



**Helene Fuld
College
of Nursing**

Alumni Newsgram

Volume 28 Issue 1

Message From The President

Dear Alumni,

It will be good to see you at our Alumni Scholarship Dinner Dance at the River Room of Harlem, October 11, 2008. This reunion will be a wonderful time to celebrate the accomplishments of our alumni and to assist students in our current program with scholarships. The last reunion in August 2007 aboard the Half Moon boat was so much fun. I hope you enjoy the pictures in this newsgram.

The biggest event that occurred at Helene Fuld College of Nursing was the separation of the College from North General Hospital, which took place on July 25, 2007. The College is now on its own. It is in a position to expand and add new programs. I thank those of you who completed our surveys regarding a new upper division baccalaureate program. I will let you know when it becomes a reality.

Although we have expanded our current facility on the third and fourth floors, and an elevator is being installed, we must relocate the College when our lease expires in 2011. The Board of Trustees is exploring new sites in Harlem and fundraising options. We will need your support and contacts. You will hear more about our plans at the reunion.

Your alumni officers, Patricia Sumner, Aseneth Tubman, Mercedes Bass, Dianne Lum, Kiva Perkins-Watts, and Fadya Casseus, and Michelle Hernandez, our new Director of External Affairs, have done a wonderful job of arranging this Alumni Dinner Dance.

Please call your classmates to come and support this event. We hope to see many of you, as well as our current and retired faculty.

*I look forward to seeing you and your family and friends at
our first scholarship dinner dance reunion on October 11, 2008.*

Best Wishes,

Margaret (Peggy) Wines R.N., Ph.D.
President
Helene Fuld College of Nursing



Faculty & Staff Notes

Moving on...

2006

Ms. Jessica Ingram-Bellamy, Director of External Affairs

2008

Dr. Maria Rosario-Sim, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Ms. Trinidad Agtarap, Instructor & Coordinator, Medical/Surgical Nursing I is no longer teaching at Helene Fuld, but resumes her role as Director of Continuing Education.

Moving in...

2005

Karla Fallon, Counselor

Andrine Thomas, Financial Aid Counselor

2006

Adenike Cole, Chief Financial Officer

2007

Christine Braunstein was rehired as Project Manager/Institutional Researcher.

Michelle Hernandez, Director of External Affairs

Congratulations

Dr. Joaquin Garcia, Coordinator and Associate Professor, Bio-Science retired on June 30, 2006, after 21 years of service to the College.

Wendy Robinson was promoted from Instructor, Nursing to Assistant Professor and Curriculum Coordinator on October 16, 2007.

Juan Esguerra, former Learning Center Assistant/Computer Technician graduated with honors from Mid-Manhattan Adult Learning Center in 2007, passed the NCLEX-LPN exam and is now working as an LPN at Elmhurst Hospital.

Helene Fuld College of Nursing Goes Out On Its Own

Effective, July 25th 2007, Helene Fuld College of Nursing became a fully independent college after legally separating from North General Hospital. Helene Fuld was affiliated with the Hospital (formerly Hospital for Joint Diseases) since its inception in 1945 as a "training school" for practical nurses.

Our newly independent status signals many positive changes for the College. For one, the separation brings the College one step closer to establishing the long anticipated upper division baccalaureate program which would allow our associate degree graduates to continue for a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

To accommodate our growth, the College also embarked on a major renovation and construction project by leasing an additional 6,500 ft. of space on the 4th Floor of the Bethel Gospel Assembly Building. The new amenities include state of the art classrooms with audio-visual capabilities, a student lounge, conference rooms, two nursing arts laboratories, administrative and faculty offices, and additional bathrooms.

The College's name was amended to Helene Fuld College of Nursing. Although HFCN's current physical location still remains the same, our new legal address and contact information has been officially changed.

Our new, official address!

**24 East 120th Street
New York, NY, 10035**

Tel: 212-616-7200 • Fax: 212-616-7299

We welcome updates from alumni for the Newsgram.

We want to know about your career progress, family news, and other significant events including promotions, changes in employment, honors, weddings, births, and other personal accomplishments. Please e-mail submissions and changes of address to: michelle.hernandez@helenefuld.edu

Where Are They Now?

Imagine returning to the college that you once attended to work as an instructor. Well that's what some of our graduates have done. Alumnae, **Melissa Rodriguez Ramos**, (class of April 1999) and **Pamela Ford** (class of 1982) currently provide clinical instruction to HFCN students.

Melissa Rodriguez-Ramos, the November 2007 keynote speaker at graduation, is an adjunct clinical instructor. She teaches both Parent Child Health Nursing and Medical Surgical Nursing II. Pamela Ford, a full-time instructor at the College, teaches Medical Surgical Nursing I and Psychiatric-Community Mental Health Nursing.

Upon graduation, each went on to advance their education by obtaining their Bachelor and Master degrees in Nursing.

Melissa Rodriguez-Ramos attended Columbia University, and Pamela Ford earned her BSN from Mercy College and her MSN from the College of New Rochelle.



NLNAC Accreditation Visit

We are happy to report that the site visitors and the Board of Review of the National League of Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC) have recommended full accreditation to HFCN for the next eight years.

The site visit occurred on March 3-5, 2008. The purpose of the visit was to determine if the College is in keeping with the standards and criteria set forth for an associate degree granting nursing program. The visitors' assessment was based on various criteria including the mission and governance, faculty, students, curriculum and instruction, resources, integrity, and educational effectiveness of the College.

ALL ABOARD!!!

The Alumni Association held an alumni reunion cruise aboard the Half Moon on Saturday, August 18, 2007. The boat embarked from New York Skypoints Marina located on the East River at 23rd Street in Manhattan. There were graduates from 1973 – 2007 present. The three hour cruise included dinner, dancing and raffle prize drawings. Music was provided by a live deejay who played a mix of Caribbean, Latin, Soul and R&B hits.

The reunion cruise provided an opportunity for alumni to reunite with former classmates, network, and reconnect with faculty and staff. Don't miss our next event, a Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance at the River Room of Harlem in Riverbank State Park on Saturday, October 11, 2008!

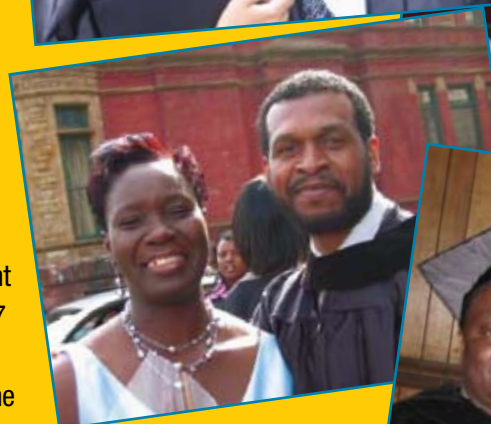


Graduation April 2007

The Spring 2007 commencement exercises were held on Sunday, April 17, 2007, at 4:30 pm at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. The welcome address was delivered by HFCN President, Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Wines. During the ceremony, Alan McDougall, Chairperson, HFCN Board of Trustees, conferred degrees upon one hundred graduates.

Dianne Johnson, HFCN Secretary/Receptionist, delivered the invocation, and alumnus, Dianne Worrell, RN (class of November 2000), who now serves as Director of Nursing, in the Prescribed Pediatric Extended Care Facility at Children's Rehab Network in Miami, Florida delivered the commencement address. The president of the class, Davy Cory Catlyn gave the farewell address. April 2007 graduates, Martine Bazelaïs and Anamarie Blinlh both serenaded the audience. Senator Charles Schumer, a long time supporter of the College congratulated the graduates for their accomplishments and addressed attendees at the ceremony.

Five graduating students received Suzanne I. Ullman Awards. The awards were presented to June A. Miller for Academic Excellence, Larissa Mikhailova and Tejani Suarez for Academic Honors, Sharron G. Hutchings for Clinical Excellence, and to Karen A. DeSilva for Clinical Honors. The Dr. Joseph L. Tait – Harlem Commonwealth Council Award for excellence in the liberal arts and science courses in support of nursing was given to June A. Miller. The Ruth Brown Incentive Award was presented to Diana Abney, the Stephen C. Frauenthal Award in recognition of outstanding leadership was presented to Davy Cory Catlyn, and the Marguerite Haggerty Memorial Award for excellence in Medical-Surgical Nursing was presented to Karen A. DaSilva. The Ayisha Babwah Award for helpfulness to fellow students was given to Denise E. Toppin and the Carol A. Thompson Memorial Award in recognition of perseverance in pursuing a nursing career was given to Anamarie I. Blinlh.



Graduation May 2008

The commencement ceremony for the graduating class of May 2008 took place on Sunday, May 4th at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. A total of 103 students successfully completed the program and received their Associate in Applied Science degree.

Kerry-Ann Stewart (May 2008 graduate) delivered the invocation. The welcome address was given by Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Wines. The Honorable Charles Schumer delivered the opening keynote address. Mr. Alan McDougall later greeted the audience and bestowed degrees upon the graduates. The Suzanne I. Ullman Awards were given to: Cindy Black for Academic Excellence, Wanda Camacho and Aracely Leiva for Academic Honors, Stacyann Bent and Mariann J. Monforte-Ditore for Clinical Excellence, and Alexandra M. Carnival and Alyson S. Potter received the award for Clinical



Graduation November 2007

The November 2007 class was the first to graduate from Helene Fuld College of Nursing since its establishment as a fully independent college. The commencement ceremony on November 18th included a total of eighty-three new AAS graduates.

Following the invocation, which was given by Judith Jean Paul from the graduating class, Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Wines delivered the welcome address. Alan McDougall, Chairperson of the HFCN Board of Trustees greeted the audience and presented the degrees to graduating students. Members of the graduating class also delighted the audience with the gift of song. Tyisha Herrera sang a solo and a duet was performed by Cherline St. Rosa and Elizabeth Taylor-Cameron. The Honorable Charles Schumer attended the commencement ceremony and addressed the audience.

Several Suzanne Ullman Awards were bestowed upon deserving graduates. Recipients included: Steve Tangjian for Academic Excellence, Fay Butler and Carol Patricia Johnson for Academic Honors, Steve Tangjian for Clinical Excellence and Andrea Lynn Gibbon for Clinical Honors. The Dr. Joseph L. Tait – Harlem Commonwealth Council Award was presented to Fay Butler. The Ruth Brown Academic Incentive Award was presented to Alex Afrifa. Andrea Lynn Gibbon and Raina Tata Lazarus were recipients of the Stephen C. Frauenthal Leadership Award. The Marguerite Haggerty Memorial Award was given to Steve Tangjian. Gamuchirai Cherry Mapfumo received the Marcia Levinson-Solomon Memorial Award and the Carol A. Thompson Memorial Award was presented to Rachael Imuetinyan Iyageh.

The farewell address was delivered by the class president, Andrea Lynn Gibbon.

Honors. Rasheed Ali received the Ruth Brown Academic Incentive Award. Mariann J. Monforte-Ditore was the proud recipient of the Stephen C. Frauenthal Leadership Award. The Marguerite Haggerty Memorial Award was presented to Stacyann T. Bent. Francine E. Gopaul received the Ayisha Babwah Award and the Carol A. Thompson Memorial Award was given to Deborah Cook. Two new awards were also presented. The Dorothy Juanita Witherspoon Memorial Award, given to Uzoma Iroham and the Thelma Callendar Memorial Award, given to Sandra Marie Clark were presented by the President of the Alumni Association and HFCN Board Trustee, Patricia Sumner (class of 1971), in memory of two of her former Helene Fuld classmates who have since passed away. Rhonnie Jackson (class of November 2002), now an Associate Director of Nursing - Critical Care Services at Lincoln Hospital delivered the keynote address. The farewell address was presented by class president, Mariann J. Monforte-Ditore. She also extended prayers and good wishes from all to Neville Miller, who is recovering from a recent illness.



Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

Faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Helene Fuld College of Nursing participated in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Central Park on Sunday, October 21, 2007. The walk is held annually to help fight breast cancer and provide hope to people facing the disease. Proceeds from the event are used for lifesaving research, prevention, early detection, and to support programs for thousands of patients and their families. Making Strides also provides an excellent opportunity to honor breast cancer survivors and educate women about breast cancer prevention and early detection.

HFCN's team, the Crusaders, raised close to \$2,000 to support American Cancer Society's efforts to promote awareness and bring us closer to the day when no one will have to hear the words, "You have breast cancer".

This year, the college plans to participate in the event once again. We hope that you will be able to join us on Sunday, October 19th and lend your support to this very worthy cause.



Front (L-R) Nicholas Halyard, Juan Esquerro, former Learning Center Assistant/Computer Technician
Back (L-R) Fadya Casseus (HFCN Class of April 2007), Michelle Hernandez, Director of External Affairs, Winette Saunders-Halyard, Karla Fallon, College Counselor, Justine Fitzgerald, Assistant Professor, English, and Muneke Otani.

Helene Fuld Hosts "YOU'RE HIRED" Career Day Spring 2008

On March 17th, recruiters representing more than 30 New York based healthcare agencies, hospitals, nursing homes and colleges attended HFCN's Spring 2008 Career Day event.

One of the exhibitors in attendance was HFCN's own Isabel Tomassi, class of November 2004.

Ms. Tomassi serves as a Nursing Supervisor and was recently promoted to Regional Administrator of Queens-Long Island Medical Group in the Flushing North Medical Office.

Sincere thanks to all the exhibitors and institutions that came out to recruit HFCN graduating students!



Isabel Tomassi and colleague

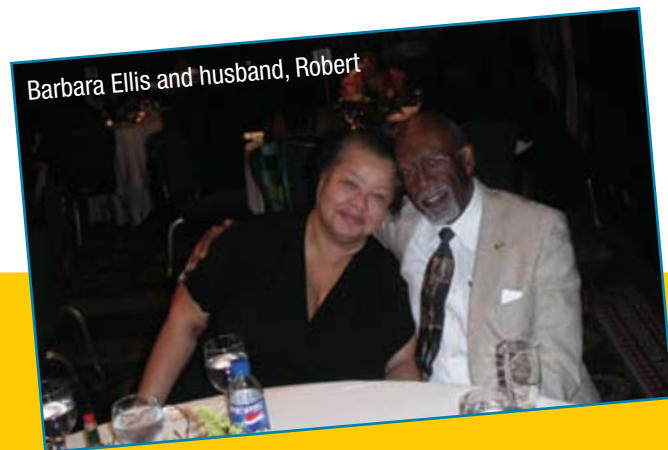
Barbara Ellis Retires

After 5 years of exemplary service to the College, HFCN honored Barbara Ellis and wished her a very warm farewell at the Independence Celebration (commemorating our separation from North General Hospital) at the New York Athletic Club on November 1, 2007, as she left to embark upon the next phase of her life, retirement. Professor Ellis served as an Assistant Professor of Nursing at Helene Fuld from 2002-2007. She currently resides in the Bronx with her husband, Robert of 37 years and is the mother of three daughters. Asked what inspired her to become a nurse, she said that she always enjoyed caring for people. She relayed childhood memories of being age 4 and lining up her dolls to give them injections. She mentioned that her mom had aspirations of being a nurse but was dissuaded because women of her generation were told that they were not smart enough to have a profession.

Professor Ellis' career in healthcare began as a dietary aide at Lenox Hill Hospital. She later attended Montefiore Prep School for her LPN training. She received her Associate Degree from Bronx Community College and later attended Lehman College where she received her BSN and Nurse Practitioner certification. She would later earn an MA and MEd at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Throughout her career, Professor Ellis worked in various clinical and educational settings. At Lehman College, she worked as a Public Health Consultant. At Bronx Lebanon, she served as a Clinical Nurse Specialist for Maternal Child Health and as an Assistant Director for Patient Care Management. Her first faculty position was held at Hostos Community College where she taught Medical/Surgical Nursing and Maternal Child Health. She would later accept a faculty position at Lehman College before coming to HFCN in 2002.

When asked what she missed the most about Helene Fuld, she responded "the students". She said that she missed helping students and seeing them succeed. In response to how she would like to be remembered by her students, she replied that she would like to be remembered as a caring professional who wanted nothing but the best for her students. When asked what she missed the least about the College, her answer will probably resonate with many of you, her response "Climbing the stairs".



Barbara Ellis and husband, Robert

"We wish Professor Ellis all the best and are thankful for her contributions to the College and the profession of nursing."

HFCN Alumni Association Presents Alumni Reunion Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance Saturday, October 11, 2008

Time: 7 pm – Midnight
Tickets: \$100 per person

Cocktail Reception,
Silent Auction,
Dinner, Dancing and
Awards Presentation

Where:
**River Room of Harlem
Riverbank State Park**
750 W. 145th St. (Riverside Dr.)
New York, NY 10031

Valet Parking Available

*Proceeds from the event will
be used to fund scholarships
and for curriculum and
resource development.*

** Semi-Formal Attire*

For further information, call 212-616-7278.



Helene Fuld On The Big Screen

On Monday, May 5th - Sunday, June 1st, HFCN commercials aired daily on NY1 and Time Warner Cable stations: MSNBC, CNN, Fox Business News, Headline News and NY1 Noticias.

The commercial featured some very familiar faces including alumnus, Michelle Heath (class of November 2007), who is now a case manager at NY Downtown Hospital, Travers Villany (class of April 2006), a registered nurse and member of the UPC (Unit Practice Council) at NYU's Hospital for Joint Diseases and Pamela Ford (class of April 1982), a full-time Medical/Surgical Nursing I and Psychiatric-Community Mental Health Nursing instructor at Helene Fuld.

The commercial was created to heighten the College's visibility and to recruit LPNs who are considering returning to school to advance to the next level of their careers to become registered nurses.

REPLY CARD

Alumni Reunion Scholarship Awards Dinner Dance
Saturday, October 11, 2008

Print Name _____

Class Year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

☐ Please reserve _____ tickets @ \$100 each.

Include name of guest(s) _____

Will you/guest require a special meal?:

☐ No ☐ Yes: Explain _____

☐ I cannot attend, but wish to make a tax-deductible
contribution to the College.

☐ Yes, I wish to renew my membership to the HFCN Alumni Association

☐ Alumni Dues (\$50/yr.)

Charge my credit card the amount of \$ _____

☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature of card holder _____

☐ Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____

(Make checks payable to Helene Fuld College of Nursing)

Send completed reply form and payment in enclosed envelope to:

Helene Fuld College of Nursing
Attn: Michelle Hernandez
24 East 120th Street, New York, NY 10035

RSVP by October 3, 2008



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Alumni Newsgram

Volume 28 Issue 1

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Goes Out On Its Own**

New Independent Status

**Making Strides Against
Breast Cancer Walk**

Breast Cancer Walk in Central Park

Helene Fuld On The Big Screen

As Seen on TV!

And More!

HFCN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni Reunion Scholarship Awards

Dinner Dance → Saturday, October 11, 2008

*Cocktail Reception,
Silent Auction,
Dinner, Dancing and
Awards Presentation...*

DETAILS INSIDE!



NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2008

**Helene Fuld
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