The College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS) is making important contributions to addressing the nursing shortage and obesity crisis. In addition to educating record enrollments of 404 Exercise and Health Sciences students and 1,206 Nursing students, which will supply the workforce with dedicated professionals, we are engaged in many novel projects that have the potential to become national models for academic service partnerships. As you read about UMass Boston’s GoKids Boston, dedicated education units at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital, the CNHS/Partners HealthCare Clinical Leadership Collaborative for Diversity in Nursing, and Kenya: Heart and Sole, the Afya Njema Project, you will be amazed by the creativity, innovation, commitment to service, and dedication of our faculty. I am proud to lead our faculty, staff, and students as they continue to do great things.

GoKids Boston, a research, educational training, and community outreach center for youth fitness, was recognized in June 2008 for its work in helping to prevent childhood obesity. The center at the University of Massachusetts Boston focuses on physical fitness, healthy eating, and self-esteem for diverse groups of youth from traditionally underserved populations.

Acting U.S. Surgeon General Rear Admiral Steven K. Galson toured the facility as part of his national “Healthy Youth for a Healthy Future” initiative, which recognizes and showcases communities and innovative programs that address childhood obesity issues. “I am honored to have the opportunity to visit communities across the country and meet firsthand with those actively engaged in finding ways to prevent childhood obesity,” said Dr. Galson. “UMass Boston’s commitment to addressing this issue is clear, and I commend Chancellor Motley, Dr. McInnis, and the faculty and staff for their work.”

UMass Boston’s GoKids center partners with public schools, community health centers, hospitals, YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, and others to improve healthy lifestyles in youth from underserved Boston communities, where rates of obesity and low physical activity are disproportionately common. According to GoKids director Kyle McInnis, “The center combines evidence-based behavioral strategies, fun interactive games such as lighted walls and computerized dance pads, and creative curriculum to help get kids engaged and moving.”

A multidisciplinary team of researchers from UMass has received several research grants from health foundations and government agencies, including the National Institutes of Health, to study ways to promote physical activity and healthy weight in kids and teens from low-income neighborhoods in Boston.
Hunger for More: Fuld Trust Scholarships Make Second Careers in Nursing Possible

While Jean McGinty captured awards as a pastry chef and Jon Debach developed software, Salley Burkart balanced corporate books. Around the same time, all three of them hungered for something more. The College of Nursing and Health Sciences (CNHS) at the University of Massachusetts Boston embraced these three career-changers, and the Helene Fuld Scholarship Program is now making their professional goal of a nursing career possible. Jean, Jon, and Salley are three of the ten 2008 Helen Fuld Health Trust Scholarship recipients, all pursuing a BS in nursing, who were honored last month at a CNHS luncheon. Selected from a pool of 121 applicants, the recipients were chosen for academic excellence and contributions to community service. They are the “cream of the crop,” says CNHS Dean Greer Glazer.

The common theme among this year’s recipients is their desire to work with the underprivileged on local or international levels. “Our scholars have rich experience and community service, which they bring to their studies. They set the bar high and deepen learning for everybody,” says John Mascetta, student affairs specialist.

“A calling comes to you at different times,” says recipient Salley Burkart. Hers came during an internship at the Brockton YMCA, working with overweight teens as part of a CNHS-sponsored health ship at the Brockton YMCA, working with over-weight teens as part of a CNHS-sponsored health

From January 31 through May 16, 2008, 18 nursing students from NURS 310, Adult Health Nursing, participated in an innovative model of clinical education, the Dedicated Education Unit (DEU) at two Partners Healthcare patient care units—Ellison 7 at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) and 14 AB at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH). The DEU is an innovative model of clinical education whereby the entire patient care unit is transformed into an optimal learning/teaching environment through the collaborative efforts of staff nurses, unit leadership, and academic affairs. The DEU task force is currently conducting a formal project evaluation study, with preliminary results demonstrating enhanced student learning. Plans to move ahead in the upcoming semesters are well under way.

Ful Thrust Scholarship recipients Shamsheer Bam, Theresa Covell, Evelyne Malloy-Camino, Tiffini Martins, Bereniz Morgado, Jean McGinty, Jon D. Debach, Sara Stankiewicz, and Salley Burkart

New CNHS Dedicated Education Units (DEU) at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) and Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) Up and Running

CNHS students, faculty, and nursing administration. Its underlying beliefs include the vital role played by staff nurses in the knowledge, skills, and values development of nursing students. Staff nurses become the students’ clinical instructors, and CNHS faculty serve as faculty mentors to the staff nurses.

The DEU is an innovative response to the nurse faculty shortage and transition-to-practice issues shared by employers and schools alike. This clinical partnership fosters a collaborative relationship, allowing nursing education to inform nursing practice and patient care delivery, and in turn nursing practice to inform nursing education. The two DEUs also focus on the full integration of evidence-based practice, patient-centered care, quality improvement, safety, teamwork and collaboration, and informatics, which represent shared quality and safety for both nursing education and practice. The CNHS DEU team is led by JoAnn Mulready-Shick, undergraduate program director, and includes Clinical Faculty Coordinators Kathleen Kafel, MS, RN, and Lisa Caravaggio, MS, RN. The college recognizes their leadership, particularly in guiding the students’ DEU presentations “Alternatives to Restraints” and “Pressure Ulcer Prevention Post-Surgery” presented to the BWH staff and MGH staff. The DEU task force is currently conducting a formal project evaluation study, with preliminary results demonstrating enhanced student learning. Plans to move ahead in the upcoming semesters are well under way.

Innovative Collaborations to Support Diversity in Nursing

CNHS, in collaboration with Partners HealthCare (Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women’s Hospital as well as Faulkner Hospital, McLean Hospital, Newton Wellesley Hospital, North Shore Medical Center, Partners Home Care, Shaughnessy Kaplan Rehabilitation Hospital and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital), has developed a new program for its nursing students—the CNHS/Partners HealthCare Clinical Leadership Collaborative for Diversity in Nursing (CLC). Partners Chief Nurse Council has provided close to one million dollars to fund two cohorts of CLC students. One intent of the collaboration is to address the disparity in health care between the population that is being served and the healthcare professional.

Studies show that 25% of the U.S. population is composed of African Americans, Latino Americans, and Native Americans, but they represent only 9% of the nation’s nurses, according to the Sullivan Commission’s 2004 report.

The initiative is the result of discussions held in early 2007 between the senior VP for Patient Care, Jeanette Ives Erickson of Massachusetts General Hospital, and Dean Greer Glazer of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences at the University of Massachusetts Boston. By joining forces, CNHS and Partners HealthCare have, since the program’s inception, supported the clinical leadership development of eighteen racially and ethnically diverse undergraduate nursing students. The collaborative’s goal is to facilitate a smooth transition into clinical practice upon graduation and to encourage careers in nursing leadership. The first cohort, funded for two years, was composed of strong academic students that have demonstrated leadership in class, evolving excellence in clinical practice, and participation in community service. Each student brings a unique perspective to patient care needs based on his/her own background and experiences. Guiding the program are Gaudria Banister, PhD, RN, the Executive Director of the Institute for Patient Care at the Massachusetts General Hospital, and Marion E. Winfrey, EdD, RN, Associate Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

One of the unique aspects of this program is that each CLC student is assigned an individual professional career mentor from among the diverse and experienced Partners HealthCare nurses throughout their time at the university as well as the first year after graduation. The mentors volunteer to help prepare CLC students to overcome the challenges that all new nurses face as well as the impediments encountered by diverse nurses working in an acute-care hospital. Each CLC student also receives financial assistance in the form of payment of their tuition and fees along with a monthly stipend. This support should allow CLC students to focus on their studies and CLC activities. Their clinical rotations occur at Partners HealthCare institutions and they are guaranteed employment at a Partners HealthCare agency.

The ultimate goal of this program is to encourage the leadership potential of students so that they may one day be in a position to significantly contribute to the elimination of health disparities and to promote diversity. Seven CLC students graduated in June 2008. An additional eleven students from cohort one are on course to graduate this academic year.

Kenya: Heart and Sole, the Afya Njema Project

UMass Boston’s CNHS extends its knowledge and expertise to the African Diaspora

June 2008 was no ordinary summer month for a group of health professionals from CNHS who traveled to Kenya for a health promotions project, Kenya: Heart and Sole, the Afya Njema Project. The team included Dr. Eileen Stuart-Shor (UMass Boston faculty), Mercy Kamau (UMass Boston doctoral student), and Shanna Smith (recent BSN graduate from UMass Boston).

The purpose of this project is to improve cardiovascular health in Kenya through development of a feasible, sustainable risk-reduction program that emphasizes self-management. It focuses on surveillance, prevention, and control of cardiovascular/metabolic risk factors and diseases. Including students from the University of Massachusetts Boston and nursing students from Kenya increased understanding of cardiovascular disease in the African Diaspora and provided a transnational exchange of sharing and understanding.

During the trip to Kenya, the team surveyed community assets and individual-level enablers/barriers to cardiovascular health in one province of central Kenya. Over 250 individuals were screened and visited and capacity was assessed for cardiovascular risk reduction in three hospitals and three rural clinics. Prior to screening, a risk-factor educational program was presented in a local language (Kikuyu). Participants were registered by native-speaking-trained personnel and screened for blood pressure and random blood sugar by the UMass Boston/Kenya team.

Following screening, our UMass Boston nurse practitioner, Dr. Eileen Stuart-Shor, met with patients to review screening results, assess medication efficacy, and identify individuals for follow-up. The majority of individuals were not aware of their diagnosis or how to reduce cardiovascular risk. The team found that people have many misconceptions about their health; one common misconception was that diabetes is a disease of the rich. Most individuals have limited access to screening, treatment, and medication.

Continued on page 7
Senior Vice President for Patient Care and Chief Nurse, DFCI; and Frances Madeya for her U56-funded collaborative research with Dr. Mary Cooley (DF/HCC). Dr. Cooley’s program of research, currently funded through an R01 grant award from NIH-NCI, focuses on symptom assessment and management in adults with lung cancer and individual and family-focused interventions for smoking cessation.

**Celebration of Research and Scholarly Accomplishments**

On May 15, 2008, as part of the 21st Annual Research and Scholarship Day, CNHS and the Office of Research celebrated research and scholarly accomplishments of faculty and students. The event was co-sponsored by Theta Alpha Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, and the U56 Partnership with DF/HCC. The program included two keynote speakers: Dr. Barry Franklin, Director of Cardiac Rehabilitation & Exercise Laboratories, William Beaumont Hospital, and Professor of Physiology, Wayne State University School of Medicine; and Dr. Karen M. Emmons, Professor of Society, Human Development & Health, Harvard School of Public Health and Deputy Director for Community-Based Research, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Dr. Kyle McInnis, Chair of the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences (EHS), presented the Spirit of Exercise and Health Science Award to Dr. Franklin in recognition of his significant and substantial research, clinical, and service-related contributions to the field. Associate Dean for Research Dr. Laura Hayman presented Dr. Emmons with a Spirit of Nursing Award in recognition of her outstanding research and scholarly accomplishments and advocacy and support for nurses, nursing research, and the health of the public.

In recognition of their unique and enduring contributions to nursing and health care and collaborative initiatives with CNHS, Dean Greer Glazer presented Spirit of Nursing Awards to Jeannette Ives Erickson, MS, RN, Senior Vice President for Patient Care and Chief Nurse, outcomes in rural China. Dr. Shi is eager to contribute her methodological expertise to multidisciplinary research designed to reduce disparities in health and health care on a global level.

**Dr. Jean Wiecha** joined the Department of Exercise and Health Sciences in September 2008. Dr. Wiecha earned her BA in biology from Brown University and her MS and PhD in human nutrition from Tufts University. With expertise and substantial experience in community-based research focused on childhood obesity, including environmental and policy influences on children’s health behaviors, Dr. Wiecha’s program of research and scholarship includes coauthorship of Planet Health, an award-winning, evidence-based, middle-school curriculum shown to be effective in preventing both obesity and eating disorders. As senior research scientist at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH), Dr. Wiecha cofounded the HSPH Prevention Research Center on Nutrition and Physical Activity to improve children’s health behaviors and reduce risk for chronic disease. Her current research includes the Afterschool Food and Fitness Project, funded by the Pritzker Traubert Family Foundation through the Donald and Sue Pritzker Nutrition and Fitness Initiative at HSPH. At UMass Boston, Dr. Wiecha will continue to provide leadership on this project and other multidisciplinary obesity-prevention initiatives at CNHS, GoKids, and in the greater Boston community.

**Dr. Mary Cooley** joined the nursing department as our first joint appointment with the Phyllis F. Cantor Center for Research in Nursing and Patient Care Services, Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center (DF/HCC). Dr. Cooley earned her BSN from Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. She also earned her MSN, CRN, PhD, and postdoctoral fellowship in psychosocial oncology at the University of Pennsylvania. She provided leadership for the mentorship component of our collaborative initiative funded through a U56 grant award from the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Dr. Cooley’s program of research, currently funded through an R01 grant award from NIH-NCI, focuses on symptom assessment and management in adults with lung cancer and individual and family-focused interventions for smoking cessation.

**Dr. Margaret McAllister**, Associate Professor and Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Program, presented the Capstone Awards to graduate students who were recommended by faculty and presented their innovative, evidence-based projects on Research and Scholarship Day. Recipients were: Alexis Auger, Adult NP track; Michael Dodge, Clinical Nurse Specialist track; and Thao Nguyen, FNP track. Dr. Deborah Mahony, Director of Student Affairs, CNHS, and Dr. Margaret McAllister recognized leaders in EHS and nursing who have made significant contributions to the educational mission of CNHS. Recipients of the EHS Preceptor Awards were: Michael Zawilinski, C.S.C.S., Northeastern University, and Wayne Westcott, PhD, C.S.C.S., SSYMAC Quincy. Nursing (Graduate Program) Preceptor Award recipients were: Eunice MacAllister, FNP, PhD, FAANP, Boston Medical Center; Mary E. Doherty, MS, APRN-BC, MBA, Harbor Medical Associates; and Mary Coughlan Lavieri, MS, RN,CCRN, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Outstanding alumni, leaders in EHS and nursing, who have made consistent contributions to the mission and goals of CNHS and UMass Boston were also celebrated on May 15. The recipient of the EHS Alumni Award was Greg Cloutier, BS; Nursing Alumni Award recipients were Edward Campanaro, BS, RN; Seth Katz, BS, RN; and Erik Parena, BS, RN.

Several new faculty, whose expertise and research complement current programs and will advance the mission and goals of CNHS, have joined us. Biostatistician **Dr. Ling Shi** earned an MS in biostatistics and a PhD in child health and development from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health. She has conducted clinical and community-based research focused on maternal and child health in both developed and developing countries. Dr. Shi holds a bachelor of medicine from Beijing Medical University. Her current work includes evaluation of nutritional interventions for child health and developmental outcomes in rural China. Dr. Shi is eager to contribute her methodological expertise to multidisciplinary research designed to reduce disparities in health and health care on a global level.

Massachusetts General Hospital; Patricia Reid Ponte, RN, DNsc, FAAN, CNA, Senior Vice President for Patient Care and Chief Nurse, DFCI; and Frances Portnoy, PhD, RN, Professor Emeritus, CNHS. Dr. Anne Kibrick presented a research award (named in her honor as former Dean of CNHS) to Dr. Susan DeSantos-Madeya for her U56-funded collaborative research with Dr. Holly Prigerson (DF/HCC) focused on racial and ethnic disparities in cancer care at the end of life. She also presented the Anne Kibrick Graduate Nursing Student Award to Gail Gall, MS, ANP/PNP-BC. Donna DelloIacono, a PhD candidate in CNHS, received the Sigma Theta Tau—Brenda Cherry Research Award for her dissertation research on “The effects of the collaborative implementation of practice guidelines on outcomes of patients with idiopathic normal pressure hydrocephalus.”
Cynthia Aber, EdD, RN, retired as chair of the Nursing Department. During her long and distinguished career, Dr. Aber has lent her professional expertise to many organizations from Georgia to Massachusetts and garnered many honors, including the prestigious Sigma Theta Tau International Anne Kibrick Leadership Award (2005). Dr. Aber’s research and scholarship have contributed to our body of knowledge regarding women’s adaptation to motherhood; perceptions of and responses to cesarean birth and abuse issues; international childbearing policies; and the effects of women’s images in the media. She has published widely on women’s issues and health education in general, as well as various other professional topics.

Lois A. Haggerty, PhD, RNC, WHNP, serves as interim Nursing Department chair for 2008-09. Her research publications have focused on the clinical decision-making of experienced and expert intrapartal nurses in fetal high-risk situations, and on various issues concerning women who are victims of interpersonal violence. Dr. Haggerty has presented at national and international conferences on this topic. She also volunteers as a victim advocate in the community domestic violence victim assistant program in Concord, Massachusetts.

Carol Hall Ellenbecker, PhD, RN, was promoted to full professor. Professor Ellenbecker earned her PhD in Social Welfare Policy at the Heller School at Brandeis University and nursing degrees from Boston College and the University of New Mexico. She joined the College of Nursing Faculty in 1991 and assumed leadership of the Nursing PhD Program in 2003.

Dean Glazer commented: “Dr. Ellenbecker has provided invaluable service to the PhD program, Nursing Department, College, and University. She has been instrumental in recruiting, retaining, and graduating the best PhD students who will be our future nursing leaders and faculty in her role of PhD Program Director…As the administrator of this program, she has developed an exemplary record of leadership in strengthening the doctoral program.”

To learn more about Professor Ellenbecker’s research and scholarly work, visit http://www.cnhs.umb.edu/faculty_staff. To inquire about the PhD Program in Nursing with a concentration in Health Policy, visit us at www.phdnursing.umb.edu.

Nursing Leaders: Transformative Power and Vision for the Nursing Profession

Ada Sue Hinshaw, PhD, RN, FAAN, dean of the Graduate School of Nursing at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU), the nation’s federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing, met with PhD students and nursing faculty on May 28. Students and faculty enjoyed an informal cocktail party at the Wheatley terrace on campus, overlooking the harbor. Later, Professor Hinshaw delivered an inspirational lecture on “Crafting a Career in Nursing Research” and “Nursing Research Shaping Health Policy,” sharing her experience as the former director of the National Center of Nursing Research and the first director of the National Institute of Nursing Research at the NIH. Both topics provoked a lively discussion. The event was supported by the PhD in Nursing Program and UMass Boston/Dana-Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Partnership. Professor Hinshaw served on the External Advisory Board of the U-56 for this partnership, which developed the BS-PhD Program focusing on health policy, oncology, and health disparities for high-risk minority populations.

PhD in Nursing Program: Patricia Hickey, MS, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, PhD (c)

Patricia (Patty) Hickey, a third-year student in the CNHS doctoral program, is vice president of Cardiovascular and Critical Care Services and executive director of the Center for Medical Simulation at Children’s Hospital Boston. Her research interests include understanding the costs and nursing resource utilization associated with tertiary and quaternary pediatric care as well as the creation of healthy work environments and interdisciplinary practice. She also has a passion for advancing the practice and image of nursing and the health of children across the globe. Over the past five months, she has traveled to four different countries, giving presentations and consulting with schools of nursing and pediatric hospitals. She is an internationally recognized speaker and has more than 30 publications to her credit.

Each year, Patty hosts nurses from China and provides leadership and mentoring in hospital nursing. She is currently conducting an initiative that compares results of the Nightingale Metrics in critical care units in Shanghai and Children’s Hospital Boston. Patty created the Nightingale Metrics with Martha Curley, PhD, RN, FAAN, to measure nurse-sensitive indicators in pediatric nursing practice. For the past twenty years, Patty has been a senior volunteer consultant for Project HOPE in Shanghai, helping to build a world-class pediatric nursing program at Xin Hua Hospital and Shanghai Children’s Medical Center. Her global health interests also reach to Central America: She serves on the Board of Directors for the Castaneda Foundation, which provides philanthropic support for babies and children who need cardiovascular care in Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, and El Salvador.

Governor Deval Patrick signing “An Act to Promote Biomedical Research,” which Patricia Hickey worked on for her internship project.

(L-R) Senate Majority Leader Frederick Berry; Chief of Neonatology at CHB Stella Kourenbanos, MD; Governor Patrick; UMass Boston doctoral student Patricia Hickey; PhD(c), MBA, RN; Representative Jeffrey Sanchez

Patty received her BSN from Salem State College, Master’s in Nursing Administration from Boston University, and MBA from Babson College. She is starting to work on her dissertation for the PhD.
EHS Program: Jennifer Barry

“To keep ahead in any field of work, one needs a proper foundation, a foundation that can only be found and built upon through education,” says Jenny Barry, senior EHS student, a personal-entrepreneurial trainer, instructor, and group coordinator of fitness classes in the Boston area. Jenny gives special recognition to Professor Jessica Whiteley, who has supported her in her endeavors to further her career and keep her focus on the cutting edge of the industry. “Professor Whiteley’s classes were enveloped by [her] passion for health and wellness, inspiring myself, and my fellow students to find our own balance and self… She greatly supported me when it came time to make a decision, a decision that has affected my life greatly.”

While Jenny was still taking classes, Professor Whiteley encouraged her to seriously consider an offer from NBC to work on the network’s show American Gladiators. Jenny headed out to Los Angeles where she became a gladiator named “Blast” and gained a different perspective on her career and passion. After being exposed to the television show life, Jenny decided to return to UMass Boston and finish her studies. She felt an inner desire to help others and show people “how to do small changes in their lives that will make large changes for the rest of their lives.” She contends that she found the true value of education for herself. Upon her return, once again she entrusted Professor Whiteley, who “worked closely with me to restart the classes I had to put on hold and finish the remainder of the schoolwork I had to complete in order to continue in [the program].” Jenny is confident that her bachelor’s degree in exercise and health science, in addition to her once-in-a-lifetime experience, will enable her to perpetuate her message that health, wellness, and fitness should be fully integrated within the lifestyles of the people she is working with.

Congratulations to Student Nurses Association: Wins Chancellor’s 2008 Beacon Student Organization Award

The Student Nurses Association (SNA) hosted several events to unite the student nursing community at UMass Boston, including a spring-semester kick-off potluck, a night at Boston Bowl in Dorchester, and a celebration of National Student Nurses Day. The theme was “Making a difference every day.” Sophomore nursing student Renata DeCarvalho highlighted the program with a violin concerto. President Julie Summer thanked the nursing faculty for their efforts with a beautiful floral arrangement, and thanked Student Affairs Specialist John Mascetta and Professor Susan Haussler for serving as club advisors. Vice President Jean McKinnon thanked McGills Uniforms for its generous sponsorship of this event. Then members served cake and ice cream, distributed of the first edition of The Scope newsletter, and provided chair massages. SNA members volunteered this year at the Dorchester High School Health Fair, UMass Health Center’s Red Cross blood drive, the Komen on the Go breast cancer awareness event, and the Alternative Wellness Fair. Students also traveled to Kenya in January as part of a medical outreach mission with the United for African Growth Organization. In March, students presented an information session and recap of the trip, which included a slide show and discussion of international health issues and challenges for future outreach efforts. At the last meeting, Mike Dodge, a master’s student in the acute-care clinical nurse specialist track, spoke about opportunities and challenges in graduate nursing education.

SNA has ramped up membership efforts by redesigning and updating the SNA website (http://www.clubs.umb.edu/sna) and publishing a newsletter, The Scope. It also announced SNA activities in class, and recruited at the new student open house and the accelerated program orientation. To get current members more involved, SNA held two meetings a month and ensured that timely information was sent out regarding meetings, volunteer activities, and social events.

Going forward, the officers—President Julie Summer, Vice President Jean McKinnon, Secretary Deqah Ahmed, Treasurer Brenda Unowsky—and The Scope and website editor, Emily Radomile, will continue to strengthen the club by focusing on additional volunteer opportunities; publishing a new issue of The Scope; and planning more events, including a speaker series on careers in nursing.

On June 3, 2008, about sixty PhD students, faculty, friends, and family gathered to honor their friend and colleague Joanne Marie Garvey, PhD(c). Joanne passed away on January 3, 2008, at the age of 54, after a two-year battle with cancer.

In memory of Joanne, $6,000 was raised for the PhD Program to support doctoral students to attend research conferences. The participants walked the three-mile UMass Boston Harborwalk at Fox Point Basin. As Anna Bissonnette, a friend and colleague, said, “It was wonderful to have the opportunity to participate in some kind of a closure—to honor our friend and colleague.

Prior to Joanne’s death, in November of 2007, Carol Hall Ellenbecker, director of the PhD program, presented a certificate from Dean Greer Glazer and the UMass Boston Provost’s Office recognizing her “outstanding contributions to the profession of nursing and to the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and for her exceptional achievements as a candidate for the PhD in Nursing degree.”

During her illness, Joanne continued to work on her dissertation. In the last year, she met on a weekly basis with Professor Joanne Dalton, analyzing research data at her home. Professor Dalton committed to offering the first chapter of Joanne’s dissertation, “Impact of Formal Nursing Services on Alzheimer’s Care Givers’ Level of Depression,” for publication, making sure that Joanne’s thinking becomes part of the nursing literature.

Joanne received much support from friends and classmates from UMass Boston, including Gail Gall, Debbie Molloy, Vicky Morrison, Linda Samia, and Anna Yoder. In the final stages of her illness, these friends were actively involved in her care, spending nights with Joanne at her home and in the hospital.
The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program in Nursing

The Nursing Graduate Program is in a state of transition as we plan for the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. This degree was approved by the Board of Higher Education in late spring 2008. We admitted our first students into the Post-Master’s DNP this fall and we are accepting new students for fall and spring of 2009 admission. This program is open to all nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists with a master’s degree in nursing. Graduates of this program will be prepared to assume leadership roles and respond to the changing health care system needs in the Commonwealth and New England area. The plan of study (39 credits) can be done on a part-time or full-time basis with both classroom and online offerings. For more information, go to http://ccde.umb.edu/degree/doctor_of_nursing.

We will also be accepting students into the master’s program for the spring and fall of 2009 in one of three tracks (Adult/Gerontological or Family Nurse Practitioner and Acute Care/Critical Care Clinical Nurse Specialist). The post-baccalaureate DNP is slated to admit its first students for fall 2010. For more information about both of these programs, contact the graduate program director, Dr. Karen Dick, at karen.dick@umb.edu.

Kenya: Heart and Sole

After the team’s return to UMass Boston, the results of screening data were analyzed and there was a high prevalence of cardiovascular/metabolic risk factors. The next step is to develop a feasible, culturally appropriate, sustainable risk-reduction program using the Chronic Disease Model, which will focus on surveillance, prevention, and control of cardiovascular/metabolic risk factors and diseases in families of rural central Kenya.

Students and faculty are welcome to join upcoming trips to Kenya; the next scheduled trip is in June 2009. Going to help people in Africa is an experience of a lifetime, and what an excellent way it is to give back!

For more information, please contact eileen.stuart-shor@umb.edu or mercy.kamau@umb.edu.

“‘The UMB-DFCI Fast Track BS-PhD Program has the potential to become a partnership model of ‘best practice’ for educating nurse scientists in the 21st century.’”

An excerpt from Final Report of External Advisory Board/July 2008 by Dr. Rosalyn J. Watts, Emeritus faculty, School of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania; Dr. Sandra Underwood, Professor, School of Nursing, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

2009 GOKIDS 24-HOUR FITNESS FESTIVAL

A large-scale sports and fitness event to benefit GoKids Boston, which

- promotes fitness and physical activity for economically challenged families within the city of Boston and its neighborhoods.
- partners with health care providers to provide physical and fitness training to youth with a wide variety of medical issues, such as diabetes, cancer, and asthma.

From SATURDAY, MAY 16 to SUNDAY, MAY 17
Noon to noon – over 24 hours
UMass Boston outdoor track (8 lanes)
24-hour continuous run and/or walk around track.

FORMAT COMPONENTS:
- Teams of any number from 1 to 24 participants will be accepted.
- Competitions – awards to be given for total distance covered and total fundraising.
- Scoring – timing chip Velcro strap on participant, handed off to next relay participant.

FUNDRAISING: $2,400 per team minimum.

ENTRY: Entry forms available and online registration open on December 1, 2008. Each participant will be required to pay a $25 entry fee.

PARTICIPANT RECRUITMENT:
Teams will be recruited from the various sectors of the community, including:
- UMass Boston—students, faculty, staff, alumni, family, and friends
- Greater Boston schools
- Boston community groups
- New England runners and running clubs
- Governmental agencies
- Corporate teams

ENTERTAINMENT: Main Stage with ongoing acts – musicians, celebrities, dance groups, comedians, movies, DJ. Additional entertainment in gym.

FOR INFORMATION: Email Susan Hurley at charityteams@comcast.net or visit GoKids-Boston.org.

REGISTER: You can register at http://www.firstgiving.com/gokidsboston
The College of Nursing and Health Sciences at UMass Boston welcomes and is grateful for donations from alumni, non-alumni, and funding organizations. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Checks should be made payable to the University of Massachusetts Boston with notation specifying “CNHS” and mailed to: University of Massachusetts Boston, Alumni/Development Office, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Administration Building, Boston, MA 02125.

The CNHS vision is to improve the health-related quality of life of diverse urban populations through the integration of teaching, targeted research, service, practice, and health policy in partnership with others. We are proud to be the only publicly supported BS, MS, DNP, and PhD nursing programs in the greater Boston area and to graduate the highest number of racially and ethnically diverse baccalaureate-prepared nurses in Massachusetts, most of whom remain in the area to work and live.