

Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing  
 Alumni News  
 Fall 2008 E-Newsletter

**DIRECTIONS-Message from the Director**

Dear Alumni:

This is my first opportunity to meet many of you. I arrived at GSU two years ago following the retirement of Dr. Alice Demi. During that time span a great deal has occurred at your Alma Mater. You will learn about many of these exciting events from the pages of this e-newsletter, and future communication.

The School has been expanded to include CNS and NP options in nearly every clinical specialty in the Master's degree program and the PhD program has nearly 50 students. All core graduate courses (MS and PhD) are now offered via enhanced technological formats with students coming onto campus only a few times each term.

Some of our most positive outcomes have been recorded as results from certification and licensure examinations. Over

the past five years our BS graduates have averaged 94% first time pass rates on the NCLEX, and thus far this year, we have achieved a 98% pass rate. For those advance practice nurses whose certification scores have been reported to us, we have a 100% pass rate.

Our growth has created some significant "growing pains," as we have outgrown our classroom and teaching space; but help is on the way! The structural framework is in place for a new Science-Teaching facility just across the street from the Urban Life Building. The Nursing Skills and Simulation Laboratories will occupy most of the second floor of this new building, the Parker H. Petit Science Teaching Laboratory. Building dedication is planned in 2010; and I hope to see you all back on campus at that event.

And now for some REALLY exciting news.....

This summer the Board of Regents approved our first ever Endowed Chair in Nursing. A national search is underway to find an eminent nurse scholar who will enhance our existing stature and mentor novice researchers. This individual will make an excellent addition to our already stellar clinical and research faculty.

So you see, there is a lot occurring here at GSU and the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing, but there is a void. The void is not hearing from our graduates as often as we would like. I want to get to know our graduates and you can help me. Please keep me informed about you, your activities and your accomplishments, I hope this communication tool provides that access. Keep in touch.....[Click Here](#)

Barb

Barbara C. Woodring, EdD, RN, CPN  
 Director and Professor  
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**Do you know our Director...**

Dr. Barbara C. Woodring came to the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing as director and professor in 2006 following the retirement of Dr. Alice Demi. With considerable expertise in nursing, most recently Dr. Woodring was the associate dean for undergraduate programs and deputy director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center at the University of Alabama School of Nursing in Birmingham. During Dr. Woodring's vast career, she has held leadership and teaching positions at several

distinguished universities to include the Medical College of Georgia, Northwestern University and Rush University.

Dr. Woodring's areas of expertise include nursing care of children and their families, nursing education curriculum development and evaluation, international nursing, and nursing leadership and administration. She has authored and co-authored numerous publications with nursing colleagues from around the country. She has shared her expertise through

consulting and mentoring nurses and nursing students around the world, from Hong Kong to Uganda.

Dr. Woodring's educational accomplishments include an EdD in Higher Education Administration from Ball State University and three master's degree from The Johns Hopkins University, Ball State University, and the University of St. Francis. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Grace College in Indiana. As a new graduate, she began her nursing career at Union Memorial Johns Hopkins Hospitals in Baltimore, Maryland.

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**Byrdine F. Lewis  
School of Nursing**

## DID you know...

The Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing was originally established as a Department of Nursing. The Georgia Board of Regents approved the Bachelor of Science with a major in nursing degree in 1966, the Master of Science degree in 1973, and the PhD in nursing degree in 1986. The school has one of the oldest PhD in nursing programs in Georgia.

Although the School of Nursing has existed since 1966, it has held the current designation, Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing only since

2001. In that year, Mr. Ken Lewis, president and CEO of Bank of America provided a substantial endowment that allowed the school to be named in honor of his mother, Byrdine, who is a retired registered nurse.

The School of Nursing contributes to the University and the community through its excellent educational programs and community involvement. The school has nearly 500 students in the baccalaureate, master's and PhD programs. To support our students and educa-

tional programs, the school's faculty has grown to approximately 40 full time and 20 part time nurse scholars, researchers, and expert practitioners. The school's faculty, students and staff represent diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

The School of Nursing is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and is approved by the Georgia Board of Nursing.

## Check out Fall 2008 Enrollment

### **GSU Undergraduate=20,961**

Freshman=3787

Sophomore=4050

Junior=4712

Senior=7496

Transient=103

Non Degree Undergrad=543

### **GSU Graduate=7390**

Non Degree Graduate=441

Graduate=6297

Professional=652

### **CHHS=2646**

Freshman=369

Sophomore=396

Junior=434

Senior=815

Transient=8

Non Degree Undergrad=40

Non Degree Graduate=10

Graduate=574

### **BFLSON**

#### **Undergraduate**

Applied=258

Accepted/Enrolled=73

#### **Master's**

Applied=63

Accepted/Enrolled=30

#### **PhD**

Applied=19

Accepted/Enrolled=12



## New Non-clinical Specialty offered in Master's Degree Program

In fall 2009, the BFLSON will introduce a new program track in the master's program. The Nursing Leadership for Health Care Innovations program is designed to prepare nurses with advanced education and skills to assume leadership in programs utilizing innovations in health care. The overarching framework is leadership and development. Concepts include leadership, advanced nursing perspectives and a focus on

innovative change in health care delivery. The core content in this 36 credit hour program will address health care organizations and systems, health care financing, health care policy, ethics and legal issues, health care technology, clinical informatics, and evaluation research.

A dual master's option is also being offered in conjunction with the J. Mack Robinson

College of Business. Students completing the 48 credit hour dual degree program will have a master's in nursing and a master's in healthcare administration.

All of the nursing master's courses are web-facilitated; the Nursing Leadership for Health Care Innovations program will offer most of the course content online although some on campus classes will be required.



**BFLSON  
New Nursing  
Program**

**Nursing  
Students at  
Georgia  
State  
Upcoming  
Events**



**GSU Football  
Fall, 2010 Kickoff**

**Master's Degree Program**

The **Psychiatric Mental Health Master's Degree CNS/NP** option focuses on the preparation of clinical experts with advanced psychiatric mental health nursing competencies and emphasizes excellence in practice, critical thinking, inquiry, leadership, self awareness and empowerment. The curriculum consists of a minimum of 48 semester hours of study. Full-time or part-time study may be selected. Each student's program of study will be planned at the time of admission. Graduates of the Psychiatric Mental Health CNS/NP option are employable in a variety of clinical settings and are eligible to take the certification examination

offered by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

The **post-master's certificate** program in **Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing** is designed to enable nurses who hold a master's degree in nursing to gain the knowledge and competencies needed for certification as an adult psychiatric mental health clinical nurse specialist or an adult psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner (CNS/NP). The program requires 500 precepted clinical hours. Core courses required for students in their original master's degree nursing program will be evaluated for equivalency to the required post-master's certificate

courses.

Completion of the program will enable the certificate holder to take the American Nurses Credentialing Center's examinations for adult health clinical nurse specialist or adult health nurse practitioner .

For information on the master's degree and PhD programs, contact:

**Barbara Smith at**  
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**or**  
**Cecelia Grindel, PhD, RN, FAAN**  
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**NSGS Highlights and Activities**

Our nursing students are active in community and professional organizations through Nursing Students at Georgia State (NSGS).

At the recent state convention, Montrel Williams was elected chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee for the West District. Maria Arocha-Michelli, NSGS president, was elected by the Georgia Association of Nursing Students (GANS) to represent the Council of School Presidents. Thanks to the efforts of Lisa Phillips, the NSGS adopted and updated the

Nightingale Pledge for use at future GANS conventions. Changes included deletion of the phrase "the physician with his duties" and replaced it with "patient care team." The name was also changed to the GANS Nightingale Tribute Pledge. The updated pledge pays tribute to the NSGS tradition but reflects the current profession of nursing.

NSGS Community Service Chair, Ashley Fennessey has received positive feedback to the request for volunteers for

Trinity Hospice. Students will hold events such as bingo, card nights, arts and crafts and provide companionship in assisted living facilities in the Atlanta area.

**Community Service Events:**  
5k Kaiser Walk  
Men's Health Fair

**Nov. 8-**Volunteer for My Sister's House Atlanta Union Mission Career Prep Workshop

**Nov. 19-**Host Blood Drive

**Dec. 15-**Prepare holiday meal for the Ronald McDonald House

**It's football time at GSU!**

Have you heard the news?

President Carl V. Patton and the University leadership believes that an intercollegiate football program will be a catalyst for continued growth and will enhance the overall college experience for the students of Georgia State. It will also help engage more than 100,000 Georgia State alumni in the Atlanta area and

give them another reason to remain connected to their alma mater.

**Georgia State Football Timeline:**

**April 17, 2008-**Football program officially launched

**June 12, 2008-**Bill Curry, former NFL player and coach, named Georgia State's first football Head Coach

**July, 2008-**Assistant Coach hired

**February, 2009-**GSU signs its first football athletes

**Fall, 2009-**GSU's first class of football athletes enrolls, begins practice

**Fall, 2010-**GEORGIA STATE FOOTBALL KICKS OFF! Games will be played at the Georgia Dome.

BFLSON of GSU was one of 10 schools chosen out of 50 to participate in the National League for Nursing (NLN) research study cosponsored by the Laerdal Medical Corporation and the American Heart Association to determine the retention of knowledge and skill performance related to Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) when different learning approaches are used. While the particular focus of the study is BLS knowledge and skill, the essence of the research addresses learning and how it can most effectively be achieved.

**Monica Tennant**, is the site coordinator for this study. The study should start January 2009 and last a year.

For more information contact:

**Monica Tennant, MSN, RN, CCNS**  
[nurmanx@langate.gsu.edu](mailto:nurmanx@langate.gsu.edu)

**Cecelia Grindel**, Associate Director of Graduate Programs, is working on a funded project from Grady Health System called: Journey Towards Excellence II: Preceptor and Mentor Development. The purpose of this project is to prepare mentors to support new nurses in the workplace. Mentors learn about the needs of new nurses as they begin their careers as professional nurses. Mentors also develop skills on how to teach new nurses to develop a career plan, solve problems, manage conflict, and implement

change. This project is supported by a three year grant from Human Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

For more information contact:

**Cecelia Grindel, PhD, RN, FAAN**  
[cgrindel@gsu.edu](mailto:cgrindel@gsu.edu)

In October 2008, **Carol Howell** presented in a symposium at the National State of the Science Congress on Nursing Research-The Council for the Advancement of Nursing Science. Howell's presentation in the symposium was "Identifying Specific Psychological Factors for Intervention to Reduce Trait Anger in School-age Children."

For more information contact:

**Carol Howell, PhD, RN**  
[chowell@gsu.edu](mailto:chowell@gsu.edu)

**Margaret Maloney**, is currently recruiting women 18-55 years of age for a new study in women with headaches. The study, "An Internet-Based Educational Intervention for Women with Migraines," is an online educational program designed to teach women about managing their headaches.

For more information contact:

**Margaret Maloney, PhD, RN**  
[mmaloney@gsu.edu](mailto:mmaloney@gsu.edu)

**Jennifer Klinedinst** will present at the Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) conference in February, 2009. The title of the poster presentation is "Recognition and Reporting of Post-Stroke Depressive Symptoms." Other co-authors are: Patricia C. Clark, PhD, RN, FAHA, FAAN; and Sandra B. Dunbar, DSN, RN, FAAN.

For more information contact:

**Jennifer Klinedinst, PhD, RN**  
[nurnjk@langate.gsu.edu](mailto:nurnjk@langate.gsu.edu)

**Kenya Kirkendoll, Paula Gordon, and Dawn Aycock**, has had an abstract entitled, "Hypertension Education and Screening in African American Churches" accepted for presentation at the 2009 Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) in Baltimore, MD.

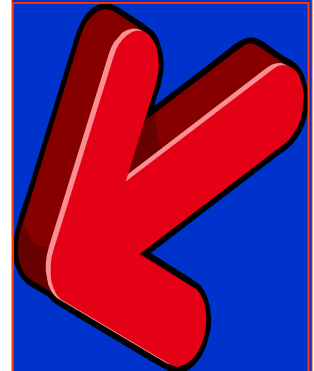
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## BFLSON Faculty Work



## "On the Move" BFLSON Walking Initiative

This semester is an exciting time for the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing as we embarked on a new initiative of fun and fitness. Our "On the Move" walking program began on September 8, 2008. It is a 10 week program that will end November 16, 2008. As an incentive, all faculty and staff received a pedometer from the School of Nursing. We have four teams comprised of

faculty and staff. Each team has a captain. The captain's role is to be the cheerleader for their team and to keep the steps total for their team. The team captain submits a weekly report of their teams' progress.

Our goal is to exceed 10 million steps for all teams by the end of our initiative. There will be a prize for the team with the greatest number of steps

during the 10 week period. We will post the winning team in the Spring 2009 E-newsletter. Wish us luck!

**Breaking News: During the fifth week of our walking program, we shattered our 10 million step goal! We have reset our goal at 20 million steps!**



## The New Science Teaching Laboratory

Volume 1, Issue 1

The current laboratory instructional space for our science programs is seriously undersized and outmoded for the number of students enrolled. Georgia State University stands to receive \$37.5 million in challenge funding from the State to build a new science building lab facility, which will be named for Parker H. Petit, whose lead gift is helping to leverage additional funding. This facility will cost more than \$70 million. The remain-

ing dollars will be raised in private funds and grants through the Georgia State University Foundation. The building is located at the southeast corner of Decatur Street and Piedmont Avenue and will serve 15,000 students a day.

### Facility Highlights:

- 143,000 square feet of assignable space
- 9 classrooms to accommodate 60 students

- 18 research labs
- 44 teaching labs
- Office space for science faculty
- Disciplines represented: Astronomy, Biology, Cardiopulmonary Science, Chemistry, Computer Science, Geology, Nursing, and Nutrition

The building will be ready for occupancy in 2010.



**New Science Teaching Lab Coming Soon!**

## Search Underway for next GSU President

For the past 16 years, Georgia State University has been led by Dr. Carl V. Patton. Dr. Patton, who has grown GSU into an urban research university that has helped to revitalize downtown Atlanta, has announced his plan to retire. Dr. Patton has contributed to GSU's strong growth in faculty and a student base from every county in Georgia, every state in the nation, and from more than 160 countries.

The University System of Georgia has impaneled a 20 member GSU presidential search committee that is chaired by Regent William Cleveland and consists of faculty, students, staff, and members of the community. The Board of Regents has announced the names of two finalists for the presidency.

The recommendations are:

**Dr. Mark P. Becker**, Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost at the University of South Carolina, Columbia. He has held

administrative positions at the University of Minnesota, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, University of Washington in Seattle, and Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. Becker earned his PhD in statistics from The Pennsylvania State University, and a Bachelor of Science in mathematics from Towson State University, Towson, MD.

**Dr. Brooks A. Keel**, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development and Professor of Biological Sci-

ences at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge. Prior to his current appointment, Keel was a professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Associate Vice President for Research at Florida State University in Tallahassee.

Keel earned his PhD in reproductive endocrinology from the Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, and a Bachelor of Science in biology and chemistry from Augusta College (now known as Augusta State University), Augusta, GA.

He has done postdoctoral work at the University of Texas Health Center in Houston and the University of South Dakota School of Medicine, Vermillion. The Board of Regents expects to name the new president before the end of the year.

### Breaking News: New GSU President Named:

**Dr. Mark P. Becker** ~ Chancellor Errol B. Davis and the Georgia Board of Regents have appointed Dr. Becker as the seventh president of Georgia State University. Dr. Becker will take the helm at Georgia State in January 2009.



**NEW GSU President**

**Dr. Mark P. Becker**

**BFLSON**

**Welcomes**

**New**

**Faculty**

**Bonnie Cox**, clinical assistant professor of nursing, comes to Georgia State from the Division of Public Health. She received her MN from Emory University and BSN from Southern Illinois University. She is certified as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner.

**Mary Garvin-Surpris**, clinical assistant professor of nursing, comes to Georgia State from Emory University. Garvin-Surpris received her MS in adult health as a Clinical Nurse Specialist from the University of New Rochelle. She is past recipient of the Jean Thomas Award for Creativity in Teaching.

**Jennifer Klindedinst**, clinical assistant professor recently completed her PhD in nursing at Emory University. Previously, Klindedinst worked for the Atlanta Regional Commission's Area Agency on Aging, creating a resource guide for grandparents raising grandchildren. She holds a MSN from Thomas Jefferson University and received her MPH from Boston University.

**Dana Meany-Delman**, clinical assistant professor of nursing, received her MD degree from SUNY Stony Brook and practiced OB/GYN for six years prior to joining the School of Nursing faculty.

**Michelle Nelson**, clinical assistant professor of nursing is a nurse practitioner recently employed by Staten Island University Hospital, Coumadin Clinic. She holds a BSN from the College of Staten Island, a MS from Wagner College and is completing her PhD, along with a Certificate in Women's Studies, at Emory University.

**Patti Thomas**, a certified Family Nurse Practitioner, came to Georgia State from Gwinnett Emergency Specialist. She received her MSN from Emory University and her BSN from the University of Florida.

**Susan Olsen**, clinical assistant professor of nursing, comes to Georgia State from WellStar Northwest Women's Care. A nurse midwife, she received her AS degree in nursing from Clayton State University, BS from Georgia State University, and her MSN from Emory University.

**Dana Wheeler**, clinical instructor of nursing, was previously a part-time instructor at Georgia State and charge nurse in cardiology and telemetry units at North Fulton Regional Hospital. She received her BSN from Bluefield State College and MSN from South University.

**Patrick Washington**, clinical assistant professor of nursing, comes to Georgia State from Atlanta Medical Center where he was the Director of Cerebrovascular Cardiology Services. A family nurse practitioner specializing in cardiology, Washington received his MBA in healthcare management from the University of Phoenix, his MSN from Kennesaw State University, and is pursuing a Doctorate of Health Education at A. T. Still University.



**Recently Retired:**

**Dr. Judith Lupo Wold**, Associate Professor, Community Health

**Dr. M. Armenia Williams**, Associate Professor, Community Health

**Both will be missed!**

Georgia State University  
College of Health and Human Sciences  
Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing

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The Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing would love to know what you have been doing. Please take a few minutes to complete the update form. [Click here.](#)

Be sure to keep your contact information current. Please visit the Alumni Association at [www.gsu.edu/alumni](http://www.gsu.edu/alumni) or 404-413-2190.

We Look forward to hearing from you!

## GSU SPORTS SCHEDULE COME AND CHECK OUT THE UPCOMING GAMES!

### Fall 2008 Men's Basketball Schedule

11/06 @ 7:30 PM GSU vs. Clark-Sports Arena

11/14 @ 7:00 PM GSU @ Bowling Green, Minneapolis, MN

11/15 @ 7:00 PM GSU@ Concordia-St. Paul-Minneapolis, MN

11/16 @ 7:00 PM GSU @ Minnesota-Minneapolis, MN

11/19 @ 7:30 PM GSU vs. Southern Poly-Sports Arena

11/22 @ 4 PM GSU vs. Jacksonville-Sports Arena

11/25 @ 8:30 PM GSU @ Troy, Troy AL

12/03 @ 7:30 PM GSU vs. Hampton-Sports Arena

12/06 @ 7:00 PM GSU @ UNC, Wilmington, NC

### Fall 2008 Women's Basketball Schedule

11/13 @ 7:00 PM GSU vs. Georgia Southwestern, Sports Arena

11/22 @ 7:00 PM GSU @ Clemson, Clemson, SC

11/26 @ 5:00 PM GSU @ Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA

11/29 @ 2:00 PM GSU @ College of Charleston, Charleston, SC

12/02 @ 6:00 PM GSU vs. Presbyterian, Sports Arena

12/05 @ 6PM GSU vs. Alabama State, Sports Arena

12/13 @ 12:00 PM GSU vs. Winthrop, Sports Arena

12/15 @ 5PM GSU @ Louisiana, Birmingham, AL

12/21 @ 1PM GSU vs. Delaware State, Sports Arena

For more information about Georgia State University's sports and to view schedules visit :

[www.georgiastatesports.com](http://www.georgiastatesports.com)