



UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN BIRMINGHAM

SCHOOL OF NURSING

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 1975

Revised Undergraduate Curriculum

For the past three years the School of Nursing faculty have been involved in an extensive study of the baccalaureate curriculum. Assisting in the study were students and university and community leaders. Of particular concern to the faculty was the development of a flexible and creative nursing program designed to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing health care system. Consequently, the faculty have designed a curriculum, to be implemented in September, 1975, which will prepare professional nursing practitioners who can be identified by their distinct contributions to health care. Such practitioners will continue to bear a unique responsibility for assuring a personalized and humanistic approach to the individual, family and community and, in addition will be skilled in collaborative endeavors, able to understand and cope with change, and innovative to adapting to changed circumstances.

The curriculum is organized by levels of achievement, with the first level designed to assist the students in increasing their understanding of man through study of the humanities and the biophysical and behavioral sciences. Believing that nursing utilizes a scientifically based, goal directed, interpersonal process in assisting man to achieve his maximum health potential, the second level is designed to introduce the students to the nursing process in both primary and secondary health care settings.

A unique feature of the revised curriculum is that nursing knowledge is derived from the roles and functions necessary in meeting the health needs of target population groups. Thus, the third level is organized around Adult Health, Maternal-Child Health and Mental Health population groups. This arrangement reflects a basic belief which rejects the concept of illness care as nursing's focus and replaces

it with the concept of health care.

The fourth level has been designed to provide the students with the opportunity to concentrate their study in an area of interest compatible with their career goals. Consequently, this level, a three-quarter sequence, allows the student to pursue study with either of the identified target population groups. This experience will include content, processes and skills necessary for developing the roles of practitioner, leader, change agent and researcher. This sequence provides for a preceptorship in various health care agencies and allows the student to engage in systematic inquiry and to incorporate the findings pertinent to the improvement of nursing practice in selected settings.

Graduates of the program will be prepared to assume greater responsibility for decision-making and for leadership in the delivery of health care, functioning as knowledgeable and accountable professionals, always maintaining a personalized and humanistic service to those who are in need of our care.

Welcome New Faculty

Miss Dot Hall
Instructor, Maternal-Infant Nursing

Mrs. Anita Hill
Nursing Associate, Medical-Surgical Nursing

Mrs. Virginia McColm
Nursing Associate, Fundamentals of Nursing

Miss Julia Orosz
Part-time Nursing Associate, Pediatric Nursing

Also Pam Daugherty has joined the Maternal-Infant faculty and is now located in Room 310 at Extension 5474.