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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING NOW AVAILABLE AT LINDENWOOD

August 19, 2014

Lindenwood University has received approval from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association to offer a Master of Science in Nursing program. The approval came in a letter to President James D. Evans on Monday, August 18.

The new program joins a Bachelor of Science in nursing degree completion program, for students who already possess a two-year RN degree, and a Bachelor of Science in Allied Health Leadership at the university's School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. The school launched in the fall of 2013 in Dardenne Prairie, Mo. The new master's program will launch in the spring 2015 semester.

The new program is available in two areas of emphasis: Nurse Educator, for those who intend to go into healthcare education in a healthcare or academic setting, and Nurse Executive, for students interested in filling administrative roles in healthcare institutions. The new program, and all others available in the School of Nursing, is offered in a hybrid online and in-classroom format so that working nurses and healthcare professionals may take classes without interrupting their careers.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics 2012-13 Occupational Outlook Handbook, employment for registered nurses is expected to grow 26 percent between 2010 and 2020, and as the demand for nurses grows, so will the demand for qualified nurse educators and nurse executives.

"The faculty and I are excited to learn that the Master of Science in Nursing Program has been approved by the Higher Learning Commission," said Dr. Peggy Ellis, dean of the School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. "We designed the program with two emphasis areas: Executive Nurse Leader and Nurse Educator. Both of these options will provide a quality nursing education to help nurses meet patient needs in light of the challenges in the changing health care environment. According to the Institute of Medicine Report (2011), nurses need to achieve higher levels of education, and the approval of this master's program will allow us to help nurses do just that."

All classroom sessions are held in the university's Center for Nursing and Allied Health, located at 1 Academy Place in Dardenne Prairie, Mo. The former site of Barat Academy, the building was purchased by the university in 2012 and is equipped with the newest and best equipment.

"Lindenwood is committed to meeting the educational needs of our healthcare community, and offering a degree at the master's level has been a goal since the launch of the School of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences," said Dr. James D. Evans, president of Lindenwood University. "I am extremely proud of the dean and faculty for their continued success at implementing ambitious long-term goals that serve the needs of our students as well as our community."

For information on enrollment in the program, please call (636) 627-6683.

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