



Boston College

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BOSTON COLLEGE NAMES NURSE RESEARCHER SUSAN GENNARO DEAN OF THE WILLIAM F. CONNELL SCHOOL OF NURSING

CHESTNUT HILL, MA (4-18-08) -- Boston College has named Susan Gennaro, Florence and William Downs Professor in Nursing Research in the College of Nursing at New York University, the next dean of its William F. Connell School of Nursing. She will assume the post on July 1, 2008. Gennaro succeeds Barbara Hazard who is retiring after serving as dean since 1991.

Gennaro's field of research is perinatal nursing. She has conducted research throughout the US and abroad, including in places such as Uganda and Malawi, and has participated in educational and demonstration projects in Ukraine, Belgium, Taiwan and India. Her research has received funding from the National Institutes of Nursing Research and the Office of Women's Health at the National Institutes of Health. She has served on the Nurse Advisory Council for the March of Dimes, working to bring culturally-sensitive care to foreign countries to help improve maternal and infant health.

She has published extensively in journals such as *Nursing Research*, *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *Journal of Obstetrical, Gynecologic and Neonatal Nursing*, *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* and *Journal of Perinatal Neonatal Nursing*, among others. She has been with NYU since 2006. From 1988 to 2006, Gennaro was on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing, where she retains the title of professor *emerita*.

"The Search Committee was impressed by Professor Gennaro's formidable record of research, faculty recruitment, mentoring, and commitment to interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration," said Boston College Provost and Dean of Faculties Cutberto Garza in a letter announcing Gennaro's appointment. "Professor Gennaro also garnered praise from leaders at medical schools and hospitals in the Boston area whom she met in the course of the interview process."

"The Connell School of Nursing deanship is my idea of the perfect deanship," said Gennaro. "I believe in the values of the Connell School and the University and am really looking forward to working with the stellar faculty and truly exceptional students."

A Staten Island native, Gennaro has strong family ties to the nursing profession. Her mother and aunts were nurses, as is her husband, cousin and sister-in-law. "I'm very happy I'm a nurse," said Gennaro.

"I knew that in nursing I would be helping people physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually at some of the most important moments of their lives," Gennaro told *Reflections on Nursing Leadership*. "It's a choice I have never regretted."

Gennaro earned a bachelor of arts degree from Le Moyne College in 1972, a master of science in nursing degree from Pace University in 1975 and a doctor of science in nursing degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in 1983. Prior to her tenure at Penn, Gennaro was on the faculty at the University of Alabama School of Nursing and the Medical University of South Carolina.

Gennaro has received a number of awards, including ASPO/LAMAZE's "Outstanding Perinatal Educator" award (1993) and the Association of Women's Health, Obstetrical and Neonatal Nurses' Excellence in Research award (1994) and Distinguished Service Award (2001). She was recognized by the University of Pennsylvania with the Lenore Rowe Williams Award for her efforts to improve the health of women around the world. She was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 1990. She serves as editor of the *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, which reaches 130,000 readers in more than 100 countries.

The Boston College William F. Connell School of Nursing opened in 1947, making it the first Catholic higher education institution in the Boston area to offer a baccalaureate nursing program. Today, the Connell School offers baccalaureate, RN/MS, MS/MBA, MS/MA, doctoral, and continuing education programs. In the Jesuit tradition, the Connell School of Nursing seeks to educate students to think critically and to incorporate values in service to others. Graduates of the bachelor degree program have one of the country's highest pass rates for the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). *US News & World Report* ranks the Connell School of Nursing's graduate program among the top 30 in the nation. Many Connell School faculty are certified for advanced clinical practice and more than 85% hold a doctorate in nursing or a related field. The faculty is widely published and includes nurse scholars and researchers who are recognized as national experts and leaders in their fields.