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SHS Caring Connections



BRANDON UNIVERSITY

Founded 1899

School of Health Studies

Second Intake for Master of Psychiatric Nursing Program

Renee Robinson, R.P.N., Ph.D.
Department of Psychiatric Nursing

On September 6 and 7, the second intake of graduate students to the Master of Psychiatric Nursing program met on campus at BU for orientation and networking activities. The first intake of students joined the new students on September 7 and on September 8 returning students met with faculty members for thesis and research planning sessions. Manitoba students hail from Brandon, Rivers, Swan River, and Winnipeg. Other students come from as far away as Vancouver Island, New Brunswick, and Nunavut. Clinical interests are just as diverse. Demand for the MPN program is strong. The program was launched in January 2011 with 13

students, and an additional 10 students were accepted for September. Spaces in the program are limited and entry is competitive. The students are a dynamic and diverse group which facilitates lively discussions on campus and online.

The Master of Psychiatric Nursing program is the first graduate program to be offered by the School of Health Studies. The program is designed for students who are seeking advanced practice roles in psychiatric nursing
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Why Choose Brandon University for a Nursing Degree?

Tracey Collyer, R.N., B.Sc.N.
Department of Nursing

Pre-nursing students flock to Brandon University from high school, other universities, or sometimes later in life to discover the opportunities available within the School of Health Studies. The Bachelor of Nursing program is a four-year program that attracts students primarily from rural communities across Manitoba. Students hail from Brandon, Carman, Flin Flon, Roblin, Snow Lake, Boissevain, Souris, Cross Lake, and many other areas across the Province to begin their journeys to become nurses.

Enrolment in the pre-nursing courses has been steadily increasing over the last 8 years as
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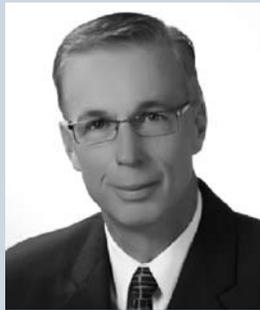
New and returning students in MPN program and three faculty members

A Message from the Dean The Celebration of Excellence

This edition of *Caring Connections* features Celebration of Excellence as a central theme. We celebrate excellence because being recognized by one's peers, family, and organization can be an important motivator of behaviour. Recognizing others for their accomplishments places value and worth on hard work and the pursuit of excellence. The recognition we extend establishes a benchmark or a standard for others to strive to achieve. These standards of excellence help us focus our attention on what is important. Kouzes and Posner call this "encouraging the heart". When we publically celebrate excellence it sets expectations for others to set their sights high and to perform at their best. This then becomes a type of self-fulfilling prophecy. Research on self-fulfilling prophecies provides evidence that people will act in ways that are consistent with our expectations of them. Canadian self-help author Brian Tracy once said: "We will always tend to fulfill our own expectation of ourselves".

"Recognizing others for their accomplishments places value and worth on hard work and the pursuit of excellence. The recognition we extend establishes a benchmark or a standard for others to strive to achieve."

In summary, when a culture or climate of excellence is established in an organization, members of that organization can then join together as a community in celebration. Celebrating and recognizing others achievements contributes to our collective strength; fosters healthy relationships; builds character; and contributes to a sense of community in our organization.



Dr. Dean Care, RN, PhD
Dean and Professor
School of Health
Studies

In keeping with the spirit of celebration, this edition of *Caring Connections* highlights the accomplishments of faculty members, staff, and students. We are particularly pleased to welcome those new faculty members and staff who recently joined the School. I know they will bring new ideas and perspectives that will benefit the students we serve and the programs we deliver.

The School of Health Studies also celebrates the achievement of our students who have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or better by placing them on the Dean's Honour Roll. This significant milestone is recognition of students' effort, dedication, and commitment to their studies.

Pre-Psychiatric Nursing Year Has Benefits

Dan Taylor, R.P.N., R.N., M.D.E.
Department of Psychiatric Nursing

Last year the "pre-psychiatric nursing" year was initiated within the Department of Psychiatric Nursing and the change is showing benefits. The student numbers are growing and retention rates are increasing. Currently, more than 200 students are enrolled in the pre-psychiatric nursing year, 60 in Brandon and 150 at the Winnipeg campus. Over 400 students are engaged at varying stages of the four-year program.

Students with an interest, but perhaps not a clear understanding of the demands and nature of psychiatric nursing, now are able take foundational courses to "test the waters" during the first or "pre-psychiatric nursing" year. Should students find that the program matches their skills and desires, they can apply for formal entry into the second year of the four-year program. The first year contains all the other necessary courses for the program delivered by other faculties. Subsequent courses in years 2 through 4 are psychiatric nursing courses.

Having only psychiatric nursing courses in years 2 through 4 has permitted development of a program-specific timetable thus avoiding the restrictions that accompanied the use of the broader university timetable. The combination of courses from other faculties and the university timetable placed significant restrictions on the ability of faculty members to offer sustained clinical experiences. Such experiences are critical to the development of skilled practitioners. Currently, psychiatric nursing courses are taught at a slightly increased rate to enable full-day, full-week integrated clinical experiences at the end of each term, in addition to the 8-week senior practicum in the fourth year. The uninterrupted nature of these practica removes the need for students to leave the clinical areas to attend classes, and facilitates a deeper understanding and application of theory to practice. Students report feeling more comfortable, developing at a faster rate, growing more confident in their clinical skills, and gaining a better sense of "real world" psychiatric nursing.

"Students with an interest, but perhaps not a clear understanding of the demands and nature of psychiatric nursing, now are able to take foundation courses to 'test the waters' during the first or 'pre-psychiatric nursing' year."



Why Choose Brandon University for a Nursing Degree?

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students clearly enjoy the benefits of attending a smaller university. Forty-eight students are accepted each year into the second year of the Bachelor of Nursing program. The last few years, incoming classes have reached full capacity. At Brandon University students have the advantage of getting to know their professors and classmates on a personal level as class sizes remain small and course assistance is readily available. The Bachelor of Nursing program has a phenomenal group of experienced faculty who are described by students as "approachable, inspiring teachers who go above and beyond".

The opportunity to connect with students and faculty in a personalized atmosphere combined with the physical attractiveness of a newly constructed Health Studies Complex, equates to an optimal learning environment. The on-site computer lab and modern clinical teaching lab provide students with up-to-date technology and state-of-the-art equipment. A wide variety of unique and exciting clinical opportunities exist throughout the program in acute care settings, long term care facilities, rural hospitals, mental health, and community placements. The senior practicum clinical experience is the final course of the program and the goal is to assist students in making the

transition from student nurse to the professional practice role of a registered nurse. Students choose areas such as the emergency room, labour and delivery, public health, medical/surgical units, intensive care units, pediatric units, and rural/northern hospitals for this experience.

Incoming students often cite the reputation of the Bachelor of Nursing program offered at Brandon University as excellent and a primary reason for choosing this University. The School of Health Studies at Brandon University offers a great opportunity to make the dream of becoming a nurse a reality with endless exciting career opportunities awaiting its graduates.

Dr. Care Honoured with Award of Distinction

Dr. W. Dean Care received the *College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba Board of Directors Award of Distinction* at the Annual Nursing Awards Banquet in Winnipeg on May 12, 2011. This award is presented to a registered nurse who has made an outstanding contribution to the nursing profession at the provincial, national, or international level. The CRNM Board confers only one such award each year. Dr. Care has been an exemplary leader in nursing education in Manitoba for over 25 years, holding senior leadership positions at St. Boniface Hospital School of Nursing, the University of Manitoba Faculty of Nursing and for the past 2 ½ years as Dean of the School of Health Studies at Brandon University.



Dr. Care receives Award of Distinction from CRNM President Robin Finney.

Dr. Care has demonstrated creativity and innovation in the development and delivery of nursing courses by distance to students residing and working in rural and northern regions. As Dean, he took a lead role at Brandon University in establishing the only Master of Psychiatric Nursing program in Canada. He has been awarded in excess of \$600,000 in research funding in the past 10 years, as principal or co-investigator, while also holding senior administrative positions in nursing education. His established research and publication record attest to his consistent contribution to nursing knowledge. Dr. Care holds a Master of Education from the University of Manitoba and a Doctorate in Education from Nova Southeastern University in Florida.

Second Intake for Master of Psychiatric Nursing Program

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and offers streams in advanced clinical practice, administration, and education. Brandon University is a leader in psychiatric nursing education. The MPN program is the first of its kind in Canada. In 1995 Brandon University launched the Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing program which was also a first in Canada.

The Master of Psychiatric Nursing program is designed to build on the expertise of practicing psychiatric nurses, and to facilitate access for practicing psychiatric nurses. The program is delivered online with periodic on-campus sessions. Students can select full or part-time study. The program consists of 33 credit hours including a thesis. Intake occurs annually in September with a March 1 deadline for application. Information is online at <http://www.brandonu.ca/health-studies/programs/master-of-psychiatric-nursing/>. Dr. Noreen Ek, Acting Coordinator, is available at 204-727-7432 or at ek@brandonu.ca.

Dr. Renee Will Retires

Kathryn Hyndman, R.N., Ph.D.
Department of Nursing

Dr. Renee Will served the School of Health Studies for 20 years and has earned great respect for a distinguished career as a university educator. Her publications, book chapters, and numerous presentations have and will continue to serve the nursing community in years to come.

In 1991, Dr. Will began her career at Brandon University as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Nursing and Health Studies, in the Faculty of Science. She was a keen supporter of nursing and psychiatric nursing education at Brandon University and a key participant in the development of the early programs. She earned her Doctorate in Education in 2001 from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. In 2002 she was promoted to Associate Professor in recognition of her teaching, research, and community service as well as her many roles in the broader nursing community in Brandon and surrounding health regions.

In 2004 Renee joined the undergraduate faculty in the new



Dr. Will (centre right) and early nursing and psychiatric nursing education supporters at BU, Dr. William Paton, Dr. Shirley Paine, and Dr. Rod McGinn (left to right).

4-year Bachelor of Nursing Program and became a strong foundation in the Nursing Department. Renee mentored several new faculty members and carried a heavy load of committee and chair responsibilities. She supported, coached, challenged, and guided a new department through many growing pains. Many of us marveled at the ways she could conceptualize courses, design creative and innovative learning strategies, and implement novel evaluation methods. She was the first

faculty member in Science to fully use WEB-CT and teach courses on-line. She mentored many new faculty members in learning to use Moodle to teach and enhance student learning.

Renee's passion and commitment in serving the palliative care community has been inspirational. In this role as a servant leader, she worked tirelessly at the Brandon hospital, in the community hospice movement, and with nursing and psychiatric nursing students whom she taught, mentored, and motivated in palliative care. Renee modeled excellence in community service. She earned the honour of being the first Norma Wylie Professor of Palliative Care at BU (2006-2009) and received the Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Community Service in 2009.

As Dr. Will retires from full-time work at BU, she leaves behind a legacy of excellence in teaching, a passion for learning, and a deep commitment to improving health in palliative care. The Westman community has been enriched through her many contributions. Her many colleagues in the School of Health Studies wish her all the very best in the future!

Paquette Recognized for Excellence in Community Service

Darlene Paquette received the *BU Board of Governors' Award for Excellence in Community Service*. This award gives recognition to a university employee who through cumulative volunteer activities best contributes to the community service function of the University. Darlene's volunteer commitment spans over 30 years. Employed as the technical resource assistant in the School of Health Studies, Darlene has participated in and led many initiatives on a local, regional and provincial basis for non-profit organizations. She has raised

thousands of dollars for the Canadian Cancer Society, adult literacy, and the expansion of a local daycare. Presently, she serves as a member of the Cancercare Manitoba First Nations, Inuit and Metis Community Partnership Committee, the Brandon Friendship Centre Board of Directors, the Art Gallery of Southwestern Manitoba, and the Manitoba Metis Federation Local Area Management Board for the Southwest Region.

At right: Darlene Paquette receives award for excellence in community service.





New Faculty Join SHS

Kathryn Hyndman, R.N., Ph.D. **School of Health Studies**

The School of Health Studies warmly welcomes these 5 new employees!



Thea Dennis

Thea joined the Department of Nursing in August as an Instructional Associate (half-time). She is a Brandon-ite and has lived, studied, and

worked in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and North Dakota. Thea and her family are living here in Brandon. She is also working as a registered nurse at the Brandon Regional Health Centre on an acute medical unit and practices in the community. Thea completed her Bachelor of Nursing at Brandon University in May 2010. Thea brings her talents in leadership, nursing practice, and a diverse practice background in pre-hospital care. Her enthusiasm and zest for the art and science of nursing are notable strengths.



Patricia Foster

In August, Patricia joined the Department of Nursing as an Instructional Associate (half-time). Patricia and her family live in Brandon. She

successfully completed her Bachelor of Nursing from BU in May 2009. Patricia is working half-time on an acute surgical unit at the Brandon Regional Health Centre. Since 2009 she has been teaching at BU as a sessional instructor. Patricia is known for her strengths in leadership, research and evidence-based practice, and her commitment to teaching and learning.

Dr. Ali Salman

This August, Dr. Salman joined the Department of Nursing as an Assistant Professor in a tenure-track position. Dr. Salman was living and working in Windsor, Ontario and in Rochester, Michigan prior to his move to Brandon.

He attended school in Cleveland, Ohio earning his professional certification in registered nursing as well as a Doctor of Nursing (2005) and a PhD in Nursing (2008). Dr. Salman has a distinguished academic record of research and scholarship and extensive teaching experience at undergraduate and graduate levels. He has over 15 articles and book chapters in print as lead author or contributing author, and over 20 scholarly presentations. His current research interests centre on HIV prevention, health promotion and disease prevention, and psychosocial issues in cardiovascular disease with a specific focus on clients with heart failure.



Chris Van De Woestyne

Chris has joined the Department of Nursing as a full-time Instructional Associate. Chris and his family live in Carberry, Manitoba.

Chris earned a Bachelor of Nursing from BU in 2010. Prior to joining the faculty at BU, Chris worked with the Assiniboine RHA as a registered nurse in the Carberry Health Centre. He has extensive nursing experience in emergency nursing, and in working in rural and northern Canada. Chris is known for his strengths in seeing the "Big Picture". Consistent with his philosophy of teaching, he aims to offer a learning environment that stimulates and encourages students to put their knowledge to action while he supports and challenges them.



Sue-Ann Weitkowitz

Sue-Ann joined the Department of Psychiatric Nursing in August as a half-time Instructional Associate at the Winnipeg campus. Sue-Ann lives

in Winnipeg and completed her high school and post-secondary education in Winnipeg. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing in 2008

from BU. Since then she has worked as a psychiatric nurse at the Winnipeg RHA - Health Sciences Centre and in the Clearview Addiction and Rehabilitation Centre. Sue-Ann's communication strengths, experience, and expertise in counseling and psychiatric nursing practice in both community and institutional settings, will be a great asset to students and faculty at the Winnipeg site.

Betty Wedgewood

The Department of Psychiatric Nursing is pleased to announce that it is increasing the Instructional Associate position of Betty Westwood to full time. Betty is a valued asset to the Psychiatric Nursing Program at the Winnipeg Campus and her increased availability for academic and clinical teaching is welcomed.

New Scholarships for SHS

Tracy Collyer, R.N., B.Sc.N. **Department of Nursing**

The School of Health Studies is pleased to announce the establishment of The Jack and Evelyn Gabel Memorial Scholarships. Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Psychiatric Nursing students will benefit greatly from these annual scholarships. These prestigious awards will assist students financially and ease the burden of financial stress as they progress through their respective programs. The Jack and Evelyn Gabel Memorial Scholarship in Nursing will be awarded based on academic merit and the recommendation of the Department of Nursing to the students with the highest overall performance in the Pre-Nursing year who have been accepted into the Bachelor of Nursing program. Three scholarships will be awarded annually for approximately \$6,000.00 per scholarship. Similarly the Jack and Evelyn Gabel Memorial Scholarship in Psychiatric Nursing will be awarded based on academic merit and the recommendation of the Department of Psychiatric Nursing to the student with the highest overall performance in the Pre-Psychiatric Nursing year who has been accepted into the Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing degree program. One scholarship will be awarded annually for approximately \$6,000.00.

Health Studies Lab Becomes Emergency Room

Denise Hardy, R.N., B.Sc.
Department of Nursing

For the second year in a row, eager Mini U students aged 8 to 15 years old participated in the Emergency Room course delivered by faculty members of the Department of Nursing. Students were greeted in the School of Health Studies lab by transformed "Emergency Room Nurses". They were invited to join the team and become Emergency Room Nurses for an hour. Students donned their medical gowns, gloves, and masks to participate in a brief tour of the ER. Mannequins simulated patients and waited "patiently" on nearby stretchers. The new recruits examined lab models and skeletons for a quick refresher in anatomy.

Once prepared, students used stethoscopes, Doppler equipment,

otoscopes, dressing supplies, and other equipment to perform basic assessments and care for their ER patients. Faculty members and their children volunteered to operate the remote control for the voice of a mannequin. Many unsuspecting young students were startled by the "speaking patient". Students came to understand and use the ABCs in basic head-to-toe assessment. Every class used "Glo-Germ" to learn and reinforce the proper steps of hand washing. Students always were amazed by invisible "germs" revealed by the black light.

Dr. Kathryn Hyndman, Professor Nancy McPherson, Student Advisor Tracey Collyer, Instructional Associate Denise Hardy, and Clinical Placement Coordinator Barb Harrison, each lead a class during the Mini U program. Students became ER Nurses every Tuesday



Professor Nancy McPherson instructs Mini-U Emergency Room Nurses

from July 5 to August 2. Mini U students raved about their experiences. One young student commented, "I plan to become a surgeon when I grow up and I will consider this class to be my first lesson".

Getting To Know Us

Faye Simpson, R.N., B.Sc.N.
Department of Nursing

In conjunction with Nurses Week celebrations, on May 12, faculty members and staff of the School of Health Studies hosted "Get to Know Your Campus". This initiative of the Brandon University Employee Health and Wellness Committee showcases specific sectors of the University. In the spirit of a wellness theme, the Health Studies chose to host a "Wellness Tour". Each interested BU employee was greeted with a 'Wellness Report Card' for a quick check-up. The report card included a map to find the various check-up stations throughout the building. The first 3 stops gave participants an idea of their physical health. In the nursing application lab, nurses checked each participant's blood pressure and blood sugar. Participants journeyed to the Health Assessment lab where those brave enough, were weighed and results were

identified on the Body Mass Index Chart.

Participants also focused on mental health. They were guided to the interview and counseling rooms to take a quick 10-question anxiety and depression test. Participants checked out the video-conference classroom, as they took the opportunity to meet faculty and staff at the Winnipeg site of the Psychiatric Nursing Program. From Winnipeg, employees interacted via video conference and participants were told several statistics regarding students and faculty. Unbeknownst to participants a "memory test" would follow. To conclude the tour participants gathered in the Ceremony Room, decorated for Florence Nightingale's birthday. Participants joined SHS faculty and staff for coffee, juice, fruit, and a low calorie birthday cake, all in keeping with the wellness theme. Lisa Murray, Administrative Assistant to the Faculty of Arts, guessed the number of calories in the cake and received a gift



Professor Cathy Foster checks blood glucose of Professor Susan Medd, Department of Religion.

certificate for the Brandon Shoppers Mall. Participants enjoyed learning about their health and getting to know more about the School of Health Studies.



BU Nursing Student Honoured by Fred Douglas Society



Kaleigh Cameron receives Learning by Caring Award

Kaleigh Cameron received the *Fred Douglas Society Humanitarian Learning by Caring Award* at a Gala Evening at the Canad Inns in Winnipeg, in May. The award is presented to a secondary or post-secondary student who demonstrates compassion and respect for the elderly by connecting with seniors in a positive way to celebrate the value of seniors as part of the community. Kaleigh works in the recreation department of Hillcrest Place Personal Care Home in Brandon and is a fourth-year nursing student in the BN program at Brandon University. The award was shared with Lorlai Everett of Winnipeg.

Dean's Honour Roll 2010-2011

Bachelor of Nursing (B.N.)

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Tara Allarie | Karen Gwyer | Kali Peterson |
| Caitlin Armbruster | Meghan Haight | Bre-Ann Robertson |
| Rachel Assee | Kaylee Hines | Candice Sanderson |
| Breanna Biliak | Branden Howe | Katelynn Schill |
| Jennifer Blahy | Kendra Hunter | Breanna Schmidt |
| Carolyn Blair | Lyndie Instance | Brittany Schnittjer |
| Kyla Boehm | Heather Jaenen | Rachel Schroeder |
| Lisa Boynton | Laura Klassen | Nadine Smith |
| Tannis Broda | Olivia Kovatch | Stacy Spear |
| Kelly Brown | Naomi Krueger | Jennifer Stadler |
| Jessica Brunskill | Rebecca Kutcher | Brittney Stephanow |
| Kimberley Burke | Ashley Lang | Eva Stevenson |
| Kaleigh Cameron | Kristin Lavich | Katy Stewart |
| Jacqueline Canart | Jennifer Loepky | Jolie Suidy |
| Jillian Castle | Jaime Lomenda | Shanleigh Sutherland |
| Melanie Chanel | Courteney Low | Jennifer Swistun |
| Cassandra Chisholm | Judith Maendel | Deanne Teichroew |
| Carol Corenblum | Jessica Martens | Tracey Tubman |
| Candice Croker | Lynessa Martens | Jillian Turner |
| Jenna Cutler | Shawna McBride | Tammy Turner |
| Lori Derksen | Jennifer McLean | Natasha Vandenberghe |
| Katie Dupasquier | Ashley Mitchell | Josie Weber |
| Vanessa Dyck | Gwendolyn Muckpah | Michelle Weighell |
| Kaylee Eastman | Rick Nabong | Karly Woods |
| Sarah Fandych | Monika Neufeld | Kyla Woodson |
| Lisa Fleury | Tara Njegovan | Heather Woywada |
| Shayna Foote | Spencer Oesch | Melissa Wychopen |
| Melissa Foster | Danielle Paradis | Ashley Yanchycki |
| Amanda Gray | Kaitlyn Patmore | |
| Jill Gray | Tamara Peters | |

Bachelor of Science in Psychiatric Nursing (B.Sc.P.N.)

- | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Joshua Bray | Kailey Kowalick | Jenna Smith |
| Meaghan Delaurier | Kristina Lindsay | Stephanie Stilborn |
| Chastity Ek | Heather Livingston | James Tavernor |
| Chantal Geirnaert | David Main | Shannon Telfer |
| Bridget Hiebert | Aleksandra Maszczak | Tara Turner |
| Kendra Hobbs | Annette McDougall | Melissa Twigg |
| John Jackson | Hillary Mills | Asha Vandamme |
| Quantia Johnson | Jessica Peters | Carrie Wheatley Cooper |
| Kyla Johnston | Kristen Porter | Kelly Will |
| Abigail Karpluk | Shantelle Rank | Jamie Woodhouse |
| Evie Kay | Elizabeth Redfern | |
| Kyla Knutson | Taylor Riddell | |

Healthy Campus

See the special insert to this edition of *SHS Caring Connection*, and visit www.healthycampus.ca



Where Are They Now?

We are interested in hearing from SHS graduates and sharing their news through the SHS Newsletter. Please send your update to Judy Ramsay in the Office of the Dean, ramsay@brandonu.ca or to any member of the Newsletter Committee.

Krista Carberry (Grad '02 Nursing UofM program/Brandon) and Mike Callahan are the proud parents of Karter William Callahan born June 18, 2011 at 1420 hours. On arrival, Karter was 6 pounds 13 ounces and 20.5 inches in length. I feel very blessed that "Angus" arrived safely and I feel equally blessed to have been shown so much support, encouragement, and great advice from my colleagues in the School of Health Studies as I continued in my role as Instructional Associate.

Tanis Horkey (Grad '05 Psychiatric Nursing). When I began working with geriatric clients I found my current area of interest. I worked at the Centre for Geriatric Psychiatry, Brandon Regional Health Centre for five years and recently started a new position as a Community Mental Health Worker with Mental Health Services for the Elderly. Continuing education remains important to my practice and I am currently beginning my second year of studies in the Master of Psychiatric Nursing Program at Brandon University. I am focusing on clinical specialization with a specific interest in issues related to geriatric populations.

Katherine Pachkowski (Grad '04 Psychiatric Nursing). After graduation I worked as a clinician at the Manitoba Developmental Centre and at the Parkland Adult Psychiatric Unit. In 2007, I joined the Psychiatric Nursing Department as an Instructional Associate. In this position I have been able to contribute to the profession through teaching. I am currently enrolled at McGill University, working toward a Masters degree in Bioethics. I plan to apply my learning and work in this exciting field in the School of Health Studies at BU to the benefit of the psychiatric nursing profession.

Amanda Ward-Triffo (Grad '08 Nursing). I am taking my Masters at University of Saskatchewan and I plan on completing spring of 2013! I am working at SIAST as clinical instructor and Health Assessment Lab faculty. This year I am also going to be taking part in curriculum development for the new class and I am hoping to bring forward the things that I enjoyed in the Brandon program such as front loading skills in the clinical setting! I continue to work on 6A casually which is General Surgery/Vascular Surgery and the Burn Unit. Exciting opportunities have come since I have graduated. I still feel the Brandon program did a wonderful job of preparing me for practice.

Coming Events

The 5th National Mental Health Nurses Conference: *Mental Health Nursing in the 21st Century: Social and Professional Responsibility* will take place in Toronto on

October 26, 27, & 28, 2011 at the Sheraton Centre Hotel. For more information please go to www.cfmhn.ca.

The *Co-Occurring Disorders Spring Institute* is scheduled for June 2012 in Winnipeg! Stay tuned for more information in our next newsletter.



Publisher: Dean Care
Editor: Fran Racher
Newsletter Committee: Debra Dusome
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Faye Simpson
Betty Wedgewood

Submissions to the next newsletter should be forwarded to Fran Racher at racher@brandonu.ca.

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Presentations & Publications

Goodwill, A. (2011). Leaders walking backwards: Aboriginal male ex-gang members' perspectives and experiences. In E. Gardner and C. Kenny (Eds.), *Leadership unbound: Native narratives on building strong communities*. Vancouver, BC: UBC Press.

Pachkowski, K. (2011, June). Living with someone else's decisions: Mental health advance directives, acute psychosis, and the problem of essential personhood. Paper presented at the *Canadian Bioethics Society Annual Conference*, Saint John, New Brunswick.

Racher, F. (2011). Ethics for community practice. In A. Vollman, E. Anderson, & J. McFarlane (Eds.), *Canadian community as partner: Theory and multidisciplinary practice* (3rd ed., pp. 26-43). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Racher, F., & Annis, R. (2011). Honouring culture and diversity in community practice. In A. Vollman, E. Anderson, & J. McFarlane (Eds.), *Canadian community as partner: Theory and multidisciplinary practice* (3rd ed., pp. 154-176). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Healey, G., & **Racher, F.** (2011). Assessing the health of communities in northern Canada. In A. Vollman, E. Anderson, & J. McFarlane (Eds.), *Canadian community as partner: Theory and multidisciplinary practice* (3rd ed., pp. 370-384). Philadelphia: Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins.

Research Grants

Dr. Fran Racher, Dr. Dean Care and **Professor Nancy McPherson** recently received a \$45,000 grant from the Alzheimer Society of Canada to undertake the study *Living with Dementia: The Experiences of Older Couples in Managing Their Lives Together*.



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UNIVERSITY**

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