

The Scope

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CONGRATULATIONS to our May 2010 graduates!

2011 Utah Student Nurse Association Annual Convention, "Shoot for the Stars in Nursing...A Hero Lies Within"

The 59th Annual Utah Student Nurses Association Convention was held for the first time at Southern Utah University! It was an all day event that took place Feb. 12th at the Hunter Conference Center which included nursing employment opportunities, NCLEX prep classes, exhibitors from graduate schools, a keynote speech from the UNA President, and specialty nurse guest speakers in the areas of Life Flight Nursing, NICU Nursing, SANE Nursing, and CRNA Nursing. There were an outstanding number of students attending and SUU Nursing was represented well. Thanks again to all those who contributed to the event as speakers, attendees, volunteers, the SUU Nursing Department, and helpers that made this convention a success. It would not have been possible without you! Congratulations to our newly elected 2011 state officers from SUU! Way to go! Keep the unity as team members and best of luck!

Jessica Jimerson, 10-11 USNA Convention Director/Board Member

Accreditation Update

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing (CCNE) visited SUU Department of Nursing in November, 2010 and the program was awarded with accreditation for the next ten years!



NSNA Annual Convention

Students from levels three and four were able to attend the National Student Nurse Association annual convention, April 6th - 8th in Salt Lake City. It was a great opportunity to get together with nursing students from across the country and learn together about this great profession.

Our students were able to attend a NCLEX-RN review, the opening ceremony that introduced the theme of reaching new heights, and other focused sessions given by great speakers.

During the course of the three day convention we were able to visit many booths and learn more about schools, jobs, and opportunities in nursing. Level three students participated with several poster presentations.

It was fun to get together to learn more about nursing and become enthusiastic about making connections with other students. We are now looking forward to our futures with excitement and new ideas about what we can accomplish. Thanks to the SUU Nursing Department for supporting us to attend the National Student Nurses Association Annual Convention held in Salt Lake City!

Mindy Crockett, Level 4 Nursing Student

Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing

SUU Department of Nursing honored Southern Utah's outstanding nurses in a special ceremony on February 24th at the Old Rock Church in Cedar City. Nurses were nominated and recognized in the following categories: medical/surgical, home health, hospice, small hospital generalist, pediatric, critical care, long term care and historical (retired or deceased). The nominees enjoyed a wonderful night of delicious food prepared by SUU's Chair of Nursing, Donna Lister, and inspirational stories of nursing care. These nominees have impacted many lives in our community and it was a very uplifting experience.

Sara Poole, RN to BSN Nursing Student

Nursing Lunch & Lecture with David Cowley, BSN

On March 23, 2011, we were privileged to hear guest speaker David Cowley, an SUU graduate who currently works in the ER at Valley View Medical Center. David spoke to us during the nursing lunch and lecture series in the Starlight Room on campus. The lunch was great, and his insight into the career of nursing was invaluable.

He discussed the reasons why he decided to become a nurse, including having children with medical problems, and seeing the way that he could positively influence the lives of others. Most of the students agree they gained insight into nursing and what unites us as a profession, which is the intent of the "Continuing the Tradition, Building the Profession" Lunch and Lecture series.

Annette Murray, Level 4 Nursing Student

What was your favorite part of this semester?



Trini Key

RN to BSN

I liked my high acuity class as well as the clinical.



Katie Ward

Level 4

I loved my preceptorship! I got to pull out chest tubes, start lots of IVs, and put in catheters. I loved being able to actually feel like a nurse and be a nurse.

Level Updates

Level 1

Level 1 nursing students are all happy to say that we are surviving! Right now we are preparing for our first ATI final and final validations with more than a little stress, but somehow we'll get through it! Along with winding down the semester, our last clinical days of the semester are approaching. All of us have learned so much and have had many exciting and memorable experiences. It has been a great experience getting to know everyone in our class and in the rest of the program.

Megan Stewart and Mandie Tupou, Level 1 Nursing Students

Level 2

Level 2 students are keeping busy with, well...everything. From clinicals and presentations to ATI tests and the herbal fair, the only thing that we are lacking is sleep. Our class has become a group of close friends with everyone bringing something great to the table. We'd like to say congratulations to our classmate Chanda Hollingshead as she has been elected VP of USNA!!! Thanks to all of our professors for their hard work and dedication to our future. We are enjoying all of the new experiences in class and in clinicals and are excited to be progressing and improving daily!

Chelsea Herrera, Level 2 Class President

Level 3

Level 3 students can't believe they are almost three fourths of the way done with nursing school! The current semester has been devoted to learning about the family with its varying stages through the life span. This has been a fun semester for presentations and research. Our level went to the National Nursing Convention to present on different types of undergraduate research that we have been working on since the start of the semester. We found the research to be challenging, but a huge success at the conference. Our class won the Silver Challenge this year and participated in Relay for Life. Our level of confidence is growing and as it does, so does the positive impact that we have on the community. We are grateful for the support that our teachers give and hope to prove ourselves worthy of representing Southern Utah University in the field next semester with our preceptors.

Michelle Rees, Level 3 Class Historian



Kent Turek - Level 3

My favorite part of this semester is that we only have one semester left!



Ian Dempsey—Level 2

My favorite part would be clinical. We are a lot more independent this semester and I like working in St. George.



Garrett Stewart - Level 1

I love the newness of it all. I like learning the skills. It's fun to learn new things.

The Excitement is Building!!!



We look forward to using the new science building next fall!

Level Updates - Continued

Level 4

Our semester has been filled with attaining pure nursing leadership qualities with Professor Kevin Tipton's class. Professor Aja James has also been generously cramming everything she knows about the high acuity setting into our brains. We have also been growing with a political voice and knowledge in Professor Donna Lister's Contemporary Issues in Nursing class. Meanwhile our "free time" includes 96 hours of action packed high acuity clinical rotations. This includes ER, ICU, and 120 hours of our Capstone on the medical-surgical unit. In our "fun time", we have facilitated as mentors to beginning nursing students in the lab and as nursing educators in a variety of different settings. Nevertheless, we have been preparing and studying hard to surpass SUU's 2010 NCLEX-RN pass rate from 98% to 100%!

Professor James offered us the opportunity to obtain an Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) and a 12-Lead EKG Interpretation Certificate. Thanks to all the class instructors who took the time to share their knowledge: Dalene Cummings, Cindy Burch, and the other nurses who have also contributed.

The biggest thanks goes out to all of our instructors who always go out of their way to shape us into the best, most professional, most knowledgeable BSN students. You have given us this incredible opportunity to grow into the nurses of today and of the future. Thanks for always teaching us everything you know and caring enough to devote your success amongst us. We are honored to be your graduates for spring 2011.

Jessica Jimerson, Level 4 Class

RN to BSN

Those of us in the RN to BSN program are beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Fortunately for us, there are no thoughts of licensure exams hanging over our heads; only a few more valuable lectures, a paper or two, and a number of other random assignments to finish up. For some of us this is the end of our educational paths. For others, it is simply a stepping stone to advanced studies. We all took different paths to end up here, whether it be starting this program on the heels of our associate's degree programs, or having worked as RNs for 20 years, in the end we will all share at least one thing in common, three more letters to tack on to the end of our professional title or to the bottom of our work badges: BSN.

Jarvis Olsen, RN to BSN's President

Thunderbird Nursing Soars to Head of Class!

A recent article on the front page of the SUU.edu web site stated that a survey of the 2010 NCLEX-RN test scores showed that SUU is higher than all other Utah nursing programs, having a 98-percent pass rate!

Way to go SUU Nursing students. Keep up the good work!



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