Happy Spring all,

It has been an eventful academic year with many projects and activities to give the impression that time is moving faster than we can seem to be able to keep up! The University of Mary hosted the Higher Learning Commission visitors on campus this February. The Higher Learning Commission is the agency that approves the ability of an organization to grant degrees, and this visit was scheduled as part of the established time-frame for institutions that need to be reviewed every 10 years. For nursing it was an important visit due to our request to offer the Doctorate in Nursing Practice for our Family Nurse Practitioner program. On all accounts it is hopeful that we will obtain approval for this, but we are anxiously awaiting the formal notification.

As the newness of the spring season moves ahead, may your professional lives prosper. May we always be mindful of our actions and the affect this has on patient outcomes.

Blessings,

Glenda Reemts, PhD, RN

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**Awards Banquet**

The Annual Awards Banquet was held on Thursday, April 4. Congratulations to the following nursing students who were honored:

- **Senior Nursing Leadership Award**
  - Rachel Brown

- **Wolf Memorial Scholarship**
  - Nicole Spooner

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**Student Nurse of the Year**
- Christina Haibeck

**Hazel B. Berve Scholarship**
- Trevor Johnson

**Resident Assistant of the Year**
- Alyssa Noel

**Outstanding SPURS**
- Alexa Barnes
- Amanda Molstre

**Outstand Campus Minister**
- Mary Pankratz

**Who's Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges**
- Julia Amundson
- Cassie Geiss
- Megan Goldade
- Megan Naico
- Lindsey Sand

**Presidential Student Leadership Award**
- Mikel Ingemansen
- Lindsey Sand
- Chris Van Horssen

**40 & 8 Scholarship Winners**
- Caitlin Brainard
- Cassie Geiss
- Suzie Ouradnik
- Bailie Ziesch
The 2012-2013 school year is nearing a close which is very hard to believe. It has been a busy semester with nursing practice, NSA and Research conferences, the Spring Nursing Forum, simulation, and of course classes. Everyone in the Junior class was able to participate in two simulations this semester; one adult simulation and the other “Noelle” giving birth to “Baby Hal”. This was the first semester utilizing the birthing simulation and it went quite well.

On behalf of the faculty, we pray you remain calm, cool, and collected as you complete those papers, presentations, competencies, and finals!

Have a great rest of the semester – may you experience personal joy and professional growth this summer. Be safe – see you next fall!

Mary Beth Johnson
Junior Level Coordinator

As the year comes to a close, there are many things to celebrate. There was the celebration of the last final test, the last paper, the last day of clinical, and the acceptance of first jobs in nursing. In May, we will celebrate the graduating class of 2013 both in nursing and across campus. On Easter, we celebrated Christ rising from the dead and bringing each of us a new beginning. Spring also reminds us of new life, (although, this year we have yet to see the new life.) Students and alumni, as you spread your wings and start a new chapter of your life, remember how you got to this point. Remember the blood, sweat, and tears you shed to be a successful nursing student and soon nurse. Remember your Benedictine Values, your ABGs, and for gosh sakes don’t forget how to read those EKG strips. Most of all, remember that the UMary Nursing faculty are praying for your success as a nurse. We are proud of you!

Sara Gebhardt
Senior Level Coordinator

The LPN-BSN Degree Completion Program is strong and growing. The First Year Class of 16 students is completing their second semester of coursework and all of the students are registered for Summer and Fall classes. The Second Year Class of 9 students will be participating in Pinning and Graduation Ceremonies in May and finishing up the last of their course work by July. Interest in the Program remains very high, with nearly 150 inquiries received so far this year.

Joan Doerner
Coordinator of LPN to BSN

This year in the simulation lab we added a few new members of the simulation family: Birthing Noelle, Newborn Hal, and Pediatric Hal. Simulation is a great teaching tool to enhance that “hands on” experience and help with student retention of content. Our new simulators help expose students to nursing interventions that they may never experience during a clinical experience.

We have increased the number of simulations that each student will experience in the curriculum to at least eight by graduation. Faculty are also using the simulators in class with demonstrations and correlation of case studies.

We had an open house for the University and community partners on March 22, 2013 showcasing our lab and capabilities. Special thanks to everyone that assisted with making the event a tremendous success!

Molly Nolan
Six people from the University of Mary will travel to Antigua, Guatemala from May 5-15, 2013 to participate in a service learning experience through the God’s Child Project. Three nursing students: Briana Bitterman, Trevor Johnson and Samantha Hoffart have successfully applied to participate, as well as Sara Kucera, a lab instructor in the Biology Department and her sister Elise Hocking. Jocelyn Dunnigan will be facilitating the trip as faculty chaperone.

Guatemala is a beautiful, mountainous country, with a rich heritage and history. Unfortunately, it is also plagued by abject poverty. The God’s Child Project exists to break the chains of poverty through education and service. They have built a school, vocational center, homeless shelter, malnourishment center for infants and are now developing a human trafficking program.

Our service group will engage in such activities as building a house for a poor family, volunteering at the homeless shelter, the Dreamer Center School, the Casa Jackson Malnourishment Center and participating in vegetable and C-clothing distributions. We will have opportunity to experience rich cultural diversity and make a difference in the lives of others. Please pray for our group when we are away.

This experience is offered to junior level nursing students each year. The cost is approximately $2000.00 per person to participate and applications for this experience can be obtained from Kemerly Moorehouse, Director of the Office of Global Studies.

Rachel Brown and Caitlin Brainard
You are the winners of the Starfish drawing
THANKS FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!
(Rachel and Caitlin each receive a gift certificate from the cove)

Sierra, Thank you so much for manning the NSA booth at the University of Mary Club fair. The 20+ students who visited the booth are now made aware of the club’s activities because of your efforts!

Julia, thank you for explaining things to me in the OR!!

Rachel, Thank you so much for setting up and sitting at the club fair booth for NSA. We were about to reach out to many freshman students because of these efforts!

Cassie Geiss, Nominated because she’s always ready to go. She goes above and beyond the call of duty to get her work accomplished, and she’s always willing to help another fellow student out when needed.

Caitlin, The smile and hug you gave me at St. A’s this week really made my day. It was just what I needed to get through a stressful time.

Sam, You did an awesome job with your patient last week, especially going to eat late because she was ready to walk. You’re going to make a great nurse!

Daniel, I loved your email about this project! Thanks for helping us to remember to let people know they make a difference!

Christy, Thank you for being “helpful” in ICU. I really appreciate you sticking up for me.
It’s hard to believe that the spring 2013 semester is coming to an end. As it wraps up, we can look back and see how much growth and outreach has happened with the University of Mary Nursing Students’ Association members.

Many new and exciting events took place this semester, including the Student Nurse of the Year award potluck and ceremony on January 25. This year’s top three finalists for the SNOY award were Lance Good, Tina Haibeck and Laura Burgess. After completing an interview with Claudia Dietrich (Graduate Nursing Faculty), Anne Eliason (Sanford Nursing Faculty) and Sr. Hannah (Campus Ministry), Lisa Charlesworth, the 2012-2013 SNOY, proudly presented the 2013-2014 SNOY award and $500 scholarship to Tina Haibeck.

We held the election of our new officers on February 21. We are proud to announce the 2013-2014 UMNSA officers: President: Tina Haibeck, 1st Vice President: Sam Hoffart, 2nd Vice President: Ashley Himmelspach, Secretary: Tina Wallace, Treasurer: Laura Burgess, Co-Directors of Publicity: Bailie Ziesch and Kasey Penshorn, Director of Membership: Megan Goldade, SNOY: Tina Haibeck and Junior Representative: Kayden Candrian.

On January 31, UMNSA members and advisors, Mary Beth and Julie, travelled to Grand Forks for the annual Nursing Student Association of North Dakota convention held January 31-February 2. Tina Haibeck competed for the State SNOY award and McKinzie Becker competed for the State Leadership award. There was a formal dinner with an awards banquet on Friday night, and on Saturday the NSAND elections were held. The NSAND 2013-2014 board is proudly represented by UMary’s very own Tina Haibeck as NSAND Co-Director of Publicity, Caitlin Brainard as NSAND Director of Community Health, and Briana Bitterman as NSAND Director of Funds. Congratulations to the new members of the NSAND Board! UMNSA also received the Membership award at the convention.

UMNSA started a new community outreach program this year for the Bismarck community called Bountiful Baskets. Every other weekend a truckload of fruits and vegetables come to the Butler Center. UMNSA members and volunteers unload this truck and assemble baskets for the Bismarck community to enjoy. Each basket is $15 with additional purchases available as well. The volunteers assemble baskets, help community members get their baskets to their vehicles, and clean up the site. This program has been a huge success and the new UMNSA members are looking forward to continuing this community program throughout the summer and into next year. UMNSA members were also involved in a campus-wide cleanup on the morning of March 28. This was a great success and gave the UMary campus a fresh new look for spring.

As the semester comes to an end, the UMNSA board members have been mentoring the incoming board to make the transition smooth and successful. The new members are eager and proud to start leading the 2013-2014 UMNSA chapter.