

The nursing workforce of the future

The Fairlawn Scholars and Nursing Summer Enrichment programs a making it happen

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The Worcester Nursing Pipeline Consortium and the Graduate School of Nursing's Fairlawn Nurse Scholars Program continues to work toward the development of the future nursing workforce. The Fairlawn Nurse Scholars Program recognizes talented students who, upon graduation, plan to live and seek employment as nurses in the region. Funded through the Fairlawn Foundation of Worcester, selected students from the GSN, Worcester State College, Quinsigamond Community College and Becker College receive

scholarship assistance in their pursuit of nursing careers and advancement. This year's recipients from the GSN include doctoral student Lisa Ogawa; second-year master's students Claudine Arsenis and Sylvia Davis; and first-year master's students Anne Nixon and Catherine Powers. Scholars from each of their respective schools will participate in the third annual Nursing Summer Enrichment Program, scheduled from June 21 – 25 for 15 high school students who are considering a nursing career.



The Nursing Summer Enrichment Program is offered through a partnership between the GSN and UMass Memorial Health Care. Supported through the generous contributions of the Balfour Foundation, this weeklong program includes mentored clinical observations in surgery, medicine, critical care and/or oncology throughout the UMass Memorial Health Care system. Each participant becomes certified in CPR, develops and presents a PowerPoint presentation on a selected area of health care to which they were exposed and is taught about the many aspects of the health care system. Specialties highlighted during the training include: emergency/trauma, neonatal intensive care, nursing in cancer rehabilitation, end-of-life care, disaster medicine, Occupational Safety & Health Administration guidelines, hand-washing and infection control, confidentiality and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. The participants, Fairlawn scholars and faculty also conduct roundtable discussions regarding nursing as a “caring science” as well as levels of nursing education.

Recently, the GSN held a reunion for the June 2002 and 2003 Nursing Summer Enrichment Program participants. This event gave attendees the opportunity to not only view the extensive media coverage that the program garnered last summer, but also seek guidance on college applications, scholarships and letters of reference noting their participation in this program. They also created photo albums of each year's activities and had an opportunity to reunite with friends, Fairlawn Scholar mentors and faculty from the program.