

Hi. I want to make sure you heard the news! The date and time for the Open House for the new Medical Center Administrative Suite has just been announced. I hope you will be able to stop by our new location in the Primary Care Center on Friday, March 7 from 1500 to 1630. But, don't worry if you cannot make it that day. We are planning a virtual tour of the new Administrative Suite in an upcoming NewsBriefs.

This new newsletter approach offers exciting opportunities for sharing information. Our first attempt with a virtual tour is featured in this issue with a look at the new, 7-bed Medical-Surgical ICU.

I hope you look forward to the arrival of NewsBriefs each month. This is only one of the ways we are working to enhance our communication with you. Communication is a shared responsibility, however, so I hope to hear from you as well, at AskPam@virginia.edu.



View this month's welcome video at: <http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/newsbriefs/home.cfm>

Featured Story

Changes to Administrative Structure

As part of the ongoing efforts to enhance our ability to respond to the dynamic day-to-day operational challenges and to achieve the best practice outcomes that support our Magnet status, I am pleased to share news of changes to the nursing administration structure.

With these changes, current staff are rising to the challenge of new roles. Before I speak of new positions, I want to express my gratitude to **Rebecca Lewis**, Administrator for Acute Care. Becky has been an integral part of my leadership team since I arrived. With the unprecedented amount of construction and renovation that is happening and that will continue well into the next decade, Becky has agreed to take on a new role, Administrator for Integration of Operations and Facilities. My hope is that this role will help us plan for our new and changing spaces and will strengthen our focus on the expansion and revitalization of the work environment. Thank you Becky for taking on this new challenge.

In the next 6 months, I will be adding several new administrative positions to direct Adult Inpatient Services. These positions include an Administrator for Adult Inpatient Services, a Director for Critical Care and Heart & Vascular, and a Director for Medical-Surgical Specialty Care. During the time that it takes to fill these positions, **Jeff Cutruzzola**, Administrator for the Digestive Health Center, will continue to lead the Critical Care area. An Interim Director for Medical-Surgical Specialty Care will be appointed.

In addition, a new Administrator for Professional Development, Practice and Research will support Clinical Care Services and will oversee the growing areas of Nursing Governance Programs, Clinical Education and Research. I will keep you updated on the progress of these searches.

Collaborations

Changes coming at the School of Nursing

One of the exciting activities that is occupying a lot of my time now is serving as Co-Chair of the Search Committee for the Dean of the School of Nursing with **Dr. Karen Rheuban**. My colleague, **Jeanette Lancaster**, has been an outstanding Dean. For 19 years Jeanette has guided the SON to remarkable achievements...increasing the national ranking to #19, raising the funds for a spectacular and much needed new building, introducing exciting new programs, and recruiting talented faculty. Jeanette will step down as Dean in May. Please watch for announcements about the many festivities to honor her accomplishments. The future of the School of Nursing is bright even with a leadership transition. All of the candidates for Dean are national nurse leaders with accomplished careers. The candidates for Dean include:

- ▶ Paula Milone-Nuzzo, Professor & Director, Pennsylvania State University School of Nursing

- ▶ Dorrie Fontaine, Associate Dean for Academic Programs, University of California, San Francisco
- ▶ Donna Hathaway, Dean and Professor, University of Tennessee Health Science Center
- ▶ Carole Kenner, Dean and Professor, College of Nursing, University of Oklahoma
- ▶ Courtney Lyder, Professor of Nursing, Chairman, Dept. of Acute & Specialty Care, University of Virginia.

Medical Center staff are invited to hear presentations by these candidates. First interviews will be completed by the end of March. Final selection will likely be in April or May pending return visits. The PNSO Cabinet and Nursing Administrators are interviewing all candidates.

Find the presentation schedule at: <http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/newsbriefs/collaborations.cfm>.

And even more changes...New Patient Care Unit

Did you come to the Open House for the new Medical-Surgical ICU on Leap Year Day? Whether your answer is yes or no, don't miss taking a virtual tour of our newest patient care area. **Jan Phillips**, the Nurse Manager of the MSICU (welcome back Jan!) introduces you to this innovative patient care space. The Medical Surgical Intensive Care Unit is a seven-bed critical care unit designed to care for a variety of patients requiring critical care. The MSICU's most unique characteristic is unit-based Acute Care Nurse Practitioners (ACNP) who will provide the primary care to patients. The ACNPs will be overseen by supervising physicians. You are well aware of the capacity challenges that confront us on a daily basis. This new unit gives us the ability to increase the number of beds for patients that require the highest level expertise and technology that we alone offer in this region. Thank you to everyone that has helped make this unit a reality.

To view the video tour, go to: <http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/newsbriefs/home.cfm>

Welcome New Staff!

Each month brings me the opportunity to meet new Clinical Care Services staff and to welcome back a few returning colleagues. To view the list of CCS staff who joined us in February visit:

<http://www.healthsystem.virginia.edu/internet/newsbriefs/welcomenewstaff.cfm>

Celebrating Your Accomplishments

March is Professional Social Work Month

UVAHS Social Workers join more than 600,000 Social Workers in the US to celebrate "Building on Strengths." Make time this month to thank the Social Workers that you partner with every day. Let them know how much their expertise is valued in helping find the best placements for patients, aiding our achievements in Discharge-By-Noon and helping patients and families find needed resources. Our Social Workers certainly strengthen our patient care team. Learn more about Social Work and their month of celebration at www.socialworkers.org.

Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)

In January, the University of Virginia School of Nursing and Medical Center were well represented in Tucson, AZ. The 2008 CNL Partnership Conference, *The CNL—Making an Impact*, featured poster and podium presentations by CNL graduates, practice partners and faculty. CNL graduates and now colleagues, **Courtney Grant, Naomi Gorton and Jae Welchel** joined **Shelly Miller Legg, Kathleen Rea, Audrey Snyder, Dorothy Tullmann, Pam Dennison and Kathryn Reid** in presenting the innovations and leadership outcomes of our CNL program. Papers and posters featured projects on Patient Goal Setting, from 5 West, to Color-Labeling IV Lines for Safety in the STBICU and the ED's work to Retain Nurses' Wisdom in patient care. Other talks focused on program innovations, including Clinical Preceptors, Practice Partners and Faculty-Manager Partnerships for Success. This was a terrific opportunity to speak to a national audience about our CNL Program and highlight the program's success.

Pharmacy

Kathleen Bledsoe, with co-author Andreas Kramer from University of Calgary, have a case report, "Propylene Glycol Toxicity Complicating Use of Barbiturate Coma" published in the journal *NeuroCritical Care*. The link to the paper is: <http://www.springerlink.com/content/f1076301031m5506/>.

Contact Me

Remember, send your questions, concerns, and news to: AskPam@virginia.edu.