

MERCY



messenger

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NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING ACCREDITING COMMISSION CONTINUES TO APPROVE OF OUR ASSOCIATE DEGREE IN NURSING PROGRAM

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR NURSING ACCREDITING COMMISSION (NLNAC) sent a site team to review our associate degree in nursing program last week. They recommended continuing accreditation of the associate nursing program for a period of eight (8) years, the maximum accreditation allowed. Included in their report are areas of strength and areas of continued development for our further review and discussion.

The visiting team communicated their findings stating that we met all accreditation standards as stated:

*Mission and Governance
Faculty
Students
Curriculum & Instruction
Resources
Integrity*

Below is the preliminary schedule of the review and approval process by the NLNAC based on the visiting team's findings and recommendations.

JANUARY 25-28, 2006:

The Evaluation Review Panel from NLNAC will read the accreditation report and self-study materials. The college will be notified of the date and time of their review. The college will have an opportunity to be physically present at the panel session in Chicago or via audio conference.

FEBRUARY 22-24, 2006:

The Board of Commissioners from NLNAC will review the team and panel findings and a final decision will be made regarding program accreditation. Notification should be made a few weeks later.

A SPECIAL THANKS

INTERIM PRESIDENT BARBARA Q. DECKER

and Provost John Nies extend their best wishes and congratulations to the Associate of Science in Nursing Program staff, other college staff, and all who contributed to the successful outcome of last week's visit by the NLNAC. The college community's dedication and support were recognized and appreciated. The college is especially grateful for the leadership of Shirley Beaver in coordination of this significant initiative and accomplishment.

HOW DOES THE COLLEGE PREPARE FOR AN ACCREDITATION

THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS REQUIRES

significant preparation and review. Prior to a team visit, a self-study report is developed and submitted for review. During the on-campus visit, the team meets with various constituents including faculty, staff, students, alumni, community leaders, hospital nursing staff, and others. The visit also involves an extensive review of numerous written policies, programs, and related information.

EVENTS

November 18

Test Anxiety and Stress Management Seminar
3:30 - 4:30 PM
Building 1, Rm. 219

November 23

Campus closes at 4:00 p.m. for holiday

November 24 - 27

Thanksgiving recess

November 28

Spring Scholarship Application Deadline. Turn in applications to the Receptionist by 4:30 p.m. Applications and Letters of Recommendation Forms are available on the College website www.mchs.edu.

December 4

Mercy Children's Christmas Party

December 16

Last Day of Term

December 17 - January 8

Christmas Break

January 9

First Day of Spring Term Classes

January 9

Spring Tuition Payment Deadline

January 20

Last Day to Drop Spring Classes with Refund

February 3

Skywalk Golf Tournament including Mercy College as a participant

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MERCY CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

VOLUNTEERS FOR THIS ANNUAL EVENT

are needed! The Children's Christmas Party is held Sunday, December 4th from 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Please consider spending a little of your time to catch the holiday spirit at this annual event. For more information please email or call Donna Yergler in Networking at 643-0729 or Tina Collins in Education Services at 643-5223. Below are times most needed for volunteers:

DECORATING

Fri, December 2
3:00 PM-6:00 PM

CHILDREN'S CRAFT ROOM

Sun, December 4
12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

CHILDREN'S CRAFT ROOM

Sun, December 4
1:15 PM - 3:15 PM

CHILDREN'S CRAFT ROOM

Sun, December 4
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

CLEAN-UP CREW

Sun, December 4
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

JORDAN CREEK TOWN CENTER is looking for volunteers to help with Gift Wrapping and Coat Check during the following dates: December 8 through December 24th. For more information please contact Joyce Skidmore at 643-0802 or email jskidmore@mercy-desmoines.org. This service is sponsored by Mercy Auxiliary of Central Iowa and Jordan Creek Town Center. All proceeds go toward scholarships for Mercy College students. See below for times needed for volunteers:

Volunteer Hours Needed

Monday - Saturday

12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sunday

12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

A SUCCESSFUL BLOOD DRIVE

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE who made the first Mercy College Student Senate Blood Drive such a great success!

30 pints of blood were collected on November 7, 2005. It was very exciting to hear that 21 of the donors were first time donations with the Blood Center of Iowa!

INTERESTING FACTS FROM THE BLOOD CENTER

- The Blood Center of Iowa provides blood for 46 hospitals and 42 Iowa counties.
- 1 out of 10 people entering a hospital needs blood.
- Just one pint of blood can help as many as three people.
- If all blood donors gave 2-4 times a year, it would help prevent blood shortages.

Thanks again for making a great contribution to the Des Moines community...keep up the great work!

OUR BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM RECEIVES A "BIG" THANK YOU

OUR NURSING DEPARTMENT RECENTLY received a special thank you via email from an alumna. Linda Godlewski, a former student, emailed the nursing department expressing her appreciation for the education she received from Mercy College. She is currently working on her Masters in Nursing at the University of Phoenix. Below is the email the department received.

/// I just wanted to thank you for the wonderful education I received from the Mercy College of Health Sciences! I am now enrolled in the MSN program through the University of Phoenix and have seen first hand what a wonderful education I received from Mercy. Many of my peers have no idea what APA format is and have never written a paper using this format, many do not know how to do literature searches or even how to begin. I have been very surprised at the level of writing and feel so fortunate that I was expected to follow the standards of Mercy College. I just felt I needed to inform you that I feel well prepared. ///

*Again, Thank You!
Sincerely,*

*Linda Godlewski, Director of Nursing
Bishop Drumm Care Center*

STUDENT EMAIL UPDATE

STUDENTS ATTEMPTING TO ACCESS their email off-site are getting a different screen than they did previous to the recent outage. Previously students used the following form after clicking on the "Outlook Web Access" link:

User ID: [ID]
Password: [Password]
Domain: Students
(This field was already filled in)

However, students using email off-site must use the following format to log in

to Outlook Web Access:

User ID: students\[ID]
Password: [Password]

This is the same format students use while on-campus. The "first" login students use from off-site hasn't changed.

We are working on changing this screen back to the previous format.



The Student Enrichment Program is offering academic assistance for all students in the following areas. Make the most of your educational experience at Mercy College and take advantage of these services!!

**MATH
CHEMISTRY
WRITING – INCLUDING APA
NURSING MEDICATION CALCULATIONS
NURSING**

Specific times will be communicated via Mercy College student email, posters, and monitor announcements. Watch for details!

Below you will find the scheduled times for the following tutoring sessions available thus far. For more information regarding these services please contact Student Services.

TUTORING AVAILABLE

WRITING GROUP TUTORING

available with Sally VanderLinden

Tuesdays

8:00-9:30 AM, and

12 noon - 1 PM

Thursdays

12 noon - 1 PM, and

3:30 PM - 5 PM

Brennan Hall Commons

MATH/CHEMISTRY GROUP TUTORING

available with Glen Oren

Mondays

3-5 PM

Wednesdays

3-5 PM

Room: 123, Building #1

NURSING MEDICATION CALCULATION GROUP TUTORING

available with Nancy Tremmel

Mondays

4:30-5:30 PM

Tuesdays

4:30-5:30 PM

Room: 250, Building #2

NURSING TUTORING AVAILABLE

NURSING TUTORING

available with Karen Whitham

Tuesday, November 15th

3 PM - 5 PM

Tuesday, November 29th

3 PM - 5 PM

Thursday, December 1st

3 PM - 5 PM

Tuesday, December 6th

3 PM - 5 PM

Friday, December 9th

12 noon - 3 PM

Monday, December 12th

3 PM - 5 PM

Tuesday, December 13th

3 PM - 5 PM

All sessions located in Brennan Hall Commons

LIBRARY HOLIDAY HOURS

THE MERCY COLLEGE LIBRARY will be open November 23rd from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

During the winter break the library will be closed in the evenings. They will be open from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

The Library will be **CLOSED** weekends & official holidays during these dates:

November 24th - 27th

December 17th & 18th

December 24th - 26th

December 31st - January 2nd

January 7th & 8th

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

THE IOWA UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION, awarded over \$150,000 in scholarships to members of the United Methodist Church in 2005-2006 school year. The 2006-2007 academic year scholarship listing for the foundation is available on our website, www.mchs.edu.

Interested students may download the application from www.iumf.org. Upon completion, the application from and other supporting documentation may be sent to the *Iowa Methodist Foundation, 2301 Rittenhouse Street, Des Moines, IA 50321*.

All entries are due no later than *February 15, 2006*.

MOULTON MIDDLE SCHOOL/URBAN DREAMS COLLABERATIVE PROJECT

ON NOVEMBER 8, 2005, Kathy Balmer, Larque Mefferd and Travis Pettegrew played a roll in educating 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Moulton Middle School students as part of the Urban Dreams project: The Caring Hands of Healthcare - Careers That Can Change the World. Through their involvement in this project, thirty-two eager minds were exposed to information about Surgical Technology in a fun and engaging manner. As always, this a remarkable reflection of our caring organization.

FORMING A MERCY COLLEGE SINGING GROUP

A GROUP OF STUDENTS ARE LOOKING for volunteers to form a Mercy College singing group. If you are musically talented and/or know how to play the piano contact Monica Leahy at 643-6738.