

ARCASN Annual School Report 2013-2014

Name of the School: Dalhousie University School of Nursing

School rep at ARCASN: Dr. Brenda Sabo

1. Number of new graduates from all programs

Graduate Program: October 2013 there were 7MN; 4PhD. In May 2014 there are 15MN & 1 PhD

Undergraduate Program: May 2013 there were 181 + 1 post RN; October 2013 18 + 2 post RN + 6 Artic Nursing; May 2014 there are 168 students graduating

2. PhD Program - The suspension of admissions to our PhD program has been lifted and we will be accepting applications for admission in September 2014. It should be noted that the suspension was NOT due to the quality of the program; rather it was to provide time for the backlog of PhD students to complete their program of studies. The PhD program requires Full Time study and students are expected to complete in four years. We anticipate taking 1-2 students for the 2014/2015 academic year.

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3. Special projects (e.g. international, nursing education)

4. New programs/changes to existing programs

Changes have been made to our undergraduate program. We have increased the number of students now able to enter the accelerated option 2year program for the upcoming 2014/2015 academic year to 50 students.

Changes have been made to enhance transfer credits for both anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. For the 2014/2015 academic year this will apply only to those students entering the accelerated option stream. It will apply across the board for undergraduate students seeking transfer credits for these courses in the 2015/2016 academic year.

Curriculum changes are underway with our MN program. The plan is to have two Master's programs: MScN & MN. The MScN program will be a thesis based and will prepare graduates to be researchers. The course load has been decreased to five, and to be completed within the first year of full time study (courses consist of qualitative research, quantitative research, theory, statistics and nursing philosophy). Theory courses being developed in the Master's program will align with the four pillars of our strategic research plan. Emphasis will be placed on accruing funding support and publishing. Exceptional students may be fast-tracked directly into a PhD Nursing (currently in discussion). The MN program currently has two streams of NP and Health policy practicum. The MN policy practicum stream will be modified to remove the policy practicum in favor of a course based professional stream. Curriculum changes are anticipated to be in place for September 2015.

Discussion is underway around the potential to have a publication-based PhD in addition to the traditional dissertation-based PhD.

5. Full time new employees including names, PhD's, tenure track or contract

Were there any new hires over the 2013/2014 academic year?

6. Research contribution (including areas of interest and output, e.g., types of research being conducted and funding sources. In the past we tried to include articles and other dissemination strategies; however, we acknowledged the difficulty of capturing the full breadth of the research activities by each school's members during the year).

Julie to provide an overview

7. Other news