



NURSING NOTES

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Welcome to the fall 2009 issue of **Nursing Notes**, the E-Newsletter for alumni, friends and family of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke Department of Nursing. To learn more about the Nursing Program at UNC Pembroke, visit our Web site at www.uncp.edu/nursing/.

NOTICEABLY NEWSWORTHY

UNCP Graduates Largest Pre-Licensure Nursing Class

With forty-two pre-licensure graduates the Spring Class of 2009 is UNCP's largest pre-licensure class yet.

Members of the Spring 2009 pre-licensure BSN graduating class include Jeannette Aguilar, Kelli Brayboy, James Camp, Rebecca Cash, Deidre Chavis, Susan Clark, Richard Collins, Tiffany Corley, Ashley Creech, Melanie Dahl, Lindsay Davis, Kayse Edwards, April Feliciano, Brandy Fooshee, Danell Fowler, Audrey Grooms, Crystal Hunt, Joshua James, Pia Jessup, Sara Kerns, Jamie Knox, Thomas Kwolek, Stephanie Leviner, Catherine Lloyd, Brandy Locklear, Colissia Locklear, Kim Locklear, Kimberly Rose Locklear, Ann Lowery, Santwon McCutcheon, Donna McDowell, Christina McGill, Amanda McNickle, Jessica Miller, Andrea Morgan, Amanda Peterson, Jessica Reid, Megan Rusk, Chad Sanders, Michelle Saunders, Rosaline Whittington, and Lakysa Williamson.

In addition to the pre-licensure BSN graduates, the following RN-BSN students achieved their baccalaureate degrees: Tina Creech, RN; Sandra Conyers, RN; Annette Dial, RN; Daphne Green, RN; Regina Hooks, RN; Misty Houser, RN; Rebecca Jacobs, RN; Christian Kingsley, RN; Katherine Marsh, RN; Willie McDuffie, RN; Emily Parnell, RN; Gail Vega, RN; Betty Powell, RN; and Allison Thomas, RN.

Congratulations to all of our graduates!

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2009 NCLEX Pass Rate

The Department of Nursing 2009 graduating class has a first-time NCLEX pass rate for the first nine months of 2009 of 88 percent. This surpasses the previous pass rate of 80 percent achieved last year by the 2008 graduating class. To date, 41 students have tested for the first time this year. Awesome Job Class of May 2009!

Spring 2009 Introduction to Professional Nursing Ceremony

On April 30, 2009, Dr. William Cody delivered a message of hope and purpose to the 2009 nursing class of UNCP. The ceremony was held in the GPAC auditorium. Dr. Cody is the Dean of Presbyterian School of Nursing at Queens University of Charlotte, NC. Dr. Cody completed his bachelor's degree in nursing at Regents College in New York, his master's degree in nursing at Hunter College in New York, and his PhD in nursing from the University of South Carolina. He is former Contributing Editor for Theoretical Concerns at *Nursing Science Quarterly* and has published nearly 100 articles in the field. Dr. Cody is a Fellow in the Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellows Program and a Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing.



Learning Enhancement Center Update

The Learning Enhancement Center (LEC) has made some changes to made students feel more at home as they learn. Pictured below are students in the comfortable setting studying for the state board licensure exam. Being in a more unstructured environment helps them relax and retain material.



Clickers are just one technique the LEC is using to test student knowledge. A question is posed and then a time period is given for each student to answer the question. Each student can “click in” their response. When the time



period is over, the responses are revealed without individual names, along with the correct answer. Students can evaluate their knowledge against their classmates anonymously. This learning tool is fun and interactive.



High School Students Visit Clinical Learning Center

On Thursday, November 5, 2009 approximately 45 ninth grade students from *Howard Health and Life Science High School in Fayetteville, NC* visited the UNCP Department of Nursing Clinical

Learning Center. These high school students are interested in careers in the healthcare field. After a welcome by the Department of Nursing Chair, Barbara B. Synowiez, PhD, RN, six of our Junior nursing students, along with the Clinical Learning Center Coordinator, Donna M. Cutrell, MSN, RN, treated the visitors to demonstrations of several educational models, manikins, and diagnostic equipment. The UNCP nursing students who assisted with this venture were Stephanie Locklear, Marsha Marcano, Shana Nixon, Rob Scott, William Sumner, and Jessica Trost.

THE GIFT OF ENDOWMENTS

The Anne Reynolds Belk Endowed Professorship

On November 11, 2009, Dr. Barbara Synowiez, Ms. Cherry Beasley, Ms. Joyce Stanley, and Ms. Jennifer Johnson attended a luncheon sponsored by the University and the Sharpe and Belk families to celebrate the establishment of *The Anne R. Belk Distinguished Professorship in Nursing* in memory of Mrs. Anne Reynolds Belk. The faculty and students of the Department of Nursing are grateful to the Sharpe and Belk families for their commitment to nursing education, the University, and the community. According to Dr. Synowiez, the endowed professorship will help strengthen our ability to retain and recruit exemplary faculty whose teaching, scholarship, and service will contribute to the mission and purposes of the Department of Nursing. When a benefactor chooses to endow a professorship, this represents one of the highest honors bestowed on a university as well as the individual chosen for the appointment. While at UNCP the individual in this role will be expected to perform as an exemplary academician, excellent colleague, and a person whose accomplishments will make both the University and benefactor proud.

WORTH NOTING

Faculty and Staff Notations

Ms. Cherry Beasley, Assistant Professor, successfully defended her dissertation November 4, 2009 in the College of Nursing at East Carolina University. Her dissertation is a qualitative study of female breast cancer survivors in the Lumbee community. Congratulations, **Dr. Beasley!**

Ms. Joyce Beard, Clinical Assistant Professor, **Ms. Donna Cutrell**, Clinical Learning Center Coordinator and Clinical Assistant Professor, **Ms. Jan Floyd**, Assistant Professor, **Ms. Meki Graham**, Assistant Professor, **Ms. Michelle Rupard**, Assistant Professor, **Ms. Joyce Stanley**, Assistant Professor, and **Ms. Jennifer Twaddell**, Assistant Professor, attended the 2009 iNET Conference: Infuse Your Teaching with Technology: Cost-Effective Tools for Nurse Educators on August 7th at Duke University School of Nursing. iNET stands for Innovative Nursing Education Technologies and is partnership between Western Carolina University, The University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and Duke University.

Ms. Dena Evans, Assistant Professor, and **Ms. Meki Graham**, Assistant Professor, presented at the 2009 SENSES conference November 5-6, 2009 in Myrtle Beach, S.C. on the topic of *Student Response Systems*.

Ms. Deborah Groves, Assistant Professor, became a grandmother for the first time on October 9, 2009 when her daughter, Becca Cornett, delivered Bailey Michael Groves Cornett. He weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 18 inches long. Congratulations Grammy Groves and her family!

CLASS NOTES AND NEWS

Noteworthy Students

The following students made either the Chancellor's List or Honor's List for the Spring 2009 semester. In order to qualify for the Chancellor's List, a student must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.7 (out of 4.0) while taking at least 15 semester hours. In order to qualify for the Honors List, a student must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of 3.2 while taking at least 15 semester hours. Congratulations on this achievement!

Class of 2009 Graduates: Ashley Creech, Lindsay Davis, Brandy Fooshee, Brandy Locklear, Santwon McCutcheon, and Betty Powell, RN

Senior Prelicensure students: Anne Bowden, Roberta Giles, Shannon Hall, Jennifer Herndon, and Erica McGirt

Junior Prelicensure students: Marie Berona, Jayzabel Concepcion, Catherine Cox, Tamra Henderson, and Kendal Purvis



Lauren France and Heather Norton, pictured left to right, received certificates of participation for the Robeson County Annual Mock Disaster Drill held on Saturday, October 17, 2009. They volunteered to do this during their Fall Break.

Stephanie Locklear, William Sumner, Jessica Trost, Robert Scott, Marsha Marciano, and Shana Nixon (left to right) volunteered to share their love for nursing. High school students from *Howard Health and Life Science High School in Fayetteville, NC* enjoyed demonstrations of educational equipment along with testimonials of what it is like to be a nursing student. Thank you for spreading the joy of nursing!



Alumni News



Andrea Morgan Eva, Class of 2009, was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force. She is the third generation in her family to serve our country. Ms. Eva is pictured at left with her father.

Katie Humphrey Dries, Class of 2007, and her husband, David, welcome a baby girl. Abigail "Abby" Paige Dries was born June 4, 2009 at 6:23am weighing 8 lbs and measuring 21.5 inches. Congratulations, Katie and family!

Stephen Mantzouris, Class of 2007, recently had an article written by his mother published about him as a supplement to the Fayetteville Observer. Stephen was on leave from Guantánamo Bay, Cuba Naval Base to visit his parents last spring. When he arrived, he found his father did not look healthy. He encouraged his father to get a physical exam and ultimately a colonoscopy. Stephen's father was diagnosed cancer. Stephen's mother, Karen Mantzouris, states, "The keen skills he (Stephen) gained at Pembroke save his (father's) life!"

Amanda McNickle, Class of 2009, and her husband welcome a baby boy. Maddox James McNickle, pictured at right, arrived on October 7, 2009 at weighing in at a healthy 8 lbs. 7 oz. Best of Luck, Amanda and family!



Calling all alumnae!! We want to hear from you. Please send your personal and career updates so that we might highlight you in the next issue of Nursing Notes. We are interested in marriages, births, professional development, school activities, work related activities, etc. This information may be submitted via email to nursing@uncp.edu or via phone at 521-6522

EVENTS AND LINKS – TAKE NOTE!

Dates to Remember

December 12, 2009 – Graduation

January 11, 2010 – Beginning of Spring semester

February 13, 2010 – University Wide Open House

March 24, 2010 – Major's Meeting

April 10, 2010 – University Wide Open House

May 8, 2010 - Graduation

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is published twice a year, in the spring and fall. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed via email to nursing@uncp.edu or via phone at 521-6522.