



Southern Utah University // issue 20 // Biannual  
Newsletter // Editor: Kendra Orton

# THE SCOPE

## Pinning Ceremony

The Pinning ceremony has been rescheduled due to the COVID - 19 outbreak. The Class of Spring 2020 will host their pinning ceremony on Saturday, August 8, 2020, at 4:00 PM in the R. Haze Hunter Conference Center, Great Hall. Reach out to a Level 4 student (Class of spring 2020) to find out more information.

## LPN / Paramedic (Health Professionals) to BSN

Get the word out! The SUU Department of Nursing will welcome their first cohort of Health Professional students, summer of 2020! This will be an on-campus program that allows LPN's, Paramedics, Health Professionals, etc. to continue their education and obtain a BSN.





## Level Updates

### Level 1



“Level 1 has been an amazing experience! The 30 of us have become really close and we feel like a family now. There is a perfect mix of all types of personalities and experience levels in the class. We are all passionate about nursing and strive to become the best we can be. The faculty and staff have been absolutely incredible in supporting us as we are adjusting to nursing school. We are so excited to learn, grow, and be together for the next three semesters!” – Megan Eberhard

### Level 2

“Level 2 is doing as good as can be expected! Long clinical hours and lots of content to memorize, but we love the challenge! We have all gained so many new friends this year and are so grateful to be in the program. We are working hard and looking forward to the future!” - Shawntae Gagnon



### Level 3

“Our class is excelling academically! Many of us have taken the NCLEX-PN and passed. We hosted the campus health fair providing education on topics such as: stress, sleep, and exercise. We have been working with the community closely this semester providing and participating in services. We are excited for our preceptors this fall and ready to graduate.” -Rachel Ngatuvai



“Try your best to stay a week ahead in your assignments. It relieves a ton of stress. Also, stick with it. Nursing school is hard, but it gets better I promise! Stick with it and study hard and before you know it, you’ll be level 4’s ready to graduate.” – McKenzie Olcott

### Level 4

“Level 4 has been a race to the finish! We all have been feeling the senioritis and it has been difficult to stay focused! We are all feeling prepared and excited to graduate and become RN’s! It is hard and sad knowing that many of us may never see each other again after graduation but we are so glad to have gone through this journey together!” – Kendra Orton



# NCLEX PASS RATE:

## 93.3% - 2019 FALL COHORT

### ***New Faculty Member!***

Christine Harrington!



*"I'm originally from Richmond, VA, but I spent most of my childhood in Tanzania (East Africa) because my parents were medical missionaries. I finished my BSN at the University of Colorado in 2012 and have worked in telemetry/stepdown/progressive care for most of my career, with a little ICU thrown in for good measure. From 2014-2017 I was a travel nurse - I worked about half the year and spent the other half traveling for fun and for volunteer work. During that time I traveled to 10 countries. Volunteering for two months for Mercy Ships in Madagascar and one month at the hospital that my dad used to run in Tanzania were definitely the two highlights! I landed in SW Utah in 2016 on a travel contract and never left. I finished my MSN in Nursing Education through Western Governors University in 2019 and joined the SUU Department of Nursing faculty in January of this year. I'm teaching Foundations of Professional Nursing for the new online RN to BSN program and helping with prelicensure program clinicals as well. My favorite things to do are mountain bike, travel, hike, rock climb, and bake!" – Christine H.*

*"I recommend working hard in nursing school but also knowing when to take time for yourself. Nursing school is hard and if you don't take breaks, you will drown. Try your best to stay ahead and just take it one day at a time. I'd also suggest that you be involved while you're at clinicals. Jump in and help, and if you don't know something, don't be afraid to ask! You're there to learn, not to be perfect. One last thing, Kathy Parks will save your butt for ATI!" – Emily Brown*

### **SNA Update:**

"Every semester, SNA chooses an organization within the community to serve. This semester, our service project is to help the homeless high school students within Iron County School District by hosting a benefit yard sale in March. The proceeds and donations of hygiene products and blankets will be given to those students who are in need of help. SNA has also participated in different events this semester. At the SUU Health & Wellness Fair, members of SNA helped volunteers become part of a national bone marrow donor registry. The Utah SNA Conference was also held in February and two of our SUU SNA members, Dakota Venegas and Shawntae Gagnon, were elected as Regional Directors. In SNA, we have also hosted events like Mock Interviews, Americorps Orientation, and other presentations. In early March, Kaleigh Bronson, the Canyon Creek Services Awareness and Prevention Director, delivered a presentation about healthy relationships and the services that Canyon Creek offers. In April, SNA is planning to host Dr. Ryan Workman, DO, for a presentation about pain." – Katie S.



# CELEBRATION OF SOUTHERN UTAH NURSING:

“It was a success! It was such an amazing experience honoring these outstanding nurses. These nurses were nominated by peers, employers, and patients. The dinner was delicious and the students enjoyed giving back and recognizing the nurses of Southern Utah!” – Megan Sisana & Zai Lopez

## Outstanding Nurse Awards

Small Hospital Generalist – Loni Wright

Home Health & Hospice Nurse – Donna De Silva

Long Term Care Nurse – Camree Cox

Community/Public Health Nurse – Mindy Bundy

Medical Surgical Nurse – Stephanie Bremner

Labor & Delivery Nurse – Kari Pickett

Critical Care Nurse/ER – Jacqueline Dotson

Dinner and awards program for outstanding nurses hosted by SUU Department of Nursing, Donna Lister, level four and level one nursing students.



# IN MEMORIOUM

*Sadly, just a few days before the end of spring 2020 semester, Michael T. Flesher Jr. (shown here with his classmates at Nurses day at the Utah Legislature, February, 2020) unexpectedly passed away in his sleep. His classmates and everyone in the Department of Nursing were deeply saddened at his death. Our deepest condolences to Michael's family and friends for their loss.*



*“Work hard and take time to have fun. Even though nursing school is hard, taking time to enjoy this journey will make a huge difference. Also, remind yourself that you do not have to be perfect and that you will make mistakes. These are just learning experiences towards you becoming a nurse.” – Wanessa Call*

## How has COVID – 19 affected the semester?

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, in March, all courses were moved to online, including labs. All hospitals in Utah have shut down student clinicals and no groups greater than 10 people are allowed to congregate. Many professors have either done voiceovers on PowerPoints or have conducted class online through video chats using the ZOOM app. The NCLEX has just changed its exam, in order to accommodate to the high demand for nurses and to be in accordance with national guidelines. The exam will now be no longer than 4 hours, a minimum of 60 questions, and a maximum of 130 questions; however, PearsonVUE states that the level of difficulty will remain the same. This allows the testing center to conduct 3 sessions of exams per day. These new rules will be in place until July 2020.

SUU will look forward to having students return to campus fall 2020.