With 70 students, SDAP IV began the 13-month odyssey to the BSN on January 4, 2010, and will conclude on January 28, 2011. “Receiving the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant helped the College to increase the SDAP class size to 70. There were sixteen $10,000 scholarships awarded to increase diversity in nursing,” said Barbi Potts, M.Ed, BSN, RN, CCRN, Program Coordinator, SDAP.

Applicants qualifying for one of these new scholarships came from groups underrepresented in nursing; for example, racial or ethnic minorities, as well as males. Also qualifying were applicants from disadvantaged backgrounds, such as incomes below poverty level, unable to obtain educational loans, or first generation college students.

Those accepting the scholarships agreed to certain obligations, including participation in mentoring and leadership development programs provided by MCCN, passing the NCLEX, and providing follow up information to MCCN about employment status 6-12 months post graduation.

As in the first three SDAP classes, the previous degrees earned by the SDAP IV participants cover a widely diverse range, including physiology, biology, dental hygiene, law, marketing, sociology, psychology, business, chemistry, zoology, speech communications, kinesiology, education, design, nutrition, English, and more. New this year is the high number of students, and a new modified program flow with students moving through the program in two tracks.

“The SDAP faculty appreciates the adult learner and, like all educators, finds ourselves learning from our students, who represent many different professional backgrounds and diverse cultures,” said Potts. “SDAP students come in knowing that the program is accelerated for them; and that mean the pace is accelerated for the faculty as well.”

With a BS in information technology, Christina Melicherek worked for seven years as a systems analyst for Estee Lauder, Pier 1 Imports, and Limited Brands. She made the change to nursing to have a direct impact on others, to make a difference, and to have more flexibility. “The many opportunities in the nursing field mean my career can grow and change as my life circumstances grow and change,” said Melicherek.

“I am so thankful for this opportunity. This program fit all my needs. I can’t wait to see what is in store for us this year, and to look back at the end and see how much we have learned in such a short time,” Melicherek said. “It is refreshing to be around people with so much passion. The instructors, the students, the faculty—we all really care and want to be the best that we can. It’s only been a few weeks so far, and I know that some of us already feel like we are family.”

Hannah Mugambi has a BS in health sciences — health and wellness, and worked in that area for over two years. She changed to nursing to have the opportunity to put health promotion and wellness skills within the clinical setting. “Nursing increases my ability to empower patients and clients with wellness and health promotion tools while engaging in treatment plans,” said Mugambi, whose goal is public health nursing in an international setting, particularly maternal/child and family practice.

“I am excited and humbled by the opportunity to be part of such an excellent program providing strong education and support systems to ensure student success,” said Mugambi. “The SDAP has dedicated instructors with students’ interest and success in mind. Our peers in the program are also a great resource due to diverse educational and professional backgrounds.”

Nora Slenk graduated in May 2009 from Hope College with a degree in biology and psychology. She worked from May until December at a sports training facility, running a sprint training and plyometric program for high school and college athletes.

FREE Self-Defense Class
Wednesday, February 24
6 p.m.
College gym
Learn how to protect and defend yourself from attack.
RSVP to Colleen at 254-5828 or ccipriani@mchs.com.

GRADUATES: Cap and Gown Ordering Information
Graduates attending Commencement on May 8 are responsible for ordering their own caps and gowns no later than April 1, 2010. Orders are placed online at www.jostens.com.

• Follow the prompts for college-level graduation caps and gowns
• Search for Mount Carmel College of Nursing
• Place your order for either the bachelor's or master's product (they are different!) Remember: the order deadline is April 1. Contact Records and Registration if you have questions (614-234-9595). Also, a Jostens representative will be in the main lobby following the March 15 graduation luncheon.

Continued on page 2...
I felt a calling to the career of nursing because of my passion for servant leadership. I believe a nurse cares for people in a way few other jobs can, with knowledge, with genuine care, and with a responsibility to communicate God's love to each person," said Stenk, who is interested in pursuing a career as a CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist).

"The MCCN faculty and staff have been extraordinarily helpful and polite since I first called about applying to the program. The small size offers a tight-knit program, and the College, allows strong bonds of friendship and mentorship," said Stenk. "The faculty are passionate about nursing and about our success as students and future nurses. It is truly an environment that will allow us to reach our potential."

Brad March, an officer in the U.S. Army since May 2001, was assigned to the Air Defense Artillery and stationed in Tong Du Chon, Korea; Tacoma, Washington; Mosul, Iraq. He has been an EMT-Basic since the fall of 1998 and a firefighter since 1999. "My path in the Army took me away from the medical profession, but always found a way to be active in that service. I was a volunteer firefighter in Washington state to keep my skills sharp and a Forward Operating Base (FOB) first responder during my deployment. Through these experiences, I knew I wanted to find a way back to medicine," said March.

His father's bone marrow transplant at the James Cancer Clinic showed him nursing was the path. "I saw how the nurses were the ones who worked day in and day out to ensure my father met their objectives of treatment and got back on his feet. I knew then that I wanted to be a part of this noble profession," March said.

"SDAP is not for the weary. We all push ourselves and each other to ensure success. I look around me and see some of the most professional people I have ever run across. This was the best choice for me, and I thank the faculty and administration for the opportunity to follow my path!"

MCCN Student AMBASSADORS: a Select Group

"Student Ambassadors are a select group of current MCCN students chosen to assist with the recruitment process. Ultimately, Student Ambassadors serve as a link between the Office of Admissions and Recruitment, the current student body, and prospective students," says Kim Campbell, M.Ed., Director of Admissions and Recruitment.

The main function of the student ambassador is to conduct campus tours for prospective students and their families. In addition, Student Ambassadors assist at major College functions (i.e., Trustees Dinner, Pinning, Convocation, Commencement, etc.) with set up, registering guests, and passing out programs.

Expectations of Student Ambassadors:

- Maintenance of good academic standing
- Actively involved in extra-curricular activities
- Enthusiasm in promoting MCCN to prospective students
- Keeping current regarding the latest MCCN news

The Lead Student Ambassador is responsible for maintaining the relationship between the Ambassador staff and the faculty/staff of MCCN. In addition to the general Ambassador responsibilities, the Lead Ambassador is accountable for supervising and maintaining the work flow of other Student Ambassadors.

"Being an ambassador is about being a part of a unit that functions together on both a personal and a professional level," says Sarah Eichhorn, who is Lead Student Ambassador for this academic year.

"I feel that as an ambassador I have increased my management capabilities, as well as being more comfortable and confident when talking with small and large groups. The ambassador program has helped me to develop both independent and team leadership qualities," says Eichhorn.

2009-2010 Student Ambassadors

- Stephanie Binkley
- Britney Bradshaw
- Nicole Cistone
- Andrea Colobombo
- Lori Dassabhorst
- Sarah Eichhorn
- Heather Feck
- Crystal Goods
- Christian Graves
- Kylee Knowlton
- Lisa McGinnis
- Hannah Little
- Amanda Mitchell
- Kayla Munk
- Mandy Osae-Attah
- Becky Tokarsky
- Jennifer Young
- Molly Upton

Interested candidates are invited to pick up an application at the Office of Admissions, the front desk of the College, or Chancellor's Post box (second floor of the CLE).

Applications due no later than March 19, 2010, and interviews will be conducted shortly thereafter. Questions? Please call the Admissions Office (614-234-1400) and ask for Kim or Jonathan.

Potential applicants are also encouraged to talk with one of the current Ambassadors to learn what they think of their experience. Here’s what three current Student Ambassadors told The Ripper.

Christian Graves chose to become a student ambassador to meet people, get involved in campus life, and network. “As a student ambassador I have had the pleasure of working numerous events from open houses to the alumni banquet to the college fairs,” said Graves.

Graves cites several benefits from her ambassador experience, “I have definitely gotten better at communicating with others, especially in large groups. I have also met some really cool people. I love being a student ambassador.”

Amanda Mitchell interviewed for a Student Ambassador position as a way to become more involved at the College. “I extend a huge thank-you to the staff (Kim Campbell, Gale Solarik, and Jonathan Francis),” and my fellow Ambassadors for the experiences and knowledge I’ve attained with this program. Judging by the reviews that we receive, our efforts do not go unnoticed by the prospective students and visitors to the college,” said Mitchell.

“My favorite part of touring has to be the look on the faces of visitors to the on-campus apartments. Most parents ask if they can move in along with their son or daughter. And when you think their jaws can’t drop any lower, they find out about the washers and dryers in each unit,” added Mitchell.

Kayla Munk was inspired to achieve a Student Ambassador slot before she even attended the College. “During my first hour at Mount Carmel College of Nursing, I was impressed by the pride and joy in MCCN that the ambassadors expressed. I knew that as a student here, I too wanted to let people know about the great opportunities and excellence in education that MCCN has to offer.”

Munk feels she has learned communication skills and leadership skills that will be put to use in her future career in nursing. “The ambassador program allows you to network and meet many new people, and constantly gain knowledge about the College,” said Munk. "Most importantly, I have learned the importance of how involvement in College organizations can open the door to opportunities you would never have imagined."
Winter Wisdom — what do we learn from the cold, dark, dreary days of February? Some of us spend a lot more time at home — inside where there are thermostats. Some of us revel in the playful possibilities of snow and ice.

Here in our town, we’ve been battered to one storm after another. Traffic has been snarled — roads rendered impassable — grocery stores picked clean by our common survivalist instincts. Snow people populate our neighborhoods, remnants of hours making snow angels dot our front lawns. Winter is frustrating and fun all at once. (Then there’s the irony of not enough snow for the Winter Olympics — making this winter weird and wacky too.)

And underneath winter the earth is hibernating. What looks and feels like death is really creation storing up the energy it will take to be spring again! Winter is as though all creation has locked itself in the gym: building muscle, toning, flexing, stretching — getting itself ready for the games of spring life.

The Wisdom of Winter is the promise: that snow will melt — traffic will flow — grocery shelves will be filled again. School will end and “real” life will begin — sorrow will give way to joy — worry will melt into relief. Winter — at least in this neck of God’s creation — always — always turns to spring.

Holy Hibernation, Batmans!
SPRING BREAK: Time to Catch up, Catch a Breather, Catch Some Zzzzs

Plans are coming together; anticipation is high; spring break for MCCN is just a little more than a week away. Our roving reporters, Samantha Mitchell and Brittany Zsilling, discovered that whether they were traveling far or staying close to home and family, Mount Carmel students and faculty are counting down the days to spring break 2010.

What are your plans for spring break 2010 or your favorite spring break memory?

“Flashback… I can leave my snow shovel at home!”
Anita Mitchell (MCCN–HMC sophomores)

“I’m going to relax over spring break and go to Pittsburgh to see my uncle.”
Mandy O’Ree Atkinson (sophomore)

“Over spring break I’m going to catch up on sleep, get the nursery ready, and possibly go into labor.”
Desiree D’Angelo Sosse (freshman)

“I’ll be working at Costco over my break since I’m not working during school.”
Tara Elton (SDAP)

“I’m going to relax over spring break and go to Indianapolis to watch the OSU women’s basketball team in the Big Ten Tournament. It’s a fun and nice trip to watch the team and get away for awhile.”
Delora Bills (faculty – NURS 308)

“I’m going to be studying all break for the capstone course.”
Julie Potzmeyer (RN to BSN Completion Program)

“I’m using break to catch up on sleep and house work.”
Carrie Gibson-Arnus (SDAP)

“I’ll be studying for my Pharmacology class.”
Mark Schubert (SDAP)

“Spring break will be used to spend time with my family and do things with them.”
Derek Garbolinski (faculty, SCIE 438)

“My birthday is over break so I’ll be celebrating with some friends.”
Nadia Muhamed (freshman, not pictured)

“Every year I go over spring break to watch the OU women’s basketball team in the Big Ten Tournament. It’s a fun and nice trip to watch the team and get away for awhile.”
Delora Bills (faculty – NURS 308)

30 Students Enjoyed the FREE DINNER on February 10

Sophomore Christian Graves, junior Amanda Mitchell, sophomore Ashley James, and senior Chelsea Krempel cooked a sloppy joes dinner for their peers.

Fun in the SNOW

Whitney Davidson, Emily Barry, and Emily Lust took advantage of last week’s snowstorm to build a snowman on the patio of the College.

REVISED

Smoking Policy

Tobacco use/smoking is prohibited on any Mount Carmel property — indoors and outdoor areas — including parking lots, sidewalks, garages, inside cars on Mount Carmel property, inside and outside the College and Resident Apartments including the sidewalks and grounds surrounding them. Further, students are prohibited from smoking anywhere while wearing their student uniforms, lab coat and/or student ID badge.

Violators will receive one verbal warning. Consequences of continued non-compliance may result in dismissal from the residence hall and, or college.

NURS 408

Clinical Preferences

Students have the opportunity to indicate preferences for clinical site (the type of unit) for NURS 408. A letter explaining the process and a form to print and complete will be posted on WebCT Resources near the middle of the term. Preference for the term you will take NURS 408. With WebCT Resources DAILY for this posting.

After carefully reading the letter and completing the form, take the form to the Marian Hall front desk promptly. Request that it be date/time stamped and placed in the Ann Waterman’s Faculty mailbox. Your clinical faculty will contact you regarding placement near the end of the term. Although the preferred clinical days are M–T-W day shift, the student is expected to be flexible and work the preceptor’s schedule for an average of 24 hours per week. Weekends and shifts other than day shift are to be expected.

Questions? Email Ann Waterman with N408 in the subject line: awaterman@mchs.com.
Senior Spotlight on LUKE VOHNSING

Reynolds: Why did you decide to become a nurse?

Reynolds: I have always known that my calling was to work with people. It wasn’t until I reached high school that I was introduced to the nursing profession and knew it was exactly what I wanted to pursue. There is no greater joy than caring for another person.

Reynolds: What are your plans after graduation? Long-range career/educational goals?

Reynolds: I am going to be a Certified Rehab Nurse. I love working on Rehab floors because I like to see patients get better instead of getting worse. Then I want to become a Certified Nurse Midwife. I love the holistic approach to nursing. From the vantage point of senior year, I am ready to complete my education.

Reynolds: What activities have you been involved with at the College?

Reynolds: I grew up in the healthcare field and I want to give back some of what was done for me. I cannot see a career other than nursing. I enjoy playing volleyball in my free time and currently play in a league once a week. I am very active in my church, and each year I coordinate a week-long camp at Hocking Hills for elementary children. I work as a home health aide for a family who has a six-year-old daughter with a genetic, cerebellar disorder. She has been an inspiration to work with.

Reynolds: Why did you choose MCCN?

Reynolds: I chose Mount Carmel because it has a good reputation, small students-professor ratios, and was close to home.

Reynolds: From the vantage point of senior year what have been the high and low points of nursing education?

Reynolds: I have appreciated being able to get a glimpse of the many aspects of nursing throughout my education. Nursing school is hard work and requires complete dedication. There are many hours of sleep that I won’t get back, but I know it will all be worth it in the end.

Reynolds: What activities have you been involved with at the College?

Reynolds: I became a Rho Omicron member in 2009.

Reynolds: I enjoy playing volleyball on my free time and currently play in a league once a week. I am very active in my church, and each year I coordinate a week-long camp at Hocking Hills for elementary children. I work as a home health aide for a family who has a six-year-old daughter with a genetic, cerebellar disorder. She has been an inspiration to work with.

Reynolds: What are your plans after graduation? Long-range career/educational goals?

Reynolds: I am open to whatever nursing holds for my future. I would like to start out working on an oncology palliative care unit. I want a position for the older adult population. I am hopeful that my career will enable me to be an example for others to recognize that the older adult still has so much to offer.

Reynolds: What is one piece of advice you would like to share with current MCCN students?

Reynolds: My advice is to stay open-minded to all the nursing courses. It may not be an area that you wish to pursue, but keeping an open mind will allow you to appreciate all that the nursing profession has to offer.
Spring 2010 Term J FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAY, MARCH 1</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>ROOM</th>
<th>FACULTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NURS 305 Med Surg I</td>
<td>8 a.m. – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>CLE 289</td>
<td>Beyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 306 Med Surg II</td>
<td>8 a.m. – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>CLE 116</td>
<td>Gamphell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 307 OB</td>
<td>8 a.m. – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>CLE 114</td>
<td>Gooley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 308 Psych-Mental Health</td>
<td>8 a.m. – 10 a.m.</td>
<td>CLE 210</td>
<td>Bills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 405 Acute</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CLE 208</td>
<td>Nibert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 406 Gerontology</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CLE 210</td>
<td>Maurer Baack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 407 Pediatrics</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>CLE 116</td>
<td>O’Handley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NURS 408 Transitions</td>
<td>10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Waterman</td>
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Graduation Countdown
This series highlights key information graduating students need to know before May Commencement. Check this listing for important deadlines and suggestions to keep your path to graduation on track.

- Complete your Community Service Program requirement and submit documentation to Mary Nibert.
- Attend the graduation luncheon on Monday, March 15, where information about Commencement, Undergraduate Pinning, graduation photos, the NCLEX-RN application, and other details will be discussed. In addition, there will be a time for questions and answers.
- Visit the Jostens representative who will be on campus March 15 to display various graduation items. Stop by the Marian Hall Lobby after the luncheon to see the Jostens display.
- Order your cap/gown and optional announcements. Order online at www.jostens.com. The order deadline is April 1.
  - Follow the prompts for college-level graduation caps and gowns
  - Search for Mount Carmel College of Nursing
  - Place your order for either the bachelor’s or master’s product (they are different!)
  - Prepare for the National Council Licensure Exam - RN (NCLEX-RN) that will measure your competency to perform as a registered nurse and is required for entrance into the profession.
  - Prepare for graduation events:
    - Undergraduate pinning will be Friday, Mar 7, at 7 p.m.
    - Commencement will be Saturday, Mar 8, at 1 p.m.
    - Both events will be held at the First Church of God, 3480 Refugee Road
  - Update your degree audit to make sure you are on track to complete all graduation requirements. Pre-licensure students contact Records and Registration; RN-BSN and master’s students contact Kip Sexton, Program Coordinator.

Call for Posters
The Central Ohio Consortium of Sigma Theta Tau International will host a Spring Scholarship Evening on April 15, 2010, celebrating the 2010 International Year of the Nurse (2010 INurse). This event is open to everyone. STD membership not required. Dr. Ann Feden will present “The Evolution of the Nursing Intervention.” The event is free for ALL MCCN students.

“Call for Posters” to the MCCN community
Nursing faculty, students, and nurses from the community are invited to present posters at this event. Membership in Sigma Theta Tau International is not required for participation. In conjunction with the 2010 INurse theme, posters must fit within the United Nations Millennium Development Goals:
1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and all communicable and non-communicable diseases,
7. Ensure environmental sustainability, or
8. Develop a global partnership for development.

Expectations for Poster Presenters:
- Presenters will register to attend Spring Scholarship Evening. (Registration fees: FREE for MCCN students and $35 for non-students)
- Presenters will arrive at 4:30 p.m. to set up poster display on provided easels.
- Presenters will accompany their posters during the poster reception, 5 – 6 p.m.
- All posters should be capable of independently standing on provided easels.
- Any audio-visual equipment or extension cords needed with a poster presentation must be supplied by the participant.
- An abstract or handout describing the poster should be available for poster viewers.
- All poster presenters must send a poster abstract to address below by March 10, 2010.

Poster abstracts must include:
- Presenter name(s) with a designated contact person
- Telephone and email contact information of contact person
- Poster title
- Abstract describing the poster’s topic (not to exceed 150 words)
- Please direct any questions to Dr. Elizabeth Barker at barker.2058@ouhsc.edu

Send or email a poster abstract to Elizabeth Barker by March 10, 2010:

Mail address:
The Ohio State University
College of Nursing
1585 Neil Avenue
396 Newton Hall
Columbus, OH 43210
ATTN: Dr. Elizabeth Barker

Email address:
barker.2058@ouhsc.edu

SNAM News
Schedule of SNAM Activities
February 22: SNAM Meeting and Elections
March 22: SNAM Meeting
April 7 – 11: NSNA Annual Convention in Orlando, FL
April 26: SNAM Meeting

Library
Monday - Thursday: 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Sunday: Closed
Professional reference staff is available Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. If you need professional help or assistance during late evening and Saturday morning hours, Librarians will be available upon your request, primarily through scheduling time using the Signing for Instruction form on the library website at least 48 hours in advance, or by contacting a librarian in person.

Community Service Opportunity
Students are needed to volunteer at the open house for the new Diley Ridge Medical Center in Canal Winchester on Saturday, March 13, 1 – 4 p.m. A wide range of volunteers are needed for registration, blood pressure screenings, tour guides, etc. If interested, please contact Diana Coomer at dcoomer@mchs.org or 546-4111.

Save the Date!
2010 Spring Festival
Monday, April 5
10 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Gym
Web Caricature Artist
Henna Body Artist
Handwritting Analysis
Old-time Photo Booth
Cotton Candy
Burrito Bar
ALL FREE!!!