

ADVANCING
HIGHER
EDUCATION
IN NURSING



**Julie Louise Gerberding,
MD, MPH**

Gerberding to Speak at Spring Meeting

Julie Louise Gerberding, MD, MPH, will present The Gannett Lectureship at AACN's Spring Annual Meeting, which will be held March 19-22 at The Fairmont Washington Hotel in Washington, D.C. Dr. Gerberding is the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

Before becoming CDC Director and ATSDR Administrator, Dr. Gerberding was Acting Deputy Director of the National Center for Infectious Diseases (NCID), where she played a major role in leading CDC's response to the anthrax bioterrorism events of 2001. She joined CDC in 1998 as Director of the Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion, NCID, where she developed CDC's patient safety initiatives and other programs to prevent infections, antimicrobial resistance, and medical errors in healthcare settings. Prior to coming to CDC, Dr. Gerberding was a University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) faculty member and directed the Prevention Epicenter, a multidisciplinary research, training, and clinical service program that focused on preventing infections in patients and their healthcare providers. Dr. Gerberding is an Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases) at Emory University and an Associate Professor of Medicine (Infectious Diseases) at UCSF. She earned a BA magna cum laude in chemistry and biology and an MD at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Gerberding then completed her internship and residency in internal medicine at UCSF, where she also served as Chief Medical Resident

before completing her fellowship in Clinical Pharmacology and Infectious Diseases at UCSF. She earned an MPH degree at the University of California, Berkeley in 1990.

Dr. Gerberding has served as a member of CDC's National Center for Infectious Diseases' Board of Scientific Counselors, the CDC HIV Advisory Committee, and the Scientific Program Committee, National Conference on Human Retroviruses. She has also been a consultant to the National Institutes of Health, the American Medical Association, CDC, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the National AIDS Commission.

AACN Supports President's FY 2006 Budget Request

AACN has announced its support for the \$150 million in funding for nursing education included in President George W. Bush's FY 2006 budget proposal. Though the president called for the elimination of other programs that prepare health professionals, funding for nursing was requested at the current level for Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act). AACN is concerned, however, that the elimination of the other health professions education programs (Title VII) will severely limit access to health care for underserved populations.

"In a year when many education and health care programs are targeted for elimination, we are pleased to see the president maintaining a focus on

(continued on page 10)

AACN Awards Grant Monies to 18 Schools of Nursing in Support of Geriatric Nursing Careers

AACN has awarded grant monies to 18 nursing schools across the country to increase the pool of nurses prepared as experts in providing health care to older adults. With funding from The John A. Hartford Foundation of New York, grant monies will be used to provide scholarships for over 70 new graduate students pursuing careers as geriatric advanced practice nurses.

"The John A. Hartford Foundation is clearly committed to improving the quality of nursing care available to our nation's growing older adult population," said AACN President Jean E. Bartels. "AACN is grateful to the foundation for its generous contributions to professional nursing education and for supporting this grant program that champions careers in geriatric nursing."

Through the Creating Careers in Geriatric Advanced Practice Nursing project, AACN awards scholarship monies to schools of nursing with existing geriatric advanced practice nursing programs to increase student enrollment. The project was launched in 2001 using \$2 million in funding from the Hartford Foundation. Although the initial Creating Careers project is now preparing over 160 individuals as geriatric advanced practice nurses, the need for a critical mass of skilled providers still exists. The project also provides for networking, men-

torship, role modeling, and leadership activities between scholarship awardees and experts in geriatric nursing.

Schools awarded grant monies include Binghamton University, Case Western Reserve University, Duke University, Florida Atlantic University, New York University, Oakland University, Pennsylvania State University, Radford University, Seattle Pacific University, St. Louis University, University of California-Los Angeles, University of Iowa, University of Massachusetts at Worcester, University of Minnesota, University of Pennsylvania, University of Rhode Island, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, and Yale University. All schools receiving grants were required to provide matching funds. Scholarship monies will be disbursed to schools in Fall 2005.

Along with increasing the number and diversity of geriatric nurses, this initiative will help to promote opportunities for nurses to establish and build careers in geriatric advanced practice nursing, thereby improving access and quality of care for an ever-increasing aging population. "Continuation of this project will not only increase the number of practitioners, said Donna Regenstreif, Senior Program Officer with the Hartford Foundation, "but it will also enhance the leadership potential of geriatric advanced practice nurses, thus ultimately advancing the Foundation's goal of ensuring quality care for our nation's older adults."

Read more about the geriatric nursing education initiatives supported by AACN and the Hartford Foundation at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/Hartford/index.htm>. For details about other gerontological nursing programs supported by the foundation, see <http://www.hgni.org>.

AONE Joins the AACN Clinical Nurse Leader Implementation Task Force

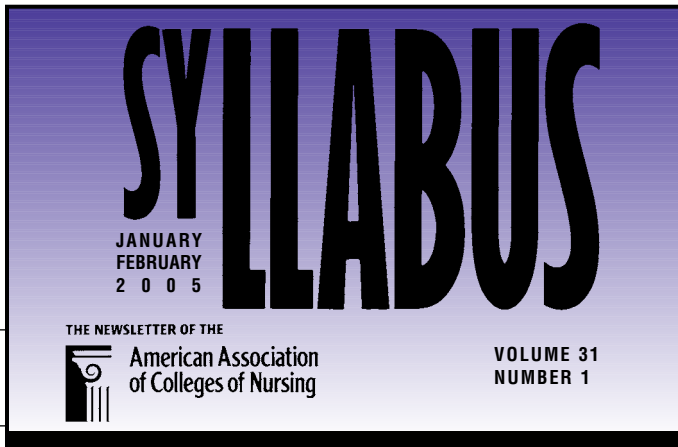
The American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) has accepted AACN's invitation to join the Clinical Nurse Leader Implementation Task Force. This group will be overseeing the pilot projects that are experimenting with the Clinical Nurse Leader role developed by AACN. Karen Haase-Herrick, AONE Past-President, will represent AONE. Many of the clinical partners in the AACN project are AONE members. Because one of AONE's major initiatives is the redesign of patient care delivery models for the future, there is good synergy for both associations in this work. The redesign for our future requires experimentation from a variety of perspectives. AACN's development of the Clinical Nurse Leader role is one approach that has attracted the support of 74 academic programs and 142 clinical partners. AONE welcomes the opportunity to participate in the implementation of this experiment with a new role.

In the spring of 2004, AONE released the Guiding Principles for Future Patient Care Delivery Models. These principles are congruent with the AACN Clinical Nurse Leader project and serve as the basis for AONE's support of this work. The AONE Board believes that innovative pilots such as AACN's Clinical Nurse Leader are critical to informing the field for the future. AACN and AONE look forward to the results of the evaluation of this project, and welcome the opportunity to collaborate.

For the latest news and background information on the Clinical Nurse Leader initiative, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/cnl/index.htm>.

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Managing Editor: William O'Connor
Contributing Editor: Robert Rosseter
Director, Public Affairs
Editorial Assistant: Ayesha Pathak
(e-mail: apathak@aacn.nche.edu)



OPPORTUNITIES

Space in **Opportunities** is available for advertising position openings, availabilities, and consultant and other services.

All advertising is subject to the publisher's approval.

Publications of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) serve to advance the quality of baccalaureate and graduate nursing education, promote nursing research, and develop academic leaders. AACN therefore reserves the right to unilaterally reject, omit, or cancel any advertisement that is not in the best interests of the objectives and policies of the Association, or that is not in keeping with the generally scholarly and professional nature of AACN publications. The publication of any advertisement by AACN is neither an endorsement of the advertiser nor of the products or services advertised.

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Rates: The classified ad rate is \$10 per line for AACN members; \$12 per line for nonmembers (approximately 40 characters and spaces per line.)

Deadlines: *Opportunities* is published bimonthly beginning with the January issue. Deadline for including, changing, or cancelling ads is the 15th of the month preceding publication date. Advertisers are invoiced with proof of publication.

Send Copy To: All copy must be submitted electronically. Send copy to: Ayesha Pathak (apathak@aacn.nche.edu), Editorial Assistant. For inquiries and rate information, contact Ms. Pathak (202/463-6930) or see AACN's Web site (www.aacn.nche.edu)

Augustana College

AUGUSTANA COLLEGE is seeking to fill a full-time, tenure eligible teaching position beginning August 2005. Applicants are invited to participate in a progressive undergraduate and graduate nursing program recognized for the excellence of its graduates and for its experienced, creative faculty. The graduate program focuses on preparation of clinical nurse leaders and clinical nurse specialists in population-focused nursing practice. The college is located in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, a regional health care center with numerous opportunities for innovation and interdisciplinary collaboration, practice, and educational and scholarly pursuits in nursing. Augustana College is a private liberal arts institution and has been named to the Templeton Foundation Honor Roll for Character-Building Colleges, a list that recognizes those institutions that emphasize character development as an integral aspect of the undergraduate experience. Responsibilities of the position include teaching undergraduate and graduate nursing courses, participation in overall curriculum implementation/evaluation/modification, participation in student recruitment and advisement, and continued scholarly activity. Preference will be given to candidates with a Doctorate in Nursing or a related field. Required qualifications include: a Master's Degree in Nursing (Community Health or Adult Health preferred); expertise in population-focused nursing and leadership in nursing; teaching experience in baccalaureate and/or graduate nursing education; and a commitment to continuing professional/scholarly growth. Salary is competitive and dependent upon qualifications. The search committee will begin screening applications January 15, 2005. The position will remain open until filled. Application materials should include a letter of application with a description of preparation for the position, a statement of education philosophy, curriculum vita, and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three persons qualified to provide a reference. To apply, please submit materials to: Dr. Margot Nelson, Chair, Nursing Department, Augustana College, Box 763, Sioux Falls, SD 57197, Tel: (605) 274-4721, Fax: (605) 274-5547. Email: mar-

got_nelson@augie.edu AUGUSTANA COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/TITLE IX EMPLOYER. QUALIFIED WOMEN AND MINORITY APPLICANTS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

Minnesota State University, Mankato School of Nursing

Fulltime Undergraduate and Graduate Tenure Track positions beginning Fall Semester 2005: Family Nurse Practitioner, Adult Health, Mental Health. Required: Master's degree in nursing (Doctoral degree in nursing or related field required by 2009); eligibility of MN RN licensure; current certification as an FNP or CNS preferred. Salary and rank commensurate with qualifications. Review of applications will begin January 14, 2005 and continue until the positions are filled. See www.mnsu.edu/humanres/ for complete information. Send letter of application, current vita, transcripts, names and e-mail addresses of three current references to Dr. Mary Bliesmer, Interim Associate Dean, School of Nursing 360 Wissink Hall, Mankato, MN 56001; Fax 507-389-6516. AA/EEO

Elmhurst College

Founding Director
Graduate Nursing Program
Elmhurst College
Deicke Center for Nursing Education

Elmhurst College invites applications for the position of Director of the Graduate Nursing Program to assume leadership for curriculum development and evaluation, student recruitment, budgeting, and resource development and management. This tenure track position reports to the Director of the Deicke Center for Nursing Education.

Candidates for this position must have the following qualifications: an earned doctorate in nursing or a related field; a master's

(continued on page 4)

Opportunities...

(continued from page 3)

degree in a specialty area of nursing; possession or eligibility for license as a registered nurse in Illinois; teaching experience at the graduate level; service and scholarly records commensurate with the rank of associate or full professor. Position will allow person to implement an innovative graduate program that prepares clinical nurse leaders and nurse educators for today's managed care world. Desired appointment date is April 15, 2005, or as soon as practical thereafter, pending approval by the Board of Trustees. Salary will be commensurate with credentials. Closing date for applications is March 15, 2005. We seek candidates with demonstrated ability to contribute positively to a multicultural campus community. Please send letter of application, vitae, and names of three references to: Dr. Linda Niedringhaus, Director, Deicke Center for Nursing Education, Elmhurst College, 190 Prospect Avenue, Elmhurst IL 60126 Email to: lindan@elmhurst.edu Fax to: 630/617-3237, Inquire at: 630/617-3344

 **University at Buffalo**
The State University of New York

FACULTY VACANCIES SCHOOL OF NURSING

Seeking **faculty candidates** for tenured and tenure-track positions for Fall 2005. Very supportive environment within a health science center at a Research Intensive, AAU-affiliated university, the largest and most comprehensive unit of the SUNY system. Doctorate in nursing or related field; master's in nursing with clinical major; and eligibility for licensure as a registered nurse in New York required. Applicants for Associate Professor and Professor rank must be eligible for tenure and have successful record of external funding. Rank and salary commensurate with qualifications. Contact: **Mecca S. Cranley, PhD, RN, Dean and Professor, School of Nursing, University at Buffalo, 1012 Kimball Tower, Buffalo, NY 14214-3079. email: mcranley@buffalo.edu**

*The University at Buffalo is an Equal Opportunity/
Affirmative Action Employer/Recruiter*



Eastern Michigan University

NURSING

Eastern Michigan University invites applications for a tenure track position in Nursing (Posting #F0574) for FALL 2005. Specialty areas of interest are Adult Health, Health Promotion, Informatics and Transcultural Nursing. The position is available to teach primarily at the graduate level, but also at the undergraduate level. We seek faculty with graduate and undergraduate teaching experience, evidence of an active scholarly and research agenda, and interest in developing educational programs.

Qualifications: A Doctorate in Nursing or related field is preferred, and current Michigan nursing license is required. Submit letter of application and a CV to:

Posting #F0574
Eastern Michigan University
202 Boone Hall
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

For more information call 734-487-2310 or 734-487-2343

Women and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply. EMU is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer committed to faculty, staff, and student diversity.



Calvin College Department of Nursing Faculty Positions

The Calvin College Department of Nursing is seeking to fill one tenure track position in the area of Nursing Care of Children and one tenure track position in Nursing Care of Adults. The positions will begin in September, 2005.

Qualifications: Doctorate in nursing or related field preferred, masters degree in nursing required. Classroom and practicum teaching experience, evidence of scholarly activity, and commitment to a Reformed expression of Christian faith in teaching and scholarly endeavors is essential. Rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled. Candidates should forward a letter of interest and a full curriculum vita to:

Dr. Mary Molewyk Doornbos, Chairperson
Calvin College Department of Nursing
3201 Burton SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-4403
Office: 616-526-6268 FAX: 616-526-6501
door@calvin.edu

Calvin College is located in Grand Rapids, Michigan and is a Christian college within the Reformed tradition of Christianity. Calvin is an equal opportunity employer. In the Department of Nursing, we especially encourage applications from persons of color and men.

School of Nursing

Graduate and doctoral faculty positions available

Azusa Pacific University (APU) invites applications for doctoral faculty positions in the areas of international health, family/community health, and nursing education. The APU School of Nursing offers a BSN, MSN, and Ph.D. in Nursing programs.

Applicants must hold an earned doctorate in nursing and be eligible for licensure in California. Applicants are expected to have a demonstrable record of scholarship, including publications and extramural funding; and recent experience in teaching doctoral students and chairing dissertation research.

APU also seeks faculty for the graduate programs, including assistant and associate professors of nursing for the master's program. Applicants must possess doctorate in nursing and be eligible for or possess a California nursing license. Certification in advanced clinical practice preferred.

Please submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference with contact information to the chair of the Search Committee, **Dr. Marianne Hattar, Associate Dean, School of Nursing, Azusa Pacific University, PO Box 7000, Azusa, CA 91702-7000; (626) 815-5384**. APU does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, or ethnicity.



University of North Dakota, Grand Forks ND

DEAN
COLLEGE OF NURSING

The University of North Dakota invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the College of Nursing. UND (<http://www.und.edu>), a rapidly expanding doctoral institution, is making strategic investments in health-related educational/research programs. UND Nursing, founded in 1909, includes programs in nursing, nutrition, and dietetics. The dean is a champion for expanding the research base of the college, enhancing an already strong commitment to American Indian programs, as well as promoting inter-professional opportunities and community scholarship. As leader of one of the region's most comprehensive nursing colleges, the dean will be an advocate for nursing and nursing education at state, regional, and national levels. The dean will be responsible for establishing an effective Development program, a priority of the University. The Dean of the College of Nursing reports to the Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs. A demonstrated record of distinguished teaching, scholarship, extramural funding, and administrative experience is required. The Dean of Nursing will be responsible for providing effective leadership necessary to advance the mission of the College in areas of education, research, service and development. The College of Nursing currently offers programs of study leading to the Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Community Nutrition, and Dietetics; Master's programs with specializations in Anesthesia Nursing, Nursing Education, Family Nurse Practitioner, Health Administration in Nursing, and Clinical Nurse Specialists in Nursing Therapeutics and Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing. A Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing designed to prepare nurses for research and faculty roles completes the academic program offerings. Information about the College of Nursing is available at <http://www.nursing.und.edu>. Research within the College of Nursing continues to develop with emphasis on vulnerable and diverse populations. Significant opportunities exist for developing collaborative programs with the USDA/ARS Grand Forks Human Nutrition Research Center and the UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences. The University of North Dakota is at an exciting crossroads in its 121-year history. Major growth and positive change are the hallmarks of this new era; enrollment has increased to more than 13,000 students including 2,000 graduate students and extramural research funding is climbing towards a 2006 goal of \$100 million. UND is recognized as a leader in American Indian programs. New plans for development/fundraising are emerging and strategic plan goals are being met or exceeded (<http://www.und.edu/stratplan2/>).

Qualifications: Earned Doctorate (Ph.D., D.N.Sc. or equivalent) from an accredited institution); eligible for North Dakota nursing licensure; distinguished record of academic accomplishment consistent with appointment to the rank of professor; demonstrated record of distinguished teaching, scholarship, and extramural funding; demonstrated leadership and administrative skills; strong interpersonal and communication skills; ability to work collaboratively with faculty, staff, students, administrators, legislators, and stakeholders; demonstrated commitment to increasing diversity of faculty and students with special emphasis on American Indian participation.

Compensation: Competitive and commensurate with experience and qualifications. Excellent benefits, including TIAA/CREF retirement, and Noridian (Blue Cross/Blue Shield) administered health care. For full consideration, applicants should send a letter of application addressing their administrative philosophy, a vitae and contact information for three references.

Review of candidates is ongoing and will continue until the position is filled. The beginning date of employment is expected to be July 1, 2005 or a date agreed upon between the candidate and the Provost. Final candidates are subject to background and reference checks. Application materials should be sent by mail, or as an email attachment in PDF format, to: Chair, Nursing Dean Search Committee - University of North Dakota - Twamley Hall 414 - PO Box 8178 - Grand Forks, ND 58202 - (701) 777-2786 or nursingsearch@mail.und.nodak.edu.

All materials submitted fall under the State of North Dakota Open Records statutes. The University of North Dakota is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer.



Associate Dean, Academic Affairs

The Duke University School of Nursing invites applications from senior level faculty for the position of Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Qualified candidates will have significant experience in graduate nursing education, with progressive leadership responsibility, and a productive history in nursing scholarship. Successful candidates should qualify for appointment at the Professor or Associate Professor level.

The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs is a member of the senior leadership team of the School, responsible for oversight of the Accelerated BSN, MSN and new PhD programs in Nursing, and reports directly to the Dean. The incumbent is expected to bring visionary leadership to the development of innovative programs that draw on the unusual opportunity and resources of the Duke University and the Duke University Health System. Strategy setting talents must be balanced by an ability to lead the academics operations, including oversight of student recruitment, admissions, matriculation, financial aid, course scheduling and teaching assignments and curricular evaluation.

Duke University offers an unusually rich interdisciplinary environment conducive to teaching, practice, and research across the Schools of Nursing, Divinity, Business, Medicine, Law, Engineering, and the Environment. The Duke University Health System includes three area hospitals, long-term care facilities and a new Center for Integrative Medicine.

Candidate screening will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Interested candidates should send a detailed letter indicating their fit with this opportunity, a curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information for three references to:

***Search Committee, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Duke University School of Nursing,
Box 3322, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710***

Duke University is an EO/AA Employer



MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

NURSING

FULL TIME TENURE TRACK FACULTY POSITION – Missouri Southern State University (MSSU) Department of Nursing is experiencing an exciting period of growth and seeks nursing educators to fill full time 9-month tenure track position beginning August 1, 2005 as Assistant/Associate Professor in the areas of Adult or Medical Surgical and Mental Health Nursing. Seasoned and novice educators with a demonstrated talent and commitment to the dual role of scholar and teacher are invited to join our team. MSSU has an undergraduate program and is preparing to offer a masters degree. Seeking innovative faculty who are interested in working with new teaching technologies including an online RN to BSN and MSN program. Rank and salary will be commensurate with experience. Applicants must have the following qualifications: Master's degree in nursing with appropriate specialty and clinical experience; doctorate desired; Family Nurse Practitioner preferred. Missouri Southern is a NLNAC accredited program. Application Deadline is March 1, 2005 or until position is filled. For more information, see the University web site at www.mssu.edu. Applicants should submit a letter of interest and curriculum vitae with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of three references to:

Dr. Tia M. Strait
Dean, School of Technology
Missouri Southern State University
3950 East Newman Road
Joplin MO 64801-1595

MSSU is an EEO/AA Employer.
*"This appointment will be contingent
upon the availability of funds"*

Rutgers College of Nursing

Faculty Positions

With a tradition of excellence and leadership in research and nursing education, we invite applications for full-time faculty for fall 2005.

Associate Dean for Research Tenure Track Faculty Clinical Track Faculty (Pediatrics, Informatics, Forensics)

Earned doctoral degree in Nursing or a related field and a Master's Degree in Nursing. A doctorate is required for tenure-track positions and to be eligible for appointment to all professorial ranks.

Highly competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package.

Send letter of application and curriculum vitae to:

Dr. Noreen Cerino, Associate Dean for Administration
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
College of Nursing
180 University Avenue
Newark 07102
973-353-5293 X607
or email: cerino@nightingale.rutgers.edu

Ph.D. Program in Nursing

The Rutgers doctoral program prepares nurse scholars for leadership positions in the profession and promotes research that furthers understanding of health and illness for individuals and society.

For an appointment to discuss the program contact:
Dr. Wendy M. Nehring, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
180 University Avenue
Newark 07102
973-353-5393 X606
or email: nehring@nightingale.rutgers.edu



<http://nursing.rutgers.edu>

AACN CONFERENCE UPDATE

Spring Annual Meeting

Join colleagues at the Spring Annual Meeting, March 19-22, 2005 at the The Fairmont Washington, DC. The theme is Policy and Politics in Nursing Higher Education: Identifying Our Priorities, a continuation of the focus on policy that began at the Fall Meeting. Program sessions will afford members the opportunity to consider various aspects of the dean/director's important role in policy development and advocacy and discuss timely issues. Complete program and registration information is at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Conferences/05SpringAnnualMtg.htm>.

Executive Development Series

The Spring Executive Development Series will be held March 18-19, 2005 at the Fairmont Washington, with the theme Doing More with Less by Doing Things Differently. The program is repeated from November 2004 when registration approached the record high for this conference. This popular conference is designed for new deans as well as for faculty members who hold or aspire to leadership positions within the nursing academic unit. The theme emphasizes practical approaches to resolving issues of concern, and the conference offers opportunities for academic leaders to think in new ways about both old and new challenges and plan for a preferred future for nursing education. For details, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Conferences/ExecDev05.htm>.

Hot Issues Conference

The 2005 Hot Issues Conference will be held May 1-3, 2005 at the Renaissance Scottsdale Resort, 6160 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85253, 480-991-1414. The conference theme "Advancing the Nurse Faculty Role" centers on the many aspects of the faculty role and offers insights on how to better understand and respond to the various facets and demands. A special half-day preconference "Emphasizing the Teaching Role" is offered especially for new faculty and those who wish to enhance their teaching skills. All faculty are invited to utilize this opportunity for professional development in a beautiful, tranquil setting for personal reflection. The brochure is in final preparation and will be mailed and available on the AACN Web site in mid February.

Call for Posters

The reception Sunday evening during the Hot Issues Conference will feature posters that emphasize the theme "Teaching Strategies That Encourage Active Learning." Faculty are urged to submit abstracts for review and potential poster presentation. The Call for Abstracts is on the AACN Web site: <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Conferences/pdf/HICFP2005.pdf>. The deadline for submission is Monday, March 7, 2005. Submitters will be notified of their status no later than March 30 so they can make hotel reservations and register for the conference before the cutoff dates.

Budget Request...

(continued from page 1)

addressing the nursing shortage and supporting the nursing workforce," said AACN President Jean Bartels, PhD, RN. "With three out of every four vacancies in hospitals today calling for registered nurses, it is crucial that Congress preserve, and preferably increase, funding for programs that bring new nurses into the profession and prepare current nurses for advanced clinical, teaching and research roles."

Though funding for nursing would be maintained, AACN is concerned that the Nurse Faculty Loan Program is still not adequately funded. This loan repayment program was created through the Nurse Reinvestment Act of 2002 to increase the supply of nurse educators. According to AACN's latest data, 32,797 qualified students were turned away from baccalaureate and graduate level nursing programs last year due primarily to insufficient numbers of faculty. Over 75 percent of schools surveyed cited the faculty shortage as the primary barrier to increasing enrollment.

"At a time when nursing schools are being pressed to produce more graduates while maintaining quality standards, turning away qualified applicants is unthinkable given this nation's health care needs," added Dr. Bartels. "Legislators must make funding graduate level nursing education a top priority to alleviate the dire need for educators to prepare nurses at all levels."

AACN is disappointed to see only slight increases or funding cuts for agencies and programs focused on improving patient safety and maintaining access to care. The FY 2006 budget request includes essentially level funding for both the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR)

and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), two agencies focused on improving health care quality and patient outcomes. The new budget proposal also calls for a 3 percent decrease in funding for the National Health Services Corps which provides scholarships for health care providers who agree to work in underserved rural and urban areas.

Further, the President's proposed elimination of programs that support the other health professions, including medicine and allied health, will further limit the availability of health care providers. "AACN is shocked to see dramatic cuts to programs that support the health care workforce and is concerned that this action will diminish access to care and deny services to vulnerable populations," said Dr. Bartels.

Specific funding levels for nursing education programs that were proposed in the President's FY 2006 budget are listed on AACN's Web site at <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Government/pdf/FY2006Chart.pdf>.

Input Needed on Endowed Chairs and Professorships

Dr. Joyce Fitzpatrick from Case Western Reserve University is leading the effort to update the national list of endowed chairs and professorships at nursing institutions. If your school would like to include new information in the list of "Endowed Chairs and Professorships in Schools of Nursing: A 2004 Update," contact Dr. Fitzpatrick at joyce.fitzpatrick@case.edu. If you have an endowed chair or professorship that was not included in the 1999 update which was published in the *Journal of Professional Nursing* (Jan-Feb 2000, Vol. 16, No. 1, pp. 57-62), please contact Dr. Fitzpatrick regarding this omission.

Apply For a 2005 Geriatric Nursing Curriculum Award

Applications will be accepted through May 1 for the 2005 Awards for Baccalaureate Education in Geriatric Nursing, an initiative of The John A. Hartford Foundation Institute for Geriatric Nursing in partnership with AACN. This awards program was created to recognize model baccalaureate programs with a strong focus on gerontological nursing. Awards are presented to nursing programs that exhibit exceptional, substantive, and innovative baccalaureate curriculum in this subject area. Beyond innovation, programs must also demonstrate relevance in the clinical environment and have the ability to be replicated at schools of nursing across the country. Besides the award for Infusing Geriatrics into Nursing Curriculum, award categories also include Geriatric Faculty Member, Stand Alone Geriatric Course, and Clinical Settings in Geriatric Nursing. For complete details, see <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/Hartford/pdf/BaccAwardApp05.pdf>