

Boston University

OpenBU

<http://open.bu.edu>

BU Publications

University Hospital News: Press Releases

1990-05-02

University Hospital news: May 2, 1990

<https://hdl.handle.net/2144/26319>

"Downloaded from OpenBU. Boston University's institutional repository."



The
University
Hospital

Office of
Media Relations

720 Harrison Avenue, Suite 909
Boston Massachusetts
02118-2393
617 638-8491

May 2, 1990

Dear Member of the Media:

Today's nurses go way beyond the traditional image of compassionate comforters of the sick. They are also highly trained, sophisticated health-care providers who combine the skills of a healer, administrator, technologist, teacher, community-service expert and researcher.

The story of two nurses at the University Hospital--Patty Doran Wong, R.N., the winner of the 1990 Search for Excellence Award for Massachusetts from the American Nurses Association, and Julie Bonenfant, R.N., chosen this year as a national spokesperson for the Nurses of America--and the challenges they face as modern nurses would make a good feature during National Nurse Recognition Week from May 7-11.

Wong and Bonenfant--who have chosen different roles in the nursing profession--together represent the myriad traits and skills necessary for modern nursing. While Wong has committed herself to primary nursing, Bonenfant believes she can make her greatest contribution as a manager.

As a primary nurse on a surgical oncology floor, Wong is responsible each day for all the medical and emotional needs of six patients. Her job requires an in-depth knowledge of all cancer specialties and of the high-tech equipment needed in cancer care. She must also be alert to minute changes in her patients' conditions and must--through counseling, teaching and her knowledge of community services--prepare her patients for their return home. Her ultimate goal is to return patients to the highest possible quality of life.

"I love nursing," says Wong, "It is a constant challenge to my heart and to my mind."

As a nurse manager, Bonenfant is responsible for all personnel and activities on the Cardiothoracic Surgery and Critical Care Step-Down Unit. She supervises staff nurses, aides, technicians, and secretaries. She also monitors resources and supplies and ensures that support services provided by other hospital departments meet her standards. A seasoned critical-care nurse herself, Bonenfant is both teacher and counselor for all the nurses on her floor. Ultimately, she sets the tone and the nursing philosophy of the unit.

Says Bonenfant: "Nursing is a great profession. It offers choices and challenges galore and the opportunity to use your heart, your hands and your mind in a rewarding profession."

If you are interested in interviewing these nurses, please give me a call at 638-8491.

Sincerely,

Patti Jacobs
Manager of Media Relations
The University Hospital