



## PANELISTS

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**April Carman, RN, BSN**  
(BSN '98)

**Graduate Student in Public Health  
University of Pittsburgh, and  
Program Coordinator, Peace Corps Master's International  
Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA**

After earning her BSN from the University of Virginia in 1998, April worked at U.Va. Health System's Surgical Services and Digestive Health Center (5C/5W). After two years working full-time, she took a part-time position in order to participate in the AmeriCorps\*Habitat program with the Greater Charlottesville Habitat for Humanity. From 2003-2005 April volunteered in the Peace Corps as a Health Educator in Uzbekistan, Central Asia. Since her return, April has been working as a labor and delivery, post partum and newborn care nurse, first at U.Va. and then in Pittsburgh, PA.

April is currently pursuing a Master of Public Health degree at Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health in the Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences. She spent this past summer in rural south India collaborating with Pitt's Department of Epidemiology and an Indian health NGO preparing for a large maternal-infant health study with 40 villages. At Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, April is actively involved with the Global Health Initiative and works as the Program Coordinator for the school's Peace Corps Master's International program.

April's practice and research interests include maternal-child and reproductive health, global health, health education for the public, community health workers and health care professionals, and access to and utilization of health care services for underserved populations.



**Ann Hewitt, RN, BSN, MM**  
(BSN '80)

**Vice President, Global Sales**  
**TSO3, Inc.**  
**Chicago, IL**

Ann received her BSN from the University of Virginia in 1980 and spent four years working in med-surg and L&D before pursuing her Masters in Marketing and Healthcare Management at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. She re-entered the health care field in 1991 when she went to work in sales at STERIS Corporation, then a small start-up company specializing in sterilization of environments and materials. As STERIS grew, she took on increasing responsibility, eventually running the Marketing and Education departments for what had become a billion dollar company and a major player in healthcare capital equipment.

For the last five years, Ann has overseen the sales, clinical support and marketing functions at TSO3, a Canadian start-up company specializing in environmentally responsible sterilization systems for surgical instruments in hospitals.



**Donald L. Johnson, RN, BSN**  
(BSN '80)

**Managing Director, Corporate Client Group**  
**The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc.**  
**New York, NY**

Don Johnson is a Managing Director of the Global Corporate Client Group at The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc. (NASDAQ), the world's largest exchange, and provides leadership for the units that provide relationship management and market intelligence for certain sectors (financial, life sciences, and energy) listed on NASDAQ. Don also serves as the liaison between NASDAQ and its regulator – the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). In this capacity, Don is responsible for ensuring that issuers' concerns regarding the trading activity of their securities are addressed and potential rule violations are referred to the regulatory authority. The position requires a strong background in securities laws and Don is frequently called upon as a consultant or speaker on various topics ranging from insider trading to Regulation SHO and short selling. In addition, Don speaks at a number of financial services and life sciences conferences and events.

Don joined NASDAQ in 1989, initially as an analyst in the Market Surveillance department of NASDAQ's parent company, the National Association of Securities Dealers - which is known today as FINRA. During his three-year tenure with the department, Don's investigative work resulted in several high-profiled cases involving violations of certain rules and regulations of the Securities Exchange Commission. The rulings in the cases ranged from substantial fines to permanent disbarment from the industry.

Prior to joining NASDAQ, Don was a Captain in the U.S. Army, and was commissioned in 1980 after receiving his BSN from the University of Virginia. During his military career, Don practiced critical care nursing and anesthesia, and taught cardiology and critical care courses to military physicians, registered nurses, and other medical personnel.

Don is passionate in educating individuals and groups about the importance of attaining financial literacy and unselfishly commits his time and resources introducing, inspiring, and supporting the subject of saving and investing. Currently, he commutes weekly between his home in Northern Virginia and job in New York City, and travels to Puerto Rico monthly where he and his family maintain a home in Río Grande. Don is a member of the School of Nursing Advisory Board at U.Va. and in the near-term, he plans to retire from NASDAQ in 2009, spend more time with his family, serve on the board of one or two public companies, and continue his work of giving back to the community. Don also graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.



**Rebecca Frazier McGough, RN, MSN**  
**(BSN '76)**

**Family Nurse Practitioner**  
**Sto-Rox Family Health Center**  
**McKees Rocks, PA**

Becky received her BSN from the University of Virginia in 1976 and her MSN from the University of Pittsburgh in 1995. She is currently employed as a Family Nurse Practitioner at Sto-Rox Family Health Center, a federally qualified health center serving a population that is largely uninsured or underinsured.

Becky began her nursing career in the intensive care unit of the U.Va. Medical Center and continued her focus on critical care at the Wilmington Medical Center in Wilmington, DE, and at Children's Hospital in Washington, DC. After moving to Pittsburgh in 1980, she held staff positions in adult critical care at the Western Pennsylvania Hospital and at Shadyside Hospital.

Upon receiving her MSN and her certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner, she joined the Sto-Rox Family Health Center, where she manages a general practice that includes adult medicine, women's health, pediatrics, and a school-based health clinic. In 2007, Becky also

served as a clinic manager for Take Care Health Systems, a start-up company providing walk-in health care in retail pharmacies.

Becky has precepted students in the FNP programs at the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, and Carlow University. She volunteers at the Catholic Charities Free Health Center and is a member of the Nurse Practitioners Association of Western Pennsylvania.

Becky resides in Pittsburgh, PA, with her husband, Tom, a 1978 graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, and has two grown children.

**Richard A. Ridge, PhD, RN, CNAA, BC**  
(PhD '01)

**Corporate Director, Nursing Education**  
**Meridian Health System**  
**Jersey Shore Medical Center**

Richard Ridge is responsible for nursing education at Meridian Health, a Magnet hospital system with over 2000 RNs. He reports directly to the VP/Chief Nurse Executive (CNE) of the Meridian system, and supervises the Clinical Nurse Specialist and nursing education staff. He has directed implementation of several major staff-focused programs including the RN preceptor program, national nursing specialty certification initiative, educational symposia, and various patient safety initiatives.

Richard began his health care career as a Hospital Corpsman in the U.S. Navy during the waning years of the Viet Nam war. After completing his baccalaureate nursing education at University of Massachusetts, Richard began his professional nursing career in acute spinal cord injury. As a clinician, Richard has since practiced in a wide range of clinical specialties in acute care, including general medicine, psychiatry, orthopedics, and oncology.

Richard has consulted to nursing and health care executives in a broad range of nursing operations related areas, including staffing and scheduling systems, care delivery model redesign, patient outcomes evaluation, recruitment and retention, patient and staff safety, and cultural competency development. He has published in the areas of health policy, health care outcomes, staff development, and patient safety. He has recently assumed responsibilities as Associate Chair of the newly established Georgian Court University Meridian Health School of Nursing. In addition, he is a Mentor for Thomas Edison State College School of Nursing, an advisory committee member of Monmouth University School of Nursing, a community member on the Practice Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Nursing, an Editorial Board member for Men in Nursing, and an appraiser for the ANCC Magnet hospital program.



**Bethany Robertson, DNP, CNM**  
(BSN '89)

**Assistant Professor, Family & Community Nursing**  
**Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing**  
**Emory University**  
**Atlanta, GA**

Bethany is assistant professor of nursing in the department of Family and Community Nursing at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. Her research focuses on quality and safety in healthcare, and her particular expertise is in the science of teamwork used as a system of work design to mitigate error and promote performance by enhancing communication and coordination among healthcare professionals.

Bethany's clinical background as a Certified Nurse Midwife has guided her application of teamwork training in obstetrics. Her role as Academic Lead for Technology Innovation has provided her an opportunity to work collaboratively with other disciplines through the Charles F. and Peggy Evans Center for Caring Skills. She uses simulation technology as a primary teaching method in team training programs. As co-investigator of the Quality and Safety Education for Nursing (QSEN) grant, one of 15 granted nationally, she has turned her focus on teamwork training to the academic arena. Most recently, she collaborated with colleagues from the school of medicine to conduct an interprofessional team training event for nursing and medical students; a first in the history of these two schools. Bethany has also conducted an examination of the determinants of birth outcomes of Latino women with a primarily focus on models of prenatal care delivery and spirituality/religion.



**Andrea P. Rutherford, MS, MPH, FNP**  
(BSN '92)

**Nurse Practitioner, Internal Medicine**  
**Georgetown University Hospital**  
**Washington, DC**

After graduating from the University of Virginia with a bachelor's in nursing in 1992, Andrea earned a master's in public health, with a concentration in international health promotion, from the George Washington University in 2000 and a master's in science from Georgetown University in 2006. Andrea is certified as a family nurse practitioner by the American Nurses Credentialing Center and is a member of Sigma Theta Tau National Honor Society and the Nurse Practitioner Association of the District of Columbia.

Prior to becoming a nurse practitioner, Andrea worked as a staff nurse in both surgical and medical units, followed by eight years as an emergency department nurse at the George Washington University Hospital. While a staff nurse, she created and chaired a Professional Practice Committee, representing fellow nurses and advocating on their behalf with hospital administration. Andrea began her career as a nurse practitioner in family practice and currently works in internal medicine at Georgetown University Hospital. Andrea has been active in several community organizations, including the Arlington Free Clinic and the Arlington Red Cross. She is interested in international health issues and has volunteered with a medical team in Guatemala. A native of Northern Virginia, she now lives in Washington DC with her husband.



**Julie W. Schaffner, RN, MSN, FACHE**  
(BSN '76, MSN '81)

**Chief Operating Officer, Chief Nurse Executive**  
**Advocate Lutheran General Hospital**  
**Park Ridge, IL**  
**Kellogg Fellow, Kellogg Graduate School of Management**  
**Wharton Fellow, University of Pennsylvania**

Julie Schaffner is the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nurse Executive at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital (ALGH), a 617 bed, Level I teaching, research and tertiary care hospital. ALGH is part of Advocate Health Care, which is the largest health care provider in Illinois and one of the nation's top health care systems.

Julie oversees the hospital's day-to-day operations and is accountable for 3,700 FTEs in the nursing, diagnostic, ancillary, support and facility operations. She manages a \$1.5 billion gross revenue portfolio. Key result areas include significant accomplishments in improving clinical outcomes, enhancing associate and patient satisfaction, market share growth and exceptional financial performance.

Chief Nurse Executive role accomplishments include the achievement of Magnet designation in 2005 by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, co-development and implementation of a system-wide nursing clinical career ladder, improvement in nurse-sensitive clinical outcomes, and high nursing associate satisfaction, low turnover and vacancy rates. Evidence-based nursing practice and nursing research has been implemented and a strong shared governance structure is in place. Julie oversees all aspects of nursing practice and patient care delivery and is accountable for the hospital's 1,100 registered nurses.

Julie currently serves on many governing boards. She is a member of the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) and serves on the publications committee. She is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), as well as an accomplished writer and speaker. Julie co-authored the book *Rx for the Nursing Shortage* published by the Health Administration Press, ACHE.



**Kit (Kammerer) Schumaker, RN, BSN**  
(BSN '80)

**Corporate Accounts Director**  
**Advanced Sterilization Products Division**  
**Johnson & Johnson**

Kit graduated in 1980 from UVA, and spent two years in med-surg and NICU nursing in Florida. After that, she crossed over into the corporate world and joined Aventis and then Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, spending the next eight years in pharmaceutical sales and sales management. She was recruited by a company which provides micromarketing services to the pharmaceutical industry, and spent a year as a consultant with MedCo.

In 1991, Kit went to work for STERIS Corporation, a start up company with an innovative new sterilization method for heat sensitive instruments in the Operating Room, which revolutionized the way these instruments were handled between cases. Along with others, she was instrumental in establishing this new technology as a standard of care in hospitals. In 1996, Kit left STERIS and joined Johnson & Johnson, working for Advanced Sterilization Products – another player in the same marketplace. Throughout her corporate career, there has been no doubt that her clinical knowledge and nursing background has set her apart from others in terms of credibility, with both customers and colleagues.

As Corporate Accounts Director, Kit manages key accounts for Johnson & Johnson such as Group Purchasing Organizations, IDNs (large groups of hospitals) and Distributors, from Boston down to Baltimore.



**Catherine Woznik Smigelski, RN, MSN, ANP**  
(MSN '92)

**Nurse Practitioner, Geriatrics**  
**Virginia Commonwealth University**  
**Richmond, VA**

Cathi graduated from VCU / MCV School of Nursing with a BSN Magna Cum Laude and received her Post-Master's Certificate as a Nurse Practitioner from the same university. She

has held numerous positions in nursing over the years throughout the United States, maintaining an interest in the education of nurses as well as medical and PharmD students. Cathi initiated the Transitional Care Program for high risk elders at the VCU Medical Center seven years ago. The VCU model was recognized during the Presidential Poster session at the American Geriatric Society (AGS) National conference and by the Academy of Home Care Physicians during the same conference as the Model of Care for the year 2008. Cathi's research interest is in Transitional Care with the research finding from the VCU program demonstrating a cost savings to third-party payers in excess of \$2.2 million over a four-year period and opportunity revenues of \$200,000 annually for the VCU system.



**Elizabeth "Lizz" Talley, RN, BSN  
(BSN '06)**

**Graduate Student in Nurse Anesthesia  
Department of Nurse Anesthesia  
School of Allied Health Professions  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, VA**

While working toward her BSN at U.Va., Lizz Talley was an active student with involvements in Nursing Students Without Borders, SNAV, and Nursing Student Council. As president of the Virginia Nursing Student Association, she also worked with the National Student Nurses Association's Council of State Presidents planning committee. She holds memberships in Sigma Theta Tau, the Raven Society, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Phi Sigma Pi co-ed honor fraternity.

After graduating from U.Va. in 2006, she began her nursing career at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC on the Surgical Trauma ICU, caring for transplant patients. While at Duke she served as a member of the Patient Satisfaction Committee for the STICU.

Last spring Lizz moved back to Virginia and worked at Virginia Commonwealth University medical center on the Surgical Trauma ICU and at Southside Regional Medical Center on the Post Anesthesia Care Unit. She is in her first semester as a full-time graduate student in the Master of Science in Nurse Anesthesia program at VCU and serves on the Dean's Committee as an active representative of the VCU Nurse Anesthesia class of 2010. In the future Lizz plans to pursue a Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice.



**Frances White Vasaly, RN, MSN, CIC**  
(BSN '69)

**Clinical Specialist, Quality & Surgery**  
**Inova Fairfax Hospital, Falls Church, VA**

Fran is a 1969 graduate of U.Va. and received a MSN in 1983 and a post graduate certificate in Nursing Education in 1985, both from George Mason University. She began her career as a Public Health Nurse in the US Virgin Islands. After her return to Virginia she focused on surgical nursing, risk management and infection control/epidemiology in acute care hospitals in Northern Virginia. For the last 14 years, she has been an Infection Control Practitioner at Inova Fairfax Hospital. Currently, she is working as a Clinical Specialist in the Quality Department responsible for the Surgical Care Improvement Project while working to reduce surgical site infections, DVT/PE's and other adverse surgical events.

Fran is an officer of the U.Va. Nursing Alumni Council as the Scholarship Committee chair and serves concurrently on the School of Nursing Advisory Board. She is a member of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and the Association of Professionals in Infection Control (APIC).

Fran also works with the Community Coalition for Haiti in a project to develop an infection control program in a rural 60 bed hospital in Pignon, Haiti. She has maintained her certification in Infection Control and Epidemiology and volunteers in the community to educate on topics related to infection prevention and disaster preparedness.



**Janice Barnes Young, PhD, MPH, RN**  
(PhD '95)

**Lead Nurse Consultant, Division of Nursing**  
**Health Resources & Service Administration**  
**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Rockville, MD**

Janice is a Nurse Consultant and Project Officer for the Diversity and Basic Nurse Education Branch in the Division of Nursing. Her primary program of responsibility is the Nursing Education, Practice, and Retention program, in which she provides technical assistance to prospective applicants, and monitors, assists, and provides oversight to grantees. She manages contract awards for the Nurse Education, Practice, and Retention program and the Nursing Workforce Diversity program.

From November 2004 to July 2007 Janice was the Acting Commander for the Virginia Army National Guard Medical Command. In this position, she served as the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Advisor to the Army Assistant Adjutant General, directed the planning, programming, provision, and sustainment of force health protection and medical/ dental health care, liaison and consulted with the JFHQ Command Leaders to enhance and promote ongoing performance of the MED COM, provided oversight and supervision to assure the maximum soldier care for the members of the MED COM, and worked to assure Human Resources and Performance Standards enforcement for the MED COM. Her 30 years military experience prompts her interest and focus on the health care of soldiers and families of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars.

# MODERATORS

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Our thanks to each of these alumni who have participated as panelists in previous Nursing Leadership Forums and have agreed to return and serve as moderators for panel sessions this year.



**Jennifer Field Brown, APRN-PMH BC, PhD**  
(BA '95, BSN '97, MSN '98)

**Assistant Professor  
School of Nursing  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Richmond, VA**

Jenny teaches undergraduate and graduate student courses related to psychiatric/mental health nursing. Her research focus is in the area of psychiatric emergency services. She has received federal and private funding for her research and published articles related to research and nursing education in various peer-reviewed nursing and health services journals. Most recently she was named the 2007 Southern Nursing Research Society (SNRS) Scholar by the American Nurses Foundation.

Jenny maintains APRN-CNS certification through outpatient clinical practice providing individual and family therapy eight hours a week. She is a member of the Board of Directors for Community Alternatives Inc., a nonprofit agency that serves individuals with mental disabilities. She also volunteers as a Team Leader for the Tidewater Emergency Medical Services Critical Incident Stress Management Team. She is trained and certified to provide crisis debriefing to rescue personnel.

Jenny was tapped last fall by Hampton Roads *Inside Business* magazine as one of the "Top 40 under 40," recognizing individuals for excellence in professional accomplishments and community service.



**Kate Fitzgerald, RN, MSN, ANP, MBA, JD**  
(BSN '81, MSN '86, ANP '88)

**Law Clerk  
Arlington Circuit Court  
Arlington, VA**

Kate Fitzgerald received her BSN with Honors in 1981, a MSN in 1986 and an Adult Nurse Practitioner certificate in 1988, all from the U.Va. School of Nursing. She worked in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit at the University from 1982 to 1986, then helped develop and run the Multi-Organ Transplantation Program from 1986 to 1989.

She received a Master in Business Administration from George Mason University in 1994 while working as a nurse manager and nurse educator in private and military hospitals.

Kate worked as a health care consultant for Ernst & Young, LLP and the Advisory Board Company from 1995 to 2005. She received a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Baltimore in 2008, and is currently serving as a judicial clerk in the Circuit Court of Arlington County, Virginia.



**Lisa Kelley, RN, MS, WHNP, AOCNP  
(BSN '99)**

**Oncology Nurse Practitioner  
Oncology Specialists of Charlotte  
Charlotte, NC**

Lisa is a certified women's health nurse practitioner and oncology certified nurse practitioner who works for Oncology Specialists of Charlotte in Charlotte, NC, providing care to outpatients with malignancies and hematologic disorders.

Lisa serves on the School of Nursing Alumni Council, the *Virginia Legacy* editorial board, and the School of Nursing Advisory Board.



**Susan Rose Lumsden, RN, BSN  
(BSN '83)**

**Director, Division of State and Community Assistance  
Office of Health Information Technology  
Health Resources and Services Administration  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
Rockville, MD**

Susan Lumsden is a Captain in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and the Director for the Division of State and Community Assistance, within the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Office of Health Information Technology (OHIT). HRSA, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the primary Federal agency for improving access to health care services for people who are uninsured, isolated or medically vulnerable.

A majority of Susan's clinical practice (eight years) was with the National Institutes of Health. Thereafter, she spent six years in the area of Federal Occupational Health as a nurse consultant, then as a Fiscal Manager. She worked for two years as a nurse consultant with the Center for School Based Health as part of HRSA's Program for Special Populations. From there, she spent seven years as a senior public health analyst and then Branch Chief working with HRSA's State Primary Care Associations, National Technical Assistance Organizations, and Health Center Network and health system grantees. In May of 2006, she joined the OHIT, whose mission is to promote the adoption of HIT as a tool to improve the quality of care for medically underserved populations.



**Kathleen M. Rea, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CNL**  
(BSN '93, MSN '02)

**Clinician IV**  
**2008 President-Elect, Professional Nursing Staff Organization**  
**Co-Chair, Magnet Recognition Steering Committee**  
**University of Virginia Health System**  
**Charlottesville, VA**

As a Clinician IV at the University of Virginia Health System, Kathleen's current practice is adult acute care, specializing in transplant, urology and surgical services. It is through the direct care of patients, and the education and professional development of staff, that she serves as a clinical resource to nurses, physicians and interdisciplinary colleagues.

Kathleen holds certifications for advanced practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist and Clinical Nurse Leader. Kathleen is the 2009 President of the Professional Nursing Staff Organization, elected to represent the nurses of the Health System. She serves as the Co-Chair of the U.Va. Magnet Recognition Steering Committee. Service as a clinical leader has enabled her to grow and develop research, presentation and publication talents. Kathleen is a member of Sigma Theta Tau Beta Kappa Chapter, the Virginia Nurses Association and the International Transplant Nurses Society.