

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board

April 2015

## Thank you for your support

The Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board would like express gratitude to all those who supported the release of our inaugural newsletter in September 2014. We strive to continue to provide you with news about our alma mater and alumni achievements. We hope this newsletter will foster and encourage engagement from our alumni family of over 8,000 nurses. Enjoy our second issue of the Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Newsletter!

## Stony Brook Student Nurses' Association: A year in Review

This past year was an extraordinary one for The Stony Brook Student Nurses' Association. Last academic year two students, Liana Yung (Class of 2014) and Emily Cheng (Class of 2015), joined forces and decided to create SBSNA, with the help of Academic Advisor Professor Carol Della-Ratta, after serving on the Board of Directors of The Nursing Students' Association of New York State (NSANYS). They believed bringing a ...

(continued on page 4)

## In This Issue

- A glimpse of our Tanzania summer student program
- Newsletter Naming Contest! Help us with a name for our newsletter for the chance for an *American Express Gift Card!*
- A look into the flourishing Stony Brook Students' Nursing Association
- Highlights from the 5 year DNP Reunion
- Read about your fellow alumni achievements in our new Milestones Section
- And much more!



Photograph by Stephanie Fahrback of SBSNA Board of Directors at the NSANYS 63rd annual convention at Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City.

## ***Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board***

The Stony Brook Alumni Association seeks to reach, serve, and engage all Stony Brook University alumni and current students to foster a lifelong connection between the University and its graduates, and to provide the University with goodwill and support.

The Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board is committed to keeping alumni connected to the school and has a dynamic group of dedicated alumni. The purpose of the Nursing Alumni Board is to advance the interests of the School of Nursing and promote and challenge vital nursing issues affecting the health of all people. The Alumni Board fosters professional and social contacts among alumni and students and supports the activities of the School.

Thank you to the current officers and members of the Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board:

**President:** Patricia Jacobowitz, BS '79, MS '86, DNP '09

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Margaret Kelly, BS '77

**Nominations Committee Chair:** Janice Fleischman-Eaton, BS/MS '08

**SBU Campus Rep:** Antoinette (Tonie) Forster, MS '99, DNP '09

**Ex-Officio:** Dr. Lee Anne Xippolitos, BS '81, MS '85  
Dean, School of Nursing

### **Members at-large:**

Marret Anderson, MS '13

D. Bonnie Astor, BS '73, MSN

Ronn M. Callada, BS '09, MS '13

Derek Cope, BSN '14

Charlie Davis, BS '14

Beverly Dean, MS '96, DNP '09

Tracy Dourdounas, MS '09

Debra Grimm, BS '04

Thomas Hardie, EdD, BS '82, MS '86

Diane Hitchings-Tiernan, BS '72, MS

Elisa Mancuso, BS '86, MS '88

Debra Mendolia, BS/MS '09

Gene Mundie, MS '01

Carlo Piraino, BS '91

Smitha Mary Thotam MS, '11 ANP

*The **SBU Nursing Alumni Board** wants to  
celebrate your achievements with fellow alumni.*

*If you would like to share your alumni achievement  
in our biannual newsletter, please let us know!*

## **Alumni Newsletter Editorial Staff**

### Chief Editor

**Ronn M. Callada, BS '09, MS '13**

### Contributors and Authors

**Derek Cope, BS '14**

**Charles Davis, BS '14, (DNP '16)**

**Mary Hoffmann, MA '14**

**Isabel Faringer-Perez, (BS '16)**

**Patricia Jacobowitz, DNP '09**

**Sylvia Wood, DNP '09**

### Special Thanks

Ann Boyd-Stewart

Pura Capone

Debra Grimm

Dr. Lee Anne Xippolitos

**Become involved with the  
Stony Brook Nursing  
Alumni Board!**

## **Contact Us**

**Mary Hoffmann**

Alumni Board Liaison

[mary.hoffmann@stonybrook.edu](mailto:mary.hoffmann@stonybrook.edu)

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## A word from the School of Nursing Alumni Board President

Welcome to the second bi-annual newsletter presented by the School of Nursing Alumni Board! When our inaugural newsletter was published last September, 2014, it was received with rave reviews. And so we wish to thank Ronn Callada, BS '09, MS '13, Editor of the Newsletter and Charles Davis, BS '14, Contributing Editor, all the committee members and you the alumni, for helping to produce this exciting, newsy and informational publication. But, we need to have a "proper" name for our newsletter and so we are having a contest with a prize going to the winner. Don't miss the details explained in the newsletter.



This past fall, we held our first reunion for the graduates of the DNP program to celebrate its first 5 years. We had a wonderful time reconnecting with each other and the school. Check out our photos [here](#). If you're interested in a class reunion, please contact us.

As you can see, the Alumni Board is alive and well and continuing to make progress in supporting the nursing students and alumni. However, we do need to increase alumni member awareness regarding the need for giving back to the School of Nursing. The Board's most recent initiative is to develop an endowed scholarship, funded by our Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) graduates. This scholarship will honor past Dean, Lenore McClain, who spearheaded the development of the DNP program in 2007. Our mission is to encourage all graduates to give back in the form of donations in order to provide scholarships for students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

If you would like to join the Board or serve on a committee, we are happy to speak with you regarding the options that you might find the most rewarding.

In 2015, the Board wishes you ...joy in your work, peace in your family and safety where ever you go. And remember, "happiness is a choice". I think that may be the best news of all.

Warm Regards,

**Patricia Jacobowitz, BS '79, MS '86, DNP '09**

President

Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board



## Stony Brook Student Nurses' Association: A Year in Review

by Isabel Faringer-Perez (BS '16)

**Stony Brook University's Hottest New Student Club:** This award winning School of Nursing student club has raised health awareness, provided disaster relief, and offered plenty of opportunities for community service while developing student leadership and professional development.

(continued from page 1)...

...chapter of the respected professional nursing organization NSNA to Stony Brook would bring a chance for leadership and professional role development, unity to the three undergraduate classes, and would encourage students to take part in community service and educational efforts. Emily is the current SBSNA President and brings an energy that motivates us every day to be the best student nurses we can be!

Since its birth in October 2013, SBSNA has proven itself to be an extremely valuable resource for Stony Brook School of Nursing students and was recognized as the "Best New Organization" at the SB Life awards in May 2013. Today we have 205 members making us the largest chapter of the National Student Nurses' Association on Long Island and the largest chapter in the SUNY system. We are so proud of our accomplishments and hope

that SBSNA continues to be a strong force within the School of Nursing in years to come.



*Photograph by Stephanie Fahrback of SBSNA Board of Directors at the NSANYS 63<sup>rd</sup> annual convention at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City.*

Some of our outreach events and programs this academic year included an SBSNA/Pre-Nursing Society mentoring program where nursing students gave advice and tips to pre-nursing students



Current SBSNA President, Emily Cheng, (BS '15) (left) and first SBSNA President, Liana Yung, BS '14 (right) with SBU President Samuel Stanley at the President's

during their stressful application time; "Breaking Through Barriers with First Aid Discovery," an effort to teach first aid to a local boy scout troop as well as bring awareness of men in the profession of nursing; and a Hurricane Sandy Relief project with The United Methodist Committee on Relief, to aid those affected by the hurricane in rebuilding their homes. Our Policy and Education Committee has written a resolution to be presented at the NSNA convention in April that would allow Narcan training to be available to lay persons in the community if passed. Our Community Health and Global Initiatives Committee has organized a Halloween Safe Trick-or-Treat event at the HELP Suffolk shelter in Bellport, to provide a fun and safe environment for children at this facility; volunteering opportunities at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church soup kitchen; a baby shower and toiletries drive for the HELP Suffolk shelter; blood drives; food bagging with The

Ministries Food Pantry; many walks to support the fight against various diseases; and Operation Christmas Child, where participants packed up shoe boxes filled with little toys and gifts for children of different age groups, which are sent all over the world to impoverished children who may not have otherwise had presents to open on Christmas. It has been a busy, but fulfilling year.

On February 21<sup>st</sup> our board of directors as well as twenty-one of our members attended The Nursing Student's Association of New York State's (NSANYS) 63<sup>rd</sup> annual convention in New York City. It was an extremely valuable and inspiring day full of guest lecturers, NCLEX review, forums, exhibitors, resume review, and networking. We are looking forward to attending the National Student Nurses' Association 63<sup>rd</sup> annual convention in Phoenix, AZ this April!



Photograph by Katrina Llanto at Trinity Evangelical's soup kitchen.

**Congratulations on a flourishing inaugural year. The School of Nursing Alumni Board wishes you continued success!**

Follow the achievements of the Stony Brook Students' Nursing Association at: [you.stonybrook.edu/sbsna](http://you.stonybrook.edu/sbsna)

## ***Meet a Board Member:***

**Carlo A. Piraino, Jr. DNP, RN '91,  
CMSRN, NE-BC, FACHE**



by Mary Hoffmann, MA '14

**“I got involved with the [Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni] Board because I felt I owed the school and its future graduates. Although I live half-way across the country, I think it is important for RNs to not forget their ‘heritage.’”**

It is our pleasure to introduce you to Dr. Carlo Piraino RN '91, an active member of the School of Nursing Alumni Board. Dr. Piraino joined the alumni board in June 2012. Although he lives and works in Wisconsin, Dr. Piraino has been an active board member by joining the board meetings via teleconference. In addition to his generous donations, he has also offered to volunteer to become a mentor for recent School of Nursing graduates.

Dr. Carlo A. Piraino, RN has been a Registered Nurse since 1988 after graduating from Suffolk County Community College on Long Island, New York with an AAS degree. He went back to school and received a BSN from the Stony Brook University in 1991 and in 2004 he graduated from the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio with an MSN in Nursing Leadership. In 2013 after returning to school for the 4th time, Carlo completed a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from

George Washington University. Dr. Piraino's doctoral research was completed on Veteran's Perception of co-veteran's death.

**Dr. Piraino is an active board member and a mentor for recent School of Nursing graduates.**

Carlo served in the United States Navy from 1981 to 1998. He was a Hospital Corpsman and served overseas in combat operations in Beirut, Lebanon. Carlo also served as a Nurse Corps Officer in the US Navy. He currently works for the Veteran's Health Administration and is the Associate Director for Patient Care Services and Chief Nurse Executive for the Tomah VA in Tomah, WI. He serves on the Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board, is the Secretary for the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Nurses Association, and is a Board of Director for the Medical-Surgical Nursing Certification Board.

Dr. Piraino stated, "I got involved with the [Stony Brook School of Nursing alumni] board because I felt as a fairly successful alumnus it was something that

**"Having Carlo on our alumni board is an asset for our members. His perspectives as an out-of-town alumnus helps us in connecting with all our alumni."**

I owed the school and its future graduates. Although I live half-way across the country, I think it is

important for RNs to not forget their "heritage" so to speak. Although my original RN school was SCCC, I believe it was my BSN that propelled me ahead in life. It allowed me the opportunity to obtain my commission in the Navy (I was an enlisted man in the Navy at the time I graduated). A BSN was required in the Navy to be commissioned".

Completing the BSN started my leadership career in Nursing and the Navy and that gave me the ability to go forward with both my Masters and Doctorate degrees. The foundation Stony School of Nursing allowed me to successfully complete these programs, and I feel obligated to thank them for that. This is my way to thank the school."

***Thank you Dr. Piraino for contributing to the Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Board.***

## **Stony Brook School of Nursing in the News**

The following excerpt was taken from a Press Release regarding U.S. & World News Report of University Rankings.

**Stony Brook, NY – March 10, 2015** – Stony Brook University is named frequently in a listing of highly ranked programs in graduate education, according to the 2016 edition of US News & World Report's "Best Graduate Schools" publication. The rankings reflect data from surveys of more than 1,500 schools and more than 12,000 graduate programs. The publication focuses on programs in Business, Education, Engineering, Law, and Medicine. The Stony Brook University School of Nursing had the highest jump in ranking, as it rose 76 spots from being ranked 166<sup>th</sup> in 2011 to 90<sup>th</sup> in 2015.

"While rankings do not capture the comprehensive quality of educational programs, we are pleased that Stony Brook's Nursing program continues to become more recognized nationally because of the growing strength of our educational programs, our highly educated faculty, a diverse student body and an abundance of research activity," said Dr. Lee Anne Xippolitos, Dean of the SBU School of Nursing.

Regarding the leap to 76 spots higher from the previous U.S. News & World Report graduate program rankings, Dr. Xippolitos said that there are many reasons the school is now ranked within the top 100 graduate nursing programs nationwide. These include: an increase in federal research support, the program's flexibility with online education, Stony Brook Nursing as a high-value educational program, a high mean student GPA (3.7), and a high retention and graduation rate of 95 percent.

The School of Nursing's online graduate nursing program itself also rose from being ranked 16<sup>th</sup> nationwide in 2014 to 13<sup>th</sup> in 2015.

The press release can be found: <http://sb.cc.stonybrook.edu/news/medical/150310nursing.php>

# Tanzania: A **NURSE** in Africa



Written by Derek “Kifaru” Cope, BS ‘14

Derek Cope, BS ‘14 (middle) recounts his adventures in Tanzania, Africa.

**“Safari Inaanza.”** This was the first Swahili phrase I learned in my four day crash course in all things Tanzanian before my departure. In English, this phrase translates to “The journey begins.” Never has such a simple phrase been as meaningful as this one.



On May 31st, 2014, I left JFK International en route to Tanzania with a group of 31 other Stony Brook University students, six of whom had crossed the same stage as me only a week prior to receive our BSN degrees. Tanzania, home of the Serengeti National Park, is located on the eastern coast of Africa, sharing its northern border with Kenya and to its

south, Mozambique. We set out to immerse ourselves in the Tanzanian culture and to observe the delivery of healthcare halfway across the globe. We were accompanied by Stony Brook School of Nursing’s Dr. Lee Anne Xippolitos and Professor Maria Milazzo (known to us by their Swahili names Mama Nursi and Mama Emma, respectively.) Given my background in nursing; our visits to community centers, orphanages and hospitals stood out as the most fascinating aspect of the trip. Each place we visited was more humbling than the last and there was never one interaction with someone that didn’t leave me feeling inspired. No matter how much was different than what I was accustomed to, the similarities between our cultures always proved stronger.

The first major city we visited was Dar es Salaam. We visited a Muhumbili National Hospital, which had its own nursing school. The faculty of the school spoke about their program. Each faculty member had a PhD from a prestigious European university and emphasized how crucial a thorough education was for the advancement of the nursing profession in Tanzania. It was evident that the faculty



and students held their roles in the highest regard, which one could only assume translated into excellent patient care.



Our journey next took us to the city of Arusha. We visited Nkoaranga, a small community hospital with a rural village integrated around it. The facility's chief surgeon and CEO spoke to us about the structure of the hospital and gave us a tour. I began to see the differences of resources available to the staff and patients. Rooms that would be considered a cozy double by American hospital standards housed ten patients side by side. There were no IV pumps. Nurses calculated medication rates by counting drips. Sharp containers were nothing but cardboard boxes with the word "Needles" written on the side. One nurse even mentioned to me that they only have half of the necessary staff while most nurses worked 60 to 80 hours a week. Yet, these limitations did not deter the Tanzanian nurses. They took great pride in their care of patients. This hospital even had plans to open up a nursing school to help combat their shortage.

We then visited a regional hospital in a town called Dareda that housed its own nursing school. Each SBU student was paired with a nursing student from this hospital. Our "Rafiki," which is Swahili for "friend," took each one of us by the hand and gave us an in-depth tour of the hospital. My Rafiki's name was Samuel and was completing his second year out of the three year curriculum. He proudly showed me his

hospital. Once again, I was overwhelmed with a sense of culture shock as the delivery of healthcare was very different to what I was accustomed. There was a lack of medications, gloves or proper cleaning supplies for the nurses to institute infection control measures, and not a safe means of disposing of medical waste and used needles. It was undoubtedly the most eye-opening experience of the trip. It became apparent how easy it is to overlook the simple luxuries that we take for granted in our daily practice. The most powerful aspect of this tour was Samuel's awe-inspiring drive to provide compassionate care- a transcending notion no matter what health facility we visited.

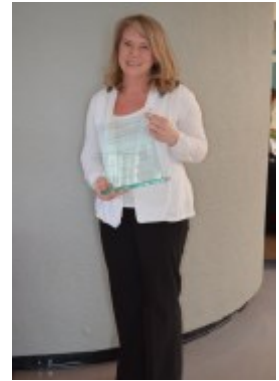
My journey to Tanzania taught me that the human spirit is extremely powerful and an unyielding determination will always triumph over obstacles. The nurses I met did not let their lack of resources deny the best patient care they could give. Although they were working with means that others would consider



limited, they never let it limit their abilities or passion.

Now as a working RN, I try to implement the life lessons I learned in Tanzania in every aspect of my practice. My experiences have without a doubt made me a stronger nurse and a more humbled individual. I am excited for the time when I can return to Tanzania with knowledge and resources to make a difference in the lives of those who have made such a significant one in mine.

**Kwaheri Tanzania,** until we meet again.



**Send us or tag your pictures of alumni events and gatherings.  
We will share them with our alumni family!**



[mary.hoffmann@stonybrook.edu](mailto:mary.hoffmann@stonybrook.edu)

[#SBUNursingAlum](https://twitter.com/SBUNursingAlum)





## **Celebrating our *Alumni* Achievements!**

Send us your milestones and we'll post them in our Milestones section for our alumni family to commemorate.

**Isabelle Chan – Class of 2014 (ABSN)** – Isabelle has a new job at Christus Saint Vincent Regional Medical Center, in Santa Fe, NM, as a staff nurse in the Emergency Department.

**Sonam Doka – Class of 2014 (ABSN)** – Sonam has a new job at the Medstar Washington Hospital Center, in Washington DC on the Cardiac IMC unit focusing on patients with advanced heart failure requiring LVADs.

**Ashley Cummings – Class of 2014 (ABSN)** – Ashley has a new job at New York Presbyterian - Weill Cornell Campus, NYC in the Oncology/Bone Marrow Transplant unit.

**Alev Gun – Class of 2014 (BSN)** – Alev has a new job at Stony Brook University Hospital, on 16N (Medicine-Telemetry unit).

**Elizabeth Fitzpatrick – Class of 2014 (ABSN)** – Elizabeth has a new job at NYU's Langone Medical Center, NYC, as an OR nurse.



**Allyson Nevins - Class of 2013 (ABSN)** – Allyson received ACLS certification and is a 16 North Preceptor for new nurses. Allyson is enjoying the teaching and mentoring of nurses.

**Janice Fleischman-Eaton – Class of 2008 (MS, ANP)** - Janice shares she just renovated a room facing southeast for my Yoga practice. The room has big windows, skylights, a bay window seat and no furniture. Janice also anticipates the arrival of grandchild number 2 at the end of February.

**Dr. Tonie Forster – Class of 1999 (MS, Psych) and Class of 2010 (DNP)** – Tonie is responsible for leading the recent launch of the new-graduate mentoring program. She has also just returned from a multi-day Caribbean cruise with husband and friends.

**Dr. Lee Anne Xippolitos, Dean of the School of Nursing, RN-BP Class of 1980 and MS Class of 1985** — In October 2014, I had the pleasure of presenting at the 2014 Eighth Halla/Newcastle Problem Based Learning International Symposium at Cheju Halla University in Jeju, South Korea. The topic of the symposium was “Teaching Methods for Improving Job Skills”. The name of my presentation was “Reality in the Classroom: An Inter-Professional Approach to Team Based Learning”. It was a highly successful course and allowed for a fun presentation to our Korean colleagues.

**Dr. Patricia Jacobowitz – Class of 1979 (BSN), MSN (Psych-Mental Health) and 2009 (DNP)** – Pat went on a cruise to Halifax, Canada which included a magical reconnection with cousins that had not been seen for 50 years.

**Diane Hitchings Tiernan – Class of 1972 (BSN)** - Diane shares the engagement of her only child, Paige Meredith Tiernan to Geoffrey Enright Orth. A June 2016 wedding is planned.

## My Perspective:

# Five-Year DNP Reunion Brunch

by Sylvia Wood, DNP '09

In November, Stony Brook School of Nursing hosted a celebratory brunch for the five-year reunion of the first DNP graduating cohort of 2009. Coming together again with my DNP colleagues and faculty was a nostalgic heart rendering experience. It was hard to believe how quickly five years passed reflecting back on our scholarly journey together as the first cohort to achieve this clinical doctorate, the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

The Stony Brook doctoral nursing faculty and our newly formed cohort of nurse practitioners shared a pioneering experience, yet it was up to us after graduating to “be” and practice as DNPs only 4 years after the first DNP program in the country. I chose to enter this new DNP program to become a clinical scholar, advance myself as an NP to pursue scholarly inquiry with research bringing it into everyday practice.



Life as a student in mid-life, as for most of my DNP cohort, was arduous, juggling a demanding professional life, nurturing family while at the same time meeting rigorous challenges of the DNP program. I can say for myself and venture to say for my DNP cohort that while we felt proud of this achievement at graduation we were at the very beginning in developing, defining our professional identities and



The First DNP cohort celebrated their 5 year anniversary in the Hilton at Stony Brook University.

proving our value with this new degree as DNPs. This was an exciting yet challenging experience of “becoming” without a blueprint from anyone before us.

We went off after graduation to explore our own professional endeavors breaking out of our former professional roles to meet the challenges of a new one in clinical scholarship and leadership with this doctoral degree. Practicing as a DNP can be disruptive to traditional health systems, roles and practices. Our cohort has shown strength navigating and taking risks to influence success in this transition.

Meeting with my DNP colleagues after 5 years was amazing and gratifying to share the growth in our professional lives. We spoke of our transformations and accomplishments in charting new territory. We shared how we are challenging the current health system for innovative substantive improvements, as we have taken our place in it, offering unique contributions of leadership and scholarship as Doctors of Nursing Practice.

Ralph Waldo Emerson best sums our experience as SBU’s first DNP graduates, “Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

**Save the Date for DNP Reunion 2015!**  
*Saturday, October 10, 2015*



**Dr. Ellen Giarelli, BS '77**

## 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award: **Ellen Giarelli**

By Patricia Jacobowitz BS '79, MS '86, DNP '09

**The SBU School of Nursing Distinguished Alumni Award is a noteworthy form of recognition. It is about talents, achievements, leadership, and passion. Recipients of this award are individuals who have brought distinction to themselves, the School of Nursing, and to the nursing profession through their outstanding accomplishments.**

Dr. Ellen Giarelli received her BS in Nursing from Stony Brook in 1977. She completed her Master's in Nursing Education at NYU in 1981. In 1989, she completed her Doctorate in Education from Rutgers University. Between 2000 and 2002, she received a Post-Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania in Psychosocial Oncology and in 2009, a Fellowship at Georgetown University in Genetics.

Currently, Dr. Giarelli holds the positions of Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Nursing, Nursing Research Coordinator at Hahnemann University Hospital, Philadelphia and is an Associate Professor at Drexel University, College of Nursing and Health Profession, Doctoral Nursing Program.

Dr. Giarelli is responsible for developing a robust research agenda studying the life-long experiences of people diagnosed with a genetic disorder which includes the predisposition to certain cancers, Marfan Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorder. Dr. Giarelli is credited in 66 publications.

For the past 10 years she has concentrated on studying various aspects of Autism Spectrum Disorder. She is the principle investigator for the Pennsylvania Autism and Developmental Disabilities Surveillance program which provides statistics on the prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Dr. Giarelli has developed a role for nurses in

the life- long care of patients with Autism Spectrum Disorder. She has done this by developing two certificate programs in the nursing care of patients in with Autism Spectrum Disorder...one as a post-masters certification program at the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing and the second as a post baccalaureate certification program at Drexel College of Nursing and health Professions.

Dr. Giarelli has also generated scholarship on interdisciplinary care of patients who have Autism Spectrum Disorder. She is the editor of a book to be published in 2015: "Integrated Healthcare of People with ASD: Interdisciplinary Planning and Delivery". Dr. Giarelli is funded by NIH (National Institute of Health) to hold a conference in November on "Creating Integrated Health Care for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder". Her research has been funded by the National Institute of Health, the Oncology Nursing Foundation and Sigma Theta Tau.

Congratulations to our Distinguished Alumna, Dr. Ellen Giarelli.





A letter from the Dean  
Dr. Lee Anne Xippolitos

***“Our success as nurses and as a school relies on the ability to join forces, learn from one another and work together.”***

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Dear Alumni:

Have you heard our good news? Our School of Nursing has recently been published in the recent edition of *US News & World Report's* “Best Graduate Schools”. The continuous dedication of Faculty and Staff at the School has moved our graduate program ranking an astonishing 76 spots, from 166<sup>th</sup> in 2011 to 90<sup>th</sup> in 2015.

It is an honor, once again, for our school to have been recognized nationally, but it is no surprise. Our highly educated faculty, accommodating staff, diverse student body, abundance of research activity and growing educational programs make us among the very best options for nurses interested in reaching their full potential. This is enhanced by the value and flexibility of our online graduate nursing program, which earned its own rise in the ranks, from 16th nationwide in 2014 to 13th in 2015.

At the heart of these accolades is collaboration. Our success as nurses and as a school relies on the ability to join forces, learn from one another and work together. That is how you rise in the ranks, as a professional and as an organization. Our ability to develop partnerships with Stony Brook University Hospital and the other four Health Science Schools has improved the quality of education we provide giving our students a clinical experience that can't be matched by other national programs.

Yes, I am proud of our School and what our Faculty, Staff and Students have accomplished in the last year and look forward to what the future has in store for us.

Lee Anne Xippolitos, RN, PhD, CS, NPP, NEC-BC  
Class of 1980 and Class of 1985  
Dean and Professor

# ENHANCE YOUR SKILLS

## Learn From the Experts



### *Continuing Professional Education Course Offerings 2015*

#### Save the Date

##### **"2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trauma Conference"**

August 28, 2015

Stony Brook Manhattan

9 am to 5 pm

\$125 (includes breakfast and lunch)

#### Learn from the Expert

##### **"NCLEX REVIEW"**

Patricia Voelpel, EdD(c), RN, MS, ANP, CCRN

June 1, 2015 – June 4, 2015

1st day of class will meet in Lecture Hall 3

8 am to 4 pm

\$400 (breakfast and lunch included)

To receive a registration form or more information, please  
contact:

Contact: **Valerie DiGiovanni**

Phone: (631) 444-1059

Email: [Valerie.DiGiovanni@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Valerie.DiGiovanni@stonybrook.edu)

#### **Online registration available at:**

<http://nursing.stonybrookmedicine.edu/ContinuingEducation>

#### Enhance Your Skills

##### **"Basic EKG Course"**

Kellie Gumersell, RN, MS; Cheryl Schoedler, RN, MS; Denise Westman, RN, MS

April 25, 2015 – April 27, 2015

Stony Brook School of Nursing, Room 229

8 am to 4 pm

\$300

##### **"Phlebotomy"**

Stacy L. Heuschneider, DNP, NP-C, ACNS-BC, CCRN

February 28, 2015

Stony Brook School of Nursing, Room 229

8 am to 12 pm

\$100

##### **"IV Therapy and Infusion"**

Stacy L. Heuschneider, DNP, NP-C, ACNS-BC, CCRN

February 28, 2015

Stony Brook School of Nursing, Bed Lab

1 pm to 5 pm

\$125

##### **"Interpreting Lab Values"**

Stacy L. Heuschneider, DNP, NP-C, ACNS-BC, CCRN

March 21, 2015

Stony Brook School of Nursing, Room 229

8 am to 4 pm

\$125

##### **"Pulmonary Skills Day"**

Stacy L. Heuschneider, DNP, NP-C, ACNS-BC, CCRN; and

Mary Tjerstrand, R.T.

June 4, 2015

Stony Brook School of Nursing, Room 229

8 am to 4 pm

\$125





Stony Brook  
University

School of Nursing

## Name our **Stony Brook School of Nursing Alumni Newsletter Contest!!**



With the second edition of the School of Nursing alumni board newsletter, it is time to give our newsletter a **proper name**.

Please submit your suggestions to Mary Hoffmann  
at [mary.hoffmann@stonybrook.edu](mailto:mary.hoffmann@stonybrook.edu).

The winner will receive an **American Express gift card** which has been donated.

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Alumni Board Liaison

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