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## News Release

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### **GSN Assistant Professor Graduates from Summer Genetics Institute**

**BETHESDA, Md.** – Maureen N. Hood, MS, RN, assistant professor of Radiology and Radiological Sciences, and doctoral student in the Graduate School of Nursing (GSN) at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USU) has graduated from the 2006 Summer Genetics Institute (SGI) at the National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institutes of Health.

The SGI is a research program for faculty, graduate students and advanced practice nurses that spans two months and provides basic training in molecular genetics for research and clinical practice. Ms. Hood's area of research is "Exertional Muscle Injuries: Genetics and Magnetic Resonance Imaging."

The class incorporates a lecture component and a laboratory component, in which students learn techniques current in molecular genetics. Other course objectives include learning to analyze the strengths and weakness of genetic tests and inaccuracies that can be introduced during the testing period, to analyze strategies used for gene therapy and trends likely to result in advanced diagnostic and clinical therapeutics in the future, and to analyze ethical and legal issues related to genetic testing and genetic counseling and their implications for practice and research.

"Ms. Hood is one of the most industrious and energetic students in the Ph.D. program in the Graduate School of Nursing. A sense of inquiry, pursuit of knowledge, and scholarly efforts are qualities Ms. Hood possesses and that are admired by fellow students and faculty with whom

she has worked or is working,” said Karen L. Elberson, Ph.D., RN, associate professor GSN. “By attending Gene Camp at National Institutes of Health in summer of 2006, Ms. Hood was able to gain knowledge in an area that will undergird her proposed research. I am pleased with the progress Ms. Hood has made two years into the program and am confident that she will continue to achieve success not only as a doctoral student, but also as a graduate of USU/GSN when she implements the role/responsibilities of being a nurse scientist.”

Established by the U.S. Congress in 1972, the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences ([www.usuhs.mil](http://www.usuhs.mil)) is located on the campus of the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., and is the nation’s only federal school of medicine and graduate school of nursing.