Dean’s Message

I have been on Faculty now for 8 months and braved a Manitoba winter!

The heart warming piece has been in the reception of a new Dean by the faculty, support services staff, students and the community at large. Many connections have been made because Manitobans believe in bringing all concerned to the table.

I have had the luxury of being supported in the transition by Associate Deans Maureen Heaman (Research), Judith Scanlan (Graduate) and Christine Ateah (Undergraduate). In addition, the Coordinators have played a significant role in supporting the deans and programs: Sandy Gessler (BPRN/Placement); Sandy Kluka (BN) has replaced Penny Davis, Nicole Harder (Lab); Ruth Dean (International) and Karen Dempsey (Student Services). I have excellent administrative support through Jackie Dewar, Marni Laurencelle and Lai Chun Yee.

Much has happened for which the Faculty of Nursing can be very proud. Our partnerships with RRC and UCN remain strong and the relationship with Norway House is being re-examined. We are working with the Faculty of Medicine around the Physician Assistant and NP Programs. We are taking leadership in the Interprofessional Collaborative Education Projects (Fiona Jensen, Penny Davis, Christine Ateah) and continue in our partnership within the AHS graduate programs.

Our students were successful in mounting and executing the National CNSA conference for Canada. The conference programming was flawless and students reported learning a lot from the various speakers and activities. I was proud to be part of this venture and see the students in action as hosts, emcees, and amazing entertainment.

Our staff and students continue to be recognized for their work and research. The Master’s Program is under revision and the Faculty is working toward a new and futuristic Mission and Vision statement to guide programs and curriculum revision.

The Manitoba Nursing Research Institute was awarded a three-year funding continuance and a new and more expansive focus initiated a name change to the Manitoba Centre for Nursing and Health Research. The Advisory Board is being struck at this time and partnerships with other agencies will soon begin.

A major donor event and naming of the Atrium is planned for Nurses’ Week (May 12-16) along with the public viewing of the new simulated learning facilities.

Finally, I would like to thank Dean Care for holding the Faculty together over the past few years.

I am looking forward with great optimism to working with the Faculty and Alumni over my term.

Regards,

Dauna Crooks, Dean
As a result of a partnership between the Faculty of Nursing and the West China University of Medical Sciences in Chengdu, a China study tour for undergraduate nursing students is planned for April, 2008.

“We have had a long-standing relationship with West China University over many years,” explains Dr. Ruth Dean, Coordinator of International Affairs at the Faculty of Nursing. “In the 1990’s some of our faculty worked with the West China University School of Nursing in the development of their undergraduate and graduate programs. This is a new kind of project with our Chinese colleagues and we are very excited about it.” Dr. Ruth Dean along with Dr. Christine Ateah, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Programs and Dr. Judy Scanlan, Associate Dean Graduate Studies, traveled to China in March, 2007 to begin discussions on this and other ventures. The Chinese nursing faculty members were very enthusiastic about the development of student experiences and faculty collaborations.

The study tour is part of a special offering of NURS 3340, Providing Care in a Culturally Diverse Society, an elective offered by the Faculty of Nursing. Five faculty members have been involved with the development of this special course offering: Instructors Marilyn Seguire, Barb Goodwin, and Cosette Taylor-Mendes and Drs. Dean and Ateah. There are 12 nursing students who will be participating in the China Study Tour from Years 2, 3, and 4. There will be classes for the students prior to the 2-week study tour to prepare the students for their trip and cover course content, as well as seminars during and after the tour. Drs. Dean and Ateah will accompany the students for this pilot experience.

While in China, the students will stay at the International Students’ Residence, and some of the activities in which they will be involved are working with senior Chinese nursing students in modern and traditional Chinese practice areas, community visits and other activities in their undergraduate program. In addition, students will have the opportunity to experience the sights, cuisine, and culture of China. “Our hope is that this wonderful opportunity for students to immerse themselves in another culture will help them to provide culturally competent care in their nursing practice with individuals from all backgrounds,” explains Dr. Ateah. “The students are very enthusiastic and anxious to learn all they can about Chinese culture and culturally safe care.”

In part of the first class, Instructor Cosette Taylor-Mendes invited Chinese students from the International Program to meet with the nursing students and provide some advice for them prior to their travels to China and gave the students the opportunity to ask them questions about China. They then discussed how the countries were both similar and different.

The Faculty of Nursing plans to offer the study tour on a regular basis and also to hopefully expand this experience to other countries. “International experiences are being offered at a number of nursing schools across Canada and we hope that this first study tour to China is just the beginning for the Faculty of Nursing,” says Dr. Dean.

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The new Simulated Clinical Learning Centre and Simulated Community Learning Environment opened in September, 2007 at the Faculty of Nursing. This new Centre has been in the planning states for the past two years and has finally come to life! The much anticipated Centre is located on the 4th floor of the Helen Glass Centre for Nursing and an Open House is being planned for the near future (please check the Faculty’s web site for announcement).

The Centre provides nursing students and clinical faculty with a new opportunity that combine traditional teaching methods with education technology. As most educators are aware, today’s learner is radically different and it is well documented in the education literature that traditional approaches to teaching and learning are no longer effective. At the Faculty of Nursing, we are looking at new and innovative approaches to the acquisition of knowledge and the facilitation of learning. Using a human patient simulator is one such way.

Human patient simulation is a strategy used to address the multiple issues faced by nursing education today. Simulation allows us to teach multiple objectives at once, brings learning alive in a multidimensional environment, and increases confidence with the learner, which leads to competence. At the Faculty of Nursing, the clinical faculty and their groups of students have an opportunity to use this simulation resource as an adjunct experience during their clinical rotation.
The simulation experience consists of going through a well-developed scenario with the clinical group. Roles have been developed and each role contains pertinent information such as learning objectives, patient history and information, health care provider’s orders, scenario description, and prompts and questions for the student. All of these scenarios are evidence-based and reference citations are available.

Debriefing is an important part of the simulation experience and is incorporated into the simulation itself. Debriefing is purposeful and is reflective of the experience. A simulated clinical experience can be emotionally stressful and educators must take the time to debrief about what has occurred. The debriefing takes place in a seminar room away from the simulation.

The Centre is currently being used for clinical courses in the following areas: labour and delivery, adult and pediatric surgery and medicine, as well as an institution-based geriatric scenario. While the Centre is still in its early phases of development, additional experiences are being developed for community-based clinical courses.

The Simulated Clinical Learning Centre and Simulated Community Learning Environment was funded by the Faculty of Nursing Endowment Fund.

Faculty of Nursing Open House, 2008

Check our web site at umanitoba.ca/nursing for information about the Faculty’s Open House to be held during National Nurses’ Week, May 12-16, 2008.

Last year’s activities included poster presentations of student and faculty research, health promotion booths staffed by student volunteers, tours of the Faculty’s teaching facilities; as well as an art show by nursing students.

Major attraction this year will be the new Simulated Clinical Learning Centre. Come tour the new facility and watch a demonstration of what this new facility is all about.
On Friday, February 1st, 2008, the Patient Care Labs at the Faculty of Nursing hosted their 3rd annual Nightmare/Nightcare event in the Helen Glass Hospital for Sick Students. This overnight event was a huge success that included 28 volunteer nursing students. Twenty students played the role as “patient” and 8 students were the nurses who came in for a night shift. Each “patient” had a problem that required them to be in the hospital and the nurses had to care for a patient load. The purpose of the experience was to allow the “patients” to have a better appreciation of what their real patients may experience, as well as allow the “nurses” a bit of a glimpse of what a night shift might be like as a nurse.

A few of the highlights are pictured here. The visiting hours were well attended and saw friends, family and nursing faculty come in to visit.

Thank you to all the lab staff who helped prepare for the event and getting the “patients” ready, but more importantly, thank you to Marlee Enns who organized the entire event. Her creativity and organization are what makes Nightmare/Nightcare possible.
The Canadian Nursing Student Association National Conference was held at the Fairmont Hotel in Winnipeg, January 22 – 26, 2008. There were nearly 400 students from across Canada in attendance, along with special guests, sponsors and exhibitors from around the globe. The annual conference provided nursing students a forum for professional development and networking. The theme of this year’s National Conference was Spirited Nursing. Nursing is a demanding career that requires providing not just physical but mental and emotional support for patients. Nurses are concerned with all aspects of health and in order to achieve excellence in this area, must also care for themselves. Spirited Nursing embodies the full meaning of what it is to be a nurse: to care for the minds, bodies, and spirits of our patients and ourselves.

The aim was to examine the holistic side of the profession by focusing on wellness, culturally sensitive care, therapeutic relationships, and self-care for working nurses.

Spirited Nursing was exemplified by the energy of the attendees and the numerous speakers present at the conference. In particular, the keynote addresses by Karen Dunlop, Vivian Painter, and Susan Aglukark were very well attended and each received exceptional reception as these addresses where at the heart of spirited nursing. The presentation from the CNSA National Debate Team also explored areas of holistic nursing, bringing a fresh outlook into patient care from a student perspective. We were very fortunate to have the University of Manitoba Faculty of Nursing’s support. Two members from faculty; Karen Fletcher and Cosette Taylor-Mendes provided sessions for conference registrants. In addition, numerous professional development workshops were offered, including career development, exam preparatory sessions for BN students, an APA writing skills, and a student abuse workshop.

Our National Conference Planning Committee members are leaders at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Nursing. The team includes Trish Farkas (National Conference Director), Jon Bahrychuk (Logistics Coordinator), Sean Share (Sponsorship and Exhibitor/Career Fair Coordinator), Lindsay Maxwell (Assistant to the Sponsorship Exhibitor/Career Fair Coordinator), Poongodi Sampath (National Team Coordinator), Felicia Dyck (Charity Auction Coordinator), Victoria Kulchycki (Social Events Coordinator), Kealy Murray (Speakers Coordinator), and Courtney Teetaert (Volunteer Coordinator). The conference brought together nursing students and professionals from across Canada to educate, network and inspire each other to improve the nursing profession.

The National Conference Planning Committee wishes to thank the University of Manitoba, University of Manitoba Nursing Students’ Association, sponsors, volunteers, and conference registrants for making this conference such a success.
Dr. Lesley Degner

- Award of Excellence, Canadian Association of Psychosocial Oncology (CAPO), May 2007. The award is given in recognition of Dr. Degner’s contribution to the enhancement of psychosocial oncology in Canada.
- The University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Centre Palliative/Hospice Lifetime Achievement Award, presented during the 11th Annual Interdisciplinary Approach to Symptom Control, Palliative and Hospice Care Conference, Houston, Texas, September 28-30, 2007.
- National Cancer Institute of Canada (NCIC) Diamond Jubilee Award, presented at NCIC’s 60th anniversary gala reception, Toronto, November 16, 2007.
- Appointed as a Distinguished Professor, November 20, 2007.

Canadian Nurses Association’s CNA@100 Awards Program

100 in 100

The ‘100 in 100 Awards’ are a one-time award created to celebrate 100 exceptional registered nurses whose personal contributions have made an outstanding and significant impact on the nursing profession. Congratulations to three of our faculty members who are on this honor roll:

Dr. Lesley Degner
(pictured above)

Dr. Pamela Hawranik

Dr. Maureen Heaman
At its meeting of February 6, 2008, the University of Manitoba Senate approved the continuation of the Manitoba Research Institute (MNRI) for a three-year period beginning January 1, 2008, under the new name **Manitoba Centre for Nursing and Health Research**.

The name change is meant to reflect a broader interdisciplinary focus on health care research. The Centre is currently working on refining the terms of reference for the Advisory Board and committees, as well as developing a process for appointment of research and professional affiliates.

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**Dr. Jo-Ann Sawatzky**
Cardiovascular Nursing Research Excellence Award from the Canadian Council of Cardiovascular Nurses (CCCN), October 2007. The award is given in recognition of Dr. Sawatzky's cardiovascular nursing research.

**Dr. Roberta Woodgate**
Nurse To Know. The recognition by Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) is part of their Centennial celebrations. Presented by Prime Minister Harper in Toronto, February 1, 2008, the award is given in recognition of 14 extraordinary and diverse nurse leaders from across Canada (one from each province) for their contributions to the health system and the health of Canadians.

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### Student Awards

**Jamie Penner** - graduate student
- Manitoba Health Research Council Studentship award in the amount of $17,580.00. Jamie’s application was ranked 4th out of 106 applications. Her research will focus on the information and support of family members of dysphagic head and neck cancer patients.
- Sheu L. Lee Family Scholarship in Oncology Research, through the Canadian Cancer Society, $3,000.
- Murphy Scholarship in Graduate Research in Oncology Nursing, $5,570.
- Nancie J. Mauro (nee Tooley) Graduate Scholarship in Oncology Research, $4,400.

**Bella Iomdina** - graduate student
- Child Health Graduate Studentship in Nursing, $8,000.

**Erin Watt** - graduate student
- Psychosocial Oncology Research Training (PORT) Doctoral Studentship valued at $36,750.00.

**Krista Wilkins** - PhD student in Cancer Control
- Canadian Cancer Society Research Studentship through NCIC, valued at $45,000.00, July 2007 to June 2009.

**Trish Farkas** - undergraduate student
- Millennium Excellence Award valued at $4,000, from the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation.

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**Manitoba Centre for Nursing and Health Research**

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