Celebrating the 60th Anniversary

Happy 60th Birthday to you, Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health. Anyone who looks as good as you do at this age would be so thrilled. You are still productive, competitive, active and creative in educating nursing students to the highest standards of the profession.

You have grown so much since 1952, when the only program you had was an associate degree in nursing. At present, you enjoy a very diverse student body in age, ethnicity, levels of education and potential in contributing to the future of nursing. About 423 are in the BSN program (generic four years, accelerated BSN and RN to BSN), 289 are in the various tracks of the MSN program (adult nurse practitioner, psychology/mental health nurse practitioner, family nurse practitioner, forensics, education, information systems and postmaster’s certificate programs), and 74 are in the doctor of nursing practice (DNP) program. You have a total of 2,500 alumni from the various programs. Although the DNP program has only been in existence since spring 2007, it already has 26 graduates working in high positions in education and practice. Some are engaged in research and have shared their research in various publications and presentations. Some have received funded grants (continued on page 4).

Historical Overview, 1952–2012

The Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health offers courses and academic programs that prepare graduates for careers in nursing, clinical lab studies and medical and radiologic technology.

The school is celebrating 60 years of providing excellent nursing education. In 1952, the associate degree program was offered by the nursing department 10 years after Fairleigh Dickinson University was founded.

In 1992, the College of Liberal Arts was combined with the College of Science and Engineering to become the University College: Arts • Sciences • Professional Studies. As a result, in 1993, the department was designated as a School of Nursing. In June 1995, following a generous gift from the Becton Dickinson Company, the School of Nursing was named the Henry P. Becton School of Nursing. Another generous donation came from the Roberta Chiaviello Ferguson Foundation. Ferguson was a graduate of the school and her foundation’s donation established the Roberta Chiaviello Ferguson Endowed Chair position, designated for faculty development in scholarship and curricular areas and mentoring of students.

In January 1996, programs in radiography, medical technology and clinical laboratory sciences joined the nursing programs to form the Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health. The allied health technology program was started in 1999. The doctor in physical therapy (DPT) program was started in 2004 as a joint program with University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. The health information management program began in 2007.

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**Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health Timeline**

1952: Nursing Department Founded — Associate Degree

1968: BSN Program started

1977: RN to BSN Program started

1992: University College: Arts • Sciences • Professional Studies formed

1995: School of Nursing designated

1996: Radiography, Medical Technology, Clinical Laboratory Sciences joined the nursing programs to form the Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health

2007: DNP Program started

2012: Accreditation Achieved through 2022

2012: 60th Anniversary Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health
Accreditation — BSN, MSN and DNP All OK

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) conducted an accreditation site visit to the Henry P. Becton School of Nursing in November 7–9, 2011. The visit’s purpose was to reaccredit the BSN and MSN programs and conduct an initial accreditation of the doctor of nursing practice (DNP) Program.

On May 25, 2012, School Director Minerva Gutman received a letter from the chair of the CCNE Board of Commissioners informing her that at the meeting of the CCNE Board of Commissioners in April, maximum accreditation to the baccalaureate and master’s degree programs in nursing was granted for 10 years and initial accreditation of the DNP program for five years. The accreditation actions were effective as of November 7, 2011, the first day of the CCNE on-site visit.

The decision means that the school’s next accreditation visit for the baccalaureate and master’s degree programs will be in the fall of 2021, and the accreditation visit for the DNP will be in the fall of 2016. Congratulations to the faculty and staff for a job well done!

Grants Include from Robert Wood Johnson, Hearst, Others

The Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health received grants from several government and private foundations to support students and programs at all levels. The major ones are described here.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

The school has received six grants from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) in the past four years. In 2009, the RWJF New Jersey Nursing Initiative (NJNI) awarded a four-year grant for $2.4 million dollars to the collaboration of FDU’s school, Monmouth University Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Bloomfield College Frances McLaughlin Division of Nursing. FDU is the lead institution for the grant, whose aim is to prepare nurse educators with intensive clinical preparation at the master’s degree level thus helping to alleviate the critical nursing shortage. The grant, now in its fourth year, has supported 14 scholars preparing to be faculty and using a curricula reinforced with education courses and intense clinical preparation. Four of the graduates are in full-time teaching positions, one is a clinical educator in the practice setting, three are teaching part time and the remainder are still preparing to take the certifying exam for nurse practitioner.

Three New Careers in Nursing (NCIN) grants have been awarded to the school since 2010. In fact, the school is the only recipient in New Jersey for 2012–2013. The purpose of the grant is to support a student pursuing an accelerated BSN program. These students have a previous degree other than nursing and have chosen nursing as a second career. To date, $250,000 has been received to support 25 students in the accelerated BSN program. Each student received $10,000 for tuition and fees. The grant is funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and is (continued on page 3)
Grants continued
administered by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Another Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant for $10,000 was awarded to the school and Holy Name Medical Center in 2011. The purpose of the grant is to develop clinical preceptors for students in the Community Health Nursing course. The preceptors were given three workshops on clinical evaluation, hospice, palliative care and community health, critical thinking and adult learning at the hospital.

Hearst Foundation
In 2010, the Hearst Foundation awarded $200,000 to the school to renovate its skills lab. The renovation, which was completed in summer 2011, transformed the skills lab into a state-of-the-art simulation lab.

Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP)
Since 2009, the Health Resources and Services Administration has awarded funding for the FDU Nurse Faculty Loan Program. The latest grant of $769,000 supports students in the MSN and DNP programs who will take faculty positions after graduation.

Marvin and Alice Perry Scholarship
Alice Perry and her husband, Marvin, donated money from their estate after Mrs. Perry passed away in 2010. She was a former director of the School of Nursing and Allied Health. The funds are for scholarships for nursing students who excel in their studies and are in need of financial support.

Henry P. Becton Scholarship
A scholarship fund was donated by family and friends of Henry P. Becton, after whom the School of Nursing was named. The scholarship is awarded to students based on merit and need.

Becton Dickinson Grant
The development of the doctor of nursing practice (DNP) program of the school was funded by a $200,000 grant from Becton Dickinson in 2006. The DNP program accepted its first group of students (cohort I) in spring 2007 and has since graduated 26 students.

Global Initiatives, United Nations, Nigeria

FDU, a nongovernmental organization, is working with the United Nations to achieve its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015. The University's Office of Global Learning is mainly responsible for this role.

In July 2009, FDU sent nursing faculty members Minerva Gutman and Cecilia Alvarez and DNP students Patricia Ukaigwe and Elsie Jolade to the U.N. Civil Society Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland.

In August 2010, another delegation consisting of nursing faculty and DNP students attended the 63rd Annual U.N. Department of Public Information NGO Conference, which provided an opportunity for NGO participants to exchange ideas and best practices in advocating with governments, businesses, researchers and the public for meeting the Millennium goals. The United Nations is concerned that goals number 4, 5 and 6 — generally referred to as the global health goals — will not be met by 2015 as planned. The theme of the conference was “Advance Global Health.”

The FDU delegation was led by Gutman, and included Ukaigwe, Alvarez and DNP student Sara Thompson. Gutman was also the liaison to the media department of the conference.

The School of Nursing and Allied Health has been working closely with the Office of Global Learning on these initiatives. Through this relationship, nursing faculty members and DNP students were delegates to United Nations NGO Conference in New York City. The DNP students presented a poster for the U.N. Disarmament Committee Conference. In addition, several nursing faculty members serve on various U.N. committees: Minerva Gutman, Aging Committee; Elizabeth Parietti, Women’s Health and Family Committee; and Diane Dettmore, Psychology/Mental Health Committee.

Gutman receives J.V. Sotejo Medallion of Honor
School Director Minerva Gutman received the 2012 J.V. Sotejo Medallion of Honor Award from the University of the Philippines Nursing Alumni Association International on August 10, 2012, in Williamsburg, Va. The award is given to the alumna of the university’s College of Nursing in honor of its legendary founder and first dean Julita V. Sotejo, whose “unrelenting pursuit of excellence was her enduring legacy to the nursing world.”

Educational Partnership with the University of Nigeria
Patricia Ukaigwe and Minerva Gutman are working with the Office of Global Learning to offer the MSN in nursing education online to faculty of various schools of nursing under the umbrella of the University of Nigeria. Four students started in the program in fall 2012.

The National Association of Nigerian Nurses in North America is holding its Third Annual conference on November 8–11, 2012, in New Jersey. The FDU School of Nursing Professional Education Program will provide the CEUs for the conference.
Skills Lab Renovated into State-of-the-Art Facility

The Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health's renovation of the skills laboratory into a state-of-the-art simulation room was funded by the Hearst Foundation. Most of the renovation was completed in the summer of 2011. Video equipment, computers and monitors still need to be installed in the control room that will serve as a faculty observation and debriefing room.

The renovated laboratory simulates an eight-bed nursing unit and is equipped with a nursing station. The patients are two high-fidelity simulators (one 3-G and one basic SimMan) and several low-fidelity manikins. A room equipped with a trough sink with several faucets similar to those used in an operating room scrubbing area is just off the main laboratory. The nursing students learn how to wash their hands properly during their Fundamentals of Nursing course.

Caring for Sim Man in the new skills lab.

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from private foundations and the government.

The various excellent programs were developed by the many faculty and administrators who have come through your portals. Your current faculty are prepared to continue this excellent tradition of keeping high standards. They are also diverse in their specialties, terminal education, expertise and teaching styles. Students not only benefit from this diversity in terms of the teaching-learning process but also from having varied mentors and role models.

In terms of your facilities, you have moved from the Castle of the Rutherford Campus to the basement of Robison Hall in the Teaneck side of the Metropolitan Campus. Then after the dental school closed, you moved to the fourth floor of Dickinson Hall on the Hackensack side of the Metropolitan Campus. This is where you are celebrating your 60th birthday. Last summer, the skills lab was renovated to a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory equipped with several low-fidelity and a couple of high-fidelity simulation manikins (SimMan). Your students and faculty are learning from these computerized manikins, and sometimes it is so real that some of the students are taken aback by the responses programmed into the case scenarios.

Your influence in nursing education is global now. The faculty and some DNP students have represented you in United Nations NGO conferences in Geneva, Switzerland, and in Melbourne, Australia. In one of the conferences, a young Nigerian student invited one of our faculty delegates to come to Nigeria and help prepare faculty to teach nursing. As a result of this request, the MSN nursing education track is now being delivered online to some faculty members in a Nigerian university.

To your alumni, I greet them warmly on this momentous occasion. Whether you graduated only a year ago or several decades ago, this reunion or anniversary is a time to celebrate your Henry P. Becton School of Nursing and Allied Health experience. I encourage you to maintain your ties with your alma mater, because it gave you one of your best educational experiences, and it will be here for generations to come! I hope you have great memories of this educational experience. Best wishes and congratulations for reaching this milestone!

— Minerva S. Guttman

Quote from Florence Nightingale

“Nursing is an art: and if it is to be made an art, it requires an exclusive devotion as hard a preparation, as any painter's or sculptor's work; for what is the having to do with dead canvas or dead marble, compared with having to do with the living body, the temple of God's spirit? It is one of the Fine Arts: I had almost said the finest of Fine Arts.”

— Florence Nightingale