

ARCASN Annual School Report 2015-2016

Name of the School: Department of Nursing & Health Sciences

School rep at ARCASN: Dr. Dianne McCormack

1. Number of new graduates from all programs:

- BN Program: 62
 - LPN to BN Program: 19
- Nuclear Medicine: 5
- Radiation Therapy: 1
- Radiology: 5
- Respiratory Therapy: 3

2. Accreditation information:

Nursing: An interim report submitted to CASN in December 2015 was accepted by the Accreditation Bureau. The CASN accreditation term was extended to a full 7 years (expiry July 2020), from the 5 year term originally granted.

Health Sciences: Respiratory Therapy Program will be reviewed for accreditation this year.

3. Special projects:

The Department's Licensure Committee introduced teaching strategies, preparatory activities, and curriculum resources to help students and faculty prepare for the NCLEX exam. The committee also introduced a comprehensive NCLEX-style exam at the end of Year 1 which covered content from all required nursing and non-nursing courses in Year 1. In addition to receiving an overall score on this exam, students received an individual breakdown of their performance on each of the 6 NCLEX categories addressed in Year 1.

4. New programs:

LPN to BN Program Pilot Project: Students are being accepted into the 4th cohort of this pilot program. The first cohort graduated this year. Nineteen of 22 students from the 1st cohort received their BN. Sixteen students were accepted in the 3rd cohort and 11 in the 2nd cohort. Evaluation of this program is ongoing.

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

- Loretta Waycotte: 1 year term appointment, August 10, 2015
- Paulette Meister: 1 year term appointment, August 10, 2015
- Meaghan Flecknell: 1 year term appointment, September 3, 2015
- Angela March: 1 year term lecturer appointment, August 10, 2015
- Dana Manzer: 1 year term lecturer appointment January 1, 2016 subject to renewal

Positions are currently open for an Associate Dean and Department Chair

As well, we are interviewing to fill both **tenure track and term positions** as follows:

- one tenure track professorial stream position
- one 2 year term with a possibility of renewal professorial stream position
- one year term professorial stream position

- one tenure track instructor stream position
- two 2 year term with a possibility of renewal instructor position
- one 1-year term instructor position
- 1 (6 month) instructor position for sabbatical leave replacement

- Two (2+2) clinician positions

6. Research contribution (including areas of interest and output, e.g., types of research being conducted and funding sources).

All Faculty within the professorial stream and some within the instructor stream are actively engaged in both conducting research and reporting research at local, regional, national, and/or international conferences including this conference, publishing in diverse journals, and conducting blind reviews of manuscripts for different journals, book chapters, and so on. Many research teams cross interdisciplinary lines; some teams are conducting primary research while others are conducting metasynthesis reviews and one team is conducting a combination of both metasynthesis and meta-analysis.

As members of the GAU at the Faculty of Nursing at UNB in Fredericton, many Faculty are supervising graduate students, joining thesis committees, and/or assuming the role of internal and external readers. Most Faculty are also actively working with students from both the interdisciplinary master and PhD programs at UNB.

One example of research activity is included below.

Shelley Doucet: Main Research Contributions for June 2015-May 2016:

I am one of two NB researchers leading a provincial team of diverse stakeholders, including health professionals, patients, decision makers, and funders who have recently become a *CIHR Strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) Network in Primary and Integrated Health Care Innovations*. A goal of this SPOR Network opportunity is to improve the integration of health care services across Canada. In June, 2015, our provincial team was successful in securing a \$1,000,000 Management and Operations grant to support the ongoing operations of our network (\$500,000 from CIHR & \$500,000 from the New Brunswick Health Research Foundation).

In August 2015, my research team secured an operating grant from CIHR under the SPOR Quick strike program (\$100,175; I am the Nominated PI). The goals of our quick strike project are to 1) define children with complex health conditions; 2) explore the needs of children with complex health conditions and their family; 3) identify the services and programs available to address their needs; and 4) identify and classify children with complex health conditions in NB and PEI. To achieve these goals, we have conducted a concept analysis, interviews (with children, families, and stakeholders), and are in the process of creating a tool to identify and classify children with complex health conditions.

In March 2016, a pan-Canadian team I am on as a co-applicant was successful in becoming one of five CIHR SPOR Networks in Chronic Disease, valued at \$12.5M over five years from CIHR that was equally matched by other funding partners for a total of \$25M. Our Network is named CHILD-BRIGHT and aims to improve life outcomes for children with brain-based developmental disabilities and their families. Our research team plans to conduct a series of studies aimed at fostering social emotional well-being and the mental health of children and families, and delivering more responsive family-centred services throughout life (with a focus on coordination and navigation of care).

My research team was also awarded a \$3000 Royal Society of Canada Open Academy Program grant to host a Breakfast Chat in December on growing up with a complex health condition. I am the Co-PI.

7. Other news:

Dr. Tracy Carr and Professor Roberta Clarke are retiring on June 30, 2016.

Dr. Karen Furlong assumed the role of Acting Chair for two consecutive 6-month terms starting on July 1, 2015.

Seventy two percent of all Faculty at UNB in Saint John are members of ARCASN – we need to work towards 100% membership.