sarah Freeman (seated above) may be made to the Emeritus Faculty Scholarship Fund. To learn more, contact Margot Early, associate director of development, at 404-727-5291 or margot.early@emory.edu.

FNP program. "I asked her to please take a chance on me and that I would not disappoint her," Chausmer recalled during her mentor's retirement celebration.

She thrived in the program. "I graduated with highest honors," added Chausmer, now a mid-level provider at Northside Hospital Cardiovascular Care. "I am a nurse practitioner, and I owe it all to Sarah Freeman." —Pam Auchmuty

Coursera class is a first

Professor Lynn Sibley PhD RN CNM FAAN FACNM had more than 8,500 students in a recent class. It helped that the class was in the Cloud.

Sibley's class, "Childbirth, A Global Perspective," was the School of Nursing's first offering on Coursera, the online education platform that partners with top universities worldwide.

Coursera classes are free and available to anyone with a computer and Internet access. In fact, people from 162 different countries signed on to Sibley's course last year. Students spanned all ages and educational backgrounds, with a fourth of them in low-resource emerging economies.

Sibley shared the instructional duties of her six-week course

with five Emory faculty members, including three from the School of Nursing—Research Professor Martha Rogers MD FAAP, Clinical Associate Professor Jenny Foster PhD MPH CNM FACNM, and Assistant Professor Sydney Spangler PhD CNM—and one adjunct—CDC senior nurse-midwife Patricia Riley CNM. The course reviewed challenges for maternal and newborn health in the developing world, where a great many women and babies suffer from complications during pregnancy, childbirth, and the days following birth. Themes covered included the epidemiology



of maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, relevant issues for the global health workforce, community-based interventions to improve maternal and newborn health and survival, and sociocultural dynamics surrounding birth.

"It was a great experience for us," says Sibley. "I think we all learned a lot from it." —Martha McKenzie

New Appointments

FACULTY



Clinical associate professor **Terri Ades DNP FNP-BC RN** comes to Emory from the American Cancer Society (ACS) National Home Office,

where she oversaw dissemination of cancer information to the public. Upon joining ACS, she brought with her 12 years of clinical oncology experience with adults and children. She served as coordinator of a National Cancer Institute-sponsored Community Clinical Oncology Program, an oncology clinician at Indiana University Medical Center, and a pediatric oncology clinician at the Medical University of South Carolina. For the past three years, she taught part-time at the School of Nursing and practiced at Emory's Winship Cancer Institute and Grady Memorial Hospital.



Brenda Baker PhD RN, clinical assistant professor, is an expert in maternal, newborn, and perinatal health. Her research focuses on

maternal competence and responsiveness and the role of social support and social media in the postpartum period. Baker is a clinical nurse specialist experienced in labor and delivery, postpartum, and neonatal intensive care. In 2013, she was named a March of Dimes Nurse of the Year in the advanced practice category. Her articles have appeared in the *Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic and Neonatal*



Sharron Close PhD MS CPNP-PC is a research assistant professor and pediatric nurse practitioner whose studies focus on pediatric primary

care, developmental pediatrics, and management of chronic genetic conditions. Formerly an audiologist, Close provides expertise in ear, nose, and throat pathophysiology and communication disorders throughout the lifespan. Prior to joining Emory, she completed a postdoctoral research program at Yale School of Nursing, where she focused on family management challenges associated with Klinefelter Syndrome and completed an intensive genetics study program offered by the National Institute of Nursing Research. Close now teaches genetics and pediatric primary care at the School of Nursing.



Clinical assistant professor **John Cranmer DNP ANP RN** is a global health scholar and adult nurse practitioner who designs solutions for health

problems among special populations through mixed-methods research and interdisciplinary collaboration. Prior to joining Emory, Cranmer completed a Fogarty postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Washington, where he used mixed methods to promote a more cohesive community-to-clinic continuum of

obstetric care in Kenya. He also managed patients there with a complex array of chronic medical conditions, psychiatric comorbidities, and limited economic resources. Cranmer continues to promote clinic-community partnerships to reduce maternal mortality in western Kenya.



Erin Poe Ferranti 96OX 98N 01MN/ 01MPH 13PhD is a research assistant professor focusing on the condition of diet quality to pregnancy outcomes in

the postpartum time frame. Her research has been supported by the NIH and the American Heart Association. Prior to joining the Emory faculty, Ferranti served as assistant chief nurse for the Georgia Division of Public Health. There, she managed a nursing quality improvement initiative throughout the state of Georgia and participated in emergency preparedness strategic planning following 9/11.



Ann Horigan PhD RN, clinical assistant professor, comes to Emory from James Madison University in Virginia. She received her

PhD in 2012 from Duke University, where her dissertation explored the self-management of fatigue in end-stage renal patients on hemodialysis. Currently, she is completing a pilot study to determine the feasibility and reliability of using the Lee Fatigue Scale in the hemodialysis population. Horigan has received writing awards for her articles in the *Nephrology*

Nursing Journal and *MEDSURG Nursing*. She is also a member of Sigma Theta Tau International, the National Kidney Foundation, the American Nephrology Nurses' Association, and the Southern Nursing Research Society.



Dorothy Jordan 82MN DNP APRN PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC, clinical assistant professor, has taught part-time at the School of Nursing since

2011. Her clinical interests include early mental health screening, infant mental health promotion, early intervention, the universal prevention of psychiatric mental health disorders, and the integration of mental health into primary care. She also has a special interest in access to psychiatric mental health care for underserved and displaced youth and families. In 1983, Jordan co-founded Camp Sunshine, which offers year-round recreation, education, and support programming for children with cancer and their families throughout Georgia.



Roy Simpson DNP RN DPNAP FAAN is a clinical professor with the new Doctorate of Nursing Practice program. He is also vice president, nursing,

with Cerner Corporation, with responsibility for strategic sales and relationships for the global patient care enterprise and representation at the industry level for Cerner's nurse practice. Simpson has more than 35 years of experience in nursing informatics and senior executive administration. He pioneered the development and funding of the Werley and Lang Nursing Minimum Data Set, has lectured extensively around the world,

and published more than 500 articles on nursing informatics. Additionally, he is an honorary member of the International Medical Informatics Association, a fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Nursing, a distinguished practitioner in the National Academy of Practice, and an honorary member of Sigma Theta Tau International.



Suzanne Staebler DNP APRN NNP-BC is a clinical associate professor and coordinator of Emory's neonatal nurse practitioner (NNP) program.

Staebler has held faculty appointments in nursing at the Medical University of South Carolina and Baylor University. She is dedicated to guiding policy development and its implementation at the RN and advanced practice nursing levels and provided a platform for NNPs to be designated as an APRN specialty population. Staebler has developed quality improvement and productivity measurement tools to enhance NNP practice and improve patient outcomes. She currently serves as the director of advanced practice for the Georgia Nurses Association and as a member of its board of directors.



LisaMarie Wands PhD RN is a research assistant professor who studies the experiences of veterans coming home from war and the effects on

their health. Wands comes to Emory from Vanderbilt University School of Nursing, where she was a research associate and VA Quality Scholar with the Tennessee Valley Health System. She holds a doctorate from Florida International

University. Her dissertation sought to understand the issues that complicate the health of veterans who returned home from serving in the Middle East and the strategies necessary to overcome these issues.



Jessica Wells 12PhD RN, research assistant professor, is a graduate of the School of Nursing's doctoral program and completed a postdoctoral fel-

lowship at Emory this year. Her overarching research focus is cancer control and prevention, specifically to improve cancer outcomes in vulnerable populations with or at risk for cancer. She is particularly interested in cancer prevention and control among those at risk for HIV. Her research has been funded by an NIH National Research Service Award, the American Cancer Society, and Sigma Theta Tau International. Wells is the first graduate of Emory's BSN to PhD program. Her BSN is from Howard University.



Canhua Xiao PhD RN completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the School of Nursing before joining the faculty as a research assistant professor. Her

research centers on cancer-related symptoms and the mechanisms of cancer-related fatigue. Prior to joining the School of Nursing, Xiao received her PhD from the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing. Her dissertation provided the first published description of symptom clusters in patients with head and neck cancer. She has published more than 30 journal articles in leading journals such as *Cancer*, *Research in Nursing and Health*, and *Cancer Nursing*.

Sharing What We Know

Emory's historic role in caring for Ebola patients in this country has been well documented, with our clinicians sharing detailed treatment protocols as well as one-on-one expertise with colleagues around the globe. Our nurses and physicians continue this

work, publishing findings and conducting research with the CDC to develop better treatments and vaccines.

We are now under contract with the CDC to provide training, educational resources, and consultation for the 48 U.S. medical centers that have been designated as Ebola treatment centers. Thus far, we have hosted three Ebola preparedness conferences focused on the management of hospital units created to care for patients diagnosed with Ebola virus disease. At these conferences, physicians, nurses, and other experts discuss clinical care and patient management, staff and infrastructure development, donning and doffing of personal protection equipment, laboratory protocols, consideration of pediatric and OB/GYN patient populations, occupational health management of clinical staff, spiritual support to families and staff, and waste management.

Our nurses and physicians continue to make site visits to U.S. hospitals to advise them on setting up Ebola treatment units and share our protocols, many of which were developed by the critical care nurses who staff our Ebola unit. It's our way of paying it forward so that nurses and physicians everywhere can provide safe and effective treatment for their patients.

S. Wright Caughman MD

*Executive VP for Health Affairs, Emory University
CEO, Woodruff Health Sciences Center*

accolades

Awards & Honors



Jennifer Foster PhD MPH CNM FACNM, clinical associate professor, received a Fulbright Award to further her training and research efforts with the Midwifery School at the University of Chile. The school is home to the Midwifery Collaboration Center for the Americas, sponsored by the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health

Organization. For the past several years, Foster has partnered with community health workers and nurses in the Dominican Republic to improve maternal and newborn survival rates.

Carolyn Clevenger 02MN DNP RN GNP-BC and **Suzanne Staebler DNP APRN NNP-BC**, both clinical associate professors, were inducted as fellows of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Clevenger is a geriatric nurse practitioner who leads education and practice programs at the School of Nursing and its clinical affiliate, the Atlanta Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Staebler is a neonatal nurse practitioner committed to advancing her field through education and national leadership. She recently was tapped to participate in the 2015 Faculty Policy Intensive Program sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Global health expert **Elizabeth Downes 04MPH DNP RN CNE FAANP** is a fellow of the National League for Nursing's Academy of Nursing Education. Downes is a clinical associate professor and part-time family nurse practitioner for Minute Clinic. She works with nursing students to serve the local refugee community and is an academic consultant to the Carter Center's Mental Health Program in Liberia.

Nursing professors **Elizabeth Corwin PhD RN FAAN** and **Bonnie Jennings PhD RN FAAN** were honored recently by the Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS). Corwin, also associate dean for research, received the 2015 Distinguished Researcher Award for her studies of postpartum depression and symptom science. Jennings received the inaugural Research in Nursing & Health Authorship Award for her article, "Turning Over Patient Turnover: An Ethnographic Study of Admissions, Discharges, and Transfers," published in the SNRS journal *Research in Nursing & Health*.



Patricia L. Starck 60N 63MN



Anne Bavier 73MN



Christine Vourakis 76MN



Suzie Blackwood Foote 78N

1960s

Dr. Patricia L. Starck 60N 63MN is transitioning to a new career phase after serving for 30 years as dean of the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Nursing. After completing a sabbatical, Starck will return to UTHealth as senior vice president for interprofessional education, a role she took on in 2013. Among her many accomplishments as dean are a faculty practice that annually generates \$3 million

in revenue and the first doctor of nursing practice program in Texas. She also launched the Accelerated PhD Program, designed to grow the number of nursing faculty, and oversaw fund-raising and construction of the School of Nursing and Student Community Center, open since 2004.

June Mills Campbell

67MN writes that she is grateful for her time at Emory and the learning opportunities she enjoyed. She is now in assisted living, but her daughter lives nearby. Campbell has two grandsons,

two granddaughters, and three great-grandchildren.

1970s

Dr. Sandra Jones Campbell 70MN received the John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Award from the League of Innovation in the Community College. She was honored for co-creating a civility code of conduct with a class of RN students at St. Petersburg College in Florida. Campbell is now a professor emeritus there and president of Winning Within Inc., a seminar/consulting firm.

Dr. Cornelia Beck Dewees 72MN is a fellow of the American College of Nurse-Midwives. She teaches nurse-midwifery at East Carolina University College of Nursing and has taught at Emory.

Dr. Anne Bavier 73MN joined the College of Nursing at the University of Texas at Arlington as dean. She formerly was dean of nursing at the University of Connecticut and Saint Xavier University in Chicago and assistant dean of development at Emory's School of Nursing. She also directed

programs for the National Institutes of Health's Office of Research on Women's Health and the National Cancer Institute. Bavier is president-elect of the National League for Nursing.

Dr. Christine Vourakis 76MN was named to the 2014 Class of Fellows of the American Academy of Nursing. Vourakis is a Sacramento State professor of nursing specializing in mental health and addictions. She co-edited a landmark textbook on addictions, *Substance Abuse: Pharmacologic, Developmental and Clinical Perspectives*, and is now editor of the *Journal of Addictions Nursing*.

Suzie Blackwood Foote 78N established Healing Touch, a private energy medicine practice in Jackson, Miss. Learn more about her practice at healingbeyond-borders.org.

San Harney Short 79N received the Georgia Hospital Association's Lifetime Heroic Achievement Award in 2014. Short is a nurse, diabetes educator, and patient satisfaction champion at Upson

Emory nursing through the generations

The late **Patsy Getz 52D 54N 58MN** would have been proud when her granddaughter, **Jessica Getz 120X 14N**, received her BSN last May. Jessica (top photo) is surrounded by members of Corpus Cordis Auream. These alumni, who graduated 50-plus years ago, marched at commencement in honor of Patsy. Pictured with them are Jessica's parents, Kathy (back row, far left) and Miller Getz (front row, far right), both 89OX 91C, and Jessica's aunt, Anna Getz (front row, far left).

Lillian Davis Byrd 53N (center, bottom photo) celebrated the graduation of her granddaughter, **Graham Ellen Byrd 14N**. Graham is the daughter of **Eve Byrd 86N 98MN/98MPH**, president-elect of the Nurses' Alumni Association.





Mary Jo Scribner-Howard 83N



Mary Zellinger 85MN



Marilyn Margolis 89MN



Diane Padden 94MN

Regional Medical Center in Thomaston, Ga.

1980s

Dr. Mary Gullatte 81MN was named corporate director of nursing innovation and research for Emory Healthcare. Gullatte formerly was vice president of patient services and chief nursing officer at Emory University Hospital Midtown.

Anna Hollingsworth Smith 82N 85MPH received a master of science degree in traditional Oriental medicine in 2013.

Wanda G. Freeman 83N was certified as a nurse executive by the American Nurses Credentialing Center. She lives in Anderson, S.C.

Mary Jo Scribner-Howard 83N received the 2014 Excellence in Professional Development Collaborator/ Advisor/Mentor Practice Award from the Association for Nursing Professional Development. She is a nursing education specialist with Palmetto Health in Columbia, S.C.

Dr. Maureen Vidrine 85N earned her DNP from Brenau University in Gainesville, Ga., in 2013. Her capstone project explored the “Interprofessional education of community mental health treatment team members on the neurodevelopmental implications of childhood maltreatment and trauma.” Vidrine provides equine-facilitated psychotherapy with Horse Time Inc. in Covington, Ga., and serves on the nursing faculty at Brenau.

Mary Zellinger 85MN rejoined the board of directors of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. She is a clinical nurse specialist at Emory University Hospital.

Elizabeth Morell Edel 87MN was appointed vice president of perioperative services at St. John’s Hospital in Springfield, Ill. She comes to St. John’s from Houston, Texas, where she directed surgical services for Texas Orthopedic Hospital.

Marilyn Margolis 89MN was named CEO of Emory Johns Creek Hospital in

north metro Atlanta. She joined Johns Creek in 2011 as vice president of patient services and operations and chief nursing officer. Prior to joining Johns Creek, she was director of nursing operations at Emory University Hospital. She has been a nursing leader at Emory for more than 30 years.

1990s

Dr. Mary Foster Cox 91MN joined Francis Marion University in Florence, S.C., as associate professor of nursing.

Dr. Donna Schminkey 93MN/93MPH completed her PhD and is now an assistant professor in the School of Nursing and School of Medicine at the University of Virginia. Her research studies focus on the psychoneuroimmunology of adverse birth outcomes, specifically the impact of intimate partner violence and substance abuse on trophoblastic signaling and pregnancy outcomes.

Dr. Diane Padden 94MN is vice president for research, education, and professional

practice with the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP). Padden was inducted as an AANP fellow in 2010.

Nancy Curdy 96MN received a master of science in health care quality and patient safety at Northwestern University. She is director of patient safety at DeKalb Medical Center in Decatur, Ga.

Tiffany Cheek Holland 99N is associate director of the Atlanta International School. She and her husband, Chris, live in Smyrna, Ga.

2000s

Renee Bishop Giardina 02MN works at the Scripps Clinic in San Diego, Calif.

BORN: To Bionca Deann Sims 02OX 04N and her husband, Lanier, a son, Preston El’Jay, on Sept. 24, 2013. The family lives in Covington, Ga.

Tammy Renee Jones 05N is a staff nurse with Delta Air Lines in Atlanta and lives in Fayetteville, Ga.

Natalia Townsend 05N graduated from Georgia State University and is now a certified pediatric nurse practitioner. She works in the cardiac step-down unit at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston.

Sarah F. Mitchell 09N works at Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Egleston and lives in Covington, Ga.

Julia Brainin Smookler 09MN is a nurse-midwife in the Decatur office of Atlanta Gynecology & Obstetrics. She has more than a decade of experience as a labor and delivery nurse and midwife. “No two moms, babies, or births are the same, so it’s important to me to individualize care for each mom,” she writes.

Dr. Rose Murphree 11MN received her DNP from Georgia Regents University. Murphree directs the Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nursing Education Center, a continuing education program based at Emory’s School of Nursing.

Molly Stoddart 11N works



Preston El’Jay, son of Bionca Sims 02OX 04N



Renee Bishop Giardina 02MN



Natalia Townsend 05N



Sidoney Mullings 14N

at the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City.

Dr. Kim Schippits 12PhD was appointed endowed director for nursing education for the University Hospital System in Cleveland, Ohio.

MARRIED: The former **Maybeth Marchman 14N** and Michael Erwood in June 2014. She now goes by Graham Erwood.

Sidoney Ann-Marie Mullings 14N is a respiratory medical-surgical nurse with Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta at Scottish Rite.

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NAA salutes nursing leaders

The Nurses’ Alumni Association (NAA) honored four outstanding nurses during Homecoming 2014. NAA awards recognize alumni and friends who embody the School of Nursing’s key values of scholarship, leadership, and social responsibility.

DISTINGUISHED NURSING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Dr. Cathleen Shultz PhD 76MN served as founding dean of Carr College of Nursing at Harding University in Little Rock, Ark., for 34 years. Under her leadership, the college was the first nursing program in Arkansas to use computers as part of learning, introduce primary care into the curriculum, initiate health screenings in public schools, provide health information and services for the elderly, and incorporate health missions into the curriculum. She will return as a full-time professor after completing her sabbatical.

EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARD

As nursing director of the Critical Care Unit at Emory University Hospital, **Michelle Gray 89MN** is helping the hospital become a national leader in patient- and family-centered care delivery. She also leads the development of a Bedside Shift Report Bundle of safety

L-R: Cathleen Shultz, Michelle Gray, Dean Linda McCauley, Laura Layne, and Carole Jakeway.

components and new processes for nurses to report as they hand off patients during shift changes, all the while involving patients’ families in the process. Gray received the Beacon Award from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses in 2010.

RECENT GRADUATE AWARD

Laura Layne 05N 06MN/06MPH coordinates primary and specialty care for more than 26,000 patients a year as director of health services for Good Samaritan Health Center in Atlanta. Layne also teaches as a clinical instructor for the nursing school’s Lillian Carter Center for Global Health & Social Responsibility’s Migrant Farmworker Family Health Program in Moultrie, Ga. She has collaborated with state and local partners to help plan and implement the program since 2006.

DISTINGUISHED NURSING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (NON-ALUMNI)

Carole Jakeway MPH BSN RN NEA-BC oversees nursing and pharmacy programs for the Georgia Department of Public Health (GDPH) as director of district and county operations. Jakeway also leads the Good-to-Great initiative, designed to strengthen public health leadership throughout GDPH, and serves on the executive committee of the Georgia Nursing Leadership Coalition. Jakeway was chief nurse for the Georgia Division of Public Health under the Department of Community Health for 20 years. She is a former president of the Association of Public Health Nurses (APHN) and currently represents the Southeastern region on the APHN board of directors.



Mary Anita Hill 48N



Carolyn Huggins 53N

1930s

Frances Ransmeier 39N of Asheville, N.C, on Feb. 2, 2014, at age 96. She joined the Navy in 1941 and was stationed in Pensacola, Fla., for four years. After the war, she worked at Emory University Hospital, where she met Dr. John C. Ransmeier. They married and lived in Washington, D.C., for 13 years, where they had three children. In 1963, the family moved to Asheville, where she volunteered for many years with community and church groups, including cancer patients following her successful treatment for non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. Survivors include two sons, a daughter, five grandchildren, and one great-grandson.

1940s

Roxana Mitchell Fitzpatrick 42N of Morrow, Ga., on Oct. 30, 2014, at age 93.

Betty B. Bass 44N of Mumford, Tenn., on Dec. 26, 2013, at age 90.

Peggy Goodman Fraser 44N of Hinesville, Ga., on Jan. 28, 2014, at age 90. She served as an Army nurse during WWII and met her first husband, Army Capt. Jess Goodman. They lived in

several locations, both stateside and overseas, as he continued his military career. The couple eventually settled at Fort Stewart, Ga., with their two sons in 1967. Peggy worked as a school nurse for 18 years. After her husband Jess died in 1978, she opened The Sew Express in Hinesville. She later sold the business and in 1985 married Olin Fraser Sr., who passed away in 2011. Her survivors include two sons, three grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two stepsons, and two stepdaughters.

Charlotte Methvin Sublett 44N of Cookeville, Tenn., on Oct. 13, 2012, at age 88. She was a registered nurse at Cookeville Regional Medical Center and a member of Cookeville First United Methodist Church for many years.

E. Rowanne Ligon 45N 65MN of Decatur, Ga., on Sept. 15, 2014, at age 90, from complications of dementia. Ligon devoted her life to nursing. At the end of WWII, she was stationed in Germany as an Army nurse. After the war, she joined the reserves and attained the rank of colonel. Ligon worked for the DeKalb County Public Health Department for 30 years, retiring in 1983. She volunteered for organizations such as Fernbank Science Center and devoted 20

years to the Carter Center.

Lucy M. Pierce 45N of Nelsonville, Ohio, on Aug. 6, 2014, at age 90. She met her husband, Roland M. Pierce, while completing her nursing training in Memphis, Tenn. They married in Nelsonville, where Lucy delivered babies at home and assisted local physicians in the community. In 1950, she helped establish Mount Saint Mary Hospital and worked as an RN throughout her career. She was the first school nurse in the Nelsonville-York School District and started many programs that benefitted the health of children in the community. Pierce served on the Athens County Board of Health for 50 years. Survivors include three children, eight grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Mary Ann Shaw Mathews 46N of Palm Coast, Fla., on Feb. 21, 2014. She married William Hugh “Doc” Mathews of Jacksonville, Fla., in 1945. She stayed home to raise three sons and worked in her husband’s office when his nurse was on vacation. Mathews was active in the community and her church and played golf with her husband. Survivors include three sons, four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Margaret Cody (Peg) Thompson 46N of Gainesville, Fla., on May 15, 2014, at age 90. In 1944, she married Buford Dale Thompson in the Chapel at Emory. He served with the Army in Europe while Peg served with the Cadet Nurse Corps during WWII. After the war, they settled in Gainesville, where she served as head nurse of the

premature intensive care nursery at Shands Teaching Hospital. Thompson pioneered the adoption of new methods of neonatal care, including skin-to-skin contact between mothers and infants, stimulation of neonates through bathing, and teaching new mothers to breastfeed. She was awarded the first NIH grant for nursing research received by Shands and co-authored the work, “The Effects of Stimulation on the Neonate,” first presented in 1969. She returned to school at age 55 and earned a bachelor of health sciences degree from the University of Florida in 1980 and a professional certificate in gerontology from the University of Florida Center for Gerontological Studies in 1981. She is survived by her husband, Buford; a daughter; two sons; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Isabelle Graham Webb 47N of Chapel Hill, N.C., on June 14, 2014, at age 88. She was living at Carol Woods Retirement Community.

Mary Anita “Nita” T. Hill 48N of Jupiter, Fla., on May 9, 2014, at age 86. She married Joseph B. Hill in 1951 and retired from nursing in 1978. Anita owned Hill House antiques from 1976 to 1992. She continued in the antique business doing shows until her final months. Survivors include a daughter, two sons, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Carolyn North Scott 48N of Montgomery, Ala., on Jan. 16, 2014, at age 87. A native of Brunswick, Ga., she ministered to the sick throughout her life. In 1948, she married dentist Samuel T. Scott, whom she met on a blind double date. He was not her date, but

they liked each other so much that they remained married until his death in 1994. Survivors include two daughters, a son, and five grandchildren.

Marjorie Peeples Gillon Pair 49N of Union City, Ga., on Aug. 26, 2014, at age 85. Her nursing career spanned 39 years—14 at Emory University Hospital and 25 at South Fulton Hospital in East Point, Ga., as nurse supervisor and assistant director of nursing. Her compassion and perseverance were shown by six-plus years of home nursing for her first husband, David Gillon, who developed early-onset Alzheimer’s and died in 1985 at age 59. She continued to work during this difficult time and in 1988 married widower Horace Pair. They were happily married for 25 years until his death in 2013. Survivors include her five children, two stepchildren, 14 grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

1950s

Eliane M. Edens 50N of Athens, Ga., on Aug. 14, 2014, at age 92. Born in Antwerp, Belgium, Edens grew up in Brunoy, France, and Atlanta. She had lived in Lexington, Ga., and then Athens since 1950. Survivors include two sons, a daughter, a stepdaughter, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Margaret McAllister Telford 50N of Toccoa, Ga., on Feb. 12, 2014, at age 83.

Beverly Hossler Sigman 51N in Rock Hill, S.C., on Oct. 5, 2014, at age 86. She lived in Atlanta and Madison, Ga., for many years. Survivors include two sons, two

daughters, 10 grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren.

Norma D. Weidner 51N of Kent, Conn., on Nov. 2, 2013, at age 83.

(Lois) Carolyn Huggins 53N of Crystal River, Fla., on May 23, 2014, at age 83, under the loving care of her friend, Mary “Dolly” Schwalbert, and Hospice of Citrus County. Carolyn retired from the Hillsborough County Health Department as assistant county nursing director.

Eunice Alfreda Ward Tidman 53N of Lawenceville, Ga., on Sept. 9, 2014, at age 83. The daughter of Salvation Army officers, “A/ Captain” Alfreda Tidman served in the Salvation Army most of her life. After completing her nursing degree, she moved with her parents to Richmond, Va., where she worked at the Medical College of Virginia. She and her first husband, Bill Matthews, entered the Salvation Army Training College in Richmond. They were commissioned in 1957 and served in various capacities in Texas, Alabama, Oklahoma, and Florida. After a stint in San Antonio, Texas, Alfreda was appointed to the Army’s School for Officer Training for the next seven years. She

retired in August 1985. The next month, she married A/Captain Sherwood Tidman and returned to active service in Tallahassee and Melbourne, Fla. They retired in 1992 and moved to Atlanta, where they were involved in the growth of the Lawrenceville Corps. Tidman was preceded in death by her first husband in 1978 and her second husband in 2013. Survivors include a daughter, two sons, four grandchildren, and four stepchildren.

Joyce Poole Mour 55N of Louisville, Ky., on Jan. 31, 2013, at age 79. Mour was a dedicated nurse for more than 30 years and a member of the Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church. Known as “Swishes” to her grandchildren, she was a constant force in the lives of her family members. Survivors include sons David and Tod, daughter Jennifer, and seven grandchildren.

Jessie Emogene Davis 57N 66MN of Union City, Ga., on July 8, 2014, at age 97.

Norma Justus Mash 57N of Kennesaw, Ga., on Feb. 2, 2014. She began her career as a surgical nurse and served as an RN for more than 40 years. Mash developed the

first Practical Nursing program for the Marietta-Cobb Area Vocational Technical School in 1963 and taught the first class of practical nursing students in Cobb County. Twenty years after earning her BSN, Mash returned to Emory to become a Certified Enterostomal Therapy nurse and subsequently developed the first ostomy and wound care program at Kennestone Hospital. Regarded as an innovator in the management of chronic wounds, she lectured and led seminars on wound care throughout the United States and Canada and spoke at conferences in the UK and New Zealand. Survivors include her husband, Jim; two sons; a daughter; three granddaughters; and two step-grandchildren.

1960s

Ann Stephens Austin 64N in Panama City, Fla., on Feb. 3, 2014, after a long battle with melanoma. She was president of the Sweetwater Swirls Women’s Shrine in Douglasville, Ga., president of the Douglas County 4-H Club for two years, and held the rank of lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol. Survivors include her husband of 52 years, Jerry E. Austin; two sons; and two grandchildren.

Honor Your Classmates

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Rose Dilday pioneered mental health nursing in Georgia

A loyal group of former students and friends made sure that retired nursing professor Rose Dilday 79N (honorary) had a party to mark her 100th birthday, even though she was just 99. The group celebrated around her Atlanta Hospice bedside the week before she died on Dec. 13, 2014, three months shy of her centennial birthday.

There was much to celebrate about Dilday, who pioneered community-based mental health nursing in Georgia. During the early 1960s, the Kennedy Administration awarded a mental health planning grant to the state, which needed a nurse on its planning team. A colleague recommended Dilday, who left her native New York State to join the team in 1964. A year later, Emory launched Georgia's first graduate program in psychiatric mental health nursing, which Dilday joined on an adjunct basis. At the time, she was part of an initiative to decentralize the state mental health hospital in Milledgeville and believed that master's-prepared psych nurses could provide vital services in the community.

In 1968, Dilday joined Emory full-time to direct the graduate program in mental health nursing. She subsequently chaired the psychiatric/mental health program for all-level students and was the first non-psychiatrist to teach a family therapy course. She continued to advocate for mental health services at the local, state, and national levels and secured more than \$2 million in training grants from the National Institute of Mental Health for the School of Nursing. Among other firsts, she placed graduate nursing students in community health centers for clinical experience and established a state program for nurses recovering from substance abuse, which became a national model.

Dilday welcomed students and colleagues into her life by cooking Italian meals, singing along (or trying to), and writing poems for them. She was named an honorary alumnus in 1979 and appointed professor emeritus in 1984. Upon her retirement, grateful students established the Rose Dilday Scholarship for graduate students with an interest in

mental health or gerontology. Dilday received many honors in her lifetime, including the Award of Honor from the Nurses' Alumni Association in 1988 and the Distinguished Emeritus Faculty Award in 2004.

She continued to write poetry and pursue other interests while living near Emory at Clairmont Place, where several retired nursing faculty and alumni reside. She



Memorial gifts may be made to the Rose Dilday Scholarship Fund, which supports graduate students specializing in mental health or gerontology. Gifts may be made online at bit.ly/give-SON or sent to the Office of Development and Alumni Relations, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing, 1520 Clifton Road N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30322. To learn more, contact Margot Early, associate director of development, at 404-727-5291 or margot.early@emory.edu.

maintained close ties with her former students, including Betty Daniels 51N 67MN, Sally Lehr 65N 76MN, Claudia Crenshaw 72C 77N 79MN, Carol Bush 67MN 73MA 74PhD, and Nell Rodgers 65N 67MN 74PhD.

"She offered understanding and encouraged us to follow our dreams," said Rodgers in her eulogy for Dilday this past January. "Dear Rose, we are grateful and the better for having known you. We shall miss having you in our lives." —*Pam Auchmutey*

Mary Thornton Boynton 64MN of Knoxville, Tenn., on May 14, 2014. She was a community health nurse in Wytheville, Va., for homebound TB patients and taught nursing students at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta. She served as associate dean of nursing in community health at the University of Tennessee–Knoxville College of Nursing until she retired in 1991. Survivors include daughter Amy Boynton 89C, son-in-law Randy, and granddaughter Willow.

Linda D. Dunaway 64N of Evans, Ga., on Oct. 26, 2014, at age 74. Dunaway spent most of her career as a nursing educator, having taught at University Hospital School of Nursing in Augusta, Ga., Grady Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Atlanta, and Augusta College. She later served as assistant director of nursing at Saint Joseph Hospital (now Trinity Hospital) in Augusta. Also a licensed minister, she served in various positions at New Life Church for 19 years. Survivors include two daughters and two grandchildren.

Viola Kay (Schlagenhauf) Wilson 64N of Clinton, Tenn., on June 14, 2000, at age 58.

1970s

Gwendolyn Alfonso Charles 70MN of Chattanooga, Tenn., on Sept. 10, 2012, at age 78.

Catherine D. Stevens 72MN of Bradenton, Fla., on Feb. 21, 2014, at age 90. A native of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., she moved to Bradenton in 1952. She was a nurse with Dr. Willis Harris and an ER nurse at Manatee Memorial

Hospital. She also worked for The Coca-Cola Company and taught nursing at Manatee Community College and Abilene Christian College. Stevens was a member of Save the Manatees and the Cousteau Society. Survivors include three sons, a stepson and stepdaughter, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Marbury Hall Stegall 78MN of Atlanta on July 6, 2014, of ovarian cancer. Stegall was a clinical nurse specialist in psychiatric nursing. She began her career as an operating room technician at Grady Memorial Hospital while earning her associate nursing degree at DeKalb Community College. She then earned her BSN at Georgia State University and her MSN at Emory. She practiced mental health nursing in the public and private sectors and in the inpatient, outpatient, and nursing education settings. She was a psychotherapist in private practice and advocated for the nursing profession and the role of advanced practice psychiatric nurses in Georgia. Stegall served on the Georgia Board of Nursing from 1997 to 2004 and was commended for outstanding service by the Georgia Secretary of State. In 2006, she retired from Grady Health System and joined the Southeast Permanente Medical Group Inc. of Kaiser Permanente. Survivors include her husband, R. Hance Stegall; her son, Eldon; her mother; and two sisters.

1980s

Sara Howard Moseley 81N of Atlanta on Jan. 26, 2014, of cancer at age 54. She held a master's degree in trauma and critical

care nursing from the University of Maryland. Moseley worked in the performance improvement department of the Chest Pain Center at Gwinnett Medical Center. She also practiced at Saint Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta and at hospitals in Denver, Colo., and Annapolis, Md. A self-avowed soccer mom and longtime Girl Scout leader, she led camping trips and encouraged her scouts to serve the community. Survivors include her husband, Rob; daughter Lily; her mother; two brothers; and a sister.

Nancy H. Arden 82MN of College Station, Texas, on June 10, 2014, at the Hospice Brazos Valley Inpatient Facility in nearby Bryan. She was 63.

Linda Maher Williams 86MN of Augusta, Ga., on Aug. 1, 2014, at age 61. Formerly of Atlanta, her nursing career spanned more than 25 years. She served as director of rehabilitation at Northlake Medical Center from 1996 to 2006. In 2007, Williams joined Children's Healthcare of Atlanta as a clinical informatics nurse on the Epic ambulatory team. She implemented and supported the Epic electronic medical record system in rehabilitation services and the Marcus Autism Center. In 2012, she was promoted to senior clinical informatics nurse and received the Dr. Luke Geng Commitment to Children's Award for her dedication and service. Survivors include her husband, Ed; three sisters; and nine nieces and nephews.

1990s

Katherine Ives Thompson 93N of Atlanta on Oct. 22, 2014, after battling a brain tumor. She was 47. Thompson began her career

as an operating room nurse and then entered private practice. She found her true calling as a labor and delivery nurse at Northside Hospital in Atlanta, where she worked for 15 years. She received many letters and voicemails from young parents who loved her combination of compassion and sense of humor. Thompson spent the last two years of her career in the infusion oncology center, where she continued to receive praise for her extraordinary care. Survivors include her parents and two sisters.

Ella Louise Hill 95N of Marietta, Ga., on Jan. 28, 2014. She was 63.

Susan L. (Napiewocki) Baran 99MN of Pooler, Ga., on Sept. 13, 2013, at age 66. A native of Michigan, she was a retired nurse practitioner. She enjoyed crocheting and spending time with family and friends, along with her grand-dogs. Survivors include her son, a sister and sister-in-law, and several nieces and nephews.



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