

THE SCOPE

Bi-annual Newsletter for SUU Nursing
Spring 2012

Editors:
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CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR DECEMBER 2011 GRADUATES
ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENT OF

100%
NCLEX-RN
EXAM PASS RATE



**SUU IS SO PROUD OF THIS GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT,
AND WE WISH THEM ALL THE BEST IN THEIR CAREERS!**

PRIDE IN OUR PROGRAM

A History of
SUU Nursing

By Michelle Moore, Level 4

Southern Utah University has a wonderful Department of Nursing. As students, alumni, and faculty, we should be proud of the great heritage we have. In 2002, after nearly 30 years combined with Weber State's nursing program, SUU decided to make the move toward getting our own program. After a long and grueling process and many trips to Salt Lake to meet with the State Board of Regents, our program was finally approved in 2004. Donna Lister, Alan Pearson, Betsy Hatfield, Janet Warner, and Teresa Higbee were all a part of forming our program, and worked incredibly hard to make it the success it is today.

Since the first class graduated in 2006, 470 students have graduated from either the BSN program or the RN to BSN program. These students have gone on to make a tremendous impact on the lives of others. We have had 3 classes get a 100% pass rate on first time NCLEX testing, giving us one of the best pass rates in the state. We have a dedicated faculty and staff that are constantly finding ways to improve our program. We have a new building with state of the art technology where many more students will receive a top quality education.

As a student, I am incredibly proud of the chance I have to attend this school and receive the education that I have. I feel ready to enter the nursing profession and begin to make a difference in the lives of the people I serve. I hope we can all have this pride in our great program.

STUDENT LIFE

HOW IS SUU PREPARING ME FOR MY FUTURE?



"I believe that SUU's nursing program has prepared me for the nursing field by encouraging me to think for myself. They constantly encourage me to take the knowledge I have attained, through my current classes and previous general education classes, and apply it to my every day learning and practice. They have taught me that although nursing is not exactly black and white, I have the knowledge I need to know what to do in different nursing situations."



-Katie Hunter, Level 1



"To prepare us for our careers, level two is giving us diverse experiences in clinicals. Instead of working only on the medical surgical floor, we go to wound clinic, IV clinic, behavioral med, and even home health. I can't think of a better way to prepare us for our futures as nurses than exposing us to the exciting and varied fields within nursing."

- Dani Curtis,
Level 2



Level 1

Level 2

HOW IS SUU PREPARING ME FOR MY FUTURE?



"This semester has given me the opportunity to learn about women's health, kids, and the elderly. All of this knowledge will help in my nursing career.... well,

maybe just the elderly. It's been.... a fantastic experience!"

-Dyllan Almond, Level 3



Level 3

"SUU's nursing program assisted me with my acceptance into the University of Utah's selective Nurse Midwifery and Women's Health NP Doctorate Program in so many ways. Not only did it teach me all of the required fundamentals,



but it also provided me with the opportunity to get first hand experience and to realize what my passion is. It helped to sculpt me into a competent student nurse and graduate school applicant. And I

owe this program a thank you for allowing me to successfully pursue my ambitions."

-Chelsea Chaney, Level 4



Level 4

RN-BSN PROGRAM

By Staci Costa, RN-BSN



Southern Utah University's RN to BSN program is designed for students who already have their RN license from a 2-year nursing program. Students range from those just graduating to those who have worked as nurses for several years and are returning to further their education. Most of the students are working as full-time nurses at long-term care facilities, home health, or in hospital settings. SUU's

RN to BSN program starts in May and ends in May of the following year, consisting of 3 total semesters and meeting just one day a week in a classroom setting. Most of the students live in St. George and carpool up each week for class. Some of the students were asked why they chose SUU's program over other bachelor degree programs and here are some of their replies:

"There are many things I love about SUU – great professors, a beautiful campus, and great opportunities. Students are set up to succeed!"

-Virginia Fischer

"I chose SUU because it is a lot shorter program and I figured I wanted to get done and figure out what I want to do in my future, and if I want to go on to a grad program it would get me there sooner. It is also a matter of convenience with having class only one day a week, it fits in well with my schedule."

-Ezra Hurst

"I chose SUU because I wanted to get an education that would allow me to get a job anywhere I want, and a bachelor's degree helps with that. I also want to go to a grad program and need my bachelor's degree to do so. I like their schedule of once a week and the fact that their program is shorter. I feel I am a good nurse and that SUU was the best school I could go to."

-Ryan Borrowman

"The reason I chose SUU's program is because I wanted the class interaction, it is only 3 semesters, it is close to home which makes it convenient, and I had heard good things about their staff."

-Rose Bradshaw

SEEING THE LIGHT

New Science Building

By: Lauren Hoffman, Level 4



The end of this semester marks the completion of the first year being in the new science center, and the nursing department is loving it! We may have had the most to gain with this addition, and couldn't be more pleased with the space it allows our faculty and students to learn and grow as nurses.

The quality of our experience as nursing students at SUU has grown over the past year with state of the art classrooms, two large practice labs, and a new high-tech mannequin named Noelle that allows for obtaining accurate vital signs, simulating pregnancy, and can even communicate to students by telling them where she hurts or to leave her alone!

With all of this, Betsy Hatfield, our hard-working lab specialist, doesn't hesitate when sharing her favorite feature of the new building: "the light!" After spending years in the basement with low ceilings and no natural lighting to be found, you can guess why the large windows and large space has made us all very happy! The nursing department is excited to have this wonderful space for years to come!

GET TO KNOW SUU'S NURSING DEPARTMENT STAFF

By: Staci Costa, RN-BSN



Department Chair: Donna Lister, PhD(c), MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Office Manager: Teresa Higbee

Admissions Assistant: Vikki Robertson

Assistant Professors:

Aja James, MSN, MBA, RN, CCRN, CFRN, CEN, NREMT-P

Claudia Kreipl, MSN, RN, CST

Selwyn Layton, MSN, RN

Alan Pearson, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Rebecca Rasmusson, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Shelley Sanderson, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Kevin Tipton, MSN, RN, CLNC

Janet Warner, MSN, RN

Nursing Lab Specialist: Betsy Hatfield, BSN, RN

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING A NURSE?

- *Donna Lister: "I love getting to know people and helping people.... including teaching others to become nurses."*
- *Alan Pearson: "My favorite thing about being a nurse is the flexibility and diversity of the profession. I have had great opportunities in many unique settings which has kept life interesting and my career exciting."*
- *Aja James: "It has been a varied and great profession, and has afforded me the opportunity to see the world, have an outstanding quality of life, and meet incredible people!"*
- *Kevin Tipton: "There are a couple things I like about being a nurse: 1. Being able to serve clients and give them care. 2. Opportunities to make a difference. 3. There are a lot of different work opportunities in nursing."*
- *Shelley Sanderson: "I love helping people attain the comfort they need and deserve from nursing interventions I can provide. These interventions can be in the form of skills provided, teaching, or just listening and understanding their point of view if that is what's needed."*
- *Claudia Kreipl: "There is always something to learn every time you go to work. I love the challenge and the opportunities in the different areas of nursing."*
- *Rebecca Rasmusson: "Caring and helping individuals."*

Each faculty member has put their heart and soul into nursing and they are prime examples of hard work and dedication. We are lucky as Southern Utah University nursing students to have such an outstanding group of people to teach us and to help us reach our goals. We all have one goal in common, and that is to be the very best nurses we can be. Thank you to each of the staff for making that possible!



PROUD OF OUR ALUMNI

By: Jill Nakayama,
Level 4



-Jeremy Wood, RN, BSN, DNS
Hurricane Health and Rehab

"I was asked to write a few words on what SUU has done for me and my career. This was a harder task than I thought it would be, due to the fact that SUU's nursing program helped me to do everything that has anything to do with my career.

Starting college at age 30 was very difficult, as I'm sure anyone that age knows. But I had a goal in mind, and off I went. Donna Lister was a huge part in that decision and in helping me to do it. This, she may not know. She guided me, pushed me, and walked with me until I was the RN we both knew I could be. I was in the office at least once a week during my first 2 years of pre-requisites, always trying to figure out how to get into the program. She was a tremendous help. But it wasn't just that. I wanted to be in the first graduating class from the SUU program, not the Weber State program. It was the perfect time and the perfect choice. Little did I know what it meant to be in that class, where the teachers were learning as much from the students as the students were learning from the teachers. The program taught me leadership, along with a vast array of nursing knowledge. The biggest thing it taught me was what I wanted to do with my RN degree. I wanted to go into long term care and rehab. I wanted to help our elders have the best quality of life at the end of their life. It taught me what I was good at. They even let me give a little back to the program by working with the students at their clinicals, teaching them how to do med passes, assessments, and show them why I liked doing what I do. That long term care really is where the caring nurses go. THANK YOU, SUU!!!!!!!!!!"

CLOSING SOCIAL

The Nursing Department's closing celebration will be held *APRIL 4th at 6:30 PM.*

We will enjoy food and a bonfire at Three Peaks.

We hope to see you there!



SPECIAL THANKS

By: Level 4 Students

The graduating class of May 2012 would like to say thank you to all the wonderful staff in SUU's nursing department! These past two years have been full of learning and many great experiences that have allowed for so much growth in each one of us. We feel very lucky to have been a part of this incredible program, and will be proud to call ourselves SUU graduates. We appreciate all the hard work and dedication that each of our professors put towards our education! The knowledge we've gained, and the memories we've made along the way will always be invaluable to us!

Thank you!!

<http://www.suu.edu/cose/nursing/>