

Robeson Community College Associate Degree Nursing

2010 Newsletter

Volume 1.1

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Graduating Class 2010

On May 18, 2010, RCC graduated its 29th Associate Degree Nursing class. The 25 graduates represent a long history of the college's commitment to the health and well-being of the citizens of our county and the surrounding region. After graduation, the 25 new nurse candidates sat for their nursing boards resulting in a 92% first-time NCLEX Pass Rate (and a 100% overall pass rate for all students testing). The newly licensed Registered Nurses (RN) have entered the nursing profession at the regional medical centers and area healthcare agencies.

Partnership Makes Nurse Camp 2010 Possible

In partnership with Robeson County Public Schools and a Career Ready Partnership grant, the nursing students and faculty at RCC hosted its second annual nurse camp. This year's camp was better than ever! Nine (9) returning campers and 16 new campers participated in the 3-day camp which is aimed at introducing area high school juniors and seniors to the art of nursing. The camp is endearingly called CAMP S.C.R.U.B.S. because it is believed that **Students Can Reach Up and Beyond the Stars** to find their place in healthcare.

New campers spent one full day with biology faculty gaining a better understanding of the role science plays in patient care, while the returning campers worked with Emergency Services, Respiratory Care, and Surgical Technology faculty to learn about the interdisciplinary nature of healthcare.

Special Thanks to the crew of Southeastern Regional Medical Center's (SRMC) Med Care critical care transport services for



showing campers what EMS care is all about! All campers spent two (2) days with nursing faculty and students rotating through assessment, baby care, medication, wound healing, and respiratory care stations.

The camp culminated with a "Night Shift" Lock-in at the Lifestyles Fitness Center; where campers played simulated patient care games... In the words of one camper "This camp is AWESOME and I can't wait until next year."

Several success stories are already resulting from the camp. Campers featured (*right*) are high school graduates that have enrolled at Robeson or area community colleges to pursue a career in nursing or other allied healthcare fields.



(Left to Right) Tori Oxendine, Patrick McMurry and Kelsey Smith



*Kelsey Cummings,
ADN Class 2012*

Another success story is that of Ms. Kelsey Cummings, a 2009 Camp SCRUBS participant. Due in part to her participation in nurse camp, Kelsey was worked as an Intern in the Biology Department as a part of the NASA grant. While on campus, she completed several nursing related courses and has since enrolled in the nursing program for the Fall 2010 term.

New Clinical Experience

Students experience Southeastern Wound Healing Center's Hyperbaric Chamber Firsthand...



Wound healing is one of the fastest growing entities of healthcare today, and the role for the nurse in preventing and caring for staged wounds is paramount. That is why a portion of the Spring clinical rotation is designed to allow nursing students to explore best practice wound healing therapies. Students spend one day with the Wound and Ostomy Care Nurses at SRMC. During this valuable experience, students are able to see the devastating effects of wounds at all stages. As a part of the "grand rounds" team, students interacted with members of the interdisciplinary team focusing on wound prevention and management. This experience even allowed students to see how nurses manage care in the outpatient setting.

The students reported one of the most valued experiences was actually seeing the HBO (hyperbaric) therapy from a patient's perspective. Nursing faculty at RCC believe that wound care and healing experiences will equip graduates with the skills to provide more effective client centered care to this patient population.

Student News

Students Walk for a Cure...

during this year's 24-hour Relay for Life event held April 30th – May 1st at Lumberton Senior High School. The 30 member team sponsored by nursing students and faculty was successful in raising over \$1,500 to support cancer treatment and research. This experiential learning opportunity enabled students to see the number of lives touch by this dreaded disease. Additionally, students were emotionally touched as they watched their classmates who were also cancer survivors take their victory lap during the "Survivors Walk."



National Technical Honor Society Inductions... were held Spring Semester, 2010 in a formal ceremony attended by student, faculty, family and friends. At this year's induction ceremony four nursing students from the Class of 2011 were inducted. The National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) is an esteemed society of excellence in the junior college ranks. The NTHS is the highest award for excellence in careers and technical education. NTHS encourages higher scholastic achievement, cultivates a desire for personal excellence, and helps top students find success in today's highly competitive workplace. In previous years RCC nursing students have served in varying capacities and even as elected officers.



Student Nurses Association Becomes a Reality...

Officers from the Class of 2011 have actively worked to launch a new chapter of the Student Nurses' Association (NSNA). Membership in the in the NSNA will serve as a springboard for membership into other professional nurses associations such as the American Nurses Association upon graduation. The \$35.00 cost of membership will enable RCC nursing students to network with other student nurses throughout the state and nation.

As a part of the NUR 212 Curriculum, which is designed to examine leadership concepts, students will attend and/or sponsor local meetings. Plans are underway for student officers and other class members to attend the NC Nurses Association Day at the Legislature Spring of 2011. The nursing faculty and students believe it is imperative for the RCC Nursing Program to have a presence and a role in shaping the face of healthcare not only in our region, but at the state and a national level. Hence we are excited about the new and emerging opportunities the Student Nurses Association will bring to the program.

Alumni News

Plans are underway to establish a new Nursing Alumni Association Fall 2010. As a part of the 30th Year Anniversary celebration. The program is reaching out through facebook and other mediums to reconnect alumni to the program. Alumni are encouraged to log onto facebook and join the RCC Alumni Community page. There alumni will find important program updates, news, and upcoming events. Also alumni are encouraged to share their personal career stories and reconnect with classmates.

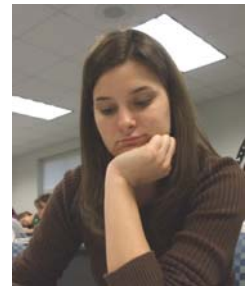
Program News

New Concept-Based Curriculum

Fall 2009, the Associate Degree Nursing Faculty began the two-year process of implementing the "New Concept-Based" curriculum. In 2006, the NC Community College System in collaboration with the NC Board of Nursing embarked on a journey to reshape and retool Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) programs across the state.

Funded as a Curriculum Improvement Project (CIP), a taskforce of program directors and nursing faculty worked to revise the ADN Curriculum. The new concept-based curriculum follows the National Council for Licensure Examination test blueprint and includes The Institute of Medicine best practice recommendations. Additionally, the conceptual student learning model has been based on model researched by Dr. J. Giddens, Professor and Executive Dean at the College of Nursing, Health Sciences Center, University of New Mexico, in Albuquerque. The CIP model includes 31 key concepts that are explored to facilitate conceptual learning and critical thinking. Nursing faculty are already seeing the

benefits of concept-based learning in that students are demonstrating higher level thinking skills by linking concepts in classroom and practice settings. The class of 2011 will be the first program graduates who will have the unique benefit of applying conceptual knowledge to their clinical decision-making and client-centered care.

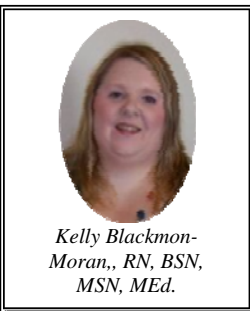


Faculty Educational Pursuits...

Amy Purser (*right*) who joined the RCC Nursing Faculty as a clinical instructor in 2008, completed her Master's in Nursing Education from East Carolina University December 2009. She has since been appointed to a full-time nursing faculty position with the college.



*Amy R. Purser, RN,
BSN, MSN*



*Kelly Blackmon-
Moran, RN, BSN,
MSN, MEd.*

Kelly Blackmon-Moran (*left*) was approved by the RCC Board of Trustees for a full-time Nursing Faculty position. She will serve as the Lab Coordinator for the program's Laboratory/ Virtual Laboratory Learning Simulation Center. Blackmon-Moran, who is a baccalaureate graduate from East Caroling University, recently completed dual Masters degrees from the University of Phoenix in Nursing and Education.

Heather Jacobs, (*right*) a full-time Nursing Faculty member since 2006, and a masters-prepared graduate from Duke University. She has completed 6 hours of Doctoral studies at East Carolina University and is currently pursuing her Family Nurse Practitioner Post Master's Certification from Duke University.



*Heather Jacobs, RN,
BSN, MSN*

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*Comments and suggestions from
students, alumni, practice partners
and the general public are
welcomed.*

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