

# THE SCOPE

FALL 2008

1<sup>st</sup> issue of bi-annual newsletter for SUU Nursing

## Dean's Message

It is my pleasure to serve the College of Science, and its students, as Interim Dean. This is my 21<sup>st</sup> year as a member of the SUU faculty, and I have served the past five years of chair of the Department of Physical Science. Over my years of service at SUU, I have seen lots of change. We embrace change, for as Charles Darwin said, "It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change."

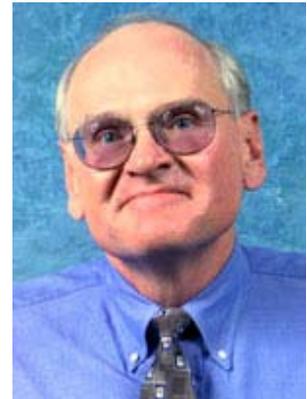
One notable change was the departure of Dean W. Harold Ornes to take up his post as the Dean of the College of Science and Engineering at Winona State University, Winona, MN. Joining Dean Ornes in his new opportunity is Dr. Lynn Ornes, a faculty member in the nursing program. The Ornes Family will be missed by many friends in this community.

I would also like to thank our students. Their drive for success in their education is an inspiration to our faculty. They continually work longer and harder, but I am convinced that our current students are also working smarter, accomplishing far more during their Baccalaureate education than I thought was possible during my own. I hope that our students recognize that there is more to be gained from attendance at college than a degree. There is an opportunity here to gain an education, something that will bless the rest of their lives if they work hard to gain it.

This college is vital and continues to grow in many new and exciting directions. Enrollments are up, which impacts classroom and laboratory space. Growth has prompted our administration to support a large addition to the Science Building. The process of obtaining the funds for this addition is ongoing, but we have strong administrative support. Part of that facility, when it comes on-line, will result in the consolidation of nursing program onto a single floor of the addition. I think this change will be very positive for the Nursing Program.

A new day dawns for the College of Science. Albert Einstein said, ". . . change is like an axe in the hands of a pathological criminal." How that change is implemented and accepted will largely determine the future opportunities and direction for the College. Those opportunities are yours, and mine. I am grateful to be a part of it, and encourage each of you to fulfill your role, as well.

Robert L. Eves, Interim Dean  
(as interviewed by: Jeramy Mahoney)



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## HISTORY OF SUU NURSING PROGRAM

*Written By: Amy Jo Frandsen*

Southern Utah University established a Baccalaureate Nursing Program and accepted the first student class in August of 2004. The SUU Nursing Program was accredited by the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) in April of 2006, holding SUU to the highest standards of education.

Southern Utah University's nursing faculty has a 30 year history of providing nursing education to southern Utah. From the beginning, the nursing program had prided itself of meeting the regional health care needs of southern Utah through personalized, quality education; provided by the dedicated and supportive faculty, staff and administration.

A unique fact about faculty in the SUU nursing department is that the faculty are equally divided between male and female; each adding years of nursing experience and diversity to the program.

There are 113 pre-licensure students and 22 ADN to BSN students currently enrolled in the program. These students are engaged in an interactive learning environment and are progressing toward their BSN degree. This spring marks four years that the program has been in operation.

Southern Utah University's BSN program has graduated 205 students since the spring of 2008; many of which are currently continuing their education in Graduate degree programs. Other SUU BSN graduates are working in facilities demonstrating professionalism throughout the state of Utah and states ranging from Florida to California. SUU is proud to be an educator of current and future nurses in the healthcare profession.

Southern Utah University's nursing program was accredited by CCNE in 2006 for a period lasting of 5 years—the longest first time accreditation you can get! The accreditation board will be expected back to the SUU campus in the year 2010 to re-evaluate the program.



## FINANCING NURSING SCHOOL / SCHOLARSHIPS

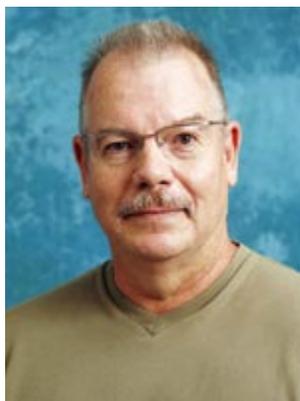
*Written By: Jaron Sperry*

Wondering how you are going to afford nursing school? Would you like to make more than \$1,000 an hour? I did it and you can too. No, this is not a commercial. But, by taking just 5 minutes to fill out an application, I received an \$1,800 academic scholarship. Also, I spent 10 hours and obtained a grant worth more than \$23,000 dollars. That's \$2,300 dollars an hour! There are other grants and scholarships that I was awarded while attending nursing school as well totaling another \$8,900. Does this sound too good to be true? It's real and it happened to me. Prior to going to nursing school, I worked in the field of financial aid for 5 years and was the Financial Aid Director for several Utah colleges - so financing my education wasn't much of a concern for me when I was accepted into SUU's nursing program. Consequently, I obtained several scholarships and grants that paid for my tuition, books, travel expenses and even gave me a monthly income. I have shared my knowledge of these resources with a few of my classmates and students in other levels and have been happy to find out that they too were able to get these grants/scholarships. Many nursing students worry about how they are going to afford school **when it is not recommended that one work while attending**. I believe that people can work hard or they can work smart while attending school. I highly recommend that you research and apply for as many scholarships and grants that are available to you. Besides having the benefit of less financial stress, by obtaining grants and scholarships you will also be able to concentrate on your schooling and do better academically as well. I want to make sure that all nursing student at SUU know of these resources so I have come up with a list which can be found at <http://www.suu.edu/sci/nursing/current.html>. Good luck!

## CURRENT/NEW NURSING FACULTY SPOTLIGHTS

Written By: Chelsea Nielsen

Edited By: Amy Jo Frandsen



**Mike Burton** has been with SUU since the fall of 2007. Mike began his medical training when he was drafted and served in the army in 1971 through 1979, and served as a medical first aider from 1971-1979. After leaving his military service, he entered an AD program from 1979-1982. A year later he entered a BSN program and graduated in 1984. Mike re-entered the military and received his MSN from Texas University during his stint as an officer in the Air Force. He retired from his military service in 1996 and began teaching. He taught in Spokane and Tacoma Washington for 3 years, and then he came to SUU. Mike is a positive influence and strives to help each student succeed and be the best they can be.

**Aja James** has always taken an interest in the health of others as well as her own. After earning her BSN degree, she worked in the ER and on cruise ships as a traveling nurse. She entered grad school and later became a flight nurse. Following grad school, Aja took a break from nursing and satisfied her traveling urge in a new way by becoming a truck driver. She then pursued another new interest and attended culinary arts school. Through many personal experiences, Aja soon realized that her true passion was nursing. She returned to the nursing field as a flight nurse. We enjoy Aja's outgoing personality and her ability to cut to the core of nursing and teach us the fundamentals to help prepare us for the "real world" of nursing. We are very fortunate that Aja has chosen to share her experiences and background in nursing with us.



**Charles "Bill" Douglas** is the newest member to the SUU nursing faculty. Professor Douglas began his healthcare career in 1980 in the army as a "combat" medic. He went to nursing school in 1992 and became an army officer in the ROTC. In 1996 he graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a BSN degree. He chose psych nursing as his specialty and served as an army psychiatric nurse from 1998-2008; during this time he served as a head nurse of 11 West (mental health) ward at Wyoming Beaumont Army Center. Upon retiring from the army he chose to come teach at SUU. He is currently striving to reach his future goal of earning his doctorate's degree! Professor Douglas enjoys educating nurses and believes nursing is the most caring profession that there is. We are excited to have him as part of our faculty. *Note: On February 18, 2009 Professor Bill Douglas unexpectedly passed away. We will miss him!*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- SUU Nursing Graduation Spring Class May 2009; Pinning Ceremony is May 1, 2009.
- Utah Nurses Association conference Fall 2009.
- NSNA Annual Conference April 15-19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in Nashville, TN
- 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Communications Nursing Research Conference April 22-25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in SLC, UT
- AACN Hot Issues Conference April 23-25<sup>th</sup>, 2009 in SLC, UT
- SUU Advisory Board Meeting May 14, 2009.



**Department of Nursing-Fundraising and Development**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Year Graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Does Your Employer Match Contributions?  Yes  No

Check Enclosed  Cash Enclosed

Card Type  Visa  MasterCard  Discover Card No. \_\_\_\_\_

3- Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**DONATION OPTIONS**

**DONATION AMOUNT**

Scholarship Fund\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Training Equipment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*All money donated to support nursing scholarships WILL go towards scholarships for Nursing Students.**

**Please send this form to:**

**Southern Utah University, Department of Nursing, 351 W. University Blvd., GC005,  
Cedar City, UT 84720**

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