Professor Martha Hill has been a faculty member at Johns Hopkins University in the United States of America since 1980 and became the Dean of the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing in 2002. Professor Hill is internationally known for developing and testing strategies to improve hypertension care and control among urban African-American people, particularly young men. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. She was co-vice-chair of an Institute of Medicine committee that developed a report titled "Unequal Treatment: Confronting Ethnic and Racial Disparities in Health Care." In 1997 and 1998, she was the first non-physician to serve as president of the American Heart Association. She holds joint faculty appointments in both the School of Medicine and the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University.

Professor Hill earned a diploma from the Johns Hopkins Hospital School of Nursing in 1964 and graduated with a bachelor degree in 1966, a master in nursing from the University of Pennsylvania in 1977 and a doctorate in behavioural sciences in 1986 from the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. Her research interests include adolescent health, aged care, forensic nursing and disaster nursing.

Over the past three years Professor Hill has worked in collaboration with members of the Flinders University School of Nursing and Midwifery to establish stronger links between our two Schools and has been instrumental in supporting academic staff exchanges that have resulted in significant teaching and research development at our university. These exchanges have involved five staff members of the Flinders University School of Nursing and Midwifery visiting Johns Hopkins University in 2009 and 2010 and four staff from The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing visiting Adelaide on two occasions to develop joint teaching proposals and research projects.

In 2010 Professor Hill invited the Flinders University School of Nursing and Midwifery to join the new International Centre for Global Nursing to be based at The Johns Hopkins School of Nursing. This international centre will facilitate the development of nursing internationally through advocacy, innovation and capacity building.

Professor Hill has provided exceptional leadership in the development of academic nursing in the United States of America. Flinders University is fortunate to have Professor Hill as one of our key international research partners and looks forward to continuing to build our collaborations in research and education with our partners at The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing.