

ARCASN 2016

Report from the University of Prince Edward Island School of Nursing

The University of Prince Edward Island (UPEI) School of Nursing had a total of 64 graduates in May 2016, 45 from the four year program and 19 from the Accelerated two year program. We increased our intake from 60 to 65 students in the fall semester 2013 for the four year program and to 16 students for the two year program. UPEI is in the 5th year of a seven year Accreditation from the Canadian Association Schools of Nursing and faculty met to review our Strategic Plan earlier this year. The UPEI School of Nursing hired one tenure-track faculty in 2016.

The University of Prince Edward Island introduced the two-year Master of Nursing program in September 2011, with two streams: the Thesis Stream and the Nurse Practitioner Stream. The UPEI MN Program introduced a three year NP stream in 2015. Now all students in both streams are able to work while taking the program. We currently have 24 students in program; 7 NPs and 17 thesis students. We will be admitting another cohort of NPs in 2017.

During the N 310, the Integrated Clinical Experience in the third year of the program, students have the option to complete an International Health Care placement for their community experience. We have a great deal of student interest and we continue to seek out new opportunities to meet the growing demand. To be considered, students require an 80% average or above in their Nursing courses as well as strong clinical evaluations. Panel interviews were held in September and October to select ambassadors. In Spring, 2016, we will have nineteen students (25% of the 3rd year class) complete their N310 Community placements in Malta, Cayman Islands, St. Lucia, Costa Rica, England, Honduras and this year, we will be utilizing Germany for the first time. Clinical sites include: community health clinics, district health centres, hospital outreach teams, medical clinics, a school for the blind, etc... As well, four of our N402, 2016 students had the opportunity to complete a portion of their N402 preceptorship in Kenya with the Farmers Helping Farmers team. For 2017, we are exploring additional 3rd year exchanges with our partner universities – Chiba University in Japan and Francis Marion University in South Carolina, US as well as 4th year preceptorships at Uka Tarsadia University in India.

This winter we welcomed Ms. Emilie Rolfe, a nursing student from the University of Leeds, England. This upcoming fall, we will welcome Chanel Borg from the University of Malta. The exchange students have the opportunity to join in the classroom and the lab as well as participate in clinical experiences thanks to our ongoing partnerships with our community placements.

Faculty continues to attend educational sessions to help our students prepare for the NCLEX RN exam. Second, third and fourth year students completed the HESI year-end comprehensive exam and the fourth year students completed HESI Live Review in preparation for the exam.

Dr. Jo-Ann MacDonald has been our Interim Dean of Nursing since August 2015 when Dr. Rosemary Herbert retired. Dr. Gulrose Jiwani begins the position of Dean of the University of Prince Edward Island School of Nursing in June 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet MacIntyre