News from Judy Gardner, Chair

This, my first year as department chair has been full of memories. We enjoyed celebrating the 45th anniversary of Gustavus Adolphus Nursing on homecoming weekend and many of you were there to make the day rewarding for us all. Those of you who attended also came to the dedication of Mattson Hall, our new nursing home. We are enjoying being on the “southwest campus” with spacious lab, connecting classroom and beautiful offices. Although we miss Old Main, we love not having to climb up three flights of steps to reach our department and we enjoy the view of seasonal changes in the arboretum. Come visit at Homecoming, October 7, 2006.

Pinning on Saturday, May 6, 2006 took place in Christ Chapel after the Honors Day celebration. As usual there were many proud families joining us for the ceremony and seniors shared some of their research endeavors with us before receiving their pins. The luncheon following pinning was delicious and the seniors created a wonderful program of memories for us all. Their class picture on the steps of Old Main is on our picture wall in the classroom. Remember that they were the students who had to move in January and help us settle into our new home.

We had many memories of celebrations in the department in Old Main and Mattson when Linda Elvee retired in December. We were not sure what we would do without Linda. It just wouldn’t be the same. Well, we were very lucky in our search for a new Administrative Assistant, and Lisa Koppelman joined us on the last school day in December. She and Linda worked together in January to make a smooth transition. Lisa is a wonderful addition to the nursing department. Her cheerful voice will welcome you when you call and you will always get a prompt response when you contact the nursing department for any information. Meet her on Monday, Wednesday or Friday when you stop in to see us.

We remembered “the good old days” when we initiated a new curriculum this year and expanded our enrollment from 20 to 24 per class. The junior class was subjected to total
immersion with four nursing courses in the fall semester. Healthcare Issues, a new course, is open to more than just nursing majors so that makes for an interesting mix of students. These spunky juniors will soon be seniors and they have already provided a welcome to the next new class coming along in the fall.

Memories were refreshed of two particular classes when Leslie (Boyer) Dwyer ’86 and Juanita (Diller) Olsen ’01 joined our department as our first Lab Facilitators. We had to have more experts on board to help us teach more students in the expanded lab skills and we were lucky to have two of our own alums join us. They were great teachers and lots of fun.

This spring has been, as always, an extremely busy one for us all and we look forward to Graduation on May 28th. Next year will be my last year here at Gustavus. My husband, Rob, and I have decided to retire together and go on to new adventures. With grandchild number ten on the way, we have to be available when needed and we need to be free to travel to England, Japan, Washington D.C., Boston or Kansas City almost at a moment’s notice. So parting will be a sweet sorrow, as Shakespeare so aptly wrote. Come see us when you can. We love you all.

**News from Jane Coleman,**

Just before Christmas break, I was looking through our nursing files in order to write a reference for one of our grads. I was visually and emotionally struck by the memories that overwhelmed me in my search for the file, and wanted to sit down and write each one of you individually. Coming across names from years gone by … reminded me that I have been in this role for quite some time, and that I have had the privilege of meeting many wonderful people. I wondered, where is she? What is he doing now? Wonder if she got into that grad school? Wonder if he ever got married? Wonder if they had more kids … still live in Colorado … Arizona … etc. etc. Ok, maybe it was seasonal nostalgia, since many of you keep us on your card list! At any rate, I wanted to make a point of telling you when I wrote my “newsletter piece” this spring that … I miss you!

In January of 2006 I had the opportunity to co-facilitate a UMAIE travel course to Greece. A colleague from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD and I traveled with students from our two colleges, as well as from St. Thomas University and the College of St. Catherine’s. Only nine of the 26 were nursing students, which goes to show you that Leininger’s Theory of Cultural Caring isn’t just for nurses anymore!! We survived the Greek Orthodox Epiphany celebration, a night ferry to Crete, and a harrowing bus ride to a 16-century monastery built into the side of a mountain. I had the privilege of standing, and reading Ch 13, just where the Paul addressed the Corinthians! What an emotional moment! Many of us ran on the first Olympic field. We just happened to be in a rustic taverna for lunch one day when an earthquake (“6.9”) hit off an island approximately 150 km from our location. Yes we felt it! Students were aghast at the prevalence of smoking and amazed to learn that the average wage for a nurse is about 24 dollars /day. Two
students required an MD visit and came away with a bill of 24 dollars, which included the visit, and three prescriptions! Athens, amid its exquisite ruins, has a state of the art Metro system and yet it is virtually impossible to locate a decent public toilet!! Never the less we learned a great deal about health care in a culture different than our own, and met some truly amazing people. We came away with a new appreciation for life, and I look forward to making the journey again next January. Keep in touch!

Affectionately, Jane   colemanj@gustavus.edu

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our reunion, wish I would have had time to speak with each one of you!! We have been seeking feedback in order to know how to really ring in our 50th year of nursing at Gustavus in 2010! Some, with young children say that a different format is desirable. Others say this was just what they needed, a chance to get a group of classmates together and to be back on campus. So, perhaps we need a dual reunion … and evening wine and cheese and a noon luncheon.

News from Paula Swiggum

Mambo!
That is a Tanzanian greeting – one of many words that became part of my life in January when Diana Neal and I took 16 MINC students to Tanzania for a J-term course, “Transcultural Caring in Tanzania.” While some of you may have taken this course in either Great Britain or Greece, going to a third world country gave it a new flavor. We had a life changing experience learning about Tanzanian cultural values and lifeways firsthand as we met and befriended some incredible people there. The nursing students saw medical/nursing care provided with grace and love and competence with little to no resources. They bridged the language barrier by engaging with the people in a little dispensary in a village in the African bush, by playing with children orphaned by the horrible AIDS epidemic, by singing (in Swahili!) with our new friends in church and by offering support and prayer at the graveside of their first patient who died – a 6 year old succumbing to malaria. As a bonus we came within a few feet of lions, elephants, giraffe and zebras, etc. on safari. We learned so much and vow to return with more nursing students in 2008. I’d love to hear from any of you considering international nursing.
As always I love hearing from you – your careers, your marriages, your babies. And if you want to hear about my two new adorable granddaughters, plan for plenty of time! One year olds, Sarah and Grace are the light of our lives – what a gift!
**News from Barb Zust**

Hello!

This has been quite a year of change, progress, and dedication. We had a fantastic turn out this past Homecoming for the all-class nursing reunion, celebrating 45 years of baccalaureate nursing at Gustavus! In fact, according to the banquet folks we had the largest reunion on campus with 126 signed up for dinner and additional nursing alumni hoping for tickets at the door. As always, it is so good to be together.

I was struck by how many stories I heard amongst conversations at the tables. Some of the stories were funny, some sad, some common, some unique but all of them so important. We have an amazing history as we put all the pieces together. What we would LOVE to do for the 50th reunion is to collect those stories and share them in some sort of a bound format. I’m wondering if there is anyone out there that would be interested in working on this project with us? Perhaps we should collect our stories by classes. As you can see, it is in the planning stage and we could use a boost out of planning and into action! 😊

Thanks to the help of alumni who purchased Gustavus nursing T-shirts at the reunion, we are sending two students to the National Conference of Undergraduate Research in North Carolina during the first week of April. Katie Siebert will be presenting her study on The Perception of Support for Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence in Rural Congregations”; and Courtney Noecker will be presenting her study on Clergy Perception of Intimate Partner Violence Amongst Parishioners”.

My husband, Roger McKnight (from Scandinavian Studies) and I plan to lead a travel course to study national health care in Sweden this coming January. We hope to attract students with the enticing thought of being 100 miles north of the Arctic Circle in January in the little Laplander village of Jukkasjärvi. It’ll be interesting to see how many sign up! If all goes well, this might be a course that we would offer during the summer as continuing education for those in health care professions.

I look forward to staying connected with you; to gathering your stories; and to a continued partnership in mentoring our new nurses.

Take care--- Barb

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**Donation of Gustavus Student Nurse Cape**

The faculty was delighted to receive a beautiful nursing cape from Lois Lindall Miller, Class of 1960, to be displayed in our new department home. Thank you, Lois, for your thoughtfulness. Remembrances such as this cape are cherished and we welcome them.
“News Flash”

Our department is beginning a search for “a full-time tenure track teaching position in Maternity Nursing or Adult Medical/Surgical Nursing beginning in the fall semester of 2007.” We encourage those of you who are interested in a faculty position to contact Jane Coleman, Search Committee Chair, (colemanj@gustavus.edu). We are aware that many of you have obtained advanced degrees in nursing and hope that you will be our next generation of Nurse Educators.

Paul T. & Edna Spaeth Granlund Scholarship Endowment Fund

The nursing department is pleased to announce a new scholarship that will benefit “students for whom financial aid is essential in order to permit them to attend Gustavus, with preference given to a student studying nursing”. Named for Paul T. Granlund, former student, professor and artist-in-residence at Gustavus; his wife, Edna Spaeth Granlund, RN, also a Gustavus graduate; Edna’s mother, Alice Ostrom Spaeth, RN; and their daughter, Gretchen Granlund Musicant, PHN and Health Administrator, this scholarship will be awarded for the first time to a student beginning the 2006-2007 school year.

Alums and Faculty Emerita Helping Our Nursing Program

Barbara Mattson Zust’76 received tenure at Gustavus Adolphus College this school year. Barb received her PhD in Nursing from the University of Minnesota and has been a wonderful addition to the Gustavus Nursing Program. She has mentored almost a dozen nursing students through research projects that took some of them to the National Conference of Undergraduate Research. She was also given the Educator of the Year Award by the Nursing Network on Violence Against Women International.

Kathy Bengston’71 has been the Director of Northfield Home Health Care Agency for some time. We have been happy that her agency has allowed our student nurses to observe the agency’s nurses in action.

Jessica Braun’96 has been a faithful role player for our seniors Family Health performance exam. Kay (Berg, Wold) Moline, nursing professor emerita, has enjoyed the role of patient for the juniors’ first performance exam. Her husband, Bob, professor emeritus, Geology, always comes to visit her with flowers on that occasion.

Barbara Kroll, Jane Vujovich, and others have been active on the MINC Advisory Committee, meeting with department chairs twice a year to discuss the MINC nursing program, current healthcare and agency updates in our state, and nursing shortages. We appreciate their support and good advice.
"Views of Domestic Violence as seen by Leaders in the Rural Christian Church"
Courtney Noecker

Domestic violence is a widespread problem. It is estimated that nearly 5 million women in the United States are victims of intimate partner violence every year (Markowitz, 2005). There are many studies that have looked at the complex nature of this phenomenon and several of these have noted that social support is vital for women who decide to leave their abusive partner (Humphreys, 2000). Often women turn to people within their church body for assistance, guidance and encouragement and the views of domestic violence within the faith community play a great role in the support felt by female survivors (Miles, 1999). There are no known studies that have examined the current view of Christian Church leaders in the rural Midwest States on the issue of domestic violence. The purpose of this descriptive study was to explore the views of domestic abuse held by clergy members in the rural area. This study examined religious leader’s frequency of dealing with this type of violence, their awareness of the problem, their theological understanding of the issue, as well as their view on what responsibility the church has in the matter. The information found is important to nursing in terms of education, planning for health promotion, and in assessing available resources in the rural area.

Christian Attitudes and Beliefs Regarding Domestic Violence and Divorce
Kathryn Siebert

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women in the United States (Berry, 2000). Despite the awareness of the prevalence of this violence, leaving an abusive relationship can be extremely difficult (Jones, 1999). Many victims/survivors have reported staying in an abusive marriage because of religious beliefs (Zust, 2003). Those who leave a violent relationship have reported feeling a lack of social support in their churches (Barnett, 2001). A limited number of studies explore the impact of religious beliefs on a woman’s decision to leave an abusive marriage. However, there are no known studies that explore the attitudes and beliefs that create the social climate of support or lack of support among Christian church members for people who leave their violent spouses. The purpose of this study is to explore the attitudes and beliefs among Christian church members regarding the issue of leaving a violent marriage. Roughly 500 surveys were distributed to various churches in rural Minnesota communities. Although data collection is still underway, descriptive statistics from preliminary findings indicate that 74.7% of congregation members recognized that domestic violence is a problem within the church. In addition, 28% viewed divorce as being wrong, while 91.5% felt it was not selfish for an abused spouse to leave a marriage. In the event of a divorce 94.4% felt they would still have support from their congregation and 88.7% reported they would feel comfortable approaching their religious leader for counseling. Findings may be useful in guiding practice for parish nurses and clergy.
GSNA Updates:

Gustavus Student Nurses Association

The Gustavus Student Nursing Association (GSNA) has sprung into action this spring! March was extremely busy as the Student Nurses worked to earn over $200 for the American Cancer Society by selling daffodils on campus. The Student Nurses who studied in Tanzania during January, with Professor Paula Swiggum, created a booth outside of the Gustavus cafeteria, where they sold African goods as a fundraiser to send a Tanzanian villager to medical school!

April was filled with activity. Student Nurses created a ‘team’ and participated in Relay for Life. Melissa Kittock, Courtney Noecker, and Erika Hitchcock, 3 senior nursing students, were involved with planning and implementing this campus-wide event.

May marked a major milestone in the lives of the senior Nursing Students. May 6, the Nursing Class of 2006 was ‘pinned.’ The pinning ceremony was held in the Gustavus chapel and was followed by a luncheon – a bittersweet moment for students, faculty, and family. As the senior students prepare to be launched into the real world, GSNA welcomed the Nursing Class of 2008 into the Gustavus Nursing program at the annual spring BBQ.

The GSNA juniors have arranged to sell mini-donuts at Gustavus’ Earth Jam on May 13th. The money that is fundraised will be used for service projects and campus educational activities in the fall. The Gustavus Student Nurses have been working diligently over the last few months! The spring has proven to be very successful for GSNA as our organization is becoming more visible on campus!

~Suzie Lange, Co-President GSNA Senior Class

COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLAR

As a prestigious Jay and Rose Phillips Scholar for 2004-05, senior Zong Xiong spent the summer mentoring young Hmong refugee women who recently arrived from Thailand. She worked with them on healthy growth, self-esteem, and leadership skills. Xiong is Gustavus’ fifth consecutive Phillips Scholar, as well as an “Eleven Who Care” recipient (presented by KARE 11 television in Minneapolis) and a distinguished National Community Education Association Youth Leadership Award winner.
In Recognition of Gifts to the Department

Millard F. Hauser ’37
Harold and Marjorie Pahr ’55
John and Mary Petersen ’62
Portia Benepe Rey ’64
Eunice Madsen Carlson ’65
Michael and Barbara Miller ’65
Jim and Michelle Henrichsen ’71
Bruce and Natalie Torkelson ’71
Bradley and Gratia Johnson ’73
Konnie Kube O’Neil ’73
Mark J. Sallmen ’73
Margo Lofthus Marko ’78
Kyle and Barbara Schroeder ’78
Debra Hauge Long ’81
Chris Olson Resch ’82
Jan Schmidt Mussell ’84
Angela Benham Krebs ’92
Trent and Nicole Brown ’93
Tammy J. Klaus ’93
Amy Schilman Mimm ’95
Lynnea H. Piotter ’05
Nancy Happe
Harold and Edith Happe
Mr. Len Kulseth

Our department is very grateful to those who remember us financially, too.

As we experience a sense of being more firmly rooted here at Gustavus we also realize our contribution to the total academic life of the college. In addition to the Nursing courses taught both here and at St. Olaf the faculty also instruct First Term Seminar courses, J-term and travel courses. You may not know that our campus involvement includes active membership on college committees such as the Senate, the Curriculum Committee, the Program Development and Assessment Committee, International and Experiential Committee and Women’s Studies. In addition Barb continues her research interest in Inter-partner violence, Paula studies transcultural issues, Judy continues her international work with perinatal bereavement and Jane maintains her interest in complementary therapies, spirituality and mental health. In short, we put your financial contributions to good use to improve the academic environment
Sigma Theta Tau Inductees 2005
Kristina Anderson, Erica Hitchcock, Amy Huble, Suzanne Lange, Jillian Natwick, Kathryn Sheehan, Gemma Soderholm, Zong Xiong

Senior Nursing Award for Academic Excellence
Awarded to the senior nursing student who has achieved the highest academic record. The award was established in 1985 and first presented in 1986.

Awarded to Gemma L. Soderholm from the Class of ‘06

Faye M. Hershey Prize in Nursing
Est. in 1992 by Barbara Knight Kaiser to honor the memory of her grandmother, Faye M. Hershey, a dedicated volunteer worker in nursing throughout her lifetime. This is an annual award made just prior to the senior year of a Gustavus Adolphus College student who shows promise as a prospective nurse and whose activities include volunteer work.

Awarded to Erika W. Diniz and Jessica J. Lewis from the Class of ‘07

Scholarships Available to Nursing Students

Beck-Proft Nursing Scholarship
Endowed scholarship est. in 1972 in honor of Martin and Agnes Beck-Proft, parents of Professor Emerita Ruth Dannehl (taught 1967-1983), and awarded to upper-class nursing students, as nominated by the faculty.

Kristen R. Hanggi Memorial Nursing Scholarship
Endowed scholarship est. in memory of nursing student Kristen Hanggi, Class of 1983 (posthumous), by her parents and friends following her death in 1982, and awarded annually to a senior student majoring in nursing, as selected by the department faculty.

Kelly Jo Sorenson Memorial Scholarship
Endowed scholarship est. in 1984 in memory of nursing student Kelly Jo Sorenson by her parents; awarded to a promising student by the faculty of the nursing department beginning with the 1985-86 term.

Marjorie Witman Scholarship
Endowed scholarship fund est. in 1987 by Harold F. and Carole E. Witman to honor the achievements of their daughter Marjorie, Class of 1972; it is designed to encourage students majoring in nursing.

Doris Yokie Scholarship
Endowed scholarship for senior nursing majors displaying high academic achievement; it was established in 1985 to honor the former chair of the nursing department, Professor Emerita Doris E. Yokie (taught 1963-1985), with the first recipient named for the 1985-86 school year.
News from our Alumni

Gusties from Nursing Class of 1964

Gustie Nurses had a cultural experience while serving at Rock Point Navajo Lutheran Mission.

Five nurse graduates from the Gustavus class of 1964 traveled to Rock Point the first week in November 2005. Karyl Krantz Blair, Joyce Wallender Johnson, Barbara Nelson Kroll, Diane Kvols Schweizer, Delores Bade Alt and her husband Klaus worked for a week as volunteers with the Navajo community & K-5 school at the Lutheran Mission. Char Olson Jerney joined the group for a weekend visit in Chinle. Char is working as a temporary manager in Tucson. Karyl Krantz Blair was our Arizona contact as her congregation in Payson is providing special support to the Mission in Rock Point.

Since each of the nurses had a variety of skills our work was varied. Our volunteer activities included: teaching science and health classes, sorting through hundreds of boxes of clothes in the Thrift Shop, cleaning the chapel, providing blood glucose and blood pressure screening for the community, screening vision and hearing for the 39 students, attending worship and other congregational activities, reviewed immunization records, teaching dental health and distributing toothbrushes, providing afternoon clinics where at least two diagnoses of pneumonia were made, shelving library books, trouble shooting classroom computers, typing letters for the pastor and relating to the many staff people at the Mission.

We were in the Northeast corner of Arizona. No lakes or forests in this area. The area is made up of dramatic, but poor land composed of red rock, mesas, and red sand. The Navajo people in this area raise sheep or horses or spend the week working in a city a hundred plus miles away. Poverty is high. Life is difficult at such long distances. They must drive fifty miles to the pharmacy, clinic or hospital. The closest grocery store is in Chinle---50 miles away. Some nurses visited a home without electricity and heated with a wood stove. The Navajo woman who lived there had created beautiful rugs from her sheep’s wool all by the light of a kerosene lamp. We nurses were able to stay in two comfortable apartments on the Mission grounds.

The Mission could use more help: In order to fund a new school van they are saving Campbell soup labels and they could use money for their daily church and school programming. The Mission address is: Navajo Lutheran Mission, P. O. Box 354, Rock Point, AZ 86545-0354
Survey for GAC Nursing Alumni

What year did you graduate from GAC? __________

In which settings have you practiced nursing?

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<td>Parish Nursing</td>
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<td>Nursing Home</td>
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<td>Clinic/Urgent Care</td>
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In what departments of nursing have you worked?

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What Advanced Degrees do you have?

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<td>Nurse Practitioner</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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Have you written any articles that have been published in any journals?  
_________YES  ____________NO

Have you held an office in a nursing organization?  
_________YES  ____________NO

Approximately how many years have you worked as a part time or full time nurse?  
______________________

List any volunteer activities in which you have been involved.