## MSN/FNP Update:

**MSN-FNP Update by Dr. Deborah Hopla**

We have one FNP student graduating in Spring 2015, with the larger class graduating in December. Our graduates have begun their new employment and are excited to begin the new realm of functioning as FNP’s and taking care of patients in their new roles.

With admissions in Spring, Fall, and Summer I, the faculty are busy with the oversight of clinical sites, preceptors, and students. This is an exciting time to be at FMU!

The new Health Science building will be completed by June of 2016, and plans for equipment are being finalized.

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**Student Nurses Association Update by Jamie-lee Nel, FMU BSN Student**

The Francis Marion University SNA sent four members to the National Student Nurses Association national convention in Phoenix, AZ from April 7-12, 2015. Annie Moss, Jamie-lee Nel, Lindsey Powell, and Lora Meadows were in attendance. Of the numerous focus sessions offered, three of the students attended a course on disaster preparedness offered by the Red Cross. It was a great opportunity to represent our program on a national level.

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**RN to BSN Update:**

The RN to BSN Mt. Pleasant Update by Nina Russell, APRN, MSN-Ed.

The RN to BSN Mt. Pleasant Program utilizes a hybrid learning format allowing students to enjoy the flexibility of online instruction without forgoing the advantages of classroom instruction. Currently, there are seven students attending the Mt. Pleasant program with an anticipation of more applicants in the coming summer and fall semesters.

Many of the current students have expressed an appreciation for the hybrid learning environment and attribute their successful progression to the program’s design. As course faculty for the RN to BSN Mt. Pleasant program, it is clear that the face-to-face interaction has enhanced social dynamics by providing students with personal contact with the instructor as well as building peer relationships.

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**Update from the Chi Lambda Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Nursing Honor Society**

On February 19th, the Chi Lambda chapter of STTI held its first induction ceremony following our chapter chartering ceremony this past October. A total of 29 new members were inducted including: 24 BSN students, 1 RN-BSN student, and 4 nurse leaders. We welcome our newest members! Inductions of new members are held every February. Next fall we will be soliciting nominations for nurse leaders for induction. Any alumni interested in being considered for induction can contact an officer for review of the eligibility requirements.

On April 2, 2015, the chapter had their spring educational meeting. Dr. Kelly Jones provided an excellent presentation entitled, “Evidence-Based Medicine Brain Teasers: How Conundrums Drive Us to Better Medical Decision-Making.”
FMU Department of Nursing
4822 East Palmetto Street
Florence SC 29501
Phone 843-661-1690
Fax: 843-661-1696
email: rwittmannprice@fmarion.edu

Alumni News
The FMU Alumni Association had a hot dog sale on March 31, 2015 to raise money for the alumni nursing scholarship. Over $263 was raised.

Krystal Cooley is working with the hospitalist group at McLeod as a NP.

Please send us any alumni news!

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.

Telehealth by Dr. Gaye Douglas
In the Population Health and Policy course, Senior II BSN nursing students have provided well-child visits utilizing telehealth. The nursing students perform the pediatric exams and provide anticipatory guidance with instructor guidance. The students are taught to present their findings to a nurse practitioner in a remote setting, utilizing telehealth.

While participating in this experience, the nursing students have had the opportunity to learn more about the challenges of caring for children in rural areas. This program has given them hands-on experience with telehealth, and it has sharpened their pediatric physical assessment skills. Lastly, the children have received needed health screenings!

Spotlight on Alumni: Hanna McKenzie
Hanna McKenzie has been busy since graduating from Francis Marion University in 2013. After a year of working in CVICU at McLeod, Hanna moved to Charleston in May of 2014 to more fully dedicate herself to a dream she had had for many years. She, along with three friends, formed the non-profit organization Loving America Street, which is a mission in inner city Charleston where she and six other like-minded women live and minister to the most vulnerable through community development. Every Thursday, they open their house to those in the neighborhood for a time of Bible study, fellowship, and preparing dinner together. There are also seasonal block parties and an annual family photo day. Hanna says her philosophy is really very simple: “see a need, fill it; see a need, fill it.” She has always been passionate about people in every sense—not just meeting their physical and healthcare needs. The project the group is currently tackling involves preserving and overhauling a run-down laundromat to ensure that neighbors won’t lose that service.

While at FMU, Hanna was active in SNA, serving as Vice-President, then President. She was the student representative for Curriculum Committee and participated in service learning opportunities, such as the mission trip to Belize. She says her educational experience at FMU prepared her well for her life’s work. She is currently employed at MUSC in the CTICU and will soon begin a nurse anesthetist program.

FMU Department of Nursing Welcomes Two New Programs by Dr. Ruth Wittmann-Price
FMU has the approval to open two new healthcare programs. The first program is a baccalaureate of science in Healthcare Administration (HCA). The Healthcare Administration major emphasizes the development of knowledge and skill in healthcare management, leadership, education, research, and practice. The required courses, along with the required general education curriculum, will prepare graduates to advance to leadership roles within healthcare organizations or within their own specific allied health discipline. This program places high value on management, leadership, teaching, research, and advanced practice. The clinical capstone course is designed to apply upper-level skills by requiring students to develop a leadership project for implementation specific to the student’s healthcare interest or allied health discipline. The program is applicable to all undergraduate students interested in healthcare careers as well as allied health professionals who hold an associate’s degree (Respiratory Care, Radiologic Technology, Medical Laboratory Technology or a certified or licensed healthcare discipline deemed applicable by the Admissions, Progression, and Graduation Committee of the Department of Nursing). For further information email Dr. Ruth Wittmann-Price rwittmannprice@fmarion.edu

The second program is a collaborative program with the School of Business and is an MBA with Concentration in Healthcare Executive. The FMU School of business is internationally accredited and has developed an online program in collaboration with nursing that takes one year to complete. For further information please contact Dr. Kay Lawrimore Belanger at klawrimore@fmarion.edu.

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