



WCSU Alumni Nursing Society

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

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Annual Membership Dues

Annual membership dues for the Alumni Nursing Society are due each year on May 1st. Please continue to support your Society. We need your help. We sponsor about two events and publish two newsletters each year, keeping you informed on the exciting events that are happening in the nursing department and WCSU. Membership dues help with expenses such as materials, mailings, scholarships and events. Please see the Membership and Pledge form enclosed. We thank you for your support.



Spring Event

April 27th at 4:00PM

Warner Hall, WCSU Midtown Campus

Guest Speaker:

Christina Beaudoin, MSN, APRN, CS, BC

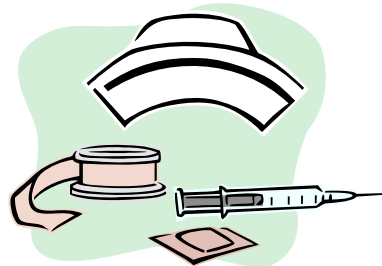
Christina earned her degree from the Jeanne Mance School of Nursing in 1964 and her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from St. Josephs College in 1987. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from Southern CT State University and her Master's Degree from WestConn in 1991. She retired from CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, after 33 years of service. Chris was a clinical instructor for the Yale School of Nursing for many years and is currently working per diem at Danbury Hospital.

Christina will discuss Nursing during the Vietnam War. Her speech will describe who nurses were, what their experiences were, and what were the impact and the legacy of their service. It will be an amazing speech.

2011 Senior Class

The 2011 Senior Class will be presenting their senior projects at the spring Nursing event. Topics for their projects are focused on community issues. They have worked very hard on these projects all semester. You will be amazed at their presentations!

Please join us for this great event!!!



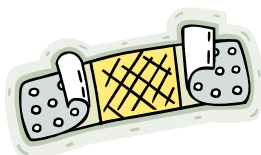
How can we help you?

We want you to get the most of out of your membership to the WCSU Alumni Nursing Society. Please let us know if you have any ideas or concerns. You can email Monica Sousa ACNS-BC, APRN at Monissa28@sbcglobal.net



Changed Your Name or Address Since Graduating from WestConn?

Contact the WCSU Alumni office at <https://www.wcsu.edu/ia/update.asp>. We would love to get your information updated.



For more information on what is going on at WCSU, visit www.wcsu.edu/alumni

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF NURSING REUNION

The 40th Anniversary of Nursing at WCSU was held on October 23, 2010, during Homecoming weekend. We had a wonderful time. It was nice to see alumni and retired professors. This was a very special event. Along with celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the WCSU Nursing Department, we also honored alumnus Andrew Hull '04, BSN, RN, with the first Nursing Alumni Community Award for his significant contribution to the nursing community. Andy was a hero during the shooting at Danbury Hospital. We were so happy that many of his family members were able to join us for the event. See pictures on the last page of the newsletter. Congratulations Andy!!!!

News from the Nursing Department Chair, Dr. Karen Crouse

Greetings from the Chair! It was great to see so many of you during Homecoming this past Fall! I was especially humbled to honor Andy Hull, BSN, RN, for his courageous actions to save the lives of others. I know Andy can be the most forceful and articulate spokesperson for the safety of nurses in health care settings. It certainly makes me proud to have such a notable alumnus.

In the news of the Department of Nursing:

Dr. Aina has recently retired to his home in Nigeria. We're hoping to develop an exchange with our students and faculty in the future. What an opportunity! We'd love to have the nursing alumni participate in this too! More details to follow.

Dr. Mary Ellen Doherty has been awarded significant reassigned time to pursue her research interests in the upcoming academic year. She has received numerous awards and recognition for her work with military veterans. Professors Robin Goodrich and Jeanette Lupinacci are moving into the final phase of their doctoral studies.....the dissertation phase! We wish them much success on this lofty endeavor.

Professor Linda Warren has transitioned to a tenure-track full time position. We're thrilled to have her with her clinical expertise in critical care nursing. She is currently pursuing her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at the University of Hartford.

We will have a new leader at the start of the next academic year as I have decided not to throw my hat in the ring for another term in office. I am proud of our accomplishments of the last four years including our ten year accreditation, the doubling of enrollments in the RN-BS and the MS in Nursing program, superb NCLEX scores, and the recognition by Governor Rell to name a few.

We have many challenges given the political and financial climate. The Ed.D. in Nursing Education is at its final stage of approval...at the Department of Higher Education. Unfortunately, it has been not been smooth sailing, but we are hopeful that we will prevail! We may need you to use your political clout to help us!

The Department of Nursing has been actively involved in the pursuit of grants. One grant is to obtain technology and participate with the other CSU nursing programs in high fidelity simulation and best practices. Another is to provide education to the RNs at Waterbury Hospital in the care of geriatric patients to improve patient outcomes. We're hoping that both of these will be funded and that these worthwhile projects begin by Fall 2012.

We're currently searching for two full time tenure track positions. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be interested please check out the WCSU human resource website. Dr. Catherine Rice is the Chair of the Search Committee this year.

Nursing Window Decals

The Alumni Nursing Society is selling nursing window decals as our fundraiser. The size of the sticker is four by six inches. The colors are black and white. They cost \$5 each. See Kathy Barber, nursing department secretary, to purchase a window decal or go to the WCSU bookstore, located in the Student Center on the main campus. You can also purchase them by contacting Monica Sousa at Monissa28@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for your support!!!





Please consider donating equipment or funds to help us furnish the Nursing Labs and provide services and scholarships to all our students.

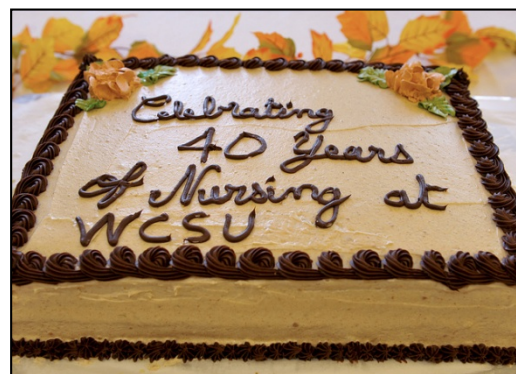
If any master's prepared alumni are interested in teaching as an adjunct or helping the nursing department, we'd love to hear from you!!!!

Volunteers needed

We are looking for people to help with the Alumni Nursing Society. It does not require a lot of time. We meet about 3 times a year for no more than an hour each time. We plan two events each year and would appreciate any help anyone can give us. Some of the areas we need help in are: recruiting members, developing the newsletter, planning and setting up for events and providing ideas for activities. If you would like to help, please contact Leah Turner at Lturner@snet.net. Hope to hear from you soon!!!

Celebrating 40 Years of Nursing Reunion Pictures





*Thank you to those who attended!
It was a wonderful event!*