SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY NURSING DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

THE SCOPE

MARCH 14, 2024



Southern Utah University Department of Nursing

351 W. University Blvd SCA 108 Cedar City, UT 84720

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

NEW STAFF MEMBER



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LEVEL 4



"The fourth semester has been exceptionally rewarding for our cohort, with a concentrated focus on preceptorships and preparation for graduation. Our studies have primarily revolved around critical care, equipping us with essential skills for our future careers in nursing. We are looking forward to what the future holds for us as healthcare professionals and are immensely grateful for the invaluable guidance and support received from our incredible professors, who have played a pivotal role in our academic and professional development." -Becky Howells

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LEVEL 3



"AS THE SEMESTER RAPIDLY PROGRESSES. IT'S AMAZING TO REFLECT ON THE GROWTH OF KNOWLEDGE GAINED IN LEVEL 3. OUR JOURNEY HAS BEEN A DEEP DIVE INTO MATERNAL AND NEONATAL CARE. PEDIATRICS, COMMUNITY HEALTH, AND GERIATRIC NURSING. ENGAGING IN DIVERSE CLINICAL PLACEMENTS, SUCH AS ST, GEORGE **REGIONAL HOSPITAL'S NICU, AND OTHER** SPECIALIZED SETTINGS, HAS BROADENED OUR PRACTICAL UNDERSTANDING OF NURSING. THESE EXPERIENCES ARE INVALUABLE IN SHAPING US INTO WELL-ROUNDED NURSES. THE SEMESTER HAS BEEN FULFILLING, AND WE EAGERLY ANTICIPATE THE NEXT PHASE OF OUR NURSING EDUCATION." -CASSIDY CHAMBERLAIN

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HTTPS //WWW SUU EDU/NURSING/

LEVEL 2



"LEVEL 2 HAS BEEN SUCH A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND GROW AS STUDENTS. FUTURE NURSES, AND AS PEOPLE, IT HAS BEEN A DIFFICULT CLASS LOAD. WE ARE LEARNING A LOT WE LOVE ALL OF THE DIFFERENT CLINICAL **EXPERIENCES WEVE HAD. OUR** CLINICALS HAVE PROVIDED US WITH INVALUABLE EXERIENCES AND INSIGHTS, LEVEL 2 HAS GIVEN US REAL GLIMPSES INTO OUR FUTURES. LEAVING US EXCITED FOR MORE. ABOVE ALL, WEARE GRATEFUL FOR EACH OTHER, AND FOR SUU NURSING FOR BRINGING ALL OF US TOGETHER, WE'VE BECOME EVEN CLOSER TO EACH OTHER, BONDING OVER OUR TESTS AND CLINICALS!! KALLIE GRAVES"

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LEVEL 1



"LEVEL 1 OF NURSING SCHOOL HAS BEEN A ROLLER COASTER!! IT DEFINITELY HAS BEEN QUITE AN EXPERIENCE TO SAY THE LEAST. OUR COHORT HAS ADJUSTED WELL TO THE DEMANDS OF LEVEL 1!! I COULDN'T BE MORE PROUD OF MY COHORT. THEY ARE THRIVING IN FUNDAMENTALS AND I AM THRILLED TO SEE WHAT IS IN STORE FOR OUR FUTURE!" - JACOB LAYLAND

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Health Professionals Level 3



* ANOTHER DAY CONE BY, WISH I COULD SAY THAT TIME HAS FLOWN. BUT WOE WOE AM I: TO HAVE TRAVERSED SO FAR AND YET WATCH THE CLOCK DRIBBLE BY, ONE AGONIZING MINUTE, TIME HAS CEASED TO PASS IN ITS NATURAL ORDER. AS IF PAUSED IN AN ETERNAL STAND-OFF WITH DESTINY. AND YET, THOUGH THE HOURS AND DAYS SEEM TO DRAG EVEN SLOWER THAN THE ONE BEFORE, I HAVE AGED, I I CAN FEEL MY SHOULDERS BECOMING MORE STOOPED, BY VITALITY DWINDLING AND DRAINED, MY MENTALIITY MORE CYNICAL, AS I GAZE OUT UP THE FRSH YOUNGERSTERS, SO EAGER AND SO EXCITED TO BEGIN THEIR JOURNEY. OUR PURPOSE HERE IS TO BECOME FUTURE NURSES AND WE AS SO CLOSE TO FINISHING. POWERING THROUGH THE TRIALS AND THE HARD SCHOOLING, I AM VERY PROUD OF MY

COHORT. -DILLON BLACKNER

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2023-2024 NURSING COLLEGE OF DISTINCTION

ENGAGED STUDENTS | GREAT TEACHING VIBRANT COMMUNITY | SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES

Southern Utah University

DATE

has been identified as a 2023-2024 Nursing College of Distinction for its exemplary commitment to the Four Distinctions: Engaged Students. Great Teaching, Vibrant Community, and Successful Outcomes



HEALTH **PROFESSIONAL TO BSN PROGRAM UPDATE:**

STARTING SUMMER 2024. THE HP TO BSN PROGRAM IS MOVING TO A 3 SEMESTER PROGRAM. **COMPLETED OVER 4** SEMESTERS (SUMMER. FALL OR SPRING, & SUMMER) IN LESS THAN 16 MONTHS!!

SUU AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2024 - SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY NAMED IN 2024 UT NURSING RANKINGS FROM RNTO MSN.ORG. SUU EARNED #3 RANKING IN RNTOMSN.ORG'S GUIDE TO UTAH'S BEST ONLINE RN TO BSN PROGRAMS FOR 2023-2024: HTTPS://WWW.RNTOMSN.ORG/RN-TO-BSN-ONLINE/UTAH/. STUDENTS IN UTAH HAVE MUCH TO CONSIDER WHEN COMPARING THE STATE'S NURSING SCHOOLS. TO SIMPLIFY THEIR SEARCH. WE DEVELOPED A RANKINGS METHODOLOGY AROUND WHAT STUDENTS VALUE MOST IN RN TO BSN

PROGRAMS: -AFFORDABILITY - PROGRAM QUALITY - REPUTATION - STUDENT OUTCOMES

"WE USE MULTIPLE DATA POINTS TO SCORE NURSING SCHOOLS FOR EACH CATEGORY, INCLUDING PROGRAM COSTS, OUTSIDE AWARDS, ADMISSIONS SELECTIVITY, GRADUATION RATES, STUDENT DEBT AND EARNINGS, AND MORE. OUR METHODOLOGY PRIORITIZES WELL-ROUNDED EXCELLENCE OVER SCHOOL SIZE OR PROMINENCE, AND THE FINAL RANKINGS REPRESENT UTAH'S BEST ONLINE RN TO BSN **PROGRAMS." - SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY NURSING PROGRAM** CONGRATULATIONS ON SUU'S #3 RANKING, WHICH WE HOPE IS A POINT OF PRIDE FOR THE NURSING SCHOOL. THE AWARD GRAPHIC FOR THIS ACHIEVEMENT IS ATTACHED, WHICH YOU ARE WELCOME TO USE AS YOU LIKE. PLEASE REACH OUT TO US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

2024 - SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY NAMED ONE OF THE BEST RN TO BSN PROGRAMS IN UTAH IN RNCAREERS.ORG. #2 IN UTAH. READ ABOUT RNCAREERS.ORG'S METHODOLOGY 2024 - #3 REGISTERED NURSING (PRELICENSURE, BACCALAUREATE) PROGRAM IN UTAH IN REGISTEREDNURSING.ORG. READ ABOUT REGISTEREDNURSING.ORG'S METHODOLOGY. 2023-2024 NURSING COLLEGE OF DISTINCTION; FOR IT EXEMPLARY COMMITMENT TO ENGAGED

STUDENTS, GREAT TEACHING, VIBRANT COMMUNITY, SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES. COLLEGES OF DISTINCTION. (WE HAVE RECEIVED THIS ONE FIVE YEARS IN A ROW)

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



TJ Harris RN

"I HAD WORKED FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS A CNA AND PLAYED ON SUU WOMEN'S SOCCER TEAM BEFORE BEING ACCEPTED TO SUU'S NURSING PROGRAM, I GRADUATED FROM NURSING SCHOOL IN DECEMBER OF 2020, RIGHT AT THE HEIGHT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WHICH MEANT A HIRING FREEZE FOR NURSES AND HARSH WORKING CONDITIONS SOON AFTER, BECAUSE OF THIS I COULDN'T FIND A JOB I REALLY FELT I WOULD LOVE AND THAT I WANTED TO DEDICATE ALL OF MY TIME TO, SO I ENDED UP WITH THREE JOBS...I JOKE WITH NURSE FRIENDS AND HUSBAND THAT I HAVE MASTERED THE ART OF "PRN NURSING." I WORKED AT STONEHENGE OF CEDAR CITY FOR A WHILE AS A RN AND THEN THE ADON, I ALSO WORKED IN ST. GEORGE AT THE PRIMARY CHILDREN'S OUTPATIENT CLINIC AS A CLINIC NURSE, I ALSO HAVE DONE RANDOM PRN/TEMPORARY JOBS AT ASSISTED LIVING HOMES AND WITH INTERMOUNTAIN HEALTH. CURRENTLY, I WORK AT CEDAR SURGICAL ASSOCIATES AS A PACU NURSE, AND STILL DO SOME PRN GIGS HERE AND THERE. I LIKE CHOOSING MY SCHEDULE AND DOING DIFFERENT JOBS EVERYDAY TO MIX IT UP. I HOPE TO CONTINUE TO GET LOTS OF DIFFERENT NURSING EXPERIENCES. IT IS SO FUN TO EXPLORE ALL THE JOBS YOU CAN DO AS A NURSE!" -TJ HARRIS

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NEW STAFF



SANDI WOOD MSN, BSN, RN

SANDI WOOD IS A NEW ADJUNCT FACULTY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF NURSING. SHE WORKS WITH THE LEVEL ONE STUDENTS IN THEIR CLINICAL ROTATIONS AND IN THE NURSING LAB. SANDI IS ALSO A REGISTERED NURSE AT THE CEDAR CITY HOSPITAL IN THE SAME DAY SURGERY DEPARTMENT. SHE HAS WORKED AS AN RN FOR 17 YEARS IN THE MED/SURG, ICU, AND SAME DAY SURGERY DEPARTMENTS, SANDI EARNED A MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING EDUCATION FROM WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY, A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN NURSING FROM SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY, AND A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN SOCIAL WORK FROM BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, SANDI HAS LOVED THE POSITIVE ENERGY SHE FEELS FROM THE STAFF AND STUDENTS AT SUU. SHE **REPORTS THAT THE FACULTY HAVE** BEEN WELCOMING AND PATIENT AS SHE HAS LEARNED THE ROPES. NURSING EDUCATION HAS BEEN AN EXCITING CHANGE AND A FUN WAY TO USE HER NURSING SKILLS IN A DIFFERENT WAY. RUNNING SIMULATIONS AND COMPETENCY ASSESSMENTS IN THE LAB HAS DEFINITELY BEEN HER FAVORITE EXPERIENCE SO FAR. SANDI LOOKS FORWARD TO HER FUTURE ENDEAVORS IN NURSING EDUCATION WITH THE SUU NURSING DEPARTMENT!

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