Greetings From the Interim Dean

Welcome to the third edition of the School of Nursing electronic newsletter. As we prepare for Commencement on May 11, it's appropriate to reflect on some of the highlights from the 2014-2015 academic year.

The biggest news is that the School has received notice of its successful accreditation visit from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. We were awarded a 10-year accreditation period. I am pleased to say that the team's report indicated that each of our programs met all of the elements of every standard for accreditation, and the site visitors noted no areas of concern. In fact, the team documented many areas of excellence and noted the high quality of our programs. This wonderful news is a tribute to the talent and dedication of the School of Nursing faculty and staff.

In addition to all the other activities this year, we bade farewell to Dean Laurie Lauzon Clabo, who in April became dean at Wayne State University. We have a national search team conducting the search for a new dean. I am devoting my interim time to strengthening the student experience and supporting the faculty and staff in their teaching, service, and scholarship. As always, my door is open to alumni, students, faculty, and staff.

As we prepare to celebrate both National Nurses Week (May 6–12) and Commencement, we have much to be proud of. I hope you enjoy the newsletter, and invite you to share information about your accomplishments.

Linda C. Andrist, PhD, RN, WHNP-BC
Interim Dean and Professor

School of Nursing Receives 10-Year Reaccreditation

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) reaccredited the School of Nursing for the next 10 years until 2024, the longest period the national organization can bestow on a nursing school.

Getting a Global Experience

Two groups of nurse practitioner students spent the 2015 winter break being exposed to global health issues. Professor Mertie Potter brought students to Santo Domingo, Dominical Republic (in photo), accompanied by Associate Provost Peter Cahn and members from Boston Medical Center. Assistant Professor Elissa Ladd took a separate group to India. The teams, the Dominican Republic Mission Trip and the India Scholars 2015, blogged about their experiences in the IHP’s blog The Pulse.

Celebrate National Nurses Week

With National Nurses Week beginning on May 6, all of us at the School of Nursing would like to the say thank you to our nursing alumni for your dedication to patient care and your efforts to improve health and health care in our nation and around the globe.

As part of Mass General Hospital’s celebration of Nurses Week, adjunct SON faculty Kathleen Miller, who teaches in the Mind Body Spirit certificate program, and Margaret Baim, Director, Center for Training for the Benson Henry Institute of Mind Body Medicine, will present "Reflect, Refuel and Re-Balance" at 11:00 a.m. on April 8, in
Working with an interprofessional faculty team, she will design experiences where students in the family nurse practitioner track will work with occupational therapy, physical therapy, and speech-language pathology students in the Aphasia Center and Physical Therapy Center for Clinical Education and Health Promotion in learning to provide team-based care for patients with multiple chronic conditions.

Simmonds Named Jonas Scholar

School of Nursing Clinical Assistant Professor Katherine Simmonds was one of the first six nurses in the country named as an inaugural Jonas Health Policy Scholar by the American Academy of Nursing (AAN).

NP Student Among Three Named as 2015-16 Schweitzer Fellows

Second-year nurse practitioner student Jennifer Lettsome is among the three IHP students who were named Albert Schweitzer Fellows for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Farm Animals Spread Good Cheer

Several nurse practitioner students in Instructor Delores Mueller’s class arranged for more than two dozen farm animals – including a pot-bellied pig (held by student Willada Loch), goats, and chicks – to visit with residents at Charlestown’s Zelma Lacey House as part of their Community Principles Theory class.

International Dementia Collaborative Conference

O’Keeffe Auditorium.

In recognition of National Nurses Week, we invite you to make a tribute gift in honor or in memory of a colleague, former classmate, fellow alum, or faculty member who you feel has had a profound influence on your life and work. When you make a tax-deductible gift to the MGH Institute Fund for Nursing, we will send a personalized acknowledgment card to your honoree.

To learn more about the MGH Institute Fund for Nursing, please contact Sara Bucciarelli.

Alumni Cited in Boston Globe Salute to Nurses Section

Eight nursing alumni were cited in the Boston Globe’s annual Salute to Nurses section that ran on May 3. They were Christine Agius ’03, Lisa Arvine ’08, Arlene Pressman ’90, Kathleen Savage ’96, Patricia Shea-Fryzel ’99, Denise Tompkins ’08, and Colleen Webb ’11. Gino Chisari ’11 was quoted in the front-page story, while patient letters about Pressman and Arvine were published.

DNP Program Moves Online

Flexibility is key for busy nurse leaders, and that’s why the Institute transitioned most of its Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program into an online format. The application deadline is June 1.

SON Hosts Baugh Lecturer
The School of Nursing co-hosted the 12th annual conference of the International Dementia Scholars Collaborative last May. University of Massachusetts Amherst Associate Professor Cynthia S. Jacelon was the keynote speaker at the event, entitled, "Creating Patient and Family-Focused Dementia Care." IHP School of Nursing Professor Diane Mahoney presented at the conference, which was co-convened by Associate Professor Ruth Palan Lopez.

Gala Raises $367,000 for Student Scholarships

Trustee Judith Fong SON ’68, center, is flanked by nursing students Sonia Handa and Shoshana Farber at the 2014 Gala.

More than 300 guests attended the 2014 Gala last November, held at the Renaissance Waterfront Boston Hotel. The theme of the annual event – "Elevating Research. Expanding Knowledge. Enhancing Impact." – focused on the school’s increased commitment to research, spurred by the efforts of Honorary Trustee John Guttag, PhD who was the featured speaker. The event raised $367,000 for student scholarships. View photos. This year’s gala will be held on October 27, 2015.

IHP Musicians Perform at Shouse

Dr. Freeman A. Hrabowski, III presented the fifth E. Lorraine Baugh Visiting Faculty Scholar lecture in December 2014. His talk was entitled, “Rethinking the Culture of Education in America: Promoting Student Success and Minority Achievement in STEM and the Health Professions.” Afterwards, the president of the University of Maryland Baltimore County met with SON faculty on mentoring students.

Accrediting Board Commends Institute for Progress Since 2010

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) has commended the Institute for “a thorough and well written” fifth-year accreditation report, citing several areas where the school has made since continuing accreditation was affirmed in 2010.

NP Students' Scholarly Projects

Courtney Bendiksen (right) talks with SON Associate Professor Elissa Ladd (center) and fellow student Joy Williams.

Graduating Master of Science in Nursing students presented their scholarly projects on April 22 during the School of Nursing’s annual event.

Volunteering at the Marathon
Nursing students were among the members of the student group IHP Musicians in 2014-2015. In March, they performed in the Shouse Building lobby playing a variety of Irish sing-alongs and other favorites to clients from the Aphasia Center, and the IHP community. Pictured (L-R): Jenny Zuk CSD ‘15, Ayelet Kershenbaum CSD ’16, Natsumi Asanuma CSD ’15, Anna Read NS ‘17, Hannah Turner CSD ’16, and Lisa Keegan NS ’16.

Alumni Corner

Class Notes Wanted!

We invite you to submit a class note to share with your fellow alumni what is happening in your world. This includes such things as new jobs and promotions, professional presentations given, awards, marriages, new babies (with photos!), and photos of couples who met while attending the Institute. In addition to including your news in the next issue of The Graduate this summer, we also intend to create an electronic photo album that will be posted on the school’s social media sites (links at bottom of this newsletter) to provide easy access for the entire Institute alumni community.

Join the Institute's Online Community

We invite you to become part of our expanding online alumni community by joining IHP's LinkedIn, Facebook, and other social media to keep up with your MGH Institute classmates and fellow graduates.

Library Resources Available to Alumni

MGH Institute alumni have access to journals, databases, and other research resources at the Institute’s Alumni Library Resources section. This robust section is sure to meet many of your research needs. Contact IHP Librarian Jessica Bell with questions or for assistance.

Live Career Support Now Available

Have a quick resume question? Need some support in getting started searching for jobs in the new? Students, alumni, and faculty can talk live about these and other related topics with IHP career counselor Russ Abbatielo every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Alumni Mentors Sought

Bachelor of Science in Nursing 2011 graduates (l-r) Adrienne Haglin, Jenna Venuto, Jennifer Caires-Capece, and Rachel Azer volunteered at the 2015 Boston Marathon. They have been working in the finish line tents since they were students.

Student Study Space Expands

The Institute will add 9,000 square feet of dedicated library and study space beginning this May.

On Board

Nancy C. Baker, PhD, ANP-BC
Assistant Professor
Nursing

Stacy Hutton Johnson, MS/MBS, RN, NE-BC
Assistant Professor
Nursing

Jason R. Lucey, MSN, RN, FNP-BC
An Alumni Mentoring Network has been established to encourage graduates to interact with peers who may provide insight and knowledge about the job market. Current students are also encouraged to sign up and be paired with alumni mentors who can advise them about their career options.

We're Looking for Bloggers

Are you interested in blogging for the Institute about your experiences as a nurse? You can do it on the Institute’s blog, The Pulse. Contact the Office of Communications and Marketing for more information.

Make a gift to the IHP. And share your moment at www.mghihp.edu/moment or on Twitter #myIHPmoment.