The Nurses Writing Project Update
HBSON Faculty Meeting September 2, 2015

The Nurses Writing Project is a venture of the HBSON that includes the Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing E-Writing Center, and the Narrative Writing for Health Care Professionals program. The Project is housed within the school, and its elements maintain collaborative relationships with the Center for Health, Media & Policy at Hunter College, the Hunter Main Reading/Writing Center, and the Hunter Writing Across the Curriculum program.

Hunter-Bellevue School of Nursing E-Writing Center

Program description for syllabi & Blackboard:

The Hunter–Bellevue School of Nursing offers a free writing-assistance program called the HBSON E-Writing Center. Students can obtain help with constructing a paper, avoiding plagiarism, using APA format, and addressing challenges with grammar. The E-Writing Center uses a nurse-specific model of peer mentoring based on the principles and practices of the Hunter College Reading/Writing Center. This mentoring service is open to all HBSON students. Students can e-mail their written work and requests 24/7 and will receive a mentor's response within 48 hours. Students can also meet with mentors in-person during weekly open hours in the library or by appointment. Contact: thenurseswritingproject@hunter.cuny.edu.

Fall 2015 Initiatives:

- **Library Walk-in Hours**
  Mondays & Tuesdays 2:00-4:00PM starting September 14th

- **Plagiarism Protection Initiative**
  All student submissions will be entered into Turnitin and checked for originality

- **Introduction Sessions**
  Mentors are available for class and class library sessions

- **IRB-approved Study**
  Analysis of mentoring effect Fall 2012-Spring 2015 academic and survey data

- **2nd Annual Bedpan Confessionals**
  October 9, 2015, 7:30-9:30PM, 6th Street Community Center
  Narrative reading event featuring experienced & new nurse writers, including Dr. Kenya Beard, current Hunter students & alumni

Fall 2015 Operations:

Diana Mason, Center Faculty Advisor
Dennis v Paoli, Hunter R/WC Faculty Liaison
Amanda Anderson, Center Director, MSN/MPA Student
Jennifer Brown, Mentor, Adult NP Student

Narrative Writing for Health Care Professionals Program

Please share class descriptions with students for Spring 2016 registration:

**NURS 734 Writing, Communication, and Healing**

This 3-credit graduate nursing course is designed to help students sharpen their writing ability through a variety of formal and informal writing exercises. Assignments include writing reflective narratives, responding to poetry, blogging, analyzing research, and journaling. Through weekly assignments and in-class writing, students write from their unique perspective on a variety of subjects and in the process discover their voice—an essential aspect of strong academic and professional writing. Students also examine the evidence on writing as a healing practice that can be used to prevent burnout.
From a 2014 survey of former students: "A senior professor at Hunter college recommended that I register for the writing class and today I am so glad I did. This class has ... given a stronger voice to both my personal and professional life. For example, my nursing notes are now more detailed and clearer. The effect is evident. Issues at work are brought to light and are addressed. ... I just wish that this class was recommended from the start. My journey as a graduate student would have been much smoother."

NURS 495 Writing for Health Professionals: A Course for Undergraduates
In this 3-credit course, students explore and refine their powers of observation, description, and expression through writing and close reading of a variety of texts on care-giving, illness, and healing. The course is appropriate for all students, regardless of prior writing experience. Each class meeting begins with narrative writing in response to creative prompts and sharing of student work. Other writing assignments include responses to poetry and essays, journaling, blogging, analyzing research articles, and writing reflective narratives. Improving writing through revision is emphasized, and students are guided to explore and test strategies for overcoming challenges to timely, effective writing. Class discussion also focuses on the cultural, professional, and personal contexts in which we write.

Fall 2015 Operations:
Joy Jacobson, Program Director, Adjunct Advisor - Sabbatical Fall 2015 Semester
Jim Stubenrauch, Adjunct Faculty NURS 495