Nursing Education: The State of the Discipline

Unique contribution of the Florida Atlantic University, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing
Access to Nursing Education: Programs

- **Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN):** 9-12 months; technical program – practice under the direction of a RN
- **Associate Degree Registered Nurse (RN):** 2 years; community college program – technical preparation for acute care setting
- **Bachelor of Science Degree RN:** 4 years – prepares generalist to work in a range of settings
- **Masters Degree:** 1-2 years post baccalaureate – specialized advanced practice of nursing
- **PhD:** research/teaching degree
Highest Level of Education for Nurses in United States

- Diploma: 13%
- Associate: 17.5%
- BSN: 34.2%
- Graduate: 33.7%

National Nursing Sample 2004
Highest Level of Education for Nurses in Florida

- Diploma: 10%
- Associate: 16%
- BSN: 28%
- Graduate: 46%

National Nursing Sample 2000
**Nursing Programs in Florida Today**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Nursing Program</th>
<th>Number Approved in Florida Today</th>
<th>Provisional Accreditations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practical nurse (LPN)</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Florida State Board of Nursing*

*Last Updated by the Board June 2006*
Nursing education matters to patients

- Research demonstrates that the educational level of the RN staff in a hospital has significant impact on patient mortality, morbidity and safety.

- At a time when the nursing workforce is becoming less versus more educated – the evidence does not support this movement and nursing must act in the interest of patient safety.

AONE 2005 Dr. Linda Aiken
Registered Nurses: State of Florida Licensed and Employed

- RNS – 2001 144,350
- RNS – 2004 130,410
- AVERAGE AGE 47+

Florida Center for Nursing 2006
The Aging RN Workforce

- Average age of RN workforce is increasing more than twice as fast as all other occupations in US workforce.

- Fewer than 9% of the RN workforce is under 30.

- 13.5% of Florida RNs who are working are between 57 and 65 years.

- Florida is estimated to need 71,000 more nurses by 2010.
FAU Baccalaureate Programs

Traditional – two years after first two years of general education & science
RN to BSN – concentrated one year program for graduates with Associate Degree in Nursing who are registered nurses (RNs)
Accelerated Second Degree BSN – for individuals with a degree in another discipline; concentrated 1 year program
Master of Science in Nursing – advanced nursing education tracks are offered in:

- Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- Adult Nurse Practitioner (ANP)
- Gerontology Nurse Practitioner (GNP_)
- Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL)
- Administrative and Financial Leadership in Nursing
- Nursing Education
- Individualized
FAU Graduate Programs

- Doctoral Programs in Nursing
  - Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing
    - Advanced research degree in nursing
  - Doctor of Nursing Practice
    - Planned to begin Fall 2008
Other programs in our service area

Miami-Dade County

Florida International University (public)
  BSN, MSN, PhD

University of Miami (private)
  BSN, MSN, PhD

Barry University (private)
  BSN, MSN, PhD

Miami-Dade College (plans nursing BSN)
Other programs in our service area

**Broward County**
- Nova Southeastern University (BSN, MSN)
- Broward Community College (ADN)
- University of Phoenix (BSN, MSN)

**Palm Beach County**
- South University (BSN)
- Palm Beach Atlantic University (BSN)
- Palm Beach Community College (ADN)

**Treasure Coast**
- Indian River Community College (planning BSN)
There is a continuing need for nurses in the state of Florida.…..but there are barriers to supplying the continuing need because:

1. Nursing faculty shortage
2. Insufficient funding of faculty lines
3. Non-competitive faculty salaries
4. Limited clinical site availability.

Florida Center for Nursing
2005
The Nursing Faculty Shortage

- Average age of a nursing faculty member in the State of Florida is 46.8 years.
- For University faculty with Doctoral Degrees, the average age is 55.7.
- A shortage of nursing faculty has been identified as the #1 issue impacting program expansion in the state.
- 6293 qualified students were turned away in 2005

*Florida Center for Nursing 2006*
Our Uniqueness

Nurturing the wholeness of persons & environment through caring

- Philosophy & curricula grounded in Caring – international leader
- Excellence in teaching & scholarship
- Growing research in nursing practice applications of caring, care of vulnerable populations, use of the arts in healing, care of elderly with Alzheimer’s disease
- Student competence in nursing care
- Varied offerings on three campuses
Our Uniqueness

- Accreditation by Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education awarded 2004 for 10 years – no recommendations

- Centers of excellence that serve our constituencies

- Global ties to promote caring in nursing practice and research and enable exchange of students