

along with renewing your dues for the upcoming year. Every contribution will help us reach our long-term goal. Please see the list of items we are hoping to get for our nursing labs.

***Here are some examples of items we are hoping to purchase:***

- 2- Welch Allyn Connex Vital Signs Monitor Package \$4,513.55
- 4- Blood Pressure Assessment Trainer \$3,157.80
- 4- Refurbished Hill-Rom Advance Hospital Beds \$2,782.71
- 1- Simulaids Basic Casualty Moulage Simulator Kit \$210.52
- 1- Tran-4 Rea Moulage Master Kit \$428.59
- 1- Laerdal Airway Management Trainer Intubation \$2,284.14
- 1- Otosim \$4000 (simulation for ear assessment)
- 1- Graham Field Easy Power Sit-to-Stand Lift \$1,999.94
- 1- Graham Field Electric Easy Lift Patient Lifting System \$2,164.15
- 1- Wilma Wound Foot \$524.19
- 1- Simulaid Kyle 3-year old Manikin \$354.73
- 1- Nasco Physical Limitation Simulation Suit \$2,236.78

Thank you for your continuing support!  
**WCSU Alumni Nursing Society and WCSU Nursing Department**



## WCSU Alumni Nursing Society

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2017 NEWSLETTER



New  
Simulation  
Labs Ribbon  
Cutting  
Ceremony  
March 16,  
2017  
Check time on  
WCSU Alumni  
Nursing  
Society  
Facebook Page



# Spring Event

**April 26, 2017, at 4 p.m.**

*Location: White Hall 122*

*Guest Speaker: Jose Perez BSN, RN*

*"Nursing Legislation, Who Will Care for Those Who Care"*

Jose Perez received a B.S. in Nursing from Western Connecticut State University. He is currently the secretary/treasurer for Connecticut Health Care Associates, a labor organization representing nurses in Connecticut. He was a former EMT, firefighter and CPR instructor with 10 years of experience in the field. Perez worked as a registered nurse for MidState Medical Center in Meriden, where his love for patient care and passion for safe staffing led him to become an advocate as a staff representative. Perez received the Nightingale award for Excellence in Nursing, and the Unsung Hero Award for Worker Health and Safety. He is currently on a safe staffing coalition working on future legislation in Connecticut. He enjoys golf and going fishing with his daughters. He currently resides in Southington.

***Come take a tour of the new state-of-the-art simulation labs and our new physical assessment lab, and see what will be coming in the near future.***

## **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

Annual membership dues for the Alumni Nursing Society are due each year on **May 1**. Please continue to support the Society. Membership dues help with expenses such as materials, mailings, scholarships and events. Please see Membership and Pledge form enclosed. We thank you for your support.



Change of name and address?

For name and address changes, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at (203) 837-8298 or email [alumni@wcsu.edu](mailto:alumni@wcsu.edu)



For more information about what is going on at WCSU, go to [www.wcsu.edu/alumni](http://www.wcsu.edu/alumni).

If any master's - prepared alumni are interested in teaching as an adjunct or helping the nursing department, we'd love to hear from you!

***2017 senior class will present Senior Projects at the event.***

***We hope you can join us!!!***

## **NEWS FROM THE WCSU NURSING DEPARTMENT**

- ❖ The Department of Nursing was recognized as the #1 Nursing program in Connecticut by Registered Nursing.org.
- ❖ Nursing Schools Almanac ranked WCSU nursing in the top 20 in New England this past fall 2016.
- ❖ The Department of Nursing has had many exciting things going on. First and foremost we are anticipating the opening of our new Sim labs on the second floor of White Hall. There are four Sim rooms with five Sim manikins including a new maternity lab with Sim Mom. There is an ICU lab with the advanced 3G manikin.
- ❖ The nursing program is growing in enrollment in all programs, BSN, RN/BS, MSN and Ed.D.
- ❖ BSN had 42 graduates; RN-BSN had 35 graduates in spring 2016 and 23 in fall 2016; MSN had 20 graduates in December 2016 and 24 are projected to graduate in May 2017.
- ❖ We had two faculty retirements: Prof. Pat Geraci and Prof. Mary Ann Riley. We welcomed new faculty last spring and this fall.
  - Prof. Doreen Graham and Prof. Patricia Cumella started spring 2016.
  - Prof. Teresa Puckhaber and Prof. Eileen Campbell started fall 2016.
  - Prof. Kimberlee Bridges joined us this spring 2017.
- ❖ Dr. Laurel Halloran completed her sabbatical and did research on the reasons nurse practitioners precept students.
- ❖ The Department of Nursing was again successful on the NCLEX exam with a 97.7% pass rate.
- ❖ Prof. Patricia Cumella passed the Certified Nurse Educator Exam.
- ❖ Dr. Monica Sousa received the Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education Teaching Award in May 2016.
- ❖ Kappa Alpha Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau hosted the collaborative research day on March 10, 2016.
- ❖ Kappa Alpha also hosted a Research Tea on November 14, 2016. Dr. Bozena Padykula was the keynote speaker. Her presentation was titled "RN-BSN Students' Reports of Their Self-Care and Health-Promotion Practices in a Holistic Nursing Care."
- ❖ Nursing study-abroad programs: Dr. Mary Ellen Doherty is planning a trip to Dublin, Ireland, and London, England, for her course, "The History of Notable Women in Healthcare." This trip is for May 2017. Dr. Monica Sousa is planning a trip to Thessaloniki, Greece for her



## **WCSU NURSING LAB CAMPAIGN**

course, "Special Topics in Nursing- Global Healthcare (Greece)." This trip is for spring 2018.

## **NEW WINDOW DECALS AVAILABLE**

New WCSU Alumni Nursing Society window decals are now available for \$5. Some of the previous window decals are also still available. Please see Terri-Ann Tilquist, Nursing Department secretary, to purchase one, or email Monica Sousa at [Sousam@wcsu.edu](mailto:Sousam@wcsu.edu).



## **NURSING LAB CAMPAIGN**

Last year we launched the Nursing Lab Campaign. We thank you to those who donated. It has helped with purchasing items for our new simulation labs. We are reaching out to you again this year to continue to build our funding to provide the latest and newest equipment to our nursing students. As mentioned before, it is truly a testament to the faculty and staff of the WCSU Nursing Department that it has been able to maintain its top state ranking for years given the outdated equipment and laboratory facilities at the school's disposal. The department is using the same equipment today that it used many years ago.

The Alumni Nursing Society is happy to continue to work with the Nursing Department and WCSU Alumni Association in our continuing campaign to provide funding for new nursing laboratories and equipment in White Hall. New technology will provide WCSU faculty with state-of-the-art interactivity and realism in a safe learning environment for students. Renovating these labs is very expensive: We received funding from the state to build the new labs and are very grateful for the space we have. As health care changes, nursing education changes to meet those needs, and it is imperative that students have the most up-to-date equipment and the ability to practice challenging patient scenarios in a safe simulated environment.

It is critical that alumni be involved in funding this new laboratories and equipment initiative. Please consider a gift to support the program,