I would like to begin by offering congratulations to the 2011 graduates in Nursing and Health Studies. In spite of threats of showers and storms, the school held a modified tailgate party before the graduation ceremony on May 18th. Graduates, faculty and friends of the School of Nursing and Health Studies enjoyed the opportunity to meet and greet. The torrential rains held off until after the ceremony was in progress and the graduates and their guests were under cover. Charles Bolden Jr. the Administrator of NASA, delivered an inspirational commencement address. An excerpt from his speech appeared in Words of Wisdom (June, 2011) The New York Times. You can listen to or read the full transcript in Monmouth University’s web archives http://www.monmouth.edu/commencement/commencementaddress_May2011.asp

Gone are the days when the summer ushered in a relatively quiet month or two on campus. Each year we increase the number of summer courses and programs. This provides an opportunity for students to speed their progress through the program and also contributes toward better utilization of campus facilities and classrooms.

This summer session is truly noteworthy; we begin a major initiative for the University and School of Nursing, a Doctor of Nursing Practice, the first Doctoral program at Monmouth University. We welcome the 1st cohort of students and wish them success as they take on new challenges, enhance professional practice, hone leadership skills and ultimately impact healthcare delivery and services. More information on the DNP program and the requirements for admission can be found inside this newsletter.

On June 7th, faculty, preceptors, alumni, students and guests gathered for our 2nd Annual Distinguished Lecture. This is an evening in which we honor our new alumni and our preceptors for the mentorship, support and guidance they provide to the students in our program. It was an outstanding event and we were honored to have Dr Mathy Mezey, an expert in gerontological nursing, provide her insight into the issues that impact the care of older adults. I am pleased to announce that three additional faculty members will join the SONHS in the fall: Mariama Hubbard, Assistant Professor; Kathryn Flemming, Specialist Professor and Julie Schaaff, Lecturer. We are currently recruiting a part-time Director of Clinical Placement.

Our Anchor Retires - Farewell to Karen Lapenta!
This spring, Karen Lapenta, Assistant to the Dean, retired. If you attended any of our programs or classes at the School, you inevitably met or spoke with Karen. We respected her request for a quiet send off - but as one faculty member said, “Karen has been an anchor for us.” She may have worked behind the scenes - but everyone knew where to find her.

Karen worked at the University since 1995 and for the School of Nursing since 1999. “How can I help” was her mantra. Students, faculty, and administrators would hear these words when they arrived at her desk or called her on the phone. A letter to Karen from a student assistant after she graduated spoke volumes, “Thank you for being a person that made my college experience more rewarding.”

We are sure Karen was a much more valued colleague than she realized. Her innate intuition allowed her to sense even slight idiosyncrasies when “things are just not quite right” with an individual or within the school as a whole. Karen’s words and acts of kindness and encouragement were often timely and much appreciated. We wish her much happiness in her retirement but we miss her presence at the School and we know that you will miss hearing her voice when you call.

**Milestones - Rose Knapp: Submitted by Terry Raskauskas**

Assistant Professor Rose Knapp, DNP, APRN, ANP, ACNP-BC, joined our faculty at the start of the 2010-11 academic year. Dr. Knapp comes to us from New York University (NYU) College of Nursing with a wealth of academic and clinical expertise. She is a practicing certified Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. Her specialty clinical areas have included critical care and emergency room. She has practiced as Nurse Practitioner (NP) in the ER and as a provider in a faculty-led practice at NYU. Her background spans 20 years as a nurse educator teaching students in a variety of settings. She notes that many aspects of her career in nursing education have been rewarding, but a highlight was the opportunity to teach for a study abroad program in Florence Italy. Presently, Dr. Knapp will serve as faculty for the inaugural class of Monmouth University’s DNP program. Her additional responsibilities include teaching Advanced Practice Nursing and Pharmacology. Dr. Knapp advocates the provision of superior, comprehensive nursing care with an emphasis on prevention and evidence-based practice. Her teaching vision is dedicated to a standard of clinical excellence, which includes significant mentoring.

She is the recent past President of the Upsilon Chapter of STTI at NYU and is now the current faculty advisor of the Lambda Delta Chapter. In addition to her public speaking, writing and research, Dr. Knapp enjoys spending time with her husband and twin daughters, who are well on successful career paths. The family can often be spotted in Yankee Stadium as they have been season ticket holders for many years. Dr. Knapp is a welcome addition to our School of Nursing and Health Studies family.

**Congratulations Graduates from the BSN & MSN Program ~ 2011!**
**Bachelors of Science**

Mae Burrell

**Master of Science**

Jeffrey Almazan
Fernanda Andrade-Brito
Narine Azoyan
Kathryn Bates
Nimfa Baya-Howard
Maria Bernabe-Ho
David Ben-Avraham
Mary Bertero
Deborah Cioffi
Lee Ann Colleton
Ann Marie Conte
Colleen Devisn
Margaret Doherty
Renie Ebreo
Deborah Ewtsushek
Sandra Farman
Anne Fraser
Glenda Fulo
Anselma Gabudao
Patricia Gandolfi
Vanessa Garcia
Jill Generelli
Sharon Gilbert
Elaine Greenberg
Allan Guerra
Debra Gussman
Angeline Michael
Maria Ho-Raymundo
Padmavathi Kaval
Susan Karl
Kerry Kornett
Elizabeth Koshy
Rajeswari Krishnaswamy
Amanda Lalicato
Betty Lee
Antoinette Leemann
Sharon Morgan
Deborah Nazzaro
Cynthia Pantazakos
Yelena Rafaelov
Theresa Raskauskas
Latoya Rawlins
Erin Rooney
Michelle Skiber
Catherine Scucces
O’Bella Verdeflor
Francine Wingel

**Graduate Nursing Certificates - School Nurse**

**Graduate Certificate (instructional)**

Marlena Beaton
Victoria McPeak
Shirley Torrillo
Genna Banafato
Eve Fenton
Beth Jameson

**Graduate Certificate (non-instructional)**

Catherine Isnardi
Carolyn Kenney
Anita Liversey
Kathleen Logetheto

**Post Master’s Certificate - Nurse Practitioner**

Eileen Gavin

**Awards and recognition from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing**

- **Deborah Nazzarro (MSN ‘11)** - Received the MSN Academic Excellence
- **Terry Raskauskas (MSN ‘11)** - Received the MSN Leadership Award
- **Susan Karl (MSN ‘11)** - Received the Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database Recognition Award
- **Mae Burrell (BSN ‘11)** - Received the BSN Leadership Award
- **Lisa Kovel (BSN ‘10)** - Received the BSN Academic Excellence
Kudos to the following individuals who were inducted into the Lambda Delta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau in May, 2011.

Chidiadi Agoh    Nancy Carol Flood    Christine Leddy
Narine Azoyan    Jill Generelli     Victoria Daniels McPeak
Patricia Crane Berkowitz    Heather Irene Herbst    Stephanie Melanie Needham
Marie Dunn-Catalane    Karen Michelle Hoary    Mamie Lynn Sperling
Suzette S. Catong    Beth Ellen Jameson     Anna Tupe
Arnold Noble Deluna    Barbara Ellen Kasten     Lourdes C. Vergara
Mary Ellen Engel    Holly Ann Kokes
Jamie Beth Fink    Amanda Rose Lalicato

The Lambda Delta Chapter honors the following award recipients for 2010-2011:

Maureen Bowe - Received the Janice Marchetti Leadership Award.
Tess Medina - Received the Hannelore Sweetwood Mentorship Award.
Terry Raskauskas - Received the Dean Marilyn Lauria Scholarship.
Glenda Fulo - Received the Dr. Carolyn Zagury Scholarship.
Mr. Nino Vasquez - Received the Friend of Nursing Award.

The following students were inducted into the Eta Sigma Gamma – April 2011:

Christina Audi             Alison Joyce             Ashley Malone
Chelsea Dunster   Heather Ashley Kornmehl    Danielle Neals
Stephanie Egbert    Cynthia Varnelle Leger    Adeshola Obafemi
Amanda Gallicchio    Alessandra Lobuglio       Jennie Vartebedian
                        Rosemary Wandel
Congratulations to the Health Studies Graduates ~ 2011

Anthony Appezzato  
Reciel Arribe  
Margaret Babino  
Elizabeth Bredin  
Tara Carloni  
Ashley Cheeseman  
Ashley Cuvilly  
Kristen Duff  
Courtney Dunster

Amanda Gallicchio  
Tiffany Kirk  
Newton Klein  
Heather Kornmehl  
Cara Kovats  
Cynthia Leger  
Bianca Leuzzi  
Harold Nolan  
Stephanie Martinez

Adeshola Obafemi  
Dhenu Patel  
Julio Rodriguez  
Roxanne Rosseter  
Christina Scherer  
Milana Suris  
Ryan Terry  
Jessica Zonkle

Stephanie Martinez (HE ‘11) - Received the Health Studies Leadership Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies.

Heather Kornmehl (HE ‘11) - Received the Health Studies Academic Excellence Award from the Marjorie K. Unterberg School of Nursing and Health Studies

Cara Kovats (HE ‘11) - Received an Interdisciplinary Certificate in Gerontology.

Health Fair – April 28, 2011: How the Health are You?

The School of Nursing and Health Studies conducted their Annual Health Fair on April 28. How in the Health are You? With Dr. Beric as facilitator, students in the Principles of Health Education class with the Nursing students from Community Health put on quite an event. The fair featured health information and exhibitors on a number of topics, from healthy foods to organic spray tans. There was an activity for everyone, including a labyrinth for quiet meditation, Zumba classes and kick boxing. A compilation featuring exhibitors and highlights can be found at the following site http://www.monmouth.edu/wellness/default.asp

Bravo to the students for their efforts in making health awareness a priority.
Milestones - Students and Alumni

Genna Banafato (School Nursing) - gave birth to Anna Renee on December 9, 2010 - congratulations.

Anne Marie Conte (MSN 11’) - This year marks a number of accomplishments for Anne Marie Conte. While completing her MSN in Nursing Administration, she also served as the Mayor of Wall Township. She is a pediatric nurse and is the Nurse Manager at the K. Hovanian Children’s Hospital at Jersey Shore University Medical Center. When asked how she has managed to juggle so many responsibilities she said, “Support from work, the Community, the Township Committee and a great family. Having these things in place makes it possible to balance, life, work and service”. The depth and breadth of her achievements is admirable.

Jackie Ericson (HE ‘10) - has passed her Certified Health Education Specialist Exam.

Erin Glospie (MSN ‘11) & Tara Heagle (current MSN student) - were elected to positions with-in the New Jersey State Nurses Association (NJSNA). Erin will serve with the NJSNA State office of Congress on Policy and Practice. Tara was elected to the Office of Board of Directors, the office of Committee on Nominations and ANA Delegates on the NJSNA Board of Directors. The term for these positions is August 1, 2011 through July 31, 2014. We thank them for the work they do on our behalf and wish them success in this endeavor.

Tiffany Kirk (HE ‘11) – was selected as the recipient of the 2011 Health Promotion Conference Travel Award. This award, funded by the Pfizer Undergraduate Research Endeavors (PURE) program, provided the means for a promising Health Studies student to attend the 21st Annual Art & Science of Health Promotion Conference in Colorado Springs, CO. At the conference, Tiffany attended sessions led by experts in the field of health promotion and gained behind-the-scenes experience as a student intern. After graduating this May, Tiffany looks forward to beginning her graduate work, culminating in a Master’s in Public Health with a concentration in Health Policy. She plans to return to the Art & Science of Health Promotion Conference in San Diego next spring as a graduate student intern.

Carolyn Kennedy (School Nursing) - gave birth to Mikaila on March 28, 2011.

Ryan Terry (HE ‘11) - was selected by the Tampa Bay Rays in the 21st round of the Major League Baseball Draft. Additionally, Ryan was named to the All-American Third Team, becoming only the fifth player in Monmouth University history to earn All-American honors. He was named New Jersey Collegiate Baseball Association (NJCBA) Player of the Year.

In Memory

Nancy R. MacGregor (MSN ’05) - passed away on Sunday, May 1, 2011, at her home. She worked for Claremont Care Center, Point Pleasant and Visiting Physicians of Monmouth County. We extend our condolences to her family, friends and colleagues.
Distinguished Lecture - The School of Nursing and Health Studies offered our 2nd annual distinguished lecture on June 7th. This evening was dedicated to the recognition of the work of a nurse leader and to honor our preceptors and graduating students.

Dr. Mathy Mezey, who is renowned for her body of work in geriatric nursing, spoke of both the changes in the aging population and the changes in the current healthcare systems. A number of topics and issues were explored, including the fact that few healthcare providers consider care of the elderly their primary practice, but most have elderly patients under their care. There is a strong need to incorporate the growing body of gerontological knowledge into nursing education and professional development in most areas of practice. Most recognize that children are not “small adults” and acknowledge the need for specialized care and training. The same concept holds true when caring for the elderly.

Dr. Mezey discussed the importance of the national geriatric initiative to achieve system change in hospitals, Nurses Improving Care for Health Systems Elders (NICHE). She shared a number of resources and encouraged us to pass them on.

The following are free web resources from the Hartford Foundation for students and practicing nurses. The Try This® and How to Try This® series are one page resources for the assessment of adults. According to Dr. Mezey, the series provides a quick review of the topic, assessment process, additional resources and includes the actual instrument or approach. They are available on the web and in PDA format and include topics such as, Cardiac Assessment, Confusion Assessment Method, Beers Criteria for Potentially Inappropriate Medication Use in the Elderly; Mental Status Assessment of Older Adults: the MiniCog; The Geriatric Depression Scale (GDS); Dementia Assessment Series, e.g. Assessing and Managing Delirium in Persons with Dementia and Recognition of Dementia in Hospitalized Older Adults. [http://consultgerirn.org](http://consultgerirn.org)

Dr. Mezey requested that a scholarship be awarded in lieu of an honorarium for her presentation. We were pleased to make this award to two current MSN students, Alda Valenzuela and Michelle Halat for their advocacy of the geriatric patients under their care.

Find us on Facebook - School of Nursing and Health Studies!
The First Doctoral Degree at MU - DNP

The first cohort of Doctoral students began their studies on April 29. Monmouth University’s President Paul Gaffney and Provost Tom Pearson welcomed the inaugural group and wished them success as they embark on this journey.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice is designed for nurse leaders in advanced clinical practice who will strive to address the complex issues that drive the current health system. The DNP integrates clinical research into practice in key areas such as public policy, informatics, business practice, and consumer health.

The next cohort will begin in May of 2012. Applications are currently being accepted. For more information, contact the School of Nursing or visit the website: http://www.monmouth.edu/academics/schools/nursing/dnp.asp

Dates to Remember

**July 21 - Suturing and Wound Closure Workshop**
- **Time:** 1:00 pm - 5:30 pm
- **Fee:** $75  (4 contact hours will be awarded by The Center for Professional Development in Nursing and Health)

**August 30 - Writing Research Papers/APA Style**
- **Time:** 3:00 - 6:00pm
- **Fee:** $45 / $35 for MU Students - This program will provide 3 professional development hours.

**August 30 - New student orientation for Nursing students.**
- **Time:** 6:15- 7:30 pm

**September 6 - Fall classes begin.**

The Center for Professional Development in Nursing and Health is an approved provider of continuing nursing education by the NJSNNA, an accredited approver, by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. Provider number: P242-4/09-12.

Some excellent professional development classes are planned for the coming year. For more information or to register online visit our website: www.monmouth.edu/academics/schools/nursing/continuing_programs.asp. You may register by phone with a credit card 732-571-3443.