Registered Nurse to Baccalaureate of Science Program Option Newsletter

Fall 2015—Spring 2016

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Accreditation

The baccalaureate program at SUNY Plattsburgh is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 530, Washington DC 20036, (202)887-671 and the program is registered with the New York State Education. It is a member of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the Council of Deans of Nursing of Baccalaureate Programs of New York State. SUNY Plattsburgh has an active chapter (Gamma Delta) of Sigma Theta Tau International, the international honor society of nursing.
Message from the Coordinator

There were forty-four Registered Nurses who earned their baccalaureate of science degrees in nursing at the May 2015 graduation; also there were nineteen RNs that successfully completed the first cohort On-site RN-to-BS Program at University of Vermont Health Network/Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital in Plattsburgh. Please join the faculty and staff of the Department of Nursing in celebrating their achievement.

**Bachelor's Degree Tailored for Registered Nurses Now Offered at SUNY Plattsburgh at Queensbury!**

The on-campus R.N.-to-B.S. initiative originated with the faculty of the SUNY Plattsburgh Department of Nursing and Nutrition. It passed several administrative steps and was recently approved by Gov. Andrew Cuomo and the state Department of Education.

"Our programs provide students with outstanding resources and experiences found in few colleges this size," said Noreen Houck, M.S., R.N., associate professor and chairperson of the SUNY Plattsburgh Department of Nursing and Nutrition. "Students work with dedicated faculty and industry leaders to provide health care to their communities."

Assistant professor Shannon Hanchaw, Chairperson/Associate professor Noreen Houck, Assistant professor Sarah Charles

Dr. Tamara Pobocik and Associate professor Nancy Scanlan
Adjunct professor Karen Phillips ('06) and Dr. JoAnn Gleeson-Kreig
The On-site RN-to-Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing Program at University of Vermont Health Network/Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital in Plattsburgh

The SUNY Plattsburgh Nursing Department has teamed with UVM Health Network/CVPH to give local Registered Nurses a new opportunity for earning a Baccalaureate of Science Degree in Nursing. The new on-site program offers all nursing course in a face-to-face format at the UVM Health Network/CVPH campus with some other courses taken at the SUNY Plattsburgh on-campus/online. The first Cohort On-site RN-to-BS Program started in the fall 2011. It was due to the hard work of Dr. JoAnn Gleeson-Kreig, professor of Nursing, and Dr. Julie Brunell, the Associate Vice President Learning & Development at the University of Vermont Health Network/Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital in Plattsburgh. They are the true champions of the On-site RN-to-BS Program at UVM Health Network/CVPH.

Note: Dr. JoAnn Gleeson-Kreig has accepted the offer of position for the Associate Vice-President for Academic Affairs at SUNY Plattsburgh. She has worked at SUNY Plattsburgh since 1997. She received her Ph.D. in Nursing Science from the University of Connecticut, and worked as a staff nurse with specialty in medical surgical and intensive care at CVPH Medical Center prior to her employment here. Her research has focused on care for Type 2 diabetes and nursing education. Professor Gleeson-Krieg serves on the Board of Directors for the University of Vermont Health Network Champlain Valley Physician's Hospital and the Board of Directors of Behavioral Health Services North.
Nursing Convocation and Pinning Ceremony, Friday, May 15, 2015

The Nursing Convocation and Pinning ceremony took place in E. Glenn Giltz Auditorium honoring both the Traditional and RN-to-Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing Option nursing graduates and their families the night before graduation. Janine Benedetto ('15), Tara Ebere ('15), Gail Bjelko ('15), Stephanie McBride ('15) and Tammy Trombley ('15) Tracy Coleman ('15), Meredith King ('15), and their families attended the ceremony.
Spring 2015 Nursing and Nutrition Awards and Honors

Every year, the Department of Nursing and Nutrition selects nursing scholars from many candidates nominated by their academic advisors. From the RN to BS Program Option, the recipients are: Kevin Oare (The Arkell Hall Foundation Scholarships); Taylor Keplinger, Jessica Schuddekopf (The Julia O. Wells Memorial Education Award); and Jennifer Daly and Tara Ebere (The RN–to–BS Option Excellence Award). Congratulations to Kevin, Taylor, Jessica, Jennifer and Tara for their academic accomplishments. We wish them all the best!

Tara Ebere ('15) is one of the recipients of RN-to-BS Excellence Award for the spring 2015. Tara and her family at the 16th Annual Education, Health, and Human Services Awards and Honors Ceremony.
Spring 2015 Commencement

On Saturday, May 16, 2015, forty-four Registered Nurse to Baccalaureate of Science Degree in Nursing Program graduates received their degrees during the 2015 Spring Commencement ceremony, which was held in the Field House Gymnasium.

Spring 2015 Graduates:

Matthew Arless* — Mooers, NY
Maura Bailey — Lindenhurst, NY
Christina Barbour — Saranac Lake, NY
Elizabeth Belitz — Texas
Janine Benedetto — Ballston Spa, NY
Nicole Bergin — Lindenhurst, NY
Gail Bjelko* — Plattsburgh, NY
Carol Brown* — Morrisonville, NY
Cheryl Brunet — Plattsburgh, NY
Laurie Cave* — Jay, NY
Tracy Coleman* — Morrisonville, NY
Tara Ebere* — West Chazy, NY
Anna Fort — Queensbury, NY
Sacha Frevola — West Babylon, NY
Jan Garrant* — Peru, NY
Susannah Gibson — Huntington, NY
Heather Green — Lindenhurst, NY

Irene Gretz — Plattsburgh, NY
Megan Guay* — West Chazy, NY
Nicole Horn — Green Lawn, NY
Taylor Keplinger — California
Meredith King* — Westport, NY
Lelah Levene — Chazy, NY
Gail LeClair* — Plattsburgh, NY
Matthew LeClair* — Plattsburgh, NY
Noele Lazure* — Plattsburgh, NY
Tsaiyi Liao — Binghamton, NY

*The nineteen RNs of the first On-site RN-to-BS cohort at UVM Health Network/CVPH

Congratulations to all Graduates!!!
Winter Commencement 2015

Commencement will be on Saturday, Dec. 12, 2015 at 09:00 am at the College Field House. Caps and gowns are mandatory for participation in graduation ceremony and can be purchased through the College Store at http://www.mypsubookstore.com/ for $41.35 plus tax and shipping.

Prospective December 2015 graduates:

Sarah Aqui — Brooklyn, NY
Kwang-Ji Baek — Plattsburgh, NY
Megan Boyer — Plattsburgh, NY
Amy Caramore — Port Jefferson, NY
Kristin Cassevah — Plattsburgh, NY
Lauren Dobish — Plainview, NY
Kristina Donaldson — Lake Luzerne, NY
Melissa Dwyer — N. Massapequa, NY
Jennifer Elmendorf — Fulton, NY
Chrihelle Jackson, Harrisville, NY
Richard Hernandez — Valley Stream, NY
Michelle Lapo — Gansevoort, NY
Michelle Mascio — Lindenhurst, NY
Jacob Miller — Saratoga Springs, NY
Jesse Priolo — Albany, NY
Jessica Schwartzman — Gansevoort, NY
Melody Sipowicz — Hartford, NY
Yittel Slonim — Monroe, NY
Joshua Stafteri — Saratoga Springs, NY
Christopher Theobald — Saranac Lake, NY
Tia Therrian — West Chazy, NY
Teresa Krefting — Stillwater, NY

To qualify for the bachelor’s degree in nursing, student must complete a minimum of 120 semester hours of course work. The residency requirement for a baccalaureate degree from Plattsburgh State University is 36 credits. Commencement honors are based on the student’s GPA at PSU; students must complete at least 57 hours of residence study at PSU to be eligible for honors designations at graduation.