The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) will be conducting a site visit March 11-13, 2013.

What is CCNE?

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public's health. The Commission ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate, and residency programs in nursing. The Commission serves the public interest by assessing and identifying programs that engage in effective educational practices. As a voluntary, self-regulatory process, CCNE accreditation supports and encourages continuing self-assessment by nursing programs and supports continuing growth and improvement of collegiate professional education and post-baccalaureate nurse residency programs.

CCNE accreditation is a nongovernmental peer review process that operates in accordance with nationally recognized standards established for the practice of accreditation in the United States. Accreditation by CCNE is intended to accomplish at least five general purposes:

1. To hold nursing programs accountable to the community of interest – the nursing profession, consumers, employers, higher education, students and their families, nurse residents – and to one another by ensuring that these programs have mission statements, goals, and outcomes that are appropriate to prepare individuals to fulfill their expected roles.

2. To evaluate the success of a nursing program in achieving its mission, goals, and expected outcomes.

3. To assess the extent to which a nursing program meets accreditation standards.

4. To inform the public of the purposes and values of accreditation and to identify nursing programs that meet accreditation standards.

5. To foster continuing improvement in nursing programs – and, thereby, in professional practice (http://www.aacn.nche.edu/ccne-accreditation/about/mission-values-history).
BSN Completion Classes Now Online!

Many changes are happening in the Nursing Department at Montana Tech. In addition to the site visit by CCNE, the nursing faculty started the process of converting all Nursing courses in the BSN Completion Program to an online format. As of fall semester 2012, these courses were available online for students. This is an exciting time for Nursing at Tech as it allows students to complete the BSN without being on campus for face-to-face Nursing courses (some General Education requirements have not yet converted to an online format, however these courses are in the process). This also provides the added benefit for students to interact with other Nursing students who might be at a different point in their career, living in other states or with students who have completed their ASN from schools other than Tech. Information about the BSN Completion Program along with applications for the BSN Completion Program can be found online at www.mtech.edu.

Come Join Montana Tech Nursing and Be In Demand!

Visit the Montana Tech Nursing page on Facebook

Friend Us!

Facebook.com/MontanaTechNursing

Nurse’s Notes:

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to noteworthy accomplishments, life events or any items of interest for our alumni. Sadly, we cannot complete this section without your help. Please help your fellow alumni keep up with you by sending any updates to wlester@mtech.edu. Make sure to include your degree program (ASN, BSN) and your year of graduation.

Katie Kopp (BSN ’09) graduated from Creighton University with a Master of Science (Nursing) in the Family Nurse Practitioner track (May, 2012). She works full-time in palliative medicine and part-time in urgent care and hospitalist medicine. She is engaged to Craig Sanne, a police officer in Lincoln, Nebraska. They will be married in Lincoln on September 6, 2013.

Brittany Brown (ASN ’11, current BSN student) delivered a 7 pound 15 ounce baby boy on September 15, 2012. His name is Chad Michael Lee and he was 20 ½ inches long.

Beth Brosam (BSN ’11) and her husband Bill, live in Spring Creek, Nevada. Beth is employed at the Golden Health Family Medical Center as the lead pre- and post-op nurse for minor procedures.

Justin Wilson (BSN ’09) and Allison Peterson (BSN ’09) were married in December, 2012. Justin is a CRNA student at the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia and Allison is in the Family Nurse Practitioner program at Belmont University. They both anticipate graduating in December, 2013 with Master’s Degrees in Nursing.

Stacey (Edwards) Schiel (BSN ’11) got married June 15, 2012. She and husband Chris welcomed their son Remington Gage on September 1, 2012. Stacey has since accepted an RN position at Memorial Hospital of Converse County in Douglas, Wyoming. She will be working on the medical-surgical floor.
Student Spotlight: Maria McNeil, RN, BSN

Maria McNeil, BSN ’09, is currently enrolled in the Acute Care Nurse Practitioner program at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. In addition to being a student, Maria is working in the Intensive Care Unit in Lansing where she is taking care of open heart surgery patients, Level I traumas and she is certified in CRRT, balloon pumps and LVADs. Sparrow Hospital is a magnet status, Level 1 trauma center and was just added as part of the Mayo Clinic Care Network. Sparrow Hospital has over 700 beds and is considered one of the “smaller” hospitals in Michigan.

In this Acute Care NP program, Maria has the opportunity to choose the clinical area for her three large clinical rotations for the program. Maria is planning on a clinical rotation in nephrology, trauma and hospitalist medicine. How did Montana Tech help? Maria stated, “I can’t say enough about how much Montana Tech helped me prepare for the work environment and especially grad school. I haven’t had any trouble with the learning curve from undergraduate to graduate school, if anything, grad school is much easier!”

On a personal note, Maria and her significant other, Bill were engaged last summer and they are planning a Montana wedding in August, 2014. Her target graduation date from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor is Christmas, 2013. We at Montana Tech Nursing wish Maria our best and would like to thank her for being a champion for Montana Tech Nursing!

About Our Program:

Enter the exciting world of health care in a program that offers two degrees in professional nursing—a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) completion degree and an Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN) degree. Students pursuing the BSN degree must first earn the ASN degree and pass the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) in order to continue into the BSN curriculum. Students must meet minimum program requirements and complete a formal program application to be accepted into the professional nursing program.

The profession of nursing is best served through highly educated members who continually strive to broaden their knowledge and expertise to meet the increasing demands of the health care environment.

We believe in a holistic approach to nursing education, including sensitivity to the physical, psychological, spiritual and sociocultural needs of the individual, family and community. Further, we strive for a continually evolving curriculum that reflects best practice.

Montana Tech’s Nursing graduates enjoy a 100% placement rate and average starting salaries in the mid-$40,000 range.
Calling All BSN Students and BSN Alumni

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) would like to meet current BSN students as well as BSN alumni for lunch on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 in the Pintler Room (in the SUB) from 1130-1230. By attending this lunch meeting, you will have the opportunity to share your thoughts and experiences about Montana Tech Nursing with the accreditors. If you would like to attend this luncheon please RSVP to Wilene Lester by March 1, 2013. Wilene can be reached at (406) 496-4390 or via email at wlester@mtech.edu. We hope you are able to participate in this exciting journey with us!

In Loving Memory......

Lander Robert Brosam, delivered as a sleeping angel to Bill and Beth Brosam (BSN '11), Aug 1, 2012. "With us for a moment, forever in our hearts".

Joey Lynn Kline (BSN '08), passed away unexpectedly June 9, 2012. She was 43 years old and left behind her husband, Coy and children, Hannah, Chloe and Colby.

Nicole Marie Robinson (ASN '09), passed away on August 26, 2012. She is survived by her husband Bill, children Billy, Trey, Shilo and stepdaughter, Ashley.

Garfield John Bishop (ASN '05), passed away on December 29, 2012 at the age of 58. He is survived by his daughter Danika, granddaughter, Emerald and his mother, Geraldine.