

CAREER LADDER CONVERSATIONS

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

May e-Newsletter from the University of Kansas School of Nursing

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

Congratulations to all of the May graduates! It's an exciting and busy time of year with graduations, end-of-year parties, job searches, gardening to do and summer trips to plan. Amidst the busy-ness, may you find some time to think about your career goals and make plans for your educational needs as well.

PERSONAL PROFILE:

- ⊕ Name: Dana McNatt, RN, ADN
- ⊕ Current Position: Full-time Staff Nurse on night shift in the Emergency Room at a local acute care hospital; Part-time RN to BSN student at the University of Kansas School of Nursing
- ⊕ Professional Education: ADN from Neosho Community College, Neosho, Kansas
- ⊕ Comments: "It was a personal goal of mine to obtain my bachelor's degree, and now I'm even pondering continuing on for my Master's as well. I feel like I learn so much from the web-based courses. I know that some people are fearful about distance learning but I have not found it to be difficult. And I really like being able to do homework anytime that I want."
- ⊕ Challenges & Rewards: "My biggest challenge is the financial aspect of continuing my education, but it's great to actually be working as a nurse and going to school. I can apply what I am learning in my classes in my work setting, and I feel as though I provide better care to my patients. I have so many more 'Aha' moments now as I combine clinical work with my schooling."

NEWS IN NURSING:

According to the Spring 2005 Salary Survey from the National Association of Colleges and Employers, hiring is up from last year and so are starting salaries. Registered Nurse positions rank in the top ten jobs for 2004-2005 graduates. For more information, see:

<http://rl.channel.aol.com/onlinecampus/campusarticle?id=20050421120809990001>

WEB WISDOM:

A world of opportunity is available in the profession of nursing. For more ideas about how to land that perfect job, check out the following article:

http://www.nurseweek.com/news/features/04-07/jobhunting_print.html

FAQ's:

Ask the Staff? The thought of taking a web-based course is a little intimidating to me...what can I do?

Find the Answer: Heather Richardson, RN to BSN Advisor, responds "The most important thing to know is that you are not alone out there when you take an online course. You still have an instructor with whom to work and you are given information on how the course is arranged. You also have tech support available to you as well. Most people become accustomed to web-based learning quickly and really enjoy the benefit of the flexibility that online coursework offers them. For more information, send for a helpful booklet entitled Web-Based Learning... Is It for Me?"

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
soninfo@kumc.edu

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