HCC a Nationwide Leader in Awarding Degrees in the Health Professions and Nursing

Pass rates on state and national examinations excellent.

Community College Week reported in June that HCC is a leader nationwide in the awarding of degrees in the health sciences and in nursing. Nation-wide, HCC ranked 23rd in the awarding of nursing degrees and 27th in the awarding of degrees in the health professions and related clinical sciences.

According to a press release from the Florida Department of Education, “For the sixth year in a row, Florida community colleges rank among the top producers of associate degrees in the United States.”

Students in the health sciences programs receive an exceptional education experience that combines rigorous classroom and laboratory study with practicums in local hospitals, clinics, medical offices, and related treatment facilities throughout the community.

HCC graduates are able to sit for their professional license and certification examinations because the programs are nationally accredited and the college is regionally accredited (SACS). In the health sciences, however, it is not enough to graduate in order to be employed. Graduates must sit for and pass rigorous state and national professional license and certification examinations.

HCC’s Student Nurses Association

While most student volunteer community activities diminish during the summer months, not those of our Student Nursing Association (SNA) support! During the summer, these dedicated students kept a full calendar of volunteer activities which included:

- They visited Ronald McDonald House two times a month. On alternate weeks they brought ingredients and cooked a meal for the residents, and the other time, they prepared what was there for everyone’s dinner.
- They did a welcome presentation for the nursing orientations held June 24 and June 25.
- They participated in a Blood Drive July 14 and July 15.

These wonderful contributions to our community are in addition to a full load of classes, and for some of the students, it is volunteer work in addition to working full-time!

These dedicated future health care professionals already know the value of giving back to those in need.

HCC Graduate Honored by the U.S. Army

Cecilia Vargas receives Spirit of Nursing Award

Nursing Program Manager, Rise Sandrowitz, Also Honored

The U.S. Army Nurse Corps, in cooperation with the National Student Nurses Association, awarded the Spirit of Nursing Award to Cecilia Vargas. Ms. Vargas received her honor at the HCC Nursing Pinning Ceremony on May 5, 2008. Ms. Vargas was the outgoing Dale Mabry Campus Student Nurses Association president, and the award is based on achievement in academics, leadership, and community service.

All nursing programs in the Tampa Bay area were offered the opportunity to nominate a candidate for the award. The nursing faculty selected Ms. Vargas. A board of Army nurses reviews all nominees and determines who will receive the award.

The Army Nurse Corps also presented a Spirit of Nursing Award to nursing program manager Rise W. Sandrowitz “in recognition of academic excellence, leadership, and commitment to the nursing profession.”