Pfizer Groton/New London Laboratories Community Grants program has awarded Dr. Sherry Bassi a $10,504 grant for her proposal, SCHOOL OF NURSING SERVICE LEARNING OUTREACH IN GROTON. This support will enable Dr. Bassi to increase resident-participant access to the Health Education and Safety (HES) program in Branford Manor public housing complex, and to increase opportunities for service learning for UConn School of Nursing students.

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has awarded Dr. Regina Cusson a $55,711 grant for Advanced Education Nursing Traineeships. The funding will be used to provide support for tuition, books and fees for students enrolled in advanced nurse education.

DHHS, HRSA has also awarded Dr. Carol Polifroni two grants totaling $94,244 for the Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) and the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) NFLP. The purpose of the NFLP grants is to increase the number of qualified nursing faculty by providing loans to students enrolled in an advanced education nursing program. Loan recipients must complete the education program and, following graduation, may cancel up to 85% of the NFLP debt while serving as full-time nurse faculty at a school of nursing.

In addition, DHHS, HRSA has awarded Dr. Carol Polifroni two grants totaling $123,556 for the Scholarships for Disadvantaged Students (SDS) program and the ARRA SDS program. The purpose of the SDS program is to promote diversity among health professions students and practitioners by providing scholarships to full-time, financially needy students from disadvantaged backgrounds, enrolled in health professions and nursing programs.

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) has awarded Dr. Deborah Shelton an RC4 grant for continuation of the integration of a research infrastructure into daily practice at the Connecticut Department of Corrections (CDOC). CONNECTICUT CORRECTIONAL HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP is a collaboration among UConn School of Nursing, the UConn Health Center (UCHC), and CDOC. The program objectives are to develop the foundations for an environment with a sustainable capacity for research; to link data systems between correctional research partner agencies; and to create opportunities for future correctional researchers to maintain and sustain the research infrastructure. NIMH has awarded $998,554 for the three year project.

Dr. Michelle Judge resubmitted an NIH Academic Research Enhancement Application (R15). Her proposal, EFFICACY OF MATERNAL PRENATAL DHA FOR INFANTS AT RISK, requests $425,227 for a three-year study to determine the relationships among maternal prenatal DHA intake, maternal depressive symptoms, and infant cognitive development; and to determine the relationships among maternal prenatal DHA intake, depressive symptoms, and maternal-infant attachment.

Dr. Carol Polifroni has requested a $7,437 grant from the SQ Foundation through their Better Health for Living grant program. Her proposal seeks to engage pre-licensure nursing students in basic primary care delivery for adolescent parents and their infant and toddler children who are enrolled in a day care center at Hartford Public High School. Under the supervision of a master’s prepared nurse, the students from the UConn School of Nursing will assist with delivery of developmental assessments, nutritional counseling and education, life skills and parenting classes.

Dr. Cheryl Reilly has submitted an R01 application to AHRQ for THE DEVELOPMENT OF PATIENT, NURSE AND AUTOMATED FALL RISK ASSESSMENT TOOLS. Through this project Dr. Reilly and co-investigators at Baystate Medical Center will develop and compare three risk assessment models for use in the acute care setting and determine the benefits of staggered implementation of three tools. The outcomes seek to develop tools that more accurately classify patients’ risks for falls.

Dr. Thomas Van Hoof has submitted a grant application to AstraZeneca Healthcare Foundation’s Connections for Cardiovascular Health program. His proposal describes an implementation project that improves the quality of cardiovascular care for minority patient groups in greater Hartford by building relationships between primary care practices and community service providers. Through a partnership with Qualidigm, Dr. Van Hoof will work to improve the quality of the process of delivering care and to improve the outcome of satisfaction among patients, clinicians, and staff of participating practices and community providers.


**Faculty Presentations**

Cusson, R. (2010, June) *Developing a program of research in transitions: Lessons from the health disciplines*. Invited Keynote Speaker & Clinical Scholar in Residence, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA.

Cusson, R. (2010, June) *The Doctor of Nursing Practice: Changing the Research Landscape*. Invited Keynote Speaker: Rockefeller University, New York Presbyterian Hospital - Weill Cornell Medical Center, New York, NY.


