

EMORY Health Sciences News

Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing
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Emory Appoints Honeycutt Chairs in Nursing

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ATLANTA — Dean Marla Salmon has announced the appointment of Kathy P. Parker PhD, RN, FAAN and Jo Ann Dalton, EdD, RN, FAAN as the Edith F. Honeycutt Chairs in Nursing at Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing.

The Honeycutt chairs were established in 1990 through an endowment gift from the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta in honor of Edith F. Honeycutt, 39N. Honeycutt was one of the first oncology nurses to practice at Emory and in Georgia and was the private nurse to Atlanta philanthropist and Coca-Cola magnate Robert Woodruff and his family. A long-time active alumna and supporter of the University and the School, she received the University's highest alumni honor, the Emory Medal, in 1997, and in 2004 the School honored her with an Honorary Bachelors of Science in Nursing.

Both Honeycutt chairs embody the esprit and dedication to nursing, as did Honeycutt in developing the art of caring for critically ill patients at the bedside. "Awarding the Honeycutt Chairs to Kathy and Jo Ann is our way of recognizing their special qualities and paying tribute to Edith for her many contributions to nursing practice and education," says Emory nursing dean, Marla E. Salmon, ScD, RN, FAAN.

Dr. Parker has pioneered the study of symptoms and chronic disease from a multidimensional mechanistic perspective, and in 2001 established the Center for Research on Symptoms, Symptom Interactions, and Health Outcomes, one of nine exploratory nursing research centers funded by the National Institute of Nursing Research.

"This center would not be possible without Kathy's vision," says Dean Salmon. "Her contributions to research, clinical practice and education are outstanding and have raised the visibility of the nursing school on many levels."

Dr. Dalton, an expert in pain management, worked with a hematology oncologist who made her more aware of the difficulties in managing pain for cancer patients. “I saw this as an area where nursing could make a difference,” she says. Eventually, Dalton set up an ambulatory care center and later co-founded the North Carolina Pain Initiative to promote education about pain management.

Dean Salmon says, “Dr. Dalton’s expertise in pain management, particularly with respect to those with cancer, comes at a very important time for our school as we advance our initiatives in Oncology Nursing.”

A reception honoring Drs. Parker and Dalton and Mrs. Honeycutt is scheduled for 5:30 PM on Wednesday, November 17th at the Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing.

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Dr. Jo Ann Dalton, Chair of the Department of Adult and Elder Health Nursing and Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, is a nationally and internationally recognized scholar in the management of pain, especially pain associated with cancer. She has received numerous NIH awards and led in the creation of the statewide North Carolina Pain Initiative, the model for the nation. Dr. Dalton also served as professor and division chair at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her scientific work is published in premier journals, and she has been honored as a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar and a Kings Fund Fellow.

Dr. Kathy Parker, Professor and Director of the federally funded Center for Research on Symptoms, Symptom Interactions and Health Outcomes, has over 20 years of clinical practice experience in nephrology nursing and is one of five nurses in the U.S. certified in Clinical Sleep Disorders by the American Board of Sleep Medicine. She recently was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Sleep Medicine and a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. Dr. Parker’s research program is devoted to the study of sleep/wake disturbances in hemodialysis and cancer patients. Dr. Parker has strong interdisciplinary ties and has a secondary appointment as Professor in the Department of Neurology, School of Medicine. She also maintains an active clinical practice in the Emory Sleep Clinic.

Edith Folsom Honeycutt is an alumnus of the Class of 1939 of the Emory University Hospital School of Nursing. Her entire career has been dedicated to excellence in nursing care, a principle which she shared generously with numerous nursing students and staff nurses, particularly in the hematology and oncology service of Emory University Hospital, where she spent the majority of her career. She also had a long association with the Woodruff family as a private duty nurse. Her dedication to excellence in nursing care was publicly recognized in 1990 with the establishment of the Honeycutt Chairs in Nursing, funded through the Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta.

About The Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing

The Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing at Emory University is recognized as a leader in the preparation of nurses for beginning and advanced practice. Graduates of the programs are at

the forefront in leadership, serving as role models for excellence in nursing practice throughout the world. The School of Nursing is especially committed to evolving nursing practice through its key values of scholarship, leadership and social responsibility. To learn more, visit www.nursing.emory.edu or call 404-727-6907.