

THE SCOPE

Spring 2022 Newsletter

Issue 25



Southern Utah University Department of Nursing

351 W. University Blvd SCA 108
Cedar City, UT 84720
www.suu.edu/nursing

Editors: Julia Dalton, Lauren Wilkins, and Amanda Morris
Faculty Advisor: Donna Lister

Program and Level Updates

Level 1

"Level 1 has been simultaneously the most stressful and enjoyable semester of our education experience. When all of us started this journey in January, we were told repeatedly by upper classmates to "just make it through the first 3 weeks." During the first few days that was the last thing we wanted to hear, but it turned out to be the truth. After roughly a month of just trying not to drown, we all started to find our individual, (and collective) groove.

Over 3 months later, we would like to say that we are thriving, however, it would be more accurate to say that we have learned how to survive nursing school. We are a cohort that is big on connection. I wouldn't say that we "clicked," but rather, we have built and put effort into the dynamic that we have. By no means is this program easy, but in every way we can look back and say that we have grown. Level 2 here we come!"

-Kristian Dalley



Level 2

"Level 2 has been a semester full of unique experiences! Learning new skills like IV starts and CVAD training to memorizing over 200 medications, we've seen ourselves grow. We've pushed ourselves past our limits and have excelled in ways we didn't think we could. This semester hasn't been easy, but it's showed us the measures we're willing to take to become the best nurses possible. It's been an adventure driving to St. George in the wee hours of the morning running on 3 hours of sleep and caffeine. But we're so blessed to have the opportunity to have clinicals in both Cedar City and St. George Hospitals. We've grown closer as a cohort and we're looking forward to the challenges and benefits that will come in level 3 together. Thank you to all the upper level students and faculty that have helped us where we struggled this semester! We truly appreciate you all. "

-Kaylee Anderson



Level 3

"I remember walking into level one and hearing all our professors' comments on how our class would become like a family. These are the people who will go on this academic journey with you, and they will understand each hurdle you leap through to become a nurse. Our class has a unique dynamic and this is a wonderful strength that makes each semester easier to work through. There are individuals who maintain a persistent sense of calm and others who keep the mood light and crack jokes. There is never a dull moment in our class, and it helps by easing some of the tension that comes with being in a high-stress environment. I am lucky I got into the nursing program with this class. I could not imagine a better class to graduate with. We may be loud, but we bring the energy every day.

This semester has been packed with assignments, but we have persevered. At this point, my class has weeks left before we move on and as much as we have loved Level 3, and working with Mom and Baby, we are excited to take the plunge into level 4."

-Bree Santiago Dubon



Level 4

"As our time with SUU's nursing program comes to a close, we want to express our gratitude to the faculty and staff for the time and effort they continuously provide to ensure the success of the students! We are so thankful for you and appreciate all you do! Thank you for preparing us to begin our nursing journey! We will miss you dearly. The anticipation of graduation hangs over us as we finish up clinicals, classes, portfolios, and the comp predictor. Our pinning ceremony is planned, all that is left to do is wait and enjoy our final days at SUU. We are both excited and nervous for what lies ahead. All of us have enjoyed our preceptorships and high acuity clinicals, and are just wrapping up our final concept maps and evaluations. We are soaking up these final weeks we have together, enjoying each other's company. With many of us securing jobs, we anxiously await to begin our journeys as nurses.

"Nursing is an art and it requires an exclusive devotion as hard a preparation as any painter's or sculptor's work." - Florence Nightingale. We are so fortunate to have learned the art of nursing from the incredible faculty and staff in SUU's nursing program. Thank you to all who have supported us along the way! We love you, appreciate you, and attribute much of our success to you. We are eager to go out into the world and make a difference as nurses!"

-Kamree Rees



Health Professionals

'Level 3 has been quite the whirlwind for the HP group! We all have felt like this semester started two weeks ago, it went by so fast! This semester has been fun with mom/baby clinicals as well as pediatrics. Those of us that were able to make it to Primary Children's absolutely loved that experience and wish we could do more there. This semester is busy and very demanding, but it's been great and we are looking forward to our final semester in the summer! We were just given our preceptor locations and we can't wait for level 4! Thank you to all of our amazing instructors for all you do for our class, and for the continued love and support. See you all at graduation and in class this summer!'

-Taylor Wahl



Alumni Spotlight



"My name is Kenzie Bailey and I graduated from SUU's nursing program in 2021. After graduation I started working as an RN at the Weber County Jail, where I previously worked as an LPN. I started graduate school in August 2021 at Georgetown University to get my Women's Health Nurse Practitioner and Certified Nurse Midwife licenses. It is challenging but going really well so far. In February I switched jobs and I currently work on Labor and Delivery at McKay Dee Hospital in Ogden. I am excited for the future but just enjoying working and learning every day!"

Kenzie Bailey

College of Health Science 2022 Academic Awards



Level One - Ashley Anderson



Level Two - Makayla Walia



Level Three - Natalie Cannon



Level HP - Madelyn Pendleton



Level RN to BSN - Ashlee Cornell



**SNA -
Zackery Hansen & Zachary Northcutt**



Overall - Lexi Evans



CoHS Valedictorian - Sariah Campbell



**Outstanding Nursing Faculty -
SheriDawn Neilson**

New Faculty



- TANA CROOKSTON -

"I grew up in Logan Utah. I spent my childhood riding and training horses, camping, hunting, fishing, mountain biking, skiing and traveling. I graduated from Weber State University with my BSN and Western Governors University with my MSN. I have worked in Pediatrics, BMed, an eating disorder facility, rehab, ICU and float pool. I currently work in the critical care float pool at SGRH. I love that everyday is different and I get to see so many different types of patients. I still learn something new every day!

I have 5 children. My kids and I enjoy mountain biking, snowboarding, rappelling, hiking, camping, fishing, paddle boarding basically anything outside. I'll try anything at least once! We love to travel. My favorite places we have been is Paris and Hawaii. Next I would like to see Bali! My life goal is to travel the world with my children! I love teaching! I enjoy seeing students working the floor after they graduate! I'm so excited to be teaching at SUU."

- SIERRA LUND-

"My name is Sierra Chowen Lund. I graduated with my BSN-RN right here at SUU! To say I love SUU Nursing is an understatement. I loved my time here as a student and am so excited to be back as an educator where I can share my passion of nursing and learning with you. I have had many experiences as a healthcare worker, volunteer, and educator. Part of this experience includes working at Primary Children's Hospital and currently working as a home health and hospice nurse here in Cedar City. I got my MSN from Weber State University with an emphasis in education. This is my first year as an Assistant Professor of Nursing. My husband's name is Austin and he is a native of Southern Utah. We have two golden retrievers-Zuke and Rue. Zuke (named after my husband's Suzuki) is a two year old boy who suffered an idiopathic hemothorax this past summer and he required lots of special care. Rue (named after my husband's Subaru) is a 9 month old girl that likes to dig holes in my yard. We live an active life and love the outdoors. We love to travel and are planning to do a big trip this summer all over Europe!"



A NEW DEPARTMENT CHAIR



After 16 years as Department Chair, Donna Lister has decided to step down and focus on her teaching career. Professor Selwyn Layton has since taken this position. Selwyn claims he has been busy since taking on his new role. Although he says this role isn't exactly what he thought it would be, he is thoroughly enjoying his new position. When asked about the future plans of the program, he had some innovative ideas.

Firstly, he intends to implement a term limit for the nursing chair. This will limit the length of time someone can spend as chair and allows for faculty to rotate through the position. He believes this will promote "fresh ideas". Selwyn is also very excited to begin the Masters of Nursing programs. He announced the first official program, the Masters of Leadership, will be up and running in January of 2023. The department is also planning Masters in Education, Family Nurse Practitioner (NP), Gerontology NP, and Mental Health NP programs. These will hopefully be approved for the Fall 2023 semester.

Selwyn clearly shows a love for each and every student in the nursing department and is incredibly proud of this program. He states he intends on retiring from SUU and says, "I love it here and I want to teach and I love the students." We are truly honored to have such amazing caring faculty.

Celebration of Southern Utah Nursing



Pictured (L-R): Brie Shelley, Janet Warner, Lisa Anderson & Ellen Vincent

Each year to recognize their anniversary, the Department of Nursing at Southern Utah University asks the southern Utah community to nominate Registered Nurses to be recognized for providing outstanding nursing care. Students who are in their last semester of nursing school review all of the nominations and select winners in each of seven categories. Traditionally, we have held a dinner for the winners and their significant others, along with making tables available to their employers to come and support the winners.

On February 24, 2022, the Outstanding Southern Utah Nurse Award were awarded to: Medical Surgical Nurse – Brie Shelly; Home Health & Hospice Nurse – Ellen Vincent; Labor & Delivery Nurse – Kaitlyn Merryweather; Critical Care/ER Nurse – Aubrey Stephensen; Long Term Care Nurse – Sharon Greenlee; Community/Public Health Nurse – Lisa Anderson and Historical/Retired Nurse – Janet Warner.

The classes of Spring 2020 and Fall 2020 were also recognized for receiving 100% on their NCLEX-RN, first time testers.

The SUU Department of Nursing faculty and staff members thank the community for their nominations and congratulate the winners for being outstanding nurses.