

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY  
School of Nursing – Graduate Newsletter  
Number 48 – Fall (May 2009)

***Mission:** Provide innovative education in the art and science of professional nursing while empowering our baccalaureate and masters graduates to be socially and ethically responsible and knowledgeable clinicians, leaders, and scholars who will meet the changing healthcare needs of a diverse global community.*

**Graduate Coordinator Update**

*There is nothing permanent except change*

Change as we know is inevitable and clearly the economic crisis experienced by the Country has impacted the University and our students. However, crisis is also an opportunity, a challenge to see how we can do things differently, better, and more efficiently--the School of Nursing is rising to the challenge. Several grants have been submitted and several are in progress which would bring more resources to the University and the School of Nursing. Our new Dean, Dr. Charles Bullock, is supporting multiple collaborative research efforts which will benefit the College of Applied Sciences and Arts and the School of Nursing. You can go to this URL to see the recently funded research projects at <http://www.sjsu.edu/casa/News/goodnews/index.htm#faculty-research-projects>.

However, while change is good, having stability with a Director who has served the School of Nursing well for over 8 years is important. Dr. Jayne Cohen was evaluated with the required review process, re-elected by the Nursing faculty and reappointed by the President for 4 more years. We look forward to her leadership and continued successful grantsmanship. I was also re-elected to a four year term as Graduate Coordinator and look forward to meeting the community and students' needs. Dr. Canham successfully submitted the application for the Nurse Traineeship grant and we were funded \$39,952.00 for the Academic Year (AY) 2009-2010.

Additional successes this semester included the completion of the last Cohort of the Nurse Educator Moore Fellows. Fourteen new masters's prepared fellows and 5 post master's fellows completed our last 16 month program. A total of 35 students completed the MS degree and 12 post master's students were prepared to teach in the 5 San Francisco Bay designated counties. Our Nurse Educator option with the post master's certificate continues and we are admitting new students to this successful option.

**A new required Orientation Day will be piloted this August 6<sup>th</sup>**, new graduate students will be required to attend the all day program (see details in newsletter). The strategy, we hope, will increase the students' readiness for graduate level work and the expectations of the program. Due to campus-wide budget cuts our admissions were restricted for the graduate program for fall 2009. Thus we were not able to admit all qualified applicants. We hope this will not be a permanent reduction.

**During the 2008-2009 AY we admitted 30 new students and 31 students completed all their course requirements for their MS degree.** And, the graduate program approved the standardized grading scale developed by the undergraduate program, effective fall 2009. In addition, we assessed the graduate courses and faculty to determine the need for more emphasis on the understanding of the application of statistical tests throughout course assignments. We surveyed all students to determine which courses they still needed, in an effort to increase the numbers of students in the seminar courses. The School is unable to offer courses without a minimal enrollment. Effective this fall core courses will not be offered every semester (see schedule of courses for fall and spring). Students were notified via email regarding the planned offerings. It will be very important to pay close attention to the schedule in order to keep progressing in the program. To assist students in the planning and to assist the Graduate Coordinator with the planning of the program an Advising Form was distributed to students in their classes and via e-mail. Please be sure to complete the form, save a copy since it will be requested at the end of each semester. If you do not have a copy please email me.

**Deadlines for Special Session courses registration for Fall 2009 is June 26<sup>th</sup>.** ( Nurs 212; BUS 220). Send an email with your name and PeopleSoft# to Dr. Connolly. For Nurs 256 send information to Karen Ketner.

**Students planning on participating in Convocation, December 20, 2009 need to contact the graduate liaison, Angie Ruiz and you can reach her at [ruizmanda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruizmanda@sbcglobal.net) or 650-583-4964.**

**Please note that all graduate courses start on Monday August 24<sup>th</sup>.** I hope that you will take time during this summer break, although many of you are enrolled in courses, to connect with family and loved ones, schedule some recreation and leisure, and get some needed sleep—all critical components of your health.



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMPREHENSIVE ORAL EXAMINATIONS

Students successfully completed their oral examinations on May 14, 2009, thus concluding the final step in the project process. All of the candidates and advisors are listed. There were many interesting topics and areas which you may want to pursue for your project. Mark your calendars for December 9, 2009 there will be many stimulating presentations!!

**Barnby, Joyce** (Advisors: J. Cohen & V. Wong) *“Evaluation of NCLEX-RN Success: Evaluation of Strategies and Effect on NCLEX-RN Success”*

**Bayanzai, Saba** (Advisors: D. Canhan & T. Adelman) *“Self Directed Learning Readiness of BSN Students”*

**Chung, Rebecca** (Advisors: C. Mao & K. Ketner) *“Use of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) for Menopausal Symptoms Among Chinese-American Women”*

**Gnehm, Peggy Ann** (Advisors: V. Parsons & P. Connolly) *“Students’ Perceptions of the Clinical Learning Environment”*  
August 2009

**Graham, Gloria** (Advisors: D. Canham & C. Finkbeiner) *“Prevalence of Overweight Among Students Enrolled in Special Education Programs”* August 2009

**Hermoso, Margaret** (Advisors: D. Stuenkel & K. Ketner) *“Fall Prevention for High Risk Elders at a Community Center”*

**Keane, Cynthia** (Advisors: M. Yoder & D. Gaylle) *“The Influence of Class Size on Nursing Student Learning and Empowerment”*

**Le, Grace** (Advisors: J. Cohen & T. Adelman) *“Late-Life Depression: Awareness, Attitude, Perceived Screening Barriers, And Self-Perceived Skill Levels Among Nurse Practitioners In CA”*

**Lind, Teri** (Advisors: D. Canham & D. Goyal) *“Role Strain Of Nursing Students In Obstetrical Clinical Rotation: Is Role Strain Greater For Male Students?”*

**Lukrich, Leah** (Advisors D. Stuenkel & M. Crider) *“English Acculturation Among Junior Year Nursing Students”* August 2009

**Machado, Susana** (Advisors: P. Connolly & T. Adelman) *“Undergraduate Nursing Students’ Learning Style Preferences: A Generational Perspective”*

**Murthi, Neelam** (Advisors, M. Crider & C. Hooper) *“Self Perceptions of 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Accelerated And 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Accelerated Nursing Students One Year After Graduation”* August 2009

**Nguyen, Elisa** (Advisors: P. Connolly & V. Wong) *“Evaluation of the Continuation of the Medication Safety Initiative in Reducing Medication Administration Errors”*

**Njoku, Josephine** (Advisors: I. Lewis & V. Parsons) *“Nurses’ Perception of Family Presence During Resuscitation”*

**Raman, Sheetal** (Advisors: M. Crider & C. Miller) *“What is the Perception of Preparedness Between Accelerated BSN students and Traditional Students?”*

**Roethler, Courtney** (Advisors: T. Adelman & V. Parsons) *“Assessing Emergency Nurses’ Knowledge of Geriatric Care”*

**Ronquillo, Maria** (Advisors: I. Gonzales & B. Willard) *“Using Clinical Simulations for Teaching Maternity Nursing Skills: Students’ Evaluation of a Learning Experience”*

**Roman, Rosa** (Advisors: V. Parsons & P. Connolly) “*Nursing Students’ Perceptions of Caring in the Beginning Courses of a Nursing Education Program*” August 2009

**Rosa, Laurie** (Advisors: L. Rodriguez & K. Abriam-Yago) “*Faculty Perceptions of the Interaction Between Student Nurses and Registered Nurses in the Clinical Learning Environment*”

**Tolentino, Sheleen** (Advisors: D. Stuenkel & K. Abriam-Yago) “*Perceptions of Nursing Students Regarding Evidence-Based Practice*”

## PUBLICATIONS



Byrd, P., Gonzales, I., & Parsons, V. (2009). Exploring barriers to pain management in newborn intensive care units (NICU): A pilot survey of NICU nurses. *Advances in Neonatal Care*, 9(2), 87-88.

Luong, J., Yoder, M., & Canham, D. (2009) Southeast Asian parents raising a child with autism: A qualitative investigation of coping styles. *The Journal of School Nursing*, 25 (3), 222-229.

### Annual Research Event Co-Sponsored by School Of Nursing (SON) Dr. Chia-Ling Mao, Event Liaison

The Annual Research in Action Conference, the Research Day 2009 will be held on October 29-30 at the South San Francisco Conference Center. The annual event has earned its’ reputation with introductions to the research field, sharing research findings, promotion of evidence based practice, and opportunities to network with people who have interests in similar areas. The SON of SJSU is proudly continuing to co-sponsor the activity in partnership with UCSF School of Nursing, UCSF Medical Center, UCSF Children’s Hospital, Stanford Hospital and Clinics, and Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital.

The 2-day conference includes Research Role Development Workshops (16 workshops on October 29) and Podiums & Posters on the second day. The theme of the Conference is Generating Research, Changing Practice, and Accountability for Quality. The keynote speaker for this year is Dr. Julia Aucoin.

In the past 7 years, the active involvement of the faculty, students, and alumni has made SON of SJSU distinguishable. Additionally, the conference is inspirational and informative. Every year we have at least 2 podium presentations, 3 poster presentations, and more than 15 attendants at the conference (last year we had 37 attendants). In the year of 2005, nearly 25% of the podium and over 25% of the poster presentations were done by SJSU faculty, graduates, and current students.

Please submit your current research project or what you have done in the past year for this peer reviewed conference. The deadline for submitting your abstract is July 10, 2009. If you have any question regarding the conference, Dr. Chia-Ling Mao is the contact person for the School of Nursing. She can be reached at (408) 924-3152 or by email, [clmao@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:clmao@son.sjsu.edu).

Mark you calendar for the Research Day 2009 Conference – October 29-30, 2009 and looking forward to seeing you there.

### Summer Courses 2009

Course	Title	Units	Day	Comments
BUS 285	Total Quality Management	3	6:00-9:00PM 6/4; 6/18;7/09; 7/23; 8/06 & online	Dr. Capella <a href="mailto:ecapella@son.sjsu.edu">ecapella@son.sjsu.edu</a> IRC 302

NURS 259 (MSN 526)	Advanced Pharm	3	online	*Dominquez Hills online; concurrent enrollment
NURS 260 (MSN 528)	Advanced Pathophysiology	3	online	*Dominquez Hills online; concurrent enrollment

### NURSING COURSES

#### Fall 2009

The following class times and locations are more current than the [Schedule of Classes](#); however, even this newsletter information is subject to change. Please contact faculty via email if you have any questions about a specific course. **Orientation for new fall graduate students will be held on August 6th in the Health Building 311 from 8:00 am- 4:30PM.**

Please note most classes begin at 1630. Most courses will have a syllabus for purchase in the Associated Students Print Shop prior to the first class meeting. **First day of classes August 24, 2009.** Students must enroll by the last official day to add a course for the semester. **Last "Add" day for Fall 2009 is September 11, 2009. Last day to "Drop" a course is September 3.**

#### Fall 2009 Anticipated Based on Enrollment

Fall 2009			
Course#	Title	Units	Day
NURS 200	Health Care Systems	3	M
NURS 204	Div. Pop in Health	3	T
NURS 256*	FNP Praticum III	5	T
NURS 297.01	Project Seminar	1	W
NURS 295	Research Methodology	3	W
NURS 272	School Nursing I: CNS	5	R
NURS 212*	Curriculum Design	3	R
NURS 297.02	Project	2	TBA
BUS 220*	Accounting Principles	3	R
NURS 259 (MSN 526)	Advanced Pharm	3	*Dominquez Hills online; concurrent enrollment
NURS 260 (MSN 528)	Advanced Pathophysiology	3	*Dominquez Hills online; concurrent enrollment

Spring 2010			
Course #	Title	Units	Day
NURS 202	Theoretical Foundations	2	M
NURS 297.02 Project	Research Project	2	TBA
NURS 214*	Nurse Educator Theory & practicum I	5	W
NURS 274	School Nurse I: CNS	5	T
BUS 286*	Project Management	3	R
EDUC 186	Using Instructional Technology ?	3	On line not confirmed

**Note: \*Special Sessions courses will not be found online. Generally you will be sent instructions on how and when to enroll on line.**

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN A PRACTICUM**

Nursing Practicum Courses (Note: There are lab fees for most of these courses)

NURS 206, NURS 214, NURS 216, NURS 236A, NURS 236B, NURS 248

NURS 253, NURS 254, NURS 256, NURS 272, NURS 274, NURS 298

Students enrolled in any of the above courses will need to show documentation of the following items before starting clinical hours. The faculty of record will check this documentation on the first day of class. Bring a copy of everything with you to turn in for review.

1. Health statement and immunizations up to date (a copy of the health form and the immunization requirements are available online and in the School of Nursing office, HB 420, if you have not already completed them). The requirements include a negative PPD or negative chest x-ray within the past year and Hepatitis B immunizations; University Requirements include documentation of measles and rubella immunizations. All nursing students fall into the “at-risk” category which requires documentation of having had the disease or having been immunized against the disease. If you have any questions or need clarification on University policy, please call the Student Health Center at 408-924-6120.
2. NP students must have their own professional liability insurance a policy which specifies FNP student practice.
3. Current CPR certification.
4. Your own medical insurance.
5. Current California RN license.
6. Background checks when required.

**\*\*Remember to check your expiration dates. Everything must be current.\*\***

## **PROGRAM OPTION UPDATES**

### **Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Option**

The FNP courses will conclude this Fall 2009. Students will be finishing core courses and some the two Dominquez Hills courses.

### **Administrator Option**

The Option, which combines regular university classes for 14 units and Special Sessions classes for 22 units, is meeting the demands of our community. Student satisfaction with this option remains high. This summer Total Quality Management BUS 285 will be taught by Dr. Capella (see Summer 2009 courses). BUS 220, Accounting Principles will be offered by Mallory McWilliams this fall. BUS 286, Project Management will be offered this spring by Dr. Loomba.

### **Partners Needed For the Administrator Option**

We are seeking agency partners to help support the offering of the Administration courses off campus. A unique partnership collaborative approach has been developed. If your agency is interested in this opportunity, please contact Dr. Diane Stuenkel at 408-924-3179 or [stuenkel@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:stuenkel@son.sjsu.edu).

### **School Nurse Option**

*Please make an appointment to see Dr. Canham to review your progress and plan for completion of the program. You will need to enroll in and complete the School Nurse specialty courses when offered. Make sure you check the Graduate Newsletter on our website and consult with Dr. Canham about the expected offerings.*

*We are committed to making sure that our current in progress School Nurse CNS/Credential students complete the program and meet the CNS and credentialing requirements.*

*Dr. Canham, School Nurse Coordinator*

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## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### Professional Nurse Traineeships

We received a federal traineeship grant for Academic Year 09-10 to provide student stipends for Masters' and Post Masters' students. Traineeship applications are available in the School of Nursing office, HB 420, and online at the School of Nursing web site: <http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/casa/nursing/ms.html>.

#### 1. Eligibility

Students are eligible if they are a US citizen and: (A) enrolled in 7 units or more in one semester; or (B) enrolled in the 297/299 thesis/project seminar; or (C) part-time in the last year of the program; and (D) pursuing a master's degree in one of the following areas: education, clinical nurse specialist (school nurse), family nurse practitioner or nursing administration.

*Note: Students who have received over \$2,500 will not be eligible for additional funding.*

#### 2. Paperwork to complete

##### A. First time applicant

- (1) Application form
- (2) Enrollment Data form
- (3) Reference letters from a School of Nursing faculty member and your clinical supervisor
- (4) Original receipt of paid fees
  - (a) Copies and faxes are **not** accepted
  - (b) You may call the cashier's office 408-924-1631 and request a duplicate original to be sent to Mary Lou Bennett in the School of Nursing (95192-0057).
- (5) List of courses that you are enrolled in (can be obtained from SJSU internet site)

##### B. Previous awardee

- (1) **Application form**
- (2) Enrollment Data form
- (3) Letter requesting that your award be reactivated
- (4) Original receipt of paid fees
  - (a) Copies and faxes are **not** accepted
  - (b) You may call the cashier's office 408-924-1631 and request a duplicate original to be sent to Mary Lou Bennett in the School of Nursing (95192-0057).
- (5) List of courses that you are enrolled in (can be obtained from SJSU internet site)

##### C. All application materials should be directed to:

School of Nursing Office  
Attn: Mary Lou Bennett

#### 3. Due date for Fall 2009 is Monday, September 21 No application will be considered until the application, original receipts and reference letters are submitted.

#### 4. Recipient notification

- A. You will be informed whether you have received a Traineeship during the semester in which you applied.
- B. If you obtain the award, there is additional paperwork that must be completed before monies can be awarded. The following forms will be provided by Mary Lou Bennett and must be returned to her:
  - (1) Statement of Appointment and (2) Award Acceptance Letter.

### Scholarships

There are scholarship and financial assistance monies available through the School of Nursing for graduate students. Please distinguish these scholarship monies from the earlier traineeship monies. Scholarship information and forms are available online at <http://www.sjsu.edu/faso>. Students can also purchase the School of Nursing Scholarship Information Packet in the Associated Student Print Shop <http://as.sjsu.edu/asps/index.jsp>. For additional information about SON financial assistance, please contact Dr. Kathy Abriam-Yago at [abriam@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:abriam@son.sjsu.edu) or 408-924-3159. Please also check the Graduate Nursing website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/nursing/finassist.htm> under "Financial Assistance Opportunities" for opportunities outside of SJSU SON. If you are completing your Nurs 297 Project \$500.00 scholarships are available to support your research (see My Faculty Web Page under Nurs 297 for the application).

Also, if you are a member of Sigma Theta Tau, funds are available and are awarded in the Spring. If you want information on these awards, contact Dr. Irene Lewis, HB 411, 408-924- 3160, [idlewis@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:idlewis@son.sjsu.edu).

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## GENERAL INFORMATION AND HELPFUL HINTS

### **Special Sessions Course Registration**

**Registration:** You will be contacted by email by Trudy Miller with directions on how to register for Special Sessions courses.

For additional questions, please contact Trudy Miller at 408-924-3176, [tmiller@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:tmiller@son.sjsu.edu) for course code or registration information. You will receive directions regarding registration prior to the first day of the course.

**Payment: CREDIT CARD:** The Bursar's office is no longer accepting credit card payments **unless** they are processed on-line or by phone. To pay by credit card, log on to [www.cashnetsmartpay.com](http://www.cashnetsmartpay.com) or call 1-800-889-3148. There is a service charge for both options. **CHECK, CASHIER'S CHECK, MONEY ORDER:** Please include student name, local telephone number and Peoplesoft student ID number (not social security number). **E-CHECK:** <https://acp.sjsu.edu> (no service charge). **CASH:** You must pay in person at the Bursar's office.

### **Webcasting and Televising**

#### **What is it?**

Webcasting and televising to off campus sites have increased access for students as well as decreased travel time to campus. Webcasting permits students to watch a class live or through the archives on their home computers or a computer at a work site. Please check directly with ATN for current course and location information.

With these modes of delivery it is very important that students are ready for class the first night including purchased books and syllabi. The technology is very good and depends heavily on student readiness from the very first day of class. Classes move rapidly and students need to be prepared for rapidly progressing in the courses.

The following courses may be webcasted NURS 200 NURS 202, NURS 204, NURS 272; BUS 285; and BUS 286 depending on room availability in IRC.

#### **Videotaping option**

Often courses may be videotaped by the Instructional Resource staff. Students can view the tapes on campus or, if they bring a tape to the staff, they will copy the tape for them. There is a \$5.00

charge per tape for this service. Contact ATN for more information on this option.

**ON CAMPUS attendance is required for a specific number of classes. You must consult with the faculty of record about the expectations for on campus classes and webcasting.**

#### **Academic Technology Network Contact Info**

For information on services, media options and facility scheduling, call 408-924-2636, email at [atn@sjsu.edu](mailto:atn@sjsu.edu) or visit the website at <http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/atn>.

#### **ONLINE COURSES**

Some graduate courses are offered online through e-campus. This technology generally includes the use of a Discussion Board, E-mail system, and Chat Room. Many courses are now blended using BlackBoard; Elluminate; webcasting and on campus components. An orientation is provided to students to both the technology and its function within the course. Students need to be sure they understand the expectations of the various components in blended courses—TALK TO THE FACULTY.

### **Open University: Transfer of Credits - Please be very careful about the use of Open University!**

Some students have taken courses through Open University as they await the processing of their applications. **Please note:**

- ONLY six units may be taken through Open University toward the 36 required units for the master's degree.
- There is a form that needs to be completed to transfer the units into the graduate student record. You need to obtain the form from Graduate Studies, complete the form and leave the form for the Graduate Coordinator to sign and send to Graduate Studies. While the six units will be transferred into your record, the grades will not. This could be a problem in the future should you receive a C in a course in the Graduate Program which, if not offset by an A, brings your GPA below a B (3.0).

### **Clearing Conditions**

If you were admitted with "Conditions," please notify the Graduate Coordinator by email [connollydr@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:connollydr@son.sjsu.edu) and provide documentation regarding meeting the conditions. Once the conditions are met, the appropriate form will be completed and sent to Graduate Studies; this will change your status to "Classified". This is an important step to move you toward candidacy.

### **Program of Study M. S. Nursing: Advising Form**

A new form to help you plan your program and provide updated information to the Graduate Coordinator about your progress was instituted this Spring. Students need to complete the form, save it on a file at home and print out the typed form, sign it and leave it or mail it to Dr. Connolly in the Nursing Office. All your courses and when you plan to take those courses or those that were completed along with any Conditions should be listed on the form. Any questions, please email Dr. Connolly at [connollydr@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:connollydr@son.sjsu.edu).

### **Non-BSN Degrees Course Requirements**

Students with non-BSN degrees need to take the following courses:

- NURS 127B (Community Nursing Theory)
- NURS 137 (Nursing Process)
- NURS 147B (Community Nursing Clinical)
- NURS 128 (Nursing Research) Wed

Students enrolling in NURS 127B, NURS 137, and/or NURS 147B in Fall 2009 must attend:

- Add/Drop Session: Monday August 24, 2009 from 1030-1145 in Health Building Room 311. Identify yourself as a graduate student to the Semester 7 Chair, Dr. Lewis
- Orientation: Monday, August 24, 2009 from 13:45- 1520 Martin Luther King Library, Room 225-229

Students enrolling in NURS 128 in Fall 2009 must attend:

- Add/Drop Session: Monday August 24, 2009 from 1215-1315 in Health Building Room 311. Identify yourself as a graduate student to the Semester 8 Chair, Dr. Rodriguez.
- Orientation: Monday August 24, 2009 in Martin Luther King Library, Room 225-229
- **Check the SON website for rooms for Add/Drop and Orientation.**

All the courses except NURS 147B are webcasted so once you attend Add/Drop and Orientation and the first day of each course, you will be able to access the courses on your home computer, however there are specific dates when you must attend on campus. If you have questions about this, please call Dr. Irene Lewis, Semester 7 Chair, at 408-924-3160 or email [ildewis@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:ildewis@son.sjsu.edu). If you have questions about Nurs 128, please call or contact Dr. Lori Rodriguez, Semester 8 Chair, [lrodriguez@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:lrodriguez@son.sjsu.edu)

### **Meeting the Writing Competency Condition**

Many students have been admitted conditionally and still need to meet the writing competency requirement by the end of the first semester of the program and before any option courses can be taken. You will not be able to move to Candidacy until the writing requirement is met and your progression may be stopped if you have not met the writing competency requirement within the first year of your admission. Generally only two sections of HPRF100W are offered during the summer. Thus, it is important to enroll during regular sessions.

**Students need to take the Writing Skills Test (WST) BEFORE HPRF 100W Writing Workshop** and depending on their score, they may waive the 100W Health Professions Writing Course. You must take the WST before enrolling in HPRF 100W. The fee for the test is \$25.00.

<b>Exam Date</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>
July 18, 2009	June 25, 2009
September 26, 2009	September 3, 2009

Please visit the Testing and Evaluation Department website, <https://testing.sjsu.edu/twst.html>, for additional information, or call 408-924-5980.

### **Writing Assistance During the Program**

If you are having difficulty with writing you are eligible to receive help at the Writing Center located in the Clark Library Room 126. You can call for an appointment at 408-924-2308 or go to the website and schedule an appointment go to <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>. If you are completing your NURS 297 project and need assistance with editing, please email me I have the names of writing specialists from the Center who would be willing to assist you however, this would be a private service for a fee.

### **Statistics Renewal**

This is a frequent "condition" for many of the graduate students and should be met within the first semester of the graduate program and before any option courses can be taken.

You may update through online courses in statistics and/or through a two-year college with the equivalent course of STAT 95 (Usually Math 10) (see articulation link. <http://artic.sjsu.edu>) or through SJSU STAT 95.

**Economics.** The course, Principles of Economics, (Econ1A) may be taken or its equivalent either at SJSU or any community college. Check the articulation link <http://artic.sjsu.edu>.

It must be met within the first year of admission to the graduate program. You must achieve a grade of B or better.

## **SIGMA THETA TAU, INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY OF NURSING**

**Membership:** You are eligible to apply for membership each year in the Fall. You need to complete nine units and have a GPA of 3.5. Applications are available outside the Nursing office-HB 420, and they are due in Fall for Spring induction. The cords are available for Commencement. Contact Dr. Irene Lewis 408-924-3160 or [idlewis@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:idlewis@son.sjsu.edu) or go to the Sigma website <http://www.nursingsociety.org>. If you are a member applications for scholarships are considered each spring.

## **THESIS AND PROJECT INFORMATION**

*Please be realistic with your time lines. You must be able to have enough time to complete the scholarly critical thinking, writing, and revising of your final manuscript. The completion of your Project is the terminal outcome measure of your ability to perform research, critically think and communicate at an advanced practice level.*

### **What is the Difference Between the Project and Thesis?**

The products differ in the following ways: (a) the thesis preparation follows specific graduate studies requirements and structure; (b) the project outcome is the submission of a publishable article to a specific journal. Further explanation can be found in the current SJSU catalog. Additional information with specifics and School of Nursing examples can be found on the revised course descriptions for NURS 297 and NURS 299.

### **Moving to Candidacy**

The Departmental Request for Candidacy form must be received in the Graduate Studies Office at least one semester preceding the semester in which you graduate. The form, which can be obtained and typed online, <http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/docs/candidacy.pdf> must be reviewed and signed by the Graduate Coordinator, Dr. Connolly. **This means the completed forms must be turned into Dr. Connolly by September 9, 2009 for students planning to graduate in May 2010.** All Conditions must be met first (see Clearing Conditions).

### **Submission of Application of Advisor**

If you were not assigned a project advisor in Spring 2009 and you want to work with a project or thesis advisor in Fall 2009, contact Dr. Connolly by email as soon as possible. Advisors will be assigned after submission of the *Application For Advisors*, and is based on the quality of the application and a match of interests and faculty availability.

### **Enrollment in 297 Project Work**

The conditions for eligibility to apply for a thesis reader or project advisor are:

- Completion of HPRF/NURS 295
- Completion of the project/thesis seminar NURS 297
- Completion of the Application for Advisors
- Completion of at least 26 units of coursework toward the graduate degree
- Student must have no incompletes
- Student must have a refined proposal.

If you are working with an advisor, you can enroll in the courses listed below. Your completed Candidacy form specified the number of units you should register for this Fall 2009. Please review and follow the Candidacy form.

- NURS 297.2 (2 units of project to complete the work over 1 semester). In order to receive an grade of “Incomplete” in NURS 297.02, that is you have not completed your project, you must have at least SJSU IRB approval for your project, your First Advisor’s approval and Graduate Coordinator’s approval.

**If you already completed NURS 297 (seminar) then enroll in 297.2 (2 units) to complete your project. Consult first with Dr. Connolly at [connollydr@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:connollydr@son.sjsu.edu) for a permission number. Please include your full name and PeopleSoft number.**

### **Failure to Complete Project within Two Semesters – What to Do?**

Once students have used the three units of 299 (Thesis) or 297 (Project) but have not completed the thesis or project, they enroll for three units of NURS 298 through **SPECIAL SESSIONS**. The fee is \$400 per unit through Special Sessions. After the first semester of special sessions, if your work is not completed, students enroll for three units of NURS 298. The schedule codes for these units of NURS 298 are available after the beginning of school from the staff in the Continuing Professional Development office (408-924-3179).

### **Publications Resulting Projects – Manuscript Revisions Process**

Most scholarly manuscripts submitted to refereed journals are returned to the first author requesting revisions. All of your faculty has experienced this situation. When you receive this notification, please contact your first advisor. They will work with you to address the reviewer’s suggestions. After the revisions are made, resubmit the updated version to the same journal. If you do not want to engage in this process, please notify your advisor. At that time, your advisor(s) might choose to resubmit themselves after they revise the document. If this occurs, authorship will shift. That is, they will become first and second authors. The main point is that it is important to revise and resubmit, and we want to encourage you to do so. If you need the help and a professional editor, please e-mail me and I can give you the names of some writing specialists. There would be a fee for that service for the individual.

#### **Top 10 Reasons For Rejecting a Manuscript**

- Manuscript is sent to the wrong journal (make sure you have the right audience)
- Content does not provide new information
- Information is too old or out of date
- Topic is too narrow, reports a single, unique experience, or appeals to a narrow segment of the audience
- Important contributions to the topic are missing or out-of-date references are used
- Author has relied too heavily on the literature
- Manuscript was a class paper or speech
- Too little information about methods or the methodology has serious flaws
- Paper does not make a point
- Poor writing

*Editorial 2002)  
Journal of Professional Nursing 18(1), 1-2*

### **Preparing for Orals –**

Students completing projects or theses participate in oral exams to complete NURS 297 or NURS 299 (see course descriptions). Information will also be on our website under “Testing & Exams.”

Students demonstrate readiness for orals by completion of the project, data analysis and recommendations and a significant completion of the manuscript. Both the First Project Advisor and Graduate Coordinator will determine if a student is ready for Orals.

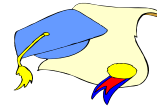
On the day of Orals in order to meet the requirements for the Culminating Experience form (the ticket out of SJSU) that the student has met all requirements for the Award of Degree, students need to submit to the Graduate Coordinator: (a) two copies of the manuscript; (b) the Project Signature form signed by both Advisors; (c) two copies of the abstracts of the project; and, (d) documentation of manuscript submission.

If you have used SJSU School of Nursing students in your project you must provide a hard copy of your final manuscript to the Chair of the Program Evaluation and Research Committee.

The presentation should last approximately 20 minutes (15 minutes with five minutes for questions). Present your study by first discussing how you became interested in the topic, research questions or purpose, design, methods, findings or outcomes, and implications for practice. Bring at least 20 copies of your abstract with your name and topic of the project on the abstract. Limit your slides to 15. The Graduate Coordinator develops a schedule that facilitates the presence of both Advisors for the student Project. Make sure that your Power Point presentation is compatible with our equipment; files should be mailed to TBA, by December 1, 2009. You should have back up of print outs of slides for the ELMO projector or copies of your Power Point ready the day of Orals.

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## **GRADUATION**



### **What is the Commencement Ceremony?**

The Commencement ceremony is a symbolic landmark in your educational career. It symbolizes the completion of a course of study and the conferral of your degree. Guests are encouraged to attend. You are eligible to participate in the Commencement ceremony held one time each year in May whether you complete your baccalaureate or master’s degree from San José State University during the summer, in December or in May. Students who are eligible and wish to participate should make arrangements to have the proper academic regalia. The mandatory graduation fee, which you paid when you applied for graduation, is used for all expenses associated with graduation, including diplomas, record processing, etc. Except for the purchase of your regalia, there is no additional charge for participating in Commencement. To the baccalaureate candidate, perhaps the most important element of academic regalia is the smallest – the tassel. Traditionally, it is worn on the right side of the mortarboard until the President, during the ceremony, officially and formally confers the degree upon the recipients. The tassel is then moved from the right side to the left side of the mortarboard. This act symbolizes the recipient’s new and well-earned status. Master’s and credential degree candidates wear the black tassel on the left side of the mortarboard. Master’s candidates carry their hoods on their right arms during the processional. At the proper time, the President will confer upon the candidates the appropriate degree and will direct the faculty Hood Masters to “hood” degree recipients. **Regalia must be ordered in advance in the AS Bookstore.**

### **What is Convocation?**

At the end of every semester graduating students in specific disciplines organize a commemorative ceremony called Convocation. It is held after final exams in December and May. Convocation is a student organized and implemented event. **There is a fee.** Faculty and the Director serve as consultants. In order to enhance the inclusivity of both baccalaureate and master’s students at these important occasions, a planning meeting will be held early in each semester (i.e., September and February) to discuss all of the details of the upcoming Convocation. At least one faculty advisor and representatives from both the undergraduate and graduate students groups will be included. Convocation is a wonderful School of Nursing event. However, it is costly in terms of

faculty, staff, students and guests' time and money. To enhance School cohesiveness, no other events will be organized to acknowledge graduating students from the School of Nursing. The University holds Commencement every year in May (see above article). **The graduate liaison for December 2009 Convocation to the undergraduates is Angie Ruiz and you can reach her at [ruizmanda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruizmanda@sbcglobal.net) or 650-583-4964. The undergraduate liaison will need the title of your project, so please be sure to forward that and any other materials i.e. fees, pictures etc. to Angie Ruiz in a timely manner. If you have not finished the program in the usual expected semester it is your responsibility to contact the graduate liaison; one volunteers each semester but may not know that you intend to participate in Convocation.**



**Convocation Speech**  
**By**  
**Laurie M. Rosa BSN, RN, May 23, 2009**

***Making a Difference***

*I am honored to be speaking to each of you on this important occasion: The celebration of completion of a bachelor's or master's degree. At this time, we are quite relieved that the effort to reach this milestone is behind us. Our loved ones are extremely proud of us. As Gary Bolding said, "You can't imagine the sense of relief they are experiencing. This would be a most opportune time to ask for money."*

*In all honesty, this process has been characterized by sacrifices and struggles. During this course of study, life happened amidst the chaos. Sons and daughters graduated from college, high school, and even preschool. Today, we miss the presence of beloved friends and family members due to illness or death. We have had financial struggles from the depressed economy, resulting in job losses or work reductions for our families and ourselves.*

*In spite of all these struggles, we forged through with the support of those near and dear to us. Fellow students made a difference, becoming new friends in real life and in second life. We encouraged one another, listened with support to one another, and laughed, cried, and complained together. Families and friends supported us throughout the process, making the difference for our success. They learned a new definition of patience as well as household skills such as cooking, cleaning, and doing the laundry. The investment of time and effort from our part and our families made a difference. The work involved in the program required a significant amount of time, which was given freely at times and begrudgingly at others by friends, families, and coworkers.*

*This convocation ceremony marks an accomplishment in our lives. We have learned new skills for success: computer literacy, time management, organization (amidst the chaos), and coping mechanisms involving large amounts of dark chocolate. We have matured in the practice of nursing education, administration, school nursing, and family practice. Finally, we have witnessed excellence in scholarship in our peers and inspired one another to go out and make a difference in our world.*

*In closing, we anticipate the future with great expectation. My desire is for each of you to go forth and prosper. Look forward to making a difference in the lives of others. Advanced practice nurses make a difference in the lives of patients, students, nurses, and families. Each moment with others is an opportunity to model the care of nurses. Your families have invested their time, love, and hopes in you: pay it forward. I challenge you to answer the question Trevor McKenney asked Mr. Simonet in Pay It Forward, "What did you ever do to change the world?" Make a difference. When you start formulating efforts to make a difference, remember growth only occurs when you give part of yourself away to others. Mother Teresa was a model for this and said, "Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier." In addition, allow the light of knowledge and caring that has been lit within you to shine in the lives of those you touch. Do what Norman B. Rice proposes, "Dare to reach out your hand into the darkness, to pull another hand into the light. Lastly, do not be afraid that you cannot make a difference. Betty Reese reminds us "If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in bed with a mosquito." My fellow classmates of San Jose State University's School of Nursing Class of 2009: congratulations and leave today with the purpose of making a difference in the lives of others.*

## FACULTY AND STUDENT RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

### **Omaha Outcome Study**

Student nursing interventions were found to make a statistically significant difference in our Nurse Managed Centers. Four students met their Project requirements through the collaborative research this Fall semester. The School of Nursing Nurse Managed Centers utilizes the Omaha System in the centers. As a result they have data every semester on the outcomes of client care. Opportunities continue to exist for analyzing data already collected as well as future studies. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity contact Dr. Daryl Canham 408-924-1323 or [canham@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:canham@son.sjsu.edu).

**Simulation Project:** SIMS Project exam the impact of using simulations in teaching and learning. Research Assistants are also needed, contact Dr. Colleen O'Leary-Kelley at [collear@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:collear@son.sjsu.edu) or 408-924-1319 for additional information. PROJECT TITLE: Evaluation of clinical simulation in an undergraduate nursing program. The purpose of this proposal is to develop program materials and evaluate the use of clinical simulation in undergraduate nursing courses. Specifically, clinical scenarios will be developed and evaluate in the use of clinical simulation using human patient simulators in the School of Nursing.

### **Other Faculty Research Projects:**

We have received a joint grant with Evergreen Valley College to develop an accelerated bridge program that articulates ADN students directly into the SJSU bridge program. There are at least two research projects as well as an opportunity to develop some of the coursework under the direction of experienced faculty. Dr. Deepika Goyal is the lead faculty member on this project. For more information contact Dr. Goyal at [dgoyal@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:dgoyal@son.sjsu.edu).

Dr. Lori Rodriguez and Dr. Diane Stuenkel have an ongoing qualitative research project looking at the "best practices" among preceptors. They would welcome help in recruiting subjects, transcription of interviews, and assistance with interviewing. For more information contact Dr. Rodriguez at [lrodriguez@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:lrodriguez@son.sjsu.edu).

The Medical Surgical Nursing Student Organization is a relatively new nursing school organization. Within the structure of this group we are considering several new opportunities. Graduate students may be able to develop their own research projects out of one or more of these. They include opening up the MSNSO to our two local associate degree programs and opening up the programs for RNs for continuing education. For more information contact Dr. Rodriquez at [lrodriguez@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:lrodriguez@son.sjsu.edu)

### **Nurse Managed Centers:**

Health literacy is a current "hot topic". One of the Nurse Managed Center sites (John 23<sup>rd</sup>) will be participating in a collaborative study with School of Social Work beginning this summer (Summer 2009). We plan to implement the participant focus groups Fall 2009. The focus of the research study is to examine cultural aspects of health literacy in the older adult Asian population.

The NMC committee is currently exploring a collaborative project with SCVMC and the Trauma/Injury Prevention program. The current plan is to implement a Fall Risk Prevention program at one of the Nurse Managed Centers as a pilot project. The program would include assessment aspects, student/provider/client education, and evaluation of outcomes. This will be initiated Fall semester 2009.

If you have an interest in either of these projects, please contact Dr. Canham at 408-924-1323 or via email at [canham@son.sjsu.edu](mailto:canham@son.sjsu.edu)

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## IMPORTANT DATES



- February 10, 2009** (Yes this deadline has passed) Last date to file Candidacy Form in Graduate Studies for December Graduation. If you have not filed, see Dr. Connolly and call Graduate Studies (408) 924-2480 immediately
- June 26, 2009** Deadline for registration information for Special Sessions Courses for fall 2009. Send name, and PeopleSoft # to Dr. Connolly
- August 4, 2009** Orals Health Building 401
- August 6, 2009** General Orientation for New Graduate Students HB 311 8:00-4:30PM
- August 24, 2009** First day of instruction. Add/Drop begins.  
Add/Drop Semester 7 courses 1030-1145 HB 311;  
Semester 8 courses 12:15-1315 HB 311  
Clinical Orientation - Semester 7 1345-1520 MLK Library 225-229
- September 3, 2009** Last day to drop or withdraw without a "W" grade
- September 11, 2009** Last Day to Add a Course
- September 16, 2009** All Candidacy Forms for December 2009 must be completed and turned into Dr. Connolly in the School of Nursing
- September 21, 2009** Professional Nurse Traineeship Applications Due to Mary Lou Bennett in Nursing Office
- September 21, 2009** Last day to file application or reactivation of Award of Degree for December 2009 Graduation with Graduate Studies
- October 29- 30, 2009** 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Days in Action, South San Francisco Conference Ctr.
- November 25, 2009** No classes after 4:30PM  
**November 26 & 27** Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 8, 2009** Last Day of Instruction
- December 9, 2009** Comprehensive Exams (Orals) for Thesis and Project Students
- December 10-11** Final Exams (All courses must meet for a final exam/evaluation activity)
- December 14-16** Scheduled final exam time as directed by University Policy
- December 20, 2009** Convocation Santa Clara, Marriott

## HELPFUL WEBSITES

### **For Campus, Course, and Program information**

Academic Technology (site for webcasting)

<http://www.sjsu.edu/depts/atn/>

APA Formatting, Owl University of Purdue website

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/02>

Articulation Agreements (course equivalency)

<http://artic.sjsu.edu>

CSU Dominquez Hills, Nursing

<http://www.csudh.edu/hhs/son/msn/postmasters.htm>

General Advising Session (Webcasted–Graduate Program)

<http://www.sjsu.edu/atn/delivery/webcasting/archive/s/sn/#spe>

Graduate Studies Forms

<http://www2.sjsu.edu/gradstudies/Current/Forms.html>

Human Participation Protections Education for Research Teams online course, at

<http://cme.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials/learning/humanparticipant-protections.asp>

Institutional Review Board, SJSU website

<http://www2.sjsu.edu/gradstudies/Research/irb.html>

IRB Coordinator, Alena Filip

[Alena.Filip@sjsu.edu](mailto:Alena.Filip@sjsu.edu)

408-924-2477 fax; 408-924-2479

### **Registration forms**

[www.sjsu.edu/registrar/forms](http://www.sjsu.edu/registrar/forms)

SJSU ECampus

<http://online.sjsu.edu>

San José State University website

<http://www.sjsu.edu>

SJSU School of Nursing

<http://www.sjsu.edu/nursing>

SJSU School of Nursing Graduate Program

<http://www2.sjsu.edu/nursing/masters.htm>

Special Sessions Registration Form

<http://galaxy.sjsu.edu/specialSession/pdfs/rdform.pdf>

### **For Researchers**

University catalog on line

<http://info.sjsu.edu>

Writing Center. Clark Library Rm 126

<http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/>

Writing Skills Test web page

(Testing and Evaluation Dept)

<https://testing.sjsu.edu/twst.html>

For Update on SARS

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars>



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