Spring Semester 2015 brought in 29 new MSN/FNP students. The students range in ages from 22-51. We have seven Alumni returning to complete their MSN. The Alumni stated that they wanted to return to the place they knew they could get a quality education and the faculty “cared about us.” We have students who travel from Myrtle Beach, Conway, and Charleston to be a part of our exciting program. Our faculty continues to provide excellence in teaching and personal care for our students. If you know of anyone interested have them contact us and always thank you for supporting FMU. ~ Dr. Deborah L. Hopla

The RN-to-BSN Online Program was recognized by RN-to-BSN.org as offering one of the best online classroom experiences. The organization whose mission is to connect current and prospective nurses with resources needed to pursue and obtain their BSN, says FMU’s program demonstrates excellence in all areas.

The measures that factored into RN-to-BSN.org’s decision to convey FMU the distinction were accreditation, commitment to online education, academic and career counseling services and academic quality. If you are interested in learning more about the RN-to-BSN Online Program, please contact Dr. Rhonda Brogdon, Assistant Professor of Nursing, RN-to-BSN Coordinator at 843-661-1674.

The Minority Nurses Association, established 2013, provides guidance and mentoring to minority nurses and nursing students. The organization strives to be inclusive of all ethnicities and genders. Educational offerings or activities are held monthly for our members during the Fall and Spring semesters. The Minority Nurses Association has 80+ members presently. These meetings are open to FMU alumni. If you are interested in attending meetings, speaking to the group, or mentoring students, please call Dr. Rhonda Brogdon at 843-661-1674, Mrs. Crystal Graham at 843-661-4658 or Mrs. Karenmarie Davis at 843-661-1667.
Student Nurses Association Update by Ainne Moss, FMU BSN Student

The Student Nurses Association (SNA) at FMU is a very active organization on campus. They collected just under 400 pounds of food for the Felician Center in Kingstree, SC before Christmas. The SNA then collected coats in February for Hope Health. The SNA officers will be representing FMU at the SNA convention in Phoenix, AZ. This will allow the SNA members to network with other universities, go to focus sessions, and discuss areas of opportunities for student nurses as a whole. Lastly, SNA is having a t-shirt, car decal and cup fundraiser this semester.

Chi Lambda Chapter STTI

The Chi Lambda Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) was chartered on October 16, 2014 at Francis Marion University. At that time, we inducted 46 new members and 19 transfer members. The mission of STTI is to advance world health and celebrate nursing excellence in scholarship, leadership, and service. Membership is by invitation to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing. The first induction of senior baccalaureate nursing students will be held February 19, 2015 in the Lee Nursing Building. For more information, contact Dr. Karen Gittings (President) at kgittings@fmarion.edu

Alumni News

Kelly Lawson, a graduate from the FMU-MUSC satellite program in 1992, has accepted a position as Chief Nursing Officer - Williamsburg Regional Hospital.

Christian Harrell, FMU class of 2012, joined Williamsburg Regional Hospital as a staff nurse for Med-Surg.

Brooke Brown, a FMU BSN graduate, won the outstanding student award for the Adult Gerontology Primary Care nurse practitioner program at Vanderbilt University School of Nursing in August 2014.

News from the December 2014 MSN/FNP Graduates:
Natalie Whitfield and Christy Pee have accepted positions with SCDHEC.
Whitney Anderson and Allison Watkins have accepted positions with Palmetto Health Surgical Specialists in Columbia. Darren Smith will be working with EmCare at McLeod Medical Center-Dillon in the Emergency Department, and with Mercy Medicine in Florence. Teresa Yarborough will be working at Low Country Urology with Dr. Kevin O’Kelly.

Alumni Scholarship Donations

We challenge all alumni to match the $1,000 donation that has already been pledged to the nursing alumni scholarship. Every donation helps! Here is the link: www.fmarion.edu/foundation/scholarships. Please earmark for the Nursing Alumni Scholarship.

Please send in any personal or professional news to rwittmannprice@fmarion.edu for May newsletter by April 15th! THANK YOU