

# NHCC Nursing Program Newsletter

## Our First Newsletter Response Was Wonderful!

This second issue of our newsletter has a variety of happenings to report in the NHCC Nursing Department.

We look forward to your feedback.

## What's happening in Nursing at NHCC?

- Spring semester classes started January 14<sup>th</sup> with 236 students and 2 new clinical adjunct faculty.
- The college will break ground in 2 months for the new Health Sciences building. Move-in will happen sometime in 2014. Watch for open house events next year.
- The nursing department is implementing a new computerized EHR called SimChart, which is made by Elsevier. See additional details in this newsletter.
- NHCC is working with other area community colleges and universities to develop a new baccalaureate nursing education (MANE—Minnesota Alliance for Nursing Education) to increase the IOM goal of 80% BSN and 20% ADN nurses. The MANE curriculum will start on area campuses in fall 2013, when students will complete the first two semesters of general education courses. Students will begin the actual nursing courses, fall 2014. The plan is to take the new program to the NHCC Academic Affairs and Standard Council for approval in March, 2013.
- Graduation Surveys will be mailed in March to former students and their direct supervisors. Former students are asked to give their permission, which will be accompanied by the survey sent to employers. Watch for it in your e-mailbox and your USPS mailbox!



## Areas we would like feedback (please send feedback to [Mkotek@nhcc.edu](mailto:Mkotek@nhcc.edu)):

- Our current graduation rate is 79%. The goal is 80+%. We are looking for ideas to help our students stay in school and be successful. **What helped you stay in school? What helped you succeed? Please send your thoughts to Margi at [mkotek@nhcc.edu](mailto:mkotek@nhcc.edu)**
- Service and Service Learning needs, see page 3 of the newsletter.

### **NHCC Nursing Class of 2012:**

**Congratulations on your fantastic NCLEX pass rate!**

**97.46%. This is the top pass rate percentage in both ADN and BSN Programs in Minnesota for this year!**

**Congratulations from the nursing department! We are so proud of our graduates!**

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## Service Opportunities with the Nursing Program at NHCC

- Become a standardized patient. Show off your acting abilities! Students are perfecting their assessment skills & their therapeutic communication techniques. It's a fun way to help nursing students get ready for the day they can add "RN" after their name. Please contact Cindy Pins or Mary Sladek if you are able to help. Contact them at [mssladek@nhcc.edu](mailto:mssladek@nhcc.edu) (763-424-0976) or [cpins@nhcc.edu](mailto:cpins@nhcc.edu) (763-424-0760)
- Mentor senior nursing students to help them prepare to enter the workforce. Please contact Dana Botz at [dbotz@nhcc.edu](mailto:dbotz@nhcc.edu) (763-488-0472).
- Service learning opportunities. Do you know of service learning opportunities that would interest nursing students? Please contact Lori Versaguis ([lversaguis@nhcc.edu](mailto:lversaguis@nhcc.edu)) or Linda Carlyon ([lcarlyon@nhcc.edu](mailto:lcarlyon@nhcc.edu)).
- **Scholarships.** Many students have a difficult time affording tuition with their other responsibilities. Do you know of potential scholarship opportunities for nursing students? If so, please contact Denise Dumas ([ddumas@nhcc.edu](mailto:ddumas@nhcc.edu)).

## Perkins Funds Awarded To Improve Career & Technical Education

NHCC's Nursing Department was recently awarded Perkins funds to defray expenses of implementing an educational electronic health record (EHR) for their nursing students. The Carl D. Perkins Act of 2006 awards funding for initiatives that aim to improve career and technical education. This strategic technological initiative is in response to the swift rise of health care facilities instituting EHR's to improve safety, accuracy, efficiency, and overall patient outcomes. NHCC's nursing faculty and administration deemed it was necessary to expose and prepare our nursing students to this digital environment for both clinicals and post-graduation as students will be expected to utilize this technology.

The adoption of the educational EHR can be utilized by students and faculty in a variety of ways such as: accessing mock medical records during lecture and lab via unfolding case studies to enhance understanding of concepts, foster clinical reasoning and aid in documentation; providing pre-scenario information, in addition to a documentation format for health care simulation; and supporting pre-clinical preparation with access to key assessments, interventions, teaching needs, discharge planning and development of a care plan. Thus, infusing the EHR throughout the curriculum will optimistically offer an appealing teaching approach for faculty, engage students, and, more importantly, improve student learning.

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Linda Warnest

## Meet Linda Warnest, Faculty Member

My background is a MSN Education from the University of Minnesota. I chose to teach nursing based on feeling that I had a lot of good experience in nursing and would like to see RNs be more focused on the patient and to be really safe in their practice. I have especially enjoyed working in the Perioperative and Geriatric Nursing areas, but have experience in most areas except for Pediatric and Obstetric nursing.

I am in my 15<sup>th</sup> year teaching nursing at NHCC. I have taught in all levels of the nursing curriculum. Last school year, I completed a certificate for Electronic Medical Record use and implementation. This was my sabbatical project; to improve training in this area for our students.

My main extracurricular activities are travel and family. I am married, have a son and a daughter and a great dog named Buddy!

My philosophy in life is: I believe in hard work to get what you want in life. Don't judge yourself by what others tell you but be true to yourself.



Michelle Koopman

## Meet Michelle Koopman, New Faculty Member

I have a two year degree in computer E-Commerce. I received my associate's degree in nursing from the College of St. Catherine, my bachelor's degree from Bethel University, and my master's from Walden University in nursing education. I hope within the next few years to return to school for a post master's certificate in nursing informatics, and eventually my doctorate.

As I was finishing my associate degree, my advisor suggested that I continue my education and pursue nursing education. At the time I thought she was nuts! There was no way that I would ever want to teach. As I started my master's program, I had a focus on nursing leadership. I soon began to feel that in the role as nurse manager, I would lose touch with patient care and would not directly impact the future of the nursing profession. I realized teaching would allow me to help shape the future of our profession. Currently, I interact with both students and patients. I couldn't imagine doing anything else. I enjoy teaching topics that can be made fun through varied activities and I enjoy seeing the "light bulb" moments that occur during a lecture on student faces.

I have two daughters, Makayla who is 3.5 years old and Brynn who is 9 month old. Life is really busy between work and family! Be sure and take time to care for yourself. Nurses are notorious for having a self-care deficit!

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North Hennepin  
Community College

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Exciting things are happening in nursing!

**NHCC Nursing Program  
Mission: To prepare  
associate degree nurses  
that are committed to  
lifelong learning who value  
and provide service as  
competent, safe, and  
patient-centered care within  
a variety of health care  
settings.**

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