



THE SCOPE

3rd issue of bi-annual newsletter for SUU Nursing

SUU Nursing Highlights!

NCLEX update

Congratulations to the Spring 2009 graduating class for achieving an NCLEX-RN pass rate of 93.5% with 31 of 32 having tested! They have done great work on this exam and throughout their nursing education. We look forward to the future of the SUU nursing program and continued success of program graduates. Good luck to all SUU nursing students this semester!

NSNA

Level 3 and Level 4 students will be traveling to Phoenix in October to participate in the NSNA convention.

Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing

Written by: Donna Lister
Chair, Department of Nursing
Southern Utah University

Southern Utah University Nursing is five years old. When the realization first hit we began to consider what an amazing five years it has been. The next thought was the numerous people we have to thank for making the Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree available here at Southern Utah University. It would be hard to decide who should be at the top of that "Thank You" list. Obvious candidates would include President Steven Bennion and Provost Abe Harraf who headed the effort to obtain Board of Regent approval. Certainly the list would contain the names of Representative Bud Bowman and Senator Bill Hickman who obtained the first and ongoing funding for "the nursing program at Southern Utah University" which laid the groundwork for us to establish our own program. Without question we owe a debt of gratitude to those who served on the SUU Board of Trustees, especially Dave Jeppson and Dwayne Nielson, who made calls to Regents and trips to Salt Lake City to make our case to support SUU Nursing. Without doubt we owe a "Thank You" to many individuals for all they did to make the Nursing Program a reality at Southern Utah University.

Thank You if you are one of those who helped to establish SUU Nursing.

To celebrate our fifth anniversary, say thank you, and give back to our service area, we will host the First Annual Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing, November 19, 2009. The Nursing Department at SUU is sponsoring an awards dinner where we will honor one Southern Utah nurse from each of the following practice areas: Medical Surgical, Home Health, Small Hospital Generalist, Hospice, Community/Public Health, Critical Care/Emergency, Long Term Care, and Historical (retired or deceased). We invite you to participate by nominating nurses who have served Southern Utah residents in one of the above capacities for at least 5 years. (The nomination form is on the back of this newsletter and can be submitted by mail or e-mail by October 21, 2009). Nominees do not need to be SUU graduates. They do need to be registered nurses who have demonstrated excellence in their practice and made a positive difference in the quality of health care in Southern Utah.

I am so pleased with the progress of SUU Nursing and the successes of our graduates. I am honored to be a part of the establishment, advancement and improvement of the program. We look forward to many more years of quality nursing education and many more reasons to celebrate nursing in Southern Utah.

Welcome New Faculty Members!



Claudia Kreipl

I began my nursing career by graduating from Brigham Young University College of Nursing in 1978 with an Associate Degree in nursing. I worked as a hospital nurse for 11 years on Medical/Surgical floors, step down special care and cardiac units. I returned to BYU in 1984 and completed a BSN degree in 1989. In 1994 I completed my Master's degree from the University of Utah, College of Nursing. I have taught as a Professor in Nursing at Salt Lake Community College, Weber State University, and Dixie State College. Besides teaching, I have practiced as a director of education, director of home care, director of psychiatric nursing, case manager for home health, and nursing on medical/surgical units. I love the diversity nursing offers and the opportunity to practice in different areas. I currently have my own private practice in Alternative Healing as a therapist in Cranial Sacral Therapy, Lymph Drainage, Therapeutic Touch and Reiki.

I am married and have 5 children, and 14 great grandchildren. I have a passion for teaching and healing. I delight in the framed picture on my desk called "Dog Wisdom" which helps me focus on the meaning of life. Some of these "dog wisdoms include: Delight in the simple joys of a long walk; when you're happy, dance around like crazy and wag your entire body; allow the experience of fresh air and wind in your face to be pure ecstasy; thrive on your friendships and affection for others and let them hug you; whenever loved ones come home, run to greet them with uncontrolled wagging and barks of delight; never pretend to be something you are not. I am grateful and excited to be part of SUU in teaching nursing students how to become the best nurse they can be!!

Assistant Professor Kreipl is teaching Family Clinical with at DRMC with level 3 and Mental Health to level 2 students.



Selwyn Layton

I was named after my great grandfather, Selwyn Dodge, and a friend of my parents from when they lived in Australia, Selwyn Spalding. I grew up in a small town in Northern Nevada, Battle Mountain. Every healthcare professional loves the hill there with the towns initials, BM (ha,ha). I received a degree from SUU in Business Management and while going to school I was a CNA for 3 years and had a passion and love for healthcare. During those three years I worked for Iron County Home Health. When I graduated I saw dollar signs and started working for a company as a quality technician, called Lozier. Even though I was making \$68,000 a year I was unhappy working for a plant and decided to pursue my real passion, healthcare. I went to Las Vegas where I enrolled in a fast track program through a partnering of UNLV and Touro University Nevada. I subsequently received my BSN and then a MSN from Touro University as well. During my undergraduate time I was able to gain real experience working on a medical/surgical floor at UMC. Once I finished my BSN, and there was less class work involved, I found a job at Dixie Regional Medical Center working as a Cardiovascular Nurse. I now work at Valley View Medical Center as an Emergency Nurse. I have obtained my BLS, ACLS, PALS, TNCC certifications as well as some exceptional patient care awards.

I have taught IV start classes and other certification courses for a couple of years at the SWATC. I also taught the Medical Assistant Program for two semesters at the SWATC. This is my first semester teaching at a University Level and I love it!!! There is no greater job in the world and no better University.

I have also been married for 9 years to Kara Layton. I also have a mini-schnauzer named Jax.

Professor Layton is teaching level 2 students Pharmacology and Care of Adults in class and clinical.

Cristine Kunz

I am a single mom with 5 splendid children. I attended nursing school at the University of Utah, but transferred to Weber State College when I got married. I received my ADN from Weber. I received my BSN from Westminster College and my forthcoming MSN will be from the University of Phoenix.

I have worked as a candy stripper, nurse aide, EMT, and surgical technician before I became an RN. I have worked or been a student at McKay Dee, St. Benedicts, LDS, Primary Childrens, Cottonwood, Holy Cross, TOSH, St Marks, DRMC, and VVMC hospitals. I have been an RN for 31 years.

What I like most about nursing has changed through the years. Initially, I would have said the challenge, excitement, and flexibility (I spent a lot of time on the emergency operating room call team). Today, I would say the opportunity to do something of value which touches and improves the human experience.

Advice I have for first year students is: Don't be in such a hurry to master technical skills at the expense of others. They are the easiest of nursing skills to obtain. Seniors: Don't worry if you don't immediately obtain the job of your dreams. Each job provides us with invaluable experiences for personal and professional growth and sometimes leads us to that position that was even better than we dreamed! All: Breathe. Even on the craziest, darkest days when you know you just can't do this anymore--know that it will all be worth it! Cristine is working as adjunct faculty member teaching level 1 students.

Student Updates

Level 1

Level 1 nursing students are very excited to be here and learning! After working hard to complete our pre-requisites, get accepted into our competitive program's lucky 20 positions, we are finally here...and we are very honored, yet privileged to be a part of this rewarding profession.

This semester is very busy and filled with juggling our beginning nursing clinicals, labs, and classes. Let's not forget all the reading and homework to be sure we are as efficient in our nursing theory as we are in performing our nursing skills. We may be only beginning nurses in training but in the end it will pay off as we progress into successful, educated nurses proud to be future graduates of SUU.

Thanks to our entire faculty who go above and beyond to help us succeed as nurses for the future!

Written By: Jessica Jimerson



Level 2



The second semester students are sinking deep into clinicals every week and trying to find time to do the other projects. We thought that we needed to buckle down last semester but we are truly doing it this semester. Clinicals with Professor Howard and Professor Layton are giving us great experience and helping us become the best nurses possible. We have the Herbal Fair coming up in the next couple of months. We are planning to have great presentations for the public so please come and learn more about nursing.

Written by: John Zingelman

Level 3

Level 3 students are looking forward to our last year of the program and the education and excitement it will bring! We have started on our community health clinicals with H1N1 teaching at the Dixie vs. SUU game as well as at the Iron County Fair. We are looking into having some SUU Nursing Polo shirts made up for public events such as our community clinicals, if this is something the upcoming classes are interested in please grab a level 3 student and let us know.

Written by: Dawn Wiltshire



Level 4

Level 4 nursing students are thrilled we have successfully made it through three semesters and are engaged in our last semester of the nursing program! Currently, we are working on our capstone course and completing our preceptorship. In our precepting experience, we are working alongside other registered nurses in various hospitals throughout the state. We have students working in Valley View Medical Center, Dixie Regional Medical Center, St. Marks, Richfield, Panguitch and Beaver hospitals. It is a great experience for us to work with other nurses and apply our classroom knowledge to practical experience.

We are look forward to graduation and being the first SUU nursing class with a 100% NCLEX pass rate! We have enjoyed our nursing education at SUU and thank all our professors for great learning experiences!

Written by: Sadie Dahlsrud



RN-BSN

The RN to BSN class is in the middle of a very busy fall semester. They are currently working on their community assessments where they have the opportunity to get involved and make an impact in local communities. They are also looking forward to helping with the Senior Games in St. George, Utah. They will be working with Professor Tipton in volunteering for the geriatric relay. They are looking forward to being able to advance in their professional careers with a new Bachelor's degree!



Join SUU Nursing on Facebook at www.facebook.com

Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing

In recognition of our fifth anniversary as a Nursing Program, Southern Utah University (SUU) Nursing is planning a ceremony on November 19, 2009 at 6:00 PM to honor Southern Utah's outstanding nurses. We are asking for the community's help to nominate registered nurses in Southern Utah that are deserving of recognition. At the Celebration dinner we will be honoring one nurse in each of the following categories: Medical-Surgical, Home Health, Small Hospital Generalist, Hospice, Community/Public Health, Critical Care/Emergency Room, Long Term, and Historical (retired or deceased). Please use the nomination form below to nominate a deserving Registered Nurse.

Nominee Name: _____

Phone # or E-Mail: _____

Reason for nomination: _____

Please send me information about attending the celebration dinner at a cost of \$20.00 a plate and/or donating to the SUU Nursing Scholarship fund: yes or no

I cannot attend the Celebration Dinner but would like to donate to SUU Nursing student scholarships: yes or no

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone/email: _____

Please return nomination information by October 21, 2009. Ballots accepted by placing in box provided, email to nursing@suu.edu or postal service to:

Southern Utah University Department of Nursing

Attn: Celebration Committee

351 W. University Blvd.

GC 005

Cedar City, UT 84720

Disclaimer - Funds raised for this event will be donated to the SUU Nursing Scholarship fund.