Robert V. Piemonte (EdD ’78; MEd ’70; MA ’68) was honored as a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing (AAN) at the 35th Annual AAN Meeting and Conference November 6-8, 2008, at the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, in Scottsdale, Arizona. The living Legend Program recognizes extraordinary lifetime achievement. A “Living Legend” must have been an Active or Emeritus Fellow for at least 15 years and made extraordinary and sustained contributions to nursing and health care throughout their career. They also must continue to influence the profession.* This tribute, along with many other honors (including the NEAA R Louise McManus Medal) recognize Dr. Piemonte for his many contributions to the advancement of the nursing profession.

Editor: What brought you to the nursing profession?

I was acquainted with a nurse who was a graduate of the Pilgrim State Hospital School of Nursing. He explained that the school was college affiliated and that the state would pay for me to take forty credits in the liberal arts and sciences as part of the nursing curriculum. Since I had already earned a number of college credits, obtaining a bachelors degree upon completion of the nursing Diploma would not take very long. As it happened, I completed my Degree after two full and one part-time semester. I have always had mentors who helped me to navigate through my educational journey. While at Pilgrim, Louise Pon, the Program Director, encouraged me to obtain the baccalaureate. Once at Long Island University, Professor Emma Crossman encouraged me to obtain a graduate degree.

Editor: What brought you to Teachers College?

I had heard about Teachers College through teachers who had gone there both in my diploma and baccalaureate programs. Students where applying to a number of different schools for graduate study, but I applied only to Teachers College. In my mind this was the Mecca for nursing education. I was accepted in 1967 and began work on my Master of Arts Degree in Medical-Surgical Nursing Supervision. That I return to school the following year to obtain an MEd in administration. She planned a program of study for me which was rich in business and administration. Judith Whitaker was the ANA Executive Director at the time and she had been a close friend of Eleanor.

Following the completion of the MEd I worked at New York University Medical Center as an Assistant Director of Nursing under Grace Davidson. While in that position, Eileen Jacoby had become Executive Director of ANA and asked me to return to ANA as Director of the Nursing Services Department. I enjoyed that time with ANA, but decided not to move with them to Kansas City and accepted a position as the Director of Nursing at Gouverneur Hospital in lower Manhattan.

My last tour of duty with ANA was as Director of House, Board and Cabinet Affairs. It was following the restructure of ANA to a federated model. I had the opportunity to work closely with Judith Ryan, Executive Director. She is one of the most competent and innovative leaders I have ever known. Working with her was a joy, as she carefully moved the organization forward. I had an extraordinary staff that brought to fruition projects of import to nursing and worked with nursing leaders such as Ada Jacox, Lucille Joel, Catherine Welch, and Louise Fitzpatrick to name a few. I left ANA to return to NSNA.

Editor: You were on the staff of ANA two different times during your career, what was NSNA like when you were there and how did your leadership impact the association?

I first came to work at NSNA as the Deputy Executive Director under Mary Ann Tuft. I learned a great deal from Mary Ann. It was my first exposure with nursing leaders such as Ada Jacox, Lucille Joel, Catherine Welch, and Louise Fitzpatrick to name a few. I left ANA to return to NSNA.

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*Editor: What brought you to Teachers College?

I was always an active volunteer at the district and state levels of the American Nurses Association. I was particularly impressed with the work of Ruth Harper, the Executive Director of District 14. I had also observed Marion Klapmeyer, the Executive Director of NYNSA, and Veronica Driscoll who was an energetic staff member at the time. As I became involved in committee work at the state level I came to know and admire Catherine Leach. These were people behind the scenes who really made things happen. I wanted to make an impact on the profession and I believed staff work in the professional organization was a way of doing it.

Editor: You were on the staff of the American Nurses Association (ANA) in three different positions over the course of your career. What was ANA like when you worked there? Who did you work with?

I first went to work for ANA after completing my MA degree at Teachers College. It was a very exciting place to be because I had the chance to meet and work with the nursing leaders of the time. I was appointed an Assistant Director in the Nursing Services Department. I assisted in staffing the Commission on Nursing Services of which Eleanor Lamberts was a member. People like Eva Reese from the Visiting Nurse Service of New York were on that commission and I learned a great deal. Dr. Lamberts suggested
Editor: As a man in nursing did you face any special challenges? If so how did you overcome them?

Bringing men in nursing had positive and negative facets. On the positive side there was a push to attract more men to the profession. I felt that having more men would enhance the image of the profession as a serious vocational pursuit. It would also assist in bringing about more equity in salaries. Many believed that nursing would be considered life long work rather than an avocation.

On the other side of the equation there were those who felt that men took the better paying jobs and deprived women nurses of opportunities that were rightfully theirs in a profession dominated by women. I did come across nurses who viewed me as a threat. There were those who believed that men did not belong and made it very uncomfortable. When situations such as those arose I kept a very low profile. As I become better educated and more experienced I stood up to those individuals because I could demonstrate that my achievements were the consequence of further education and experience.

On the whole I have had very good working relationships with women colleagues. I believe we have a mutual respect for what each of us brings to the profession.

Editor: If you could do it over again – what would you do differently?

I don’t know that I would do anything differently as far as my career is concerned. I’ve had a wonderful journey in nursing. I wouldn’t trade a minute of it. I’ve had marvelous career opportunities and have met and worked with giants in the field. I’ve been very fortunate.

Editor: What do you think is the biggest challenge facing the nursing profession?

In my view our greatest challenge is to prepare adequate numbers of faculty to insure a steady supply of competent new graduates. Nursing faculty is aging and we do not have adequate numbers of prepared people to replace them. As nurses become prepared at the graduate level opportunities arise that offer salaries far greater than those they can expect as faculty. It is imperative that we get to it on sound financial footing. We became independent of other groups with regard to our headquarters offices and some business functions. It had truly become a free-standing organization. It continues to grow and evolve.

Editor: Hindsight is always better. Knowing what I know now, if I had it all to do over again I’d start in a baccalaureate program. I could have saved time and energy had I done this to begin with.

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Editor: Many thanks to Janet Kasoff and her committee for a job well done!
At the recent Stewart Nursing Research Conference held on April 24, 2009, the theme was the “Intersect: Nursing Education and Nursing Administration.” The Essentials of Baccalaureate Education for Professional Nursing Practice published by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN, 2008) provides a framework that can support this intersect. The Essentials focus on liberal education for practice and education, leadership for high quality health care, scholarship and evidence-based practice, information management and technology, healthcare policy, finance and regulatory environments, inter and intra professional communication, and clinical prevention and population health (AACN, 2008). This publication offers indicators for the education and administration intersect in the form of academic and practice partnerships. Examples include: student internships; joint appointments and collaborative grants; student involvement in a variety of populations; curriculum that is collaboratively designed; shared governance; and joint projects that result in improved nurse sensitive outcomes for patient populations (AACN, 2009).

The education/administration intersect can help nursing use resources appropriately in this time of faculty shortage. The current trend toward accelerated baccalaureate degree programs, internships, simulation and clinical immersion provides opportunity for the intersection of education and practice. These opportunities offer a chance for nursing to develop new strategies to promote nursing education and practice collaboration to further develop the profession. Turning challenges into opportunities creates new ways of working together for the advancement of nursing education and practice.

References

Chat from the Chair
by Kathleen O'Connell, PhD, RN, FAAN, Isabel Maitland Stewart Professor of Nursing Education

At the present time the Nursing Education program has eleven students who are actively working on their dissertations. Some are still pondering the problem they want to study; some are finalizing their proposals or awaiting approval from the Human Subjects Committee; while others have their data collection underway. For this issue, I’m focusing on the dissertation projects of three of these students. If you are interested in one of their projects, I encourage you to contact the student. If you’d like to contribute funds to support the project, you can do that in a tax deductible way through the Teachers College Development office, or you can contact me for information oconnell@tc.columbia.edu.

Two students are conducting their dissertation research on the internet. Marianne Homsey is studying the strategies people use to deal with insomnia. She is using Google ads to attract study participants to her website where they respond to an online questionnaire. Marianne will need to collect data from about 350 participants. If you’d like to hear more about her project, email her at marianne.homsey@gmail.com. Donations to her project would be used to pay for Google ads.

Diane Reynolds is also using the internet to collect data on parental acceptance of giving human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to 9-18 year-old girls. This is the first vaccine developed to prevent cervical cancer and other diseases in females caused by certain types of genital viruses. But little is known about parental acceptance of the HPV vaccine. Diane is using a listserv to recruit parents to her website to fill out a questionnaire. If you have questions about her study, email her at Diane.Reynolds@llu.edu. Donations to her project would be used to pay for resources she needs to recruit a sample of 300 parents.

Kathy Kenney Riley is nearly ready to begin data collection for her study at the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore, Bronx, NY. She will interview siblings and parents of children with chronic illnesses in order to describe the types of social support that are related to high quality of life in the siblings, who are often the silent victims of their brother’s or sister’s illness. If you have questions about her study, email her at kk5riley@yahoo.com. Donations to her project would be used to reimburse parents and siblings for participation in the study.

Doing a dissertation can be lonely work. My husband, who doesn’t have a doctorate, noticed that the difference between those who finish and those who don’t has more to do with perseverance than anything else. While perseverance is important, sometimes a little support can really help. It would be great to have support from alumnae who’ve been there and know how hard it is. You remember, right?

Update from the Executive Program For Nurses
by Kim K. Mendez, EdD, ANP-C, RN

This semester finds Dr. Elaine La Monica Rigolosi, Professor of Education and Program Coordinator for the Executive Program for Nurses, on sabbatical and a continued journey of professional excellence. Although focusing on the opportunities her sabbatical brings, Dr. Rigolosi remains in close touch and continues to monitor and ensure the success of the Executive Program for Nurses. It is my privilege as Assistant Program Coordinator to bring you this brief update.

With the accomplishment of a successful first semester behind them, students in both the Master’s and Doctoral Executive Program for Nurses Cohort Program continue in their pursuit of professional development and scholarly inquiry. In addition to expanding their knowledge base and applying critical thinking in the areas of nursing administration, clinical practice, research, and education, our new students are establishing collegial relationships that have the inevitability of lasting a career and even a lifetime. Walking in the same halls as previous nurse scholars such as M. Adelaide Nutting, each student has encountered and embraced the environment of learning that is Teachers College. We are delighted with the recent achievements of our students and look forward to their continued success.

Spring 2009 also sees our nine continuing doctoral students hard at work on their dissertations, some of whom have completed the final preparations for their dissertation oral defenses. As of this writing, Karen Breitkreuz, Brigitte Cypress, and Rita Marie John have successfully completed their dissertation oral defenses. Karen’s research has transported her to Malawi, Africa in an investigation of the use of the Internet as an educational resource for nursing students in a developing nation. Brigitte investigated the Intensive Care Unit experience of ICU patients, families and nurses. Rita Marie researched avenues of education in addressing childhood obesity. We are filled with excitement as our doctoral students finalize their doctoral journey and wish them much success for the future.

The ongoing growth and success of the Program for Nurse Executives has never been timelier as we continue to proactively address the needs of the nursing profession both in the professorial and administration arenas. Our program goals focus on preparing students for positions as nurse leaders and educators across the continuum of healthcare.

For those of you who attended the 2009 Stewart Conference, I hope that you took the opportunity to meet the Executive Program for Nurses Masters and Doctoral students – our future nurse administrators and educators. Best wishes to all as we celebrate the end of another successful semester at TC!
Isabel Maitland Stewart: Educator, Researcher, Innovator, Mentor
Part I: Early History and Career at Teachers College

This is the first of two articles about Isabel Maitland Stewart. This Courier issue examines her early history and career at Teachers College up to 1925 when she received the appointment as Director of Teachers College Department of Nursing. Part II, the Fall 2009 issue, deals with her tenure and leadership as Director and her retirement years.

One hundred ten years ago, Teachers College Columbia University (TC, CU) seized an innovative opportunity to move nurses beyond their initial diploma educational level by educating them to assume leadership positions in hospital settings. This pioneering venture, championed by Isabel Hampton Robb and Dean James Russell, attracted and shaped a new generation of nursing leaders. More importantly, Teachers College, Columbia University’s program set the standard for preparing nursing educators. Many view Isabel Maitland Stewart as the strongest and most persistent advocate for preparing nurse educators.1

Born in Ontario, Canada in 1878, the fourth of nine children, Miss Stewart developed her organizational and leadership skills “taking charge and ruling,” as a brother commented with “a benevolent autocracy.” Her parents believed that education should be given without gender bias. They encouraged and “expected” that all their children would be critical thinkers, and partake in family conversation and debate. Coming of age in the Canadian West where men outnumbered women, Miss Stewart exemplified the “adventure-some and free spirit” of many young women who planned careers other than marriage.2

Like fellow Canadian Isabel Hampton Robb, Miss Stewart began her working career as a teacher. After graduating from Manitoba Normal School in 1895 and gaining advanced education at Winnipeg Collegiate Institute, Miss Stewart discovered that teaching elementary students did not provide the satisfaction she sought in a career. In her words, “I decided that teaching third graders in a small town was too tame a life for me.”3

The nursing profession forever owes a debt of gratitude to the enthusiastic friends who convinced Miss Stewart that nursing would provide the meaningful, stimulating, and productive career she sought. Over the objections of family who felt that Miss Stewart was “throwing away a good education,” she walked through the doors of Winnipeg General Hospital Training School (WGHTS) in 1900.4 Bringing her teacher’s acumen to her position as a nursing student created conflicts within Miss Stewart regarding the educational and societal roles of women. She wanted to revolutionize nursing education and she found the passionate statements of such nursing leaders as Isabel Hampton Robb and M. Adelaide Nutting akin to her own. From 1903 to 1908, Miss Stewart transitioned into her professional roles as a Private Duty Nurse, Winnipeg District Nurse and finally Head Nurse at Winnipeg General.

Through her organizational skills, she assisted in the formation of a Western Canadian Visiting Nurses Society and an Alumni Association of the WGHTS. She knew that education and organization were key components to developing strong nurse leaders and looked beyond the borders of Canada to a professional nursing education program in the United States: the relatively new program at Teachers College (TC).

TIME AT TC
When Isabel Maitland Stewart entered the program at TC, she intended to stay to complete her advanced nursing education and then return to Canada to create a similar program. She earned her Bachelors in 1911 and her Masters in 1913 and modified her original plan by staying at TC.

In 1908, Miss Stewart entered a fiscally challenged program led by the indefatigable M. Adelaide Nutting. Miss Nutting attracted nursing leaders to come on campus to lecture the next generation of nursing leaders about nursing and social issues. By 1909, when Miss Stewart became Miss Nutting’s assistant, she had met women such as Annie W. Goodrich and Lillian D. Wald, and heard their lecturing about legislative issues affecting nursing education and public health issues respectively and the responsibilities of municipalities in it all. Suffrage rallies were numerous and Miss Lavinia L. Dock was a most vocal proponent of suffrage. Miss Stewart describes one event in this way:

I wouldn’t say we students all were suffragettes, but there was a substantial group. For example, Miss Nutting was, but not quite as strong as Miss Dock. Miss Wald was…And we had parades up Fifth Avenue… starting about 1910, and all the various groups of women were grouped according to their professions or vocations. I marched in all those parades. Little “Dockie” carried the flag and … Miss Nutting was in the parade.5

In this politically energized atmosphere, the program at TC struggled with its share of economic hardships. Miss Nutting was funding the department on interest earned from previous invested donations, but the funds were not enough to sustain the program long-term. She sought to develop other avenues of funding. Instructors such as Isabel Hampton Robb “donated” their lecture time to see the program provide nurses with the leadership education they sought. And Miss Stewart continued to advocate for expansion of the existing Hospital Economics Course into a program to develop future generations of nurse educators and leaders. The funding solution came from Columbia University Trustee and philanthropist Mrs. Helen Hartley Jenkins. The New York Times headline on December 3, 1909 read, “Big Gift to Advance Training of Nurses – Mrs. Helen Hartley Jenkins Endows a Post-Graduate Course at Teachers College.” In the article, Miss Lillian Wald said:

The nursing profession was overwhelmed by the size of the gift… it is the first time in the history of the nursing profession when an educational institution has been endowed to give post-graduate training to nurses…. The gift will give Miss Nutting perfect freedom in the development of her plans and as an institution it will splendidly round out the educational opportunities for nurses.6

Neither the New York Times nor Miss Wald revealed the amount of the gift, but in 1923 the TC Board of Trustees disclosed the amount of the “1910 gift had been $150,270.23.”

Miss Wald, who had spoken with Mrs. Jenkins about a gift, hoped the monies would be utilized for a cooperative TC-Henry Street Settlement Project to establish outreach programs for Henry Street clients and affiliations for students. Mrs. Isabel Hampton Robb had also spoken with Mrs. Jenkins about the impact her gift would have on the Nursing Department as a whole to perpetuate the work started in 1899. (In a note to Miss Nutting, Miss Stewart noted that Mrs. Robb’s vision was more appealing to Mrs. Jenkins). Miss Nutting did now have the “perfect freedom” to establish the first program of its kind to educate nurses to become teaching nurses. The chief architect? Isabel Maitland Stewart.7

Miss Stewart was passionate about education and nursing. She wanted women to be enthusiastic about their choice to be nurses. She wanted to enable women to be leaders as nurses and as members of their communities. She knew that “women could not rise to the full demands of any vocation or profession without education and knowledge of the social conditions and needs of their day.”8

Miss Stewart researched colleges and nursing programs; then, in her capacity as chairman of the NLNE’s Curriculum Committee, she delivered her Report of the Committee for Approaching Women’s Colleges in 1913 proposing ways to attract educated women to nursing:

1. Through addresses and talks before groups of college women.
2. Through the publication of articles on nursing in college papers.
3. Through the distribution of literature dealing with the opportunities in nursing as a profession.
4. Through fraternity organizations which have members in the nursing profession.
5. Through vocational bureaus for college women.9

www.tcneaa.org
At left: Isabel Maitland Stewart. FNVSN, MC14 Nurses House Collection, Below: Pitcher originally owned by M. Adelaide Nutting and donated to the Foundation of NYS Nurses by Margaret Tyson. Legend has it that this pitcher was presented to Nutting as a gift from Isabel Maitland Stewart.

These strategies were successful in making women aware of the importance of a career in nursing.

Miss Stewart stayed at TC as an Assistant Instructor, Assistant Professor, Assistant to Director M. Adelaide Nutting, ultimately succeeding Miss Nutting as Director of the Nursing Department in 1925. Even with her years of experience under Miss Nutting, Miss Stewart questioned her ability to measure up to Miss Nutting. She expressed these doubts in a 1926 letter to her predecessor:

“I was very uncertain… I don’t think I will ever be a real administrator, but I think I can keep things going and I hope growing a little—and hope I shall not make too many mistakes.”

Miss Nutting replied:

“Don’t my dear, I beg of you, allow such an idea to take root…but please don’t for a moment indulge the luxury of even dreaming that you could abandon your charge. You have at least – a 10 year job before you.”

Miss Stewart served as Director of the Nursing Department and the Helen Hartley Jenkins Foundation Professor of Nursing Education until 1947. As we shall see in Part II in the Fall Courier: Miss Stewart’s vision and innovations will leave lasting footprints on our profession for generations.
46th Annual
Isabel Maitland Stewart Conference on Research in Nursing
and Annual Awards Luncheon
Teachers College Columbia University · April 24, 2009

The Intersect: Nursing Education and Nursing Administration

Above, L to R: TC Provost Thomas James; Diane Reynolds brought greetings from the Nursing Education Program, Kim Mendez brought greetings from Executive Program for Nurses; Speaker Wilhelmina Manzano addressed “Capturing Synergies at the Intersect Between Nursing Education and Nursing Administration”; Speaker Donna Nickitas discussed “Investing in Evidence-Based Leadership through Preparation and Publication”; Closing address, “Leveraging the Executive Relationship: Strengthening Practice-Education Collaboration through Innovation” was presented by Pamela Cipriano.

Above, L to R: Keynote Speaker Elaine Tagliareni (center), President, National League for Nursing, with Diana Newman, President, NEAA, and Frank Shaffer, Co-chair, Stewart Conference Planning Committee; Elaine Tagliareni, Keynote Speaker opened the conference addressing the theme, “The Intersect: Nursing Education and Nursing Administration.”

Above, Left to Right: Laura Jannone (right) discusses her poster, “Interactive Nursing Education/Clickers”. Frank Shaffer (right) thanks TC nursing student volunteers who helped to staff the registration desk (left to right): Esmihan Almontaseer, Marie Vilceus-Talty, Bridget Kumbella, and Barbara Brilliantine. Sandra Lewenson (third from right) with Pace University Lienhard School of Nursing students.
NEAA Awards and Hall of Fame Induction

Above, Left to Right: Christopher Greaves, Associate Director, TC Alumni Relations, Development and External Affairs, welcomes Stewart Conference attendees to the Awards Luncheon sponsored by the Office of Alumni Relations; Hall of Fame inductees (left to right): David Karl Davis; Sandra B. Fielo; Helen Streubert; Diana Newman, NEAA President; Gail E. Russell; Verle Waters. See profiles on page 11.

Helen Streubert (left) Hall of Fame Inductee is congratulated by colleague Anice Campagna.

The 2009 R. Louise McManus Medal was presented to Barbara Krainovich-Miller (right) by nominator Diane Mancino. Many thanks to Lois Lagerman, Rita Wieczorek, and Eileen Zungolo for sponsoring Stewart Conference student tickets.

NEAA Achievement Awards

Deadline: January 15, 2010
For details go to: www.tcneaa.org

R. Louise McManus Medal
Nursing Scholarship and Research Award
Nursing Education Award
Nursing Practice Award
Nursing Service Award
Leadership in Professional and Allied Organizations Award
Contact: Eileen Zungolo, Chair
11 Dinell Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15221
412-727-2728
zungolo@duq.edu

TC Nursing Hall of Fame

Deadline: January 15, 2010
Criteria include: demonstrated leadership that affected nursing education, health, and social history through sustained contributions to nursing; nominee must have completed course work and/or requirements for a degree representative of one of the nursing education programs at Teachers College; achievements of the nominee must have enduring value to nursing beyond the nominee’s lifetime.
(Note: Nominees for the TC Hall of Fame Award may be living or deceased.)
For details go to: www.tcneaa.org
Contact: Caryle Wolahan, Chair
13 Ford Road
Landing, NJ 07850
Dublin@optonline.net
973-398-8308

Mark your calendar
47th Annual Isabel Maitland Stewart Conference on Research in Nursing
Friday, April 23, 2010 (tentative)
Teachers College Columbia University

Research Awards
Deadline: June 30, 2010
For details go to: www.tcneaa.org
A total of $3,500 is available for up to two pre-doctoral and two post-doctoral nursing research grants. Applicant must be a registered nurse who hold an earned doctorate in nursing or pursuing doctoral education in nursing. Doctoral students must be at the dissertation stage. Applicants who are not doctoral students at Teachers College must have at least one graduate degree from Teachers College.
Contact: Cynthia D. Sculco, chair
132 East 95th St.
New York, NY 10128
212-860-0754
cdsmedd@aol.com

TC Nursing Hall of Fame

Deadline January 15, 2010
Criteria include: demonstrated leadership that affected nursing education, health, and social history through sustained contributions to nursing; nominee must have completed course work and/or requirements for a degree representative of one of the nursing education programs at Teachers College; achievements of the nominee must have enduring value to nursing beyond the nominee’s lifetime.
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2009 R. Louise McManus Medal Winner

Verle Waters (left) Hall of Fame Inductee and Connie Vance.
Alumni News

Rita Chow (EdD ’68) On March 17, 2009 at the luncheon celebration at the Paris Las Vegas Hotel, Nevada, the National Interfaith Coalition on Aging of the National Council on Aging presented the 2009 Spirituality and Aging Award to Rita K. Chow in honor and appreciation for exemplary commitment and service toward the spiritual well-being of older persons.

Sylvia K Fields (EdD ’78; MEd ’74; MA ’60) reflected on her nursing career and writes that in 1950, when she became a BSN nursing student at Adelphi College, they told her that her education would last a lifetime. But in 1978 when she received an EdD (her third Teachers College degree) she never dreamed that 30 years later, at 75, she would still be working. Sylvia retired from Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA in 1997. At Jefferson, Sylvia developed interdisciplinary studies and activities with nursing. Following retirement, she moved to Savannah, Georgia so that her husband could play golf full time. Volunteering and telecommuting to Jefferson wasn’t quite enough, so Sylvia took a position as Executive Director of the Savannah Health Mission, a free clinic for uninsured. In 2006, she retired again to pursue other interests. Last summer, after seeing a Johnson & Johnson Campaign for Nursing’s Future TV commercial about the nursing faculty shortage, she called the local university to see if she might be able to help with one course. Since August 2008 she has been teaching full-time—courses that she has never taught before—“So, I’m one page ahead of the students, teaching undergraduate generic students evidence-based research, professional role synthesis for RN to BSN students, and Health Policy to graduate students. I’m surviving, maybe even thriving, no time for Alzheimer’s. I just signed on for another year. Who knows? Thank you TC for educating me for a lifetime career!”

Elise L. Lev (EdD ’86; MEd ’79) is pleased to share that she is the Primary Investigator for a grant, “Efficacy Intervention to Promote Research Careers” (Institute of General Medical Science #1R01 GM085383-01; 8/22/2008 to 7/31/12; $1,274,625). The objective of the research is to study a theory-based intervention designed to increase mentored students’ interest and skills related to careers in biomedical research. If anyone is interested in additional information please contact Elise at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey 180 University Ave., Newark, NJ 07102 phone: (973) 353-3832; or (203) 322-9905; Fax (203) 322-6274.

Stephan R. Marrone (EdD ’05) has been certified in Advanced Transcultural Nursing by the Transcultural Nursing Certification Commission. Stephen is an Associate Clinical Professor of Nursing in the doctoral program at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, and an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Nursing Education in the Program for Nurse Executives at Teachers College Columbia University. Contact: stephenmarrone@hotmail.com.

Helen Mussallem (EdD ’62) was featured in The Ottawa Citizen, Ottawa, Canada (12/27/08) Hard Times for Higher Education—Experts predict lots of pain and grief will hit campuses across the country soon. The following is quoted from the article:

“In 1934, at the age of 18, Helen Mussallem entered the University of British Columbia-affiliated school of nursing at the Vancouver General Hospital. She would go on to serve as a surgical nurse during the Second World War, acquire a master’s degree and PhD [sic], and win international acclaim and seven honorary doctorates for the role she played in revolutionizing nursing education.

“They said those were hard times when I was in nursing,” she says. “We knew people were begging in the streets. I was lucky my parents were there when I needed them.”

Now 93 and living in Ottawa, she says tuition was not an issue for her—all of the six children in her family, three boys and three girls, got an education because it was valued by her parents. The family was relatively comfortable. Her father, who immigrated to Canada from Lebanon, owned a General Motors dealership. Mussallem didn’t pay tuition because nursing students worked on the hospital wards, a situation that she calls, in retrospect, “indentured labour.”

Frank Shaffer (EdD ’83) serves on the following: American Organization of Nurses Executives (AONE) Region 4 Nominations Committee and Nursing Outlook Publisher Awards committee; the American Academy of Nursing Annual Planning Committee; Secretary/Treasurer of the Friends of the National Institute for Nursing Research; Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools Research and Evaluation Committee; Co-chair of the Clinical Executive Council (CEC) for a newly created organization, National Association of Travel Healthcare Organizations (NATHO). Frank served as Guest Editor for Training Industry Quarterly, January 2009 and wrote, “Succes- sion Planning” published in this issue. Plus, he has served as Stewart Research Conference co-chair for the 4th year!
The weather: "the west is now my new home." She misses the east coast academics—but not her second term as dean of the School of Nursing, has held her position since coming to Duquesne from Northeastern University in 2002. Duquesne was recognized as by the National League for Nursing as a Center of Excellence, a program designed to recognize schools of nursing that have achieved a level of excellence in one of three areas: Creating Environments that Enhance Student Learning and Professional Development, Creating Environments that Promote the Pedagogical Expertise of Faculty, and Creating Environments that Advance the Science of Nursing Education.

Got Alumni News? Send it to: couriereditor@tcneaa.org

2009 Annual Meeting of the Membership Summary of Actions and Discussion
by Diana Newman

The 2009 Annual meeting of the Teachers College Columbia University Nursing Education Alumni Association took place on April 24, 2009, 4:30 pm in the Milbank Chapel.

The president declared a quorum was present (minimum of 20 members).

The 2008 Annual Meeting Minutes were accepted as corrected. The president gave a report—highlights included: In June 2008 Selected NEAA BOD members met with TC Administration to discuss the future of nursing at Teachers College. Topics such as the clinical components of the graduate programs, nursing education, development of a Teacher-Scholar were discussed, as was increasing enrollment. The possibility of working with the nursing program at 168th Street was also discussed. The group acknowledged the necessity of preparing nurse educators at his time of drastic nurse educator shortage.

The Treasurer’s Report was presented by the president in the absence of the Treasurer: Highlights included: as of March 31, 2009 the total checking/savings amount is $40,463.63; total Morgan Stanley Investments $127,036.56; Total Assets $167, 500.19. This does not include the Stewart Conference income for 2009.

It was noted that the NEAA Board is looking into credit card payments for membership dues and Stewart Conference registration fees. It was noted that two signatures (president and treasurer) are required for checks over $500.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments
It was noted that the NEAA Board of Directors appointed an ad hoc committee to review the Achievement Awards criteria. The committee included: Wanda C. Hiested, chair; Marianne Jeffreys; Cynthia Sculco; Connie Vance; and Caryle Wolahan. Wanda Hiested gave the report and noted that the ad hoc committee unanimously proposed that NEAA membership should be removed as a criterion for Achievement Awards. Therefore, the ad hoc committee put forth the proposed bylaws amendments. Highlights of the discussion:

- It was suggested that non-members can be eligible to be nominated for Achievement Awards and must join NEAA to receive the award;
- It was noted by an ad hoc committee member that the committee believed that the awards nominations process should be more inclusive thus the recommendation for non-member eligibility;
- Members expressed that requiring membership to receive awards would help to increase NEAA membership.

There was discussion by those present that NEAA should develop a member needs assessment to determine what the members value and the future direction for the organization. It was also suggested that alumni who are not NEAA members be queried as to why they are not members and what would be an incentive to join. There was general consensus that strategies be put into place to increase membership including approaching new TC graduates with a one-year complimentary membership in NEAA.

Election Results - see page 2.

Other
Dr Shaffer, Stewart Conference Co-chair, acknowledged the following Stewart Conference sponsors:
American Nurse Today
Cross Country University
Johnson & Johnson
National Student Nurses’ Association
New York-Presbyterian Hospital & Health Care System
Nursing Economics

The next Annual Meeting takes place following the 2010 Stewart Conference.®
Laura L. Simms, EdD, RN, (1919-2009)
Laura L. Simms, EdD, RN, died peacefully on January 31, 2009 at her cherished home in Kent, CT, with loving friends at her side. Dr. Simms celebrated her 90th birthday on January 4, 2009.

Dr. Simms was a towering leadership figure in the nursing profession. Those of us who were privileged to work with her and witness her extraordinary leadership can attest that her passion for and dedication to excellence in nursing were boundless.

Dr. Simms chaired the 1969 New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) Special Committee to Study the Nurse Practice Act. That Committee’s work resulted in the 1972 landmark revised legal definition of professional nursing practice which, for the first time in history, specified the diagnostic privilege and autonomous nature of nursing practice. The definition became a model for practice acts in other states and countries and was incorporated into the American Nurses Association’s “The Social Contract.” Dr. Simms later served as President and Director-at-large of NYSNA.

An Incorporator of the Foundation of New York State Nurses (FNYSN), Dr. Simms served as its first President and subsequently as a Trustee-at-large. Upon her resignation as an active Trustee, the FNYSN Board of Trustees designated her as a Trustee Emeritus.

Prior to entering nursing through the Cadet Corps program, Dr. Simms taught high school English. Her initial nursing preparation was at Parkland Hospital School of Nursing, Dallas TX. She earned the Masters Degree at Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas. She came to New York to seek additional education at Teachers College, Columbia university, where she earned her Doctorate of Education Degree.

While serving as Director, Department of Surgical Nursing at New York – Cornell University Medical Center and Professor of Surgical Nursing, Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing, Dr. Simms pioneered the role of the Clinical Nursing Specialist. Her doctoral dissertation, “The Clinical Nursing Specialist” details the significance of this role in the delivery of quality nursing and health care.

Dr. Simms was an untiring community leader in Kent, CT. She assisted in establishing a nutrition center for senior citizens, served on the Kent Scholarship Committee, chaired the Kent Garden Society (leading a Daffodil Festival which resulted in the planting of more than 10,000 bulbs throughout the village) and was a member of the Kent Quilting Society. A beautiful quilt she hand-stitched in her 80th year graces the front wall of the Board Room at the VMD Center for Nursing.

Among Dr. Simms’ numerous honors and awards are: Honorary Recognition, NYSNA’s highest award; The Driscoll Award, FNYSN’s highest award; and, The R. Louise McManus Medal, the highest award of the Nursing Education Alumni Association, Teachers College, Columbia University.

On Friday, September 18, 2009, the Laura L. Simms Memorial Garden will be dedicated at the Veronica M. Driscoll Center for Nursing, Guilford, NY (Submitted by Foundation of New York State Nurses)

Identical Twin Sister Passes On

Dr. Johanna Roode began her nursing career with five years in Amsterdam, Holland and followed that up as an exchange Staff Nurse at the University of Birmingham Hospital in England, and then another year at the American Hospital of Paris, Neuilly-sur-Seine, in France.

In 1955 Johanna Roode became an exchange student at Mt. Sinai Hospital and in 1956 at Memorial Hospital, both in New York, New York. Her twin sister was already at Columbia University since September 1954. Johanna earned three degrees in Nursing Education and Student Personnel Administration from Columbia University.

She began her North American nursing career as a nurse-instructor at Queens College in New York and followed that as a nurse professor at the Vineland and Rutgers Universities, both in New Jersey. In 1975 she received a PhD in Social Sciences from the University of Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Johanna founded and published an international nurse newsletter, News and Views, in the USA. She traveled widely in Europe to assist in organizing the Bachelor of Science curriculum in nursing education inside the latest ten EU countries (at the time). She lived in the USA during her studies and nursing career. She was a longtime member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing. She is widely published in both the US and The Netherlands.

Dr. Johanna Roode was honored by Queen Beatrix in The Netherlands with: “DeRidder in de Orde van Oranje Nassau.” She held a dual citizenship in the United States and The Netherlands. She is survived by her identical twin Henrica. (Submitted by Henrica R. Morrison)

Nina Baker (1912-2008)
Nina (Bennie) Baker, 96, a resident of Albuquerque, NM since 1983, passed away peacefully Saturday, October 11, 2008.

She was born in Greenfield, Massachusetts on July 30, 1912. She is survived by her sister, Madeline Robbins of Sandwich, Massachusetts, and several nieces, nephews, grand and great grand nieces and nephews.

During WWII she was in the Army Nurse Corps and served as the Chief Nurse of the 184th General Hospital in England. After the war she served in Germany, the Pentagon, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Korea, and as the Chief Nurse of the 2nd Army at the Headquarters on Governor’s Island, NY. In 1963 she retired at Fort Devens, Massachusetts as a LTC with 20 years of service.

She enjoyed photography, travel, and collecting coins, stamps and historical items. Through the years she maintained contact with many of her friends from the military.

In 1983 she moved from Florida to Albuquerque, NM as one of the first residents at La Vida Llena Retirement Community. Her friends there will miss her smile and hug.

The family wishes to express its thanks for the wonderful care Bennie received in the Independent Living and in Health Care facility at LVL.

Cremation has taken place and inurned at Arlington National Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to The Full Life Foundation, 10501 Lagrima deOro, NE Albuquerque, NM 87111, or a charity of choice. ●
The following abstract is from the Awards Luncheon presentation read by Diane Mancino, Nominator.

The R. Louise McManus Medal is NEAA's highest award given to a member of the NEAA in recognition of long-standing contributions of a distinguished nature to the nursing profession. It is named in honor of one of nursing's earliest leaders and one of TC's most distinguished faculty members and nursing department chairs, R. Louise McManus. The 2009 Nursing Education Alumni Association R. Louise McManus Medal recipient is Dr. Barbara Krainovich-Miller.

Dr. Krainovich-Miller’s application represented an outpouring of support with six endorsement letters from colleagues close to Dr. Krainovich-Miller giving testimony for her consistent, outstanding record of leadership within nursing, at TC, and to the broader community.

Reflected in Dr. Krainovich-Miller's curriculum vitae are her professional contributions through publications, research, organizational leadership, and excellence in nursing education. I am very pleased to add that Dr. Krainovich-Miller was notified earlier this month that she will be inducted as a fellow into the American Academy of Nursing next fall. This is one of the nursing profession’s highest honors. Congratulations on this accomplishment!

In 2007 Dr. Krainovich-Miller was admitted as one of the inaugural Fellows into the National League for Nursing Academy of Nursing Education. In 2008, she was the first nurse faculty member to receive the Distinguished Teaching Award at New York University. Collectively, these honors represent only a few of the 25 awards bestowed upon Dr. Krainovich-Miller during her career.

Dr. Krainovich-Miller’s curriculum vitae lists over 150 papers and presentations and memberships in 20 professional organizations. This is not to mention all of the leadership positions she has held or currently holds in many of them! Her 48 page CV also lists 50 publications.

Outside of nursing, over a span of 5 years, Dr. Krainovich-Miller was elected and served as Trustee, Deputy Mayor and as Mayor of the incorporated Village of Garden City, New York.

Teachers College and NEAA are proud to have such a gifted alumna in our midst that represents the values and attributes of what TC nursing education is all about. Congratulations Dr. Krainovich-Miller on your many accomplishments and for accepting the 2009 R. Louise McManus Award.

2009 Teachers College Nursing Hall of Fame Inductee Profiles

David Karl Davis (MA ’63; BS 62) is described by his nominator, Diane Rendon, as “a nurse educator par excellence for over 40 years.” Dr. Davis (EdD NYU) is known for his contributions in the field of gerontological nursing. In 1989 he received the Brookdale Center of Aging Award for Excellence in Leadership and Education in Gerontology/Geriatrics. Dr. Davis is responsible for the curriculum development of the first Gerontological Nurse Practitioner program in New York City at Hunter College.

Sandra B. Fielo (EdD ’78) keeps seniors healthy in an award-winning program she initiated at the Madison NJ Senior Center. In 2008, the program was recognized with the Prescription for Better Health and Wellness Award by the National Council on Aging and CVS Pharmacy. Dr. Fielo is Professor Emerita, State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY where she served as director of The Nursing Center.

John N. Krzemien (MEd ’65) is a career health professional with the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps where he is project officer in the Division of HIV Services, Health Services Operations Branch. His curriculum vitae reflects progressive responsibility in a variety of public health programs including HIV-related community services, community mental health services, community-oriented primary care, health manpower for underserved areas, health maintenance organization development and grants management operations. Dr. Krzemien’s career has earned him several awards recognizing his outstanding contributions and service.

Gail E. Russell (EdD’92) is associate professor, community nursing, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth where she is Senior Research Associate, Center for Policy Analysis and Director, Ora M. DeJesus Gerontology Center. Dr. Russell’s work was instrumental in the development and publication of, “The Conceptual Model for Nursing and Health Policy” with Jacqueline Fawcett, PhD, FAAN. The model provides a framework for analysis and evaluation of public, organizational, and professional polices influencing the quality, cost, and access to nursing and other health care services. (Reference: Policy, Politics & Nursing, Sage Journals Online Vol. 6, No. 4, 319-326, 2005).

Helen J. Streubert (EdD ’89) vice president of Academic Affairs, Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio, Texas is known for her work in the area of qualitative research. Her book, Qualitative Research in Nursing: Advancing the Humanistic Imperative with co-author Dona Rinaldi Carpenter (EdD ’89 MEd ’87) is in its 5th Edition (Lippincott, Philadelphia). Dr. Streubert was inducted into the National League for Nursing Academy of Nursing Education as an inaugural fellow in 2007.

Verle Waters (MA ’60) traveled to New York from California for the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Her areas of nursing expertise include planning, managing and revising educational programs in nursing and other health-related careers; differentiation and articulation of associate and baccalaureate curricula in health populations; integration of gerontology concepts in health career programs, and development of teaching/learning partnerships with nursing homes. In 1989 she received the Mary Adelaide Nutting Award for “outstanding leadership in nursing education of national significance” from the National League for Nursing.
Is there or isn’t there a nursing shortage? May 2009 nurse graduates will not hesitate to answer “No” and go on to tell you how difficult it is to find entry-level nursing positions. Nursing leaders will answer “Yes”—that this economic recession is merely a temporary reprieve from what will perhaps become the worst nursing shortages in the history of the profession. Both answers are correct and herein lies the paradox…and the dilemma. Unaware of the variety of nursing care delivery settings, many new graduates confine their job search to acute care settings and are coming home very disappointed.

As we ponder the future of nursing and the trends that influence the future, it would be beneficial to interest nurses in career pathways outside of acute and critical care delivery settings. Discharge planning; community health and home care; long-term and rehabilitation nursing; school and camp nursing; ambulatory service; prison nursing; and public health; to name a few, are the settings where the majority of nursing care will be delivered. However, talk to any nursing student or new graduate and they will tell you that they want to be where “the action is” which translates to ICU, CCU, NICU, and the ER! It is imperative to expose new and future nurses to a variety of nursing care delivery settings. Nursing programs would be wise to include alternatives to acute care clinical practice in their curriculum and to introduce students to the joys and rewards of community-based nursing opportunities.

There are several healthcare-related bills on the Hill—and many of the components of these legislative initiatives point to the future of healthcare in community settings (i.e. “Independence at Home Act of 2009” H.R. 2560/S. 1131 and “The Medicare Transitional Care Act”). If registered nurses are not available to fill the roles created by these and other legislative proposals, opportunists are eager to move in. The future holds many challenges for the profession—will we be ready to address these challenges?