

# Nursing

at Truman State University

May 2006  
Nursing  
Truman State University  
100 East Normal  
Kirksville, MO  
63501-4221

(660) 785-4557  
nursing@truman.edu



*Bridging the Gap Trainer Raul Gerrero speaks to a class during the workshop.*

## Bridging the Gap

### MEDICAL INTERPRETER WORKSHOP

**T**he Bridging-the-Gap Medical Interpreter Workshop was held January 9-13, 2006 at Truman State University. This was the culmination of a Diversity Institute Fellowship awarded to Dr. Stephen Hadwiger, associate professor of nursing, by Truman State University. Jewish Vocational Service, Kansas City, provided the workshop through funding from Missouri Foundation for Health.

The 40-hour workshop involved basic interpreting skills, ethics of medical interpretation, the U.S. health care system, cultural brokering, communication skills, and medical Spanish terminology. Participants were required to be fluent in both English and Spanish. Nursing students Hannah Wyatt (jr.) and Nohemi Alvarez (soph.) were among the workshop attendees.

The Bridging-the-Gap Workshop is part of an effort to meet a growing need for medical interpreters in Northeast Missouri. Healthcare providers receiving federal financial aid are required to provide language assistance to persons with limited English proficiency. With the increased Spanish-speaking population in this area, health care providers are experiencing challenges related to accommodating language assistance. Some providers rely on clients to provide their own interpreter. Often times a child is put in the difficult position of relaying important healthcare information which can be problematic. In one case, a child trying to relay information to his mother regarding needed radiation therapy told her that the healthcare provider was going to place her into a microwave.

Truman, by providing the Bridging-the-Gap Medical Interpreter Workshop, is attempting to address this demand for language assistance in local health care settings. For more information about working with medical interpreters, contact Dr. Stephen Hadwiger ([shadwigt@truman.edu](mailto:shadwigt@truman.edu)).

## Educator of the Year Finalist



**P**am Gardner, assistant professor of Nursing, was chosen as one of the six finalists

for Educator of the Year from a record breaking 66 nominations. Finalists were chosen based on nominations submitted by students, the professor's essay response

and the classroom surveys of the professors' students. Over 40 students showed up to honor Pam and each presented her with a flower at the Educator of the Year Banquet on May 2. "Pam makes learning fun and challenges her students to achieve the highest standards," Matt Doellman ('06) said. "I tried the hardest in my classes with Pam because I didn't want to let her down and get a bad grade. She truly wanted us all to succeed and genuinely cared about us as students and future nurses. That was all the motivation I needed." Members of the Student Senate, Phi Kappa Phi and the Pershing Society comprise the Educator of the Year Selection Committee.



## ***Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2006!***

*Front Row (left to right):* Alicia Embry, Siobhan Burns, Corinne Menke, Sarah Anderson, Irene Agbeve, Kathryn Howser, Elizabeth Swartz, Jamey Johnston *2nd Row:* Sheila Bauer, Sara Schwent, Lauren Merryfield, Jennifer Anderson, Kristin Prange, Nichole Sharples, Kayla Medley, Ashley Peterson, Class President *3rd Row:* Meredith Williams, Virginia Pozzo, Lindsey Mentel, Ashley Lytton, Abby Kurtz, Sarah Schelich, Mary Klein, Jessica Miller *4th Row:* Matthew Doellman, Suzanne Mulcahy, Allison Atterberry, Ju-hyung Kim, Amanda McKinley, Leah Kunard, Rachel Mohler, Nicholas Francis *Back Row:* Martha Erker, Mark Litwiller, Jayme Stubbs, Christine Mack, Meredith Rocha, Sarah Schlomann, Kelley Jenkins, Melissa Wells

## **From the Director**



**G**raduation is upon us, and the seniors are excited! This is a busy month as the seniors prepare for graduation, NCLEX, new positions, moving, weddings, and many life changes. Nursing Capstone (research) presentations were well attended and most interesting! Students nominated Brenda Wheeler and Pam Gardner for the Truman 2006 Educator of the Year, and Gardner was one of the top 6 University finalists. Pam Melvin (Class of 1984) has recently joined the Program on a part-time basis.

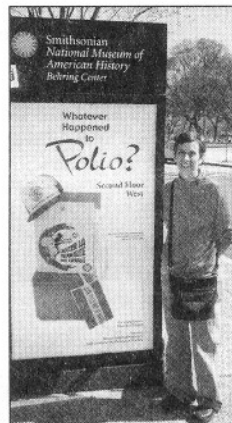
In response to University budget constraints, all disciplines were asked to be more productive. Nursing faculty members have volunteered to teach several classes, including junior interdisciplinary seminars, Death & Dying, Latino Health Care, and Women's Health.

Structural improvements to Pershing Building may be 5-10 years away. When the work is complete, Nursing will join other University health sciences and move from Barnett Hall to Pershing, increasing space for nursing labs and classrooms, and having a closer connection to the main part of campus. We have developed a "Wish List" for manikins, technology, and specialized rooms, such as a pediatric clinical room (with baby and child manikins). The Nursing Program Advisory Council suggested increasing the Alumni scholarship funds beyond the \$10,000 mark for better interest and distribution. Several scholarship funds are bordering \$10,000, and we hope to cross this threshold. Please consider supporting the Alumni Scholarship this year!

We have heard from several alumni with many positive comments about the nursing newsletter. We really enjoy hearing from our grads! Thank you for staying in touch with us.

Best wishes,

Dr. Stephanie Powelson  
Nursing Program Director



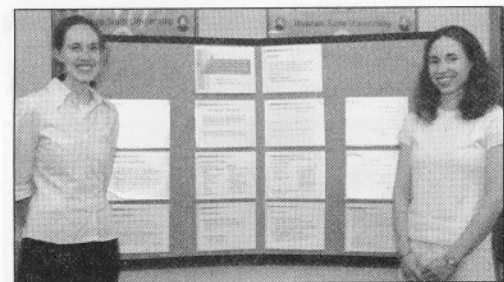
*Powelson visits the Smithsonian Polio exhibit during a national meeting for Schools of Nursing.*

# Truman Student Research Conference

**N**ine senior nursing students presented their research at the 19th Annual Student Research Conference which took place April 20, 2006. This University-wide conference recognizes, pays tribute to, and celebrates the outstanding student research, scholarship and creative achievement of Truman students. Two nursing students received summer research stipends and prepared oral papers: Ju-hyung Kim presented *Attitudes Toward Interdisciplinary Health Care: A Study of an Interdisciplinary Home Visit Program* and Ashley Lytton presented *Cultural Competence in Nursing Students from a Philippines Study Abroad Program*. Poster presentations were displayed by Jennifer Dine, Virginia Pozzo, Mary Klein, Mark Litwiller, Kristin Prange, Christine Mack, and Meredith Williams.



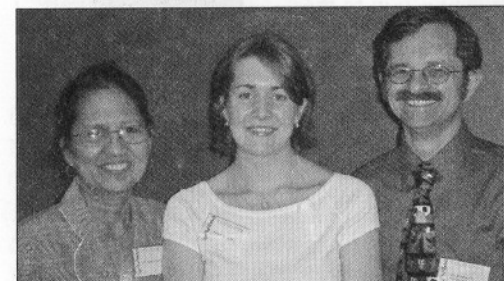
Ju-hyung Kim '06



(above) Seniors Mary Klein and Ginny Pozzo presented *The Effect of Family-Oriented Policies and Practices in Nursing Homes on Family Involvement*.

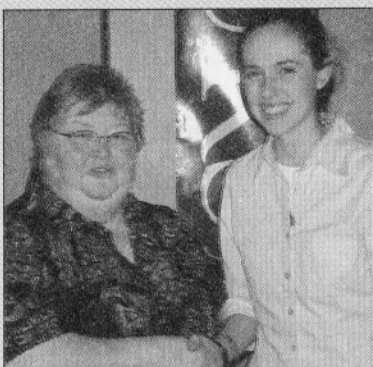


(right) Mark Litwiller '06



Prof. Kit (l) and Steve Hadwiger (r) with Ashley Lytton '06

# IN THE Spotlight...



*The Outstanding Student in Nursing for 2005-06 was awarded to Mary Klein. Mary was inducted into the Rho Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International in October 2005. Faculty member Sharon McGahan congratulates Mary.*



Row 1: Bethany Allemang '09, Lindsey Barkho '08, Juli Lommel '08, Melody Turner '07, Rosana Lebron '08. Row 2: Leah Kunard '06, Nicole Epema '07, Hannah Wyatt '07, Amanda Martin '09 (not pictured Iryna Sydorenko '08)

## 2006-2007 Scholarship Recipients

**T**en nursing students were recognized and awarded nursing scholarships at the Truman's Nursing Advisory Council on April 6, 2006. We want to offer more scholarships to our very talented and much needed future nurses.

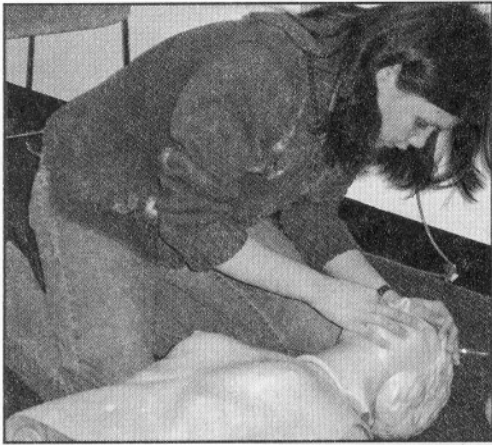
The minimum amount to establish a new scholarship would be \$10,000. If you aren't able or ready to commit this amount, please consider adding to any of the established scholarships listed. This year we are focusing on increasing the amount of the Nursing Alumni Scholarship and help it to go over \$10,000. If you are interested in establishing a nursing scholarship, let us know.

### Truman Nursing Scholarships Funds

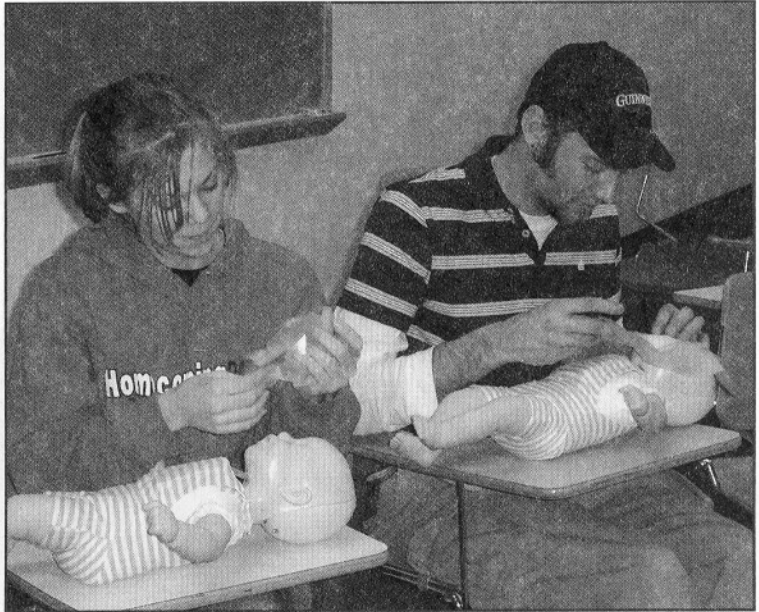
as of June 2005

Gretchen & Pete Cornell	\$2,605.00
Dr. Grace Devitt	\$9,830.30
Mildred/Frank Elsea	\$6,816.81
Dr. Richard Keith	\$5,232.00
Alice McEwen	\$11,575.00
Bertha Miller Memorial	\$10,125.00
Nursing Alumni	\$5,930.16
Thomas Family	\$9,130.00
Sarah Wimp Peavler	\$5,236.50
Dr. Earl Laughlin Fund	\$55,645.40
Nursing Foundation Fund	\$37,984.11

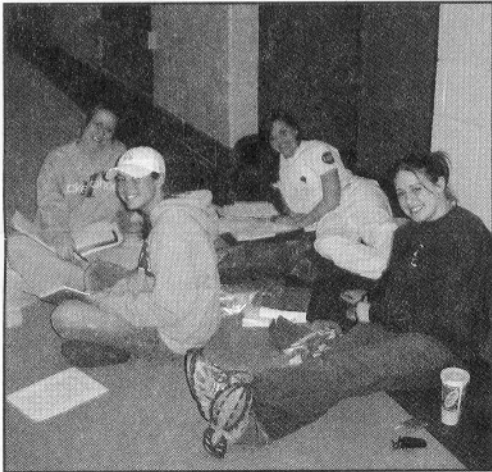
# Student Life



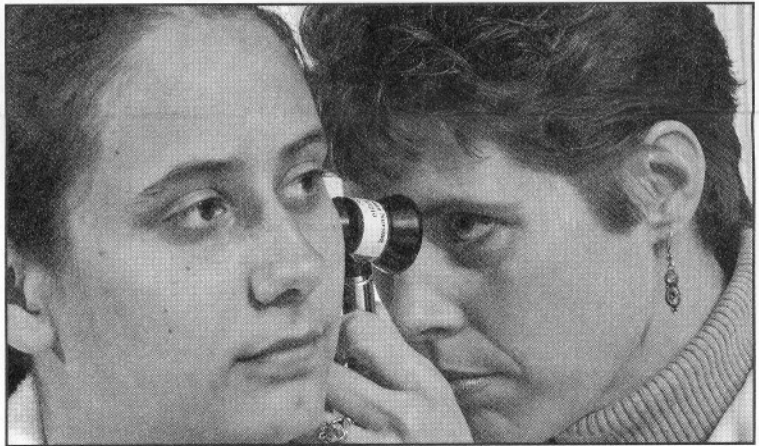
*Jennifer Dine ('08) performs CPR on a new manikin.*



*Sophomores Angela Prost and Blakely Meyer practice infant CPR.*



*Juniors Melissa Maloney, Sara Mayer, Ashley Carter, and Jessi Corwin study in the hallway for a pediatric test.*



*Wendy Hawley ('08) practices with the otoscope on Jessica Crites ('05)*



## McClanahan Runs for State Office

**R**ebecca McClanahan, assistant professor of Nursing, has taken a leave of absence from her faculty position of more than 30 years to run for Missouri House of Representatives. McClanahan said that she decided to run because she wants to make a difference. "I've been interested in the issues for years and tried to influence legislative process as a citizen, and this is an opportunity to do it more directly." Alumni would remember her encouragement of their active participation in the political process and the trips to Jefferson City for Nurse Advocacy Day. If elected in November, McClanahan said she hopes to promote higher education and draw more attention to the lack of health care availability. [www.rebeccaforhouse.org](http://www.rebeccaforhouse.org)



*Senior Suzanne Mulcabey presents: Conceptualization of Exercise Promotion and Fatigue for Nurses Working Twelve Hour Shifts at Capstones of Nursing.*

# 6th Annual Capstones of Nursing

The 6th Annual Capstones of Nursing was held May 4, 2006 at Truman State University. The Capstones Day is co-sponsored by Truman State University Nursing Program and Rho Omega Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing in order to promote nursing scholarship. Constance Brooks, PhD, RN, CS, Assistant Professor of Clinical Nursing at the Sinclair School of Nursing at the University of Missouri-Columbia, presented the keynote address: Relationship Centered Communication. There were four presentations from the professional community, fourteen oral presentations and twelve poster presentations from students in Truman State University's NU410: Introduction to Nursing Research course.

The following awards were presented to community nurses during the luncheon:

- **"NEMO Nurse" Award:** Betty Durlfing (Chariton Valley Association for Handicapped Citizens). Honored as nominees were: Donna Moffitt, Sue Prather, Helen Leslie & Victoria Pruett (Northeast Regional Medical Center), Daneta Havens (Preferred Family Healthcare) and Shawnee Kellison (Dermatology Clinic)
- **Preceptors of the Year in an Acute Care Setting:** Chris Horton and Pamela K. Baker (Northeast Regional Medical Center)
- **Preceptor of the Year in a Community Care Setting:** Katie Delaney (Knox County Health Department)



Havens.

ett and Daneta



Seniors Kristin Prange, Elizabeth Swartz, Jessica Miller, Corinne Menke and Jamey Johnston with Preceptors of the Year in an Acute Care Setting, Pamela K. Baker and Chris Horton.



Seniors Jayme Stubbs, Leah Kunard, Meredith Williams and Jennifer Anderson with Katie Delaney (Preceptor of the Year in a Community Setting).

## Advisory Council



The Truman State University Nursing Program Advisory Council met on April 6, 2006. The Council's purpose is to promote the recognition, welfare, and progress of nursing education at Truman through advising and consulting with the Nursing Program. Pictured, front row (left to right): Bertha Thomas, Brenda Higgins, Myra Baiotto, Elsie Gaber, Delores Lesseig, & Harriett Beard. Second row (left to right): Shirley Riley, Charles Baldwin, Melanie Grgurich, Judi Misale, Alvina Britz, Odessa Ofstad, & Alice Allinson. Third Row (left to right): Mark Gambaiana, Tim Tucker, Mark Laughlin, & Dennis Smith. Not pictured: Martha Gragg, Jack and Sue Magruder, Lesa McCartney, James and Renee McGovern, Peg Ernst, Jill McCord, Toni Smith, Jerry Smith, Renee Brayton, Bonnie Collier, Stephanie Keith, & Carol Race.

## Faculty/Staff 2005-06



Row 1 (left to right): Meredith McCannon, Pam Gardner, Brenda Wheeler, Shirley Riley and Sarah Delaware

Row 2: Pam Melvin, Stephanie Powelson, Melissa Holcomb, Rebecca McClanahan, Kit Hadwiger, Sharon McGahan and Steve Hadwiger

Not pictured: Corrie Willis, Sheri Simmons, and Teak Nelson

# Alumni News & Notes

Share with us your news, accomplishments, plans, travels, marriage, births, etc. Don't forget address changes so the newsletter can keep up with you.

Return to:

Truman State University, Office of Advancement  
100 East Normal, Kirksville, MO, 63501-4221

- Please include this information in the *Truman Review*  
 Please send me the online newsletter, *News@Truman*.  
 New Address  Name Change  E-mail address

Name (First, Last, Grad Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

## Comments and News

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I would like to make a tax deductible donation to the Truman State University Nursing Program:

- \$1000  \$500  \$100  \$50  \$25  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check  Discover  MasterCard  Visa

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Truman State University Nursing Program**

Please direct my gift to:

- Area of Greatest Need in the Nursing Program  
 Nursing Program Development Fund  
 Nursing Alumni Scholarship  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 My employee will match my gift. The appropriate form is enclosed.

Drive Code 74

# Alumni News

**Pam Altheide Melvin ('84)** recently took a new position with Truman's Nursing Program as Education Consultant. She has started working on a Master of Science degree in Rural Family Nursing from Central Missouri State University.

**Jana Sampson Bachman ('97)** has worked mostly oncology since her internship at Mayo Clinic. Stays busy with her two young daughters and works one day/week at Mercy in Des Moines, Iowa. She and her husband are considering setting up a nursing scholarship at Truman.

**Amy Bragg Grahlen ('99)** has relocated to Owasso, Okla. where she will work as a District Nurse with the Owasso Public School System.

**Kathryn Spiegel ('00)** finished her army tour and returned from Heidelberg, Germany in December 2005. She has been working in L&D and postpartum. She plans to pursue a masters degree in public health nursing.

**Hayley Henrikson Estrem ('02)** relocated to North Carolina June 2005 after working MICU at Mayo Clinic. She is working at North Carolina Chapel Hill Hospital and considering anesthesia programs.

**Tanya Harden ('04)** has spent the past two years working for Boone Hospital in L&D/ Postpartum/Nursery and will soon make a switch from working the night shift to working days.

**Maria Gonzalez ('04)** continues to work in the ER at Barnes Hospital. She is the Chair of the Employee and Patient Satisfaction Committee. "I headed a team that started an initiative that increased patient satisfaction from 59%-66%... we received a hospital-wide 'Team Award for Quality Improvement' and made several publications."

**Gina Indelicato ('05)** continues to work at Missouri Baptist on the telemetry floor.

\*\*\*If you have news that you would like to share in the next newsletter, please send information by e-mail to Shirley Riley ([sriley@truman.edu](mailto:sriley@truman.edu)).