

From the Dean's desk

It's great to have the opportunity again to share the wonderful milestones that have occurred since our last newsletter in February 2016. Since that time, our inaugural class of BSN students graduated and took the national licensure exam (NCLEX-RN) and we are celebrating a 100% pass rate for the class!



DR. MARISA GREER

The Edna Jenkins Mann School of Nursing and Union College could not be more proud of this class. This class did not have any nursing students ahead of them to reach out to for advice or tutoring regarding the nursing courses - they worked hard and stayed the course and in the end the payoff was amazing. The 2016 class are all employed and the nursing faculty and I know they are making a difference everyday in their respective positions.

During the induction ceremony for the incoming class in September, I started a new tradition that I hope continues for many years to come. The new nursing students - during the closure of the ceremony - light candles. This year the students' candles were lit by the nurses that graduated in May. It was a wonderful experience to have the nurses "pass the torch," so to speak, to the incoming class.

It was a beautiful ceremony with a reception for the students and families to tour our nursing facilities and see where they would be receiving their nursing

... PAGE 4

EDNA JENKINS MANN SCHOOL OF NURSING CLASS OF 2016



UNION'S INAUGURAL NURSING CLASS JOINS 100 PERCENT CLUB

All 14 of Union College's pre-licensure nursing graduates have earned full licensure to practice as registered nurses. The group of students entered the program in 2012 as Union's inaugural class and have set a benchmark for students in the program to follow.

"Having all of your inaugural class pass the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for Registered Nurses is just unheard of," said Dr. Marisa Greer, Union's Dean of Nursing. "This speaks volumes as to how well this program is organized, the passion our nursing instructors have for teaching and the fortitude of our students in becoming the best in their profession."

"For a new program to achieve this level of success is a testament to the dedication of our nursing faculty and to the personal attention each Union student receives," ... PAGE 4

PRE-LICENSURE CLASS OF 2018 BEGINS CLINICAL JOURNEY

Union College's newest nursing class was honored during a white coat ceremony commemorating the students' induction into the Edna Jenkins Mann School of Nursing.

Dr. Marisa Greer, Dean of Nursing, welcomed 18 new students into Union's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program with the ceremony. Students have completed the core portion of their undergraduate curriculum and will now focus on

upper level courses, which for the nursing students includes clinical experience at Union's partner facilities. During the ceremony, Dr. Greer gave ... PAGE 4





Vital Stats

NURSING NEWS AND NOTES



106 PRE-LICENSURE STUDENTS



14 SPRING 2016 BSN GRADUATES

30

RN'S TO GRADUATE IN NEXT TWO YEARS



RN-BSN STUDENTS

+50

FRESHMEN DECLARED NURSING AS MAJOR

UNION AND KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS CREATE PATHWAY PROGRAM

Union College and Knox County Public Schools formally adopted an agreement creating a career pathway program for students focused on pursuing education in healthcare. The program will be directed primarily to Knox County students in the Allied Health Science and Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences programs of study.

Officials from both institutions joined together on August 3 to sign the memorandum of agreement and discuss the benefits of the partnership.

“When you strengthen our local schools, you strengthen Union,” said Dr. Marcia Hawkins, Union College President. “It is in our best interest to have all the resources available for our local school systems to use for the benefit of their students.”

“This partnership will be an integral part of our school system and the relationship we have with Union,” said Kelly Sprinkles, Superintendent of Knox County Public Schools. “If we work to strengthen our school system, then we can strengthen our community.”

The agreement between the institutions creates a student matriculation and program admission agreement to Union College. Knox County students will be eligible for Union College’s scholarship programs, will have certain fees and courses waived and will be offered direct admission into Union College programs, like the nursing program at the Edna Jenkins Mann School of Nursing.

Students in the Allied Health Sciences and Biomedical Science programs are provided with specialized coursework to prepare the students for post-secondary education in healthcare concentrations. Many students can go to work in healthcare following high school graduation, but many recognize the opportunity that exists with college level coursework in healthcare and choose to further their education.

HEALTH SCHOLARS CAMP 2016

Students from across the region were on campus for three days this summer to take part in the 2016 Health Scholars Camp, co-sponsored by Union College, Barbourville ARH and the Southern Area Health Education Center. The program is focused on introducing students to Union in order to transition them into a number of healthcare fields, including nursing and athletic training. One focus of the Health Scholars Camp included a lesson in anatomy with students dissecting a mink.





Nursing in a Snap

A SNAPSHOT OF UNION'S NURSING STUDENTS DURING INAUGURAL GRADUATION CEREMONIES



IN AUGUST, UNION'S ADMISSIONS STAFF WELCOMED 75 STUDENTS TO UNION'S EARLY COLLEGE PROGRAM. THE STUDENTS LEARNED ABOUT PROGRAMS IN HEALTH SCIENCES THAT CAN HELP THEM JUMP START THEIR ACADEMIC CAREERS AT UNION.



From the Dean's desk

education for the next two years.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter as it highlights a few of the many activities and events we've had in the Edna Jenkins Mann School of Nursing at Union College.

Please take a moment to share news about our program with friends, prospective students and others who have a passion to heal.

You can learn more at:

www.unionky.edu/nursing

TAKE CARE,

Marisa Greer



Dr. Marisa Greer and Brisja Brewer represented Union College in Pikeville during the 2016 SOAR Innovation Summit held in June. Union is helping to support healthcare throughout the region by offering the BSN nursing program to prospective students.

From the front

100 PERCENT CLUB

said Dr. Marcia Hawkins, Union College President. "I am confident that our BSN graduates will raise the bar in patient care wherever they are employed."

The Class of 2016 graduated from Union College in May, each receiving a bachelor's degree in nursing. National licensure is the final stage of their entry into a career in nursing. Once students graduate, it is up to each student to independently schedule the NCLEX exam and work toward licensure. Dr. Greer said the first student gained licensure in June, while the last student in the group was granted licensure on September 6.

Dr. Greer says all of the students that interviewed for nursing positions were offered jobs prior to graduation and issued provisional licenses to practice. At this point, Union's inaugural class is 100 percent nationally certified and 100 percent employed.

Dr. Greer said three of the students are practicing out of state, returning to their respective hometowns for employment. 11 of the students went to work immediately in the tri-county area around Union College.

Union's inaugural class includes Chad Abner, Barbourville; Tanner Broughton, Barbourville; Marissa Campbell, Brighton, MI; Lauren Chaney, Hazard; Erin Cooper, Corbin; Karen Fisher, Lincoln Park, MI; Kelli Hensley, Berea; Molly Hunter, Pineville; Kari Jamerson, Barbourville; Heather Selby, Troy, OH; Kara Smith, Barbourville; Kendra Taylor, Pineville; Krista Taylor, Clifton Forge, VA and Abigail Tigue, Pineville.

Currently, Union College has 106 students enrolled in the pre-licensure BSN program, 30 of which are on track to graduate in the next two years, and 33 students enrolled in the RN-BSN program.

CLASS OF 2018

each student a white nursing coat recognizing their introduction to the traditions and practice of nursing.

The Class of 2016 led their Class of 2018 peers through the final stage of the induction ceremony – a candle lighting service. After each student crossed the stage and received a white nurse's coat from Dr. Greer, they stood before their peers, friends and families holding a single candle; a reflection to Florence Nightingale and the nurses' commitment to look over their patients. Each candle was then ceremoniously lit, sending the new nursing students forward on their clinical journeys and further along the path to becoming nurses.

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