

Southern Utah University

Department of Nursing Summer 2021 Newsletter

THE SCOPE



Issue 23

The New HP (Health Professionals) to BSN Cohorts are Happily Representing SUU Nursing
This Summer

Health Professionals Level 1 Cohort

The HP level 1 class of 2022 has had great experiences for our first semester at SUU. We all get along really well and that makes our nursing school experience better than we all imagined. There is something about our group that is different from any other group most of us have been a part of before. We all have very differing backgrounds, yet we mesh so well. Everyone has enjoyed the classes and instructors so far, and we look forward to meeting and building relationships with some of the other instructors in the fall semester. Thank you to everyone who has helped along the way in our first semester.



Health Professionals Level 4 Cohort

Our last semester was so busy! High Acuity and Precepting have been like a second job but we have learned so much. Our class has become our own little family and it has been exciting seeing how we have all grown into nurses. Many people have already gotten job offers in amazing places such as the Teli Unit, ED, and Float Pool. Others are still figuring out where we want to be, and that's okay! We all feel so prepared as a group to start our RN careers. I am excited to see where everyone goes with their degree. Thank you, SUU Nursing, for everything you have done for us.



SUU Alumni 2021 Pass Rates

We are happy to report that our Spring 2021 graduates have a 92% pass rate so far! This is due for an update once all the students have a chance to take the NCLEX-RN. SUU Spring and Fall 2020 graduates all passed the NCLEX on the first try! We are so proud of all our alumni and look forward to following their great example.

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Southern Utah University

Department of Nursing

Scholarship Fund

Support in Learning through the power of Generosity

The development and progression of the nursing program at SUU has been both challenging and gratifying. From the very beginning of the program at SUU, in fact, before the program began, there have been individuals who have taken action that made a positive difference in the development of the program and/or provided funds for students to be able to attend by offering financial support through scholarship funds. The program is well established now, largely because of the efforts of individuals willing to make a difference. This fall about 170 students will be attending SUU to earn their BSN degree. That number includes pre-license, health professional, and ADN to BSN students. While each person's situation is unique, we all know that financial assistance can make the work of being successful in school a little less burdensome. It is time to look at ways to continue to strengthen the nursing program as well as increase the likelihood that students from all types of backgrounds can afford to attend SUU to earn their nursing degree. I am increasing my commitment and I encourage each one of you to increase your commitment to SUU nursing through contributing to the Nursing Scholarship fund. Your contributions are tax deductible and will be used to provide scholarships to nursing students. Any amount can make a difference. Please contribute what you feel you can to support SUU nursing students.

We are hoping to grow the Nursing Scholarship fund by \$5,000 this year by asking alumni to make gifts of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more to make a difference to support future SUU nursing students. Click on the link to make a gift; there is also a recurring option if you would like to make monthly or annual gifts.

<https://www.suu.edu/advancement/giving.html>

You can also email our department advancement officer with any giving questions at ryanstringfellow1@suu.edu

Thank you for all you have done and are doing to make a positive difference in your community.

Thank you for the great reputation of SUU nursing that you have helped to create.

Thank you for your support of SUU nursing students.

Donna J. A. Lister Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC, CNE

Nursing Through the Ages

Nursing school memories shared by our instructors and alumni

Donna Lister

U of U Bachelor's Degree-When I was in school we were expected to go to the hospital the day before we had clinical and get all of our patient information. We were to take that information and create a complete care plan for our patient. I typed out my care plans (usually about 15-20 pages) on my compact manual typewriter. This was long before the convenient computer came along. We took the care plan with us to the hospital the next day and when asked we shared it with our instructor to demonstrate that we were implementing the care that we had planned for our patient. Early in my school experience, I completed the pre-clinical expectations and had a wonderful (I am sure) care plan developed for my elderly patient. When I got to the hospital the next morning, I found that my patient was extremely weak. When breakfast came she did not touch her food. When I asked her about it she told me she was hungry but could not get the food from her plate to her mouth. I spent the morning visiting pleasantly with my patient, slowly feeding her breakfast. We completed exactly nothing on my care plan because, I had not anticipated this problem which I saw as a greater need to be met. My instructor was not happy, nor was the patient's family (according to my instructor). The threats and accusations of incompetence as a nurse had me in tears by the end of the day. Of course, my husband will tell you that I was in tears by the end of most every quarter of school so I guess that was the beginning of my struggles in nursing school.



Bree Rayburn



What I remember from nursing school? Lots of lectures and tests. Study groups with new friends. In the lab it was just for skills practice and validations which were the scariest thing ever. I was told that I would never be a nurse. Clinicals were about the same as far as I can remember. Scary but lots of hands on and occasionally that meant nurses who hated students.

“It sounds like you may have had a rough experience. What made you decide to teach after that?”

It actually wasn't that bad since I didn't know any different. I loved being a nurse and that's probably why it wasn't that bad. Not sure what drove me to teach-my goal is to make it a good fun experience, but also make sure you learn something.

Donna De Silva

My nursing school days were hectic. I was working nights as a truck driver for Costco, I would then drive to school and sleep in my car if I could, then go to class. I lived an hour away from school, and had kids and a husband, so I didn't socialize much with my classmates. I took my flashcards with me wherever I went (our books were too cumbersome); to work, the kids' sports activities, even weddings-I was always studying.

Nursing school is where I learned that not all instructors are created equal and what was taught in school does have an impact on how a student will go on to practice. My favorite instructor had a poker face and told us that she was hard on us because she had high standards and that we, as students, would be taking care of her and her family. After having family members treated in local hospitals by what I would consider an "average" nurse, I am thankful for that instructor and try to emulate her.



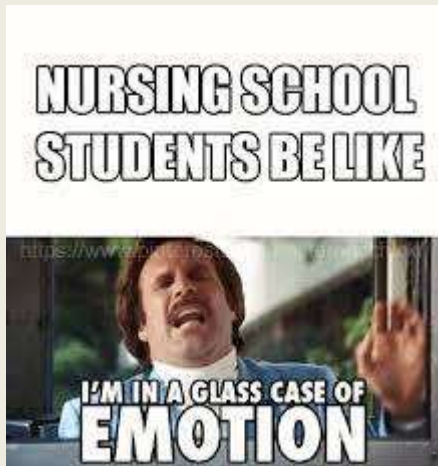
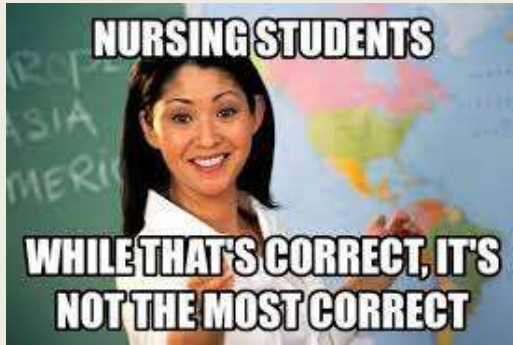
Alonzo Stevens



I was a member of the December class of 2019. I'm sure we're remembered by the professors as "that" class. The first thought that comes to mind when I think of my experience in nursing school is the slap of reality that happens during your first semester. I spent all my early years of schooling only needing to memorize the given information to answer multiple choice questions in order to get that 4.0, only to learn that in nursing school you need to fully understand the material from every angle and need to critically think to choose the "best" answer (goodbye to those straight A's!). But near the end of the first semester, and especially by the end of nursing school, you realize that it's not possible to know everything and you never stop learning, even

after you graduate. Nursing school taught me that healthcare was never meant to be A=B, it's always changing, always adapting, always open-minded. Nursing school is not easy, and it was never intended to be. Welcome to the medical field where sometimes the answers are not a simple solution.

Sunday Funnies



This Thursday!



All Invited!



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