

CAREER LADDER CONVERSATIONS

<http://www2.kumc.edu/careerladder>

April 2005 e-Newsletter from the University of Kansas School of Nursing

***** Thinking about a Bachelor's Degree??? *****

You know the old adage, "April showers bring May flowers!" Even though the month of April often brings with it stormy weather, we are rewarded with an abundance of beautiful spring blossoms. It's much like advancing your education or choosing a career in nursing. It might be hard work but the rewards will be plentiful.

Personal Profile:

- ⊕ Name: Terah Eden, RN, ADN
- ⊕ Current Position: Part-time staff nurse in ICU at a local acute care hospital; Part-time RN to BSN student at the University of Kansas School of Nursing
- ⊕ Professional Education: ADN from Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, KS
- ⊕ Comments: "I started to study for my BSN because I wanted to pursue my Master's Degree in Nursing and become a CRNA. So many doors have already opened up for me since I've been studying for my Bachelor's degree. Returning to school has created stepping stones for me as I grow in my career. I was such a traditional student when I started. I like the classroom setting and was actually a little upset when I learned that the coursework was online. Now, I love it. I feel like I have control over my class schedule and I learn more because I can focus my energy on my individual learning needs."
- ⊕ Challenges & Rewards: "I love being able to plan my school schedule around my work and family time. I can sit in my PJ's, drink a cup of coffee, and study. I learn so much from my classmates, who come with a wide variety of clinical and life experiences, when we post discussions on the Web-Board. I can't really say that there have been that many challenges although I have to work hard at being a good writer."

News in Nursing:

According to the recently released 2004 National Survey of Registered Nurses, things are improving in hospitals and the shortage has improved somewhat. Since a similar 2002 survey, fewer nurses reported plans to leave their nursing position and of those planning to leave, the majority expected to move into other nursing positions or to continue their nursing education. For more information, check out the following article at: <http://community.nursingspectrum.com/MagazineArticles/article.cfm?AID=13854>

Web Wisdom:

To discover some tips on selecting a distance education program, check out the following website: <http://www.womensdigest.net/departments/career/car0803a.html>

FAQ's:

Ask the Staff? If I am interested in continuing my education, how do I get started?

Find the Answer: Heather Richardson, RN to BSN Advisor, responds: "The best thing to do when you are trying to get started is to make an appointment with one of us to have your transcripts evaluated. You can even fax your transcripts to the office. We can help a student determine what coursework they have taken that applies to their degree, so the prospective student knows exactly where they stand."

For guidance about continuing your education, contact the program director at your school or a mentor at the University of Kansas School of Nursing:

For questions about how RN to BSN or RN to MS preparation can advance your career contact KUSON Faculty Member:

Jeanne Schott, RN,MS
jschott@kumc.edu

For questions about admission to the KU RN to BSN or RN to MS Nursing program contact, Student Advisor:

Heather Richardson
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