



# Accreditation

Ensuring Quality and Effective  
Educational Practices



**Cutting edge instructional technology**

Diversity of values, culture and ethnicity of all people

**Scholarly endeavors**

**Public service**

**Compassionate health care**

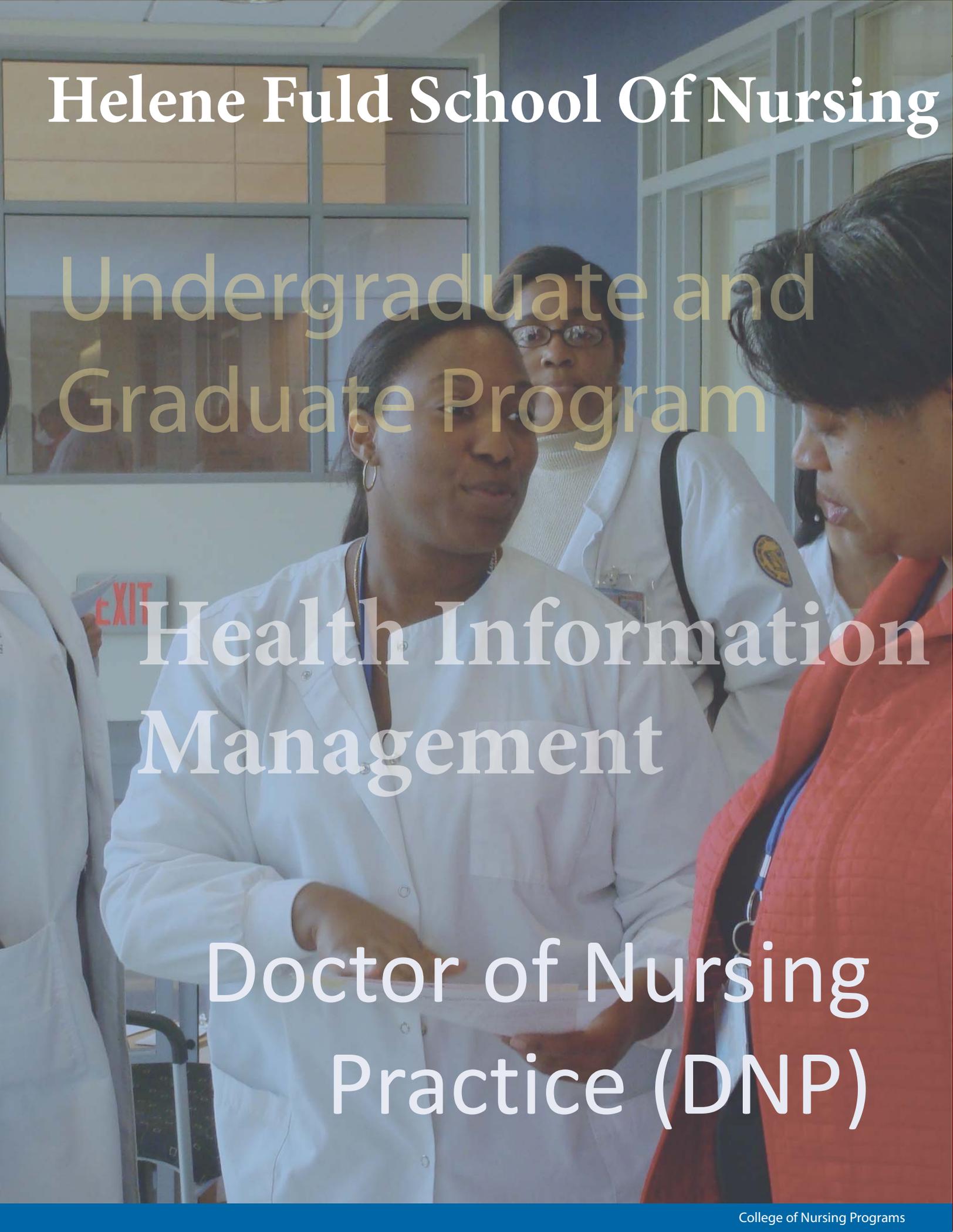
**Community-focused health care**

**Nursing Research**

Collaborative partnerships

**Community engagement**

**Customer service**

A group of nursing students in white coats and stethoscopes, looking at a document in a clinical setting. The background shows a hallway with windows and an exit sign.

**Helene Fuld School Of Nursing**

**Undergraduate and  
Graduate Program**

**Health Information  
Management**

**Doctor of Nursing  
Practice (DNP)**

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The Helene Fuld School of Nursing is pleased to present our inaugural issue of “**LUMINAIRE.**” The etymology of *luminaire* is a French word meaning *lamp* or *lighting*. It is a word that denotes illumination

and security. In nursing, the lamp is a symbol of hope and caring. During the Crimean War, Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, would visit the wounded soldiers, talk with them and comfort them as she made her rounds. This gave them hope. When she made those rounds she carried a lamp with her to light her way and became known as “The Lady with the Lamp.”

We are educating our students to be guiding lights of the nursing profession, and to stand firm in their abilities. As a school, our faculty takes pride in igniting the skills of our students, and when they leave our hallowed halls they are critical thinkers, observers, and creative problem solvers. They are beacons of compassion and commitment.

As with most institutions of higher learning, of paramount importance is a clear picture of what the future holds. It would be wonderful if we had a combination crystal ball and GPS to tell us what path to take to success, how to get there and when we will arrive. Instead we have to rely on good planning, hard work, and insight.

In this issue we are pleased to share with you, as a result of insight, some of the accomplishments that have catapulted the School of Nursing to new levels of recognition, locally, statewide, and nationally. We have gained additional scholarship support for our students, and increased our enrollment to foster the preparation of new nurses and new faculty for the State of Maryland and beyond. The Coppin Academy for Pre-Nursing Success (CAPS) program, a pre-nursing development program for Baltimore City High School students, has caught the interest of the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. We have kept our finger on the pulse of the profession and have increased the usage of technology as a necessary tool in the preparation of our students. You will learn about the first baccalaureate degree Health Information Management program in the State.

We take pride in our students, alumni and health-care partnerships. In this issue we present our premiere partner Maryland General Hospital, the president of the School of Nursing alumni association, and a reflective article from a current nursing student.

We hope this issue of **LUMINAIRE** will enlighten, engage and cause you to be excited about the interesting activities of the faculty, staff and students. You are invited to visit us, on campus and the Web site. We would love to hear from you.

*Marcella A. Copes*  
Dean



# Accreditation

Ensuring Quality and Effective Educational Practices

The Helene Fuld School of Nursing (HFSON) was visited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) evaluation team, on April 19-21, 2010. At that time a program evaluation was done for the undergraduate and graduate nursing program. The HFSON program has maintained national accreditation with The National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). The NLNAC last visited the undergraduate program in 2002 and the graduate program in 2008.

“There are three entities that have been approved by the U.S. Department of Education that accredits schools of nursing in the State of Maryland,” explains Marcella A. Copes, Ph.D, RN, Helene Fuld school of Nursing Dean, “only one accreditation is required. Coppin currently holds two accreditations from those entities. Once we receive the initial accreditation from CCNE we will have all three.”

In 2002 the NLNAC reaccredited the BSN program, and granted initial accreditation of The Master’s Degree until 2008, at which time the program was reaccredited for the maximum period of eight years, until 2016. The Helene Fuld School of Nursing (HFSON) is an agency member of the Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs of the National League for Nursing and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.

Within the HFSON are the undergraduate and the graduate programs. The Undergraduate Nursing Program at CSU was initially approved by the Maryland State Board of Nurse Examiners in 1974. The Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) meets the educational requirements for Registered Nurse (RN) licensure as required by the Maryland Nurse Practice Act and regulations in COMAR 10.27.03. The HFSON also offers a post-licensure RN to BSN program.

The Graduate Program in Nursing began in Fall 1999. The Program offers a Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) and a Post-Masters Certificate Track with a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) role concentration. The graduates are eligible to apply for national certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner. The purpose of the program is to meet the educational and health care needs of urban Maryland with special emphasis on minority populations across the life span. Most FNP graduates are working in urban clinical sites with an emphasis on minority populations, and underserved populations.

The School of Nursing maintains its national accreditation at this time. The evaluation team from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education was the accrediting body that performed the evaluation of the HFSON program. The CCNE is officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency. It ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate, and residency programs in nursing. CCNE serves the public interest by assessing and identifying programs to 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 has a peer review process in accordance with nationally recognized standards established for the practice of accreditation in the United States and its territories. Accreditation by CCNE serves as a state-



ment of good educational practice in the field of nursing. Accreditation evaluations are useful to the program in that they serve as a basis for continuing or formative self-assessment as well as for periodic or summative self-assessment through which the program, personnel, procedures, and services are improved. The results of such assessments form the basis for planning and the setting of priorities at the institution.

The CCNE accreditation evaluation consists of a review of the program's mission, goals, and expected outcomes; and an assessment of the performance of the program in achieving the mission and goals through the most effective utilization of available resources, programs, and administration. "The missions of the University and the School of Nursing are mutually supportive. The School of Nursing is committed to the mission and goals of Coppin. Through its nursing education program and outreach services, the school focuses on the needs of the vulnerable inner-city population of Baltimore. Like Coppin, the School of Nursing serves the Baltimore area and admits a large portion of students from those areas that are traditionally underrepresented in quality and higher education. Faculty members are committed to provide resources needed to close the educational and health care gap of the population in Coppin's service area," says Dr. Copes.

The evaluation process also calls for a review of evidence concerning the application of these resources in assisting the students in attaining their educational goals. "The Nursing program's library resources have been enhanced by a grant awarded by the Department of Education. Our classrooms are "smart" classrooms with state-of-the-art technology making use of Blackboard and Tegrity possible. Tegrity allows students to have access to course lectures at any time. Graduate students have access to personal digital assistants (IPOD Touch), with relevant software for primary care. They have opportunity for free textbooks and laptops and IPODS

for classroom and clinical use through grant funding. The graduate students who are eligible receive a \$5,000 stipend per semester to work as Graduate Student Assistants. This is possible through funding as well," explains Joan Tilghman, Ph.D, RN, CRNP, Associate Dean of Masters Education for the Helene Fuld School of Nursing.

In evaluating a baccalaureate, master's and/or DNP program for accreditation, the CCNE Board of Commissioners assesses whether the program meets the accreditation standards and complies with the key elements.

The standards are written as broad statements that embrace several areas of expected institutional Performance. Related to each standard is a series of key elements. Viewed together, the key elements provide an indication of whether the broader standard has been met. The key elements will be considered by the evaluation team, the Accreditation Review Committee, and the Board of Commissioners in determining whether the program meets each standard. The key elements are designed to enable the broadest possible interpretation of each standard in order to support institutional autonomy and encourage innovation while maintaining the quality of nursing programs and the integrity of the accreditation process.

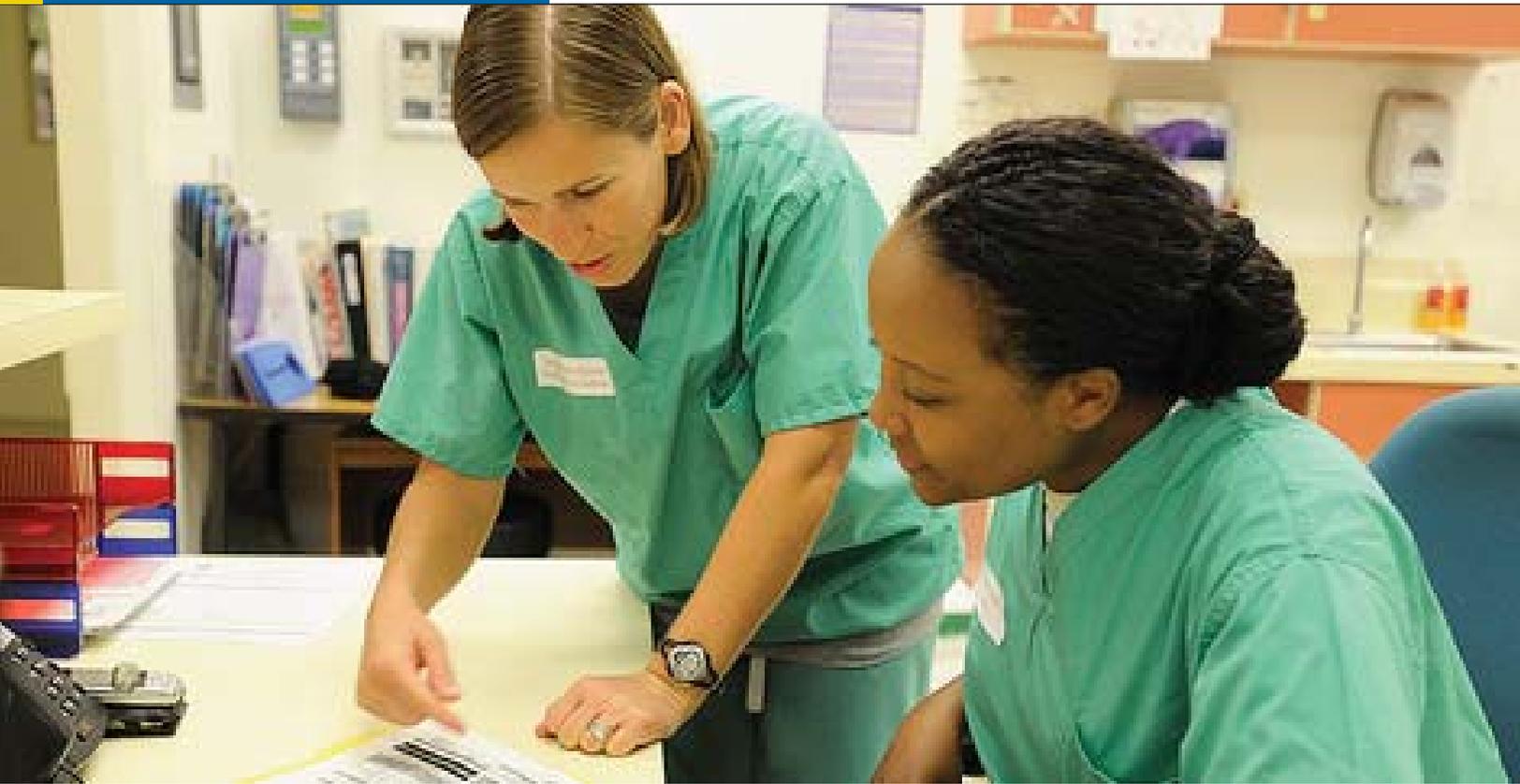
### **The evaluation consists of four standards:**

**Standard I. Program Quality:**  
Mission and Governance

**Standard II. Program Quality:**  
Institutional Commitment and Resources

**Standard III. Program Quality:**  
Curriculum and Teaching-Learning Practices

**Standard IV. Program Effectiveness:**  
Aggregate Student and Faculty Outcomes



## New Doctors In the House

A major paradigm shift has occurred in the education of Nurse Practitioners. A pivotal impetus for the change was the American Association of Colleges of Nursing's (AACN) decision in October 2004 to adopt the goal that preparation for specialization in nursing should occur at the doctoral level by 2015. The Helene Fuld School of Nursing has submitted a proposal to the Maryland Higher Education Commission for a review of a new Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree.

“The DNP degree program will be a vital academic endeavor that will assist in increasing the number of nurse practitioners prepared with a DNP in Maryland and other areas. The program will focus on population health needs. Graduates of the program will be prepared to implement policies, practices and initiatives to

improve health outcomes for urban individuals, families, and other communities,” states Marcella A. Copes, Ph.D., RN, Dean of School of Nursing.

The DNP program is a practice-focused program and therefore analogous to professional degrees offered in other disciplines including entry-level degrees [e.g. the Doctor of Medicine (MD), Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) and the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)], and those that offer advanced practice degrees (e.g., the Doctor of Psychology or PsyD). To date there are more than 83 nursing programs that now offer the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree option (AACN, 2007), which include two in Maryland Johns Hopkins and the University of Maryland.

The program was developed in direct response to the October 2004 endorsement of the AACN position statement which recognizes the DNP as the appropriate credential for all advanced nursing practice roles by 2015. AACN developed this position after an intensive study of the health care system and the findings and recommendations of many national groups. Based upon the growing complexity of health care compounded by an escalating demand for services, burgeoning growth in scientific knowledge, and the increasing sophistication in technology, the nursing profession's current practice

of preparing advanced practice nurses in master's degree programs is no longer adequate.

The DNP is a graduate degree and is built upon the generalist foundation acquired through a baccalaureate or advanced generalist masters in nursing. "The proposed DNP fulfills CSU's goal to prepare graduates who distinguish themselves as leaders and service providers in critical and essential professions that offer life-long diverse employment, professional growth and service opportunities. The CSU DNP program will prepare students to address current and future practice issues," states Joan Tilghman, Ph.D, RN, CRNP, Associate Dean of Masters Education for the School of Nursing.

The DNP program at CSU will provide an opportunity to increase graduate student enrollment among African American students. An additional benefit is that the program will be offered to a larger population in Maryland and other states through distance delivery using online courses and courses with a hybrid format.

It is the intent that this program by year three of implementation will provide a weekend option. We expect to offer an online option to provide opportunities for potential students (who might not otherwise enroll) to enroll in courses leading to the DNP. The Doctor of Nursing Practice degree addresses Goal Two of the 2009 Maryland State Plan, which is to achieve a system of post-secondary education that promotes accessibility and affordability for all Marylanders. The development and implementation of distance delivery courses will offer an alternative mode of instruction to students.

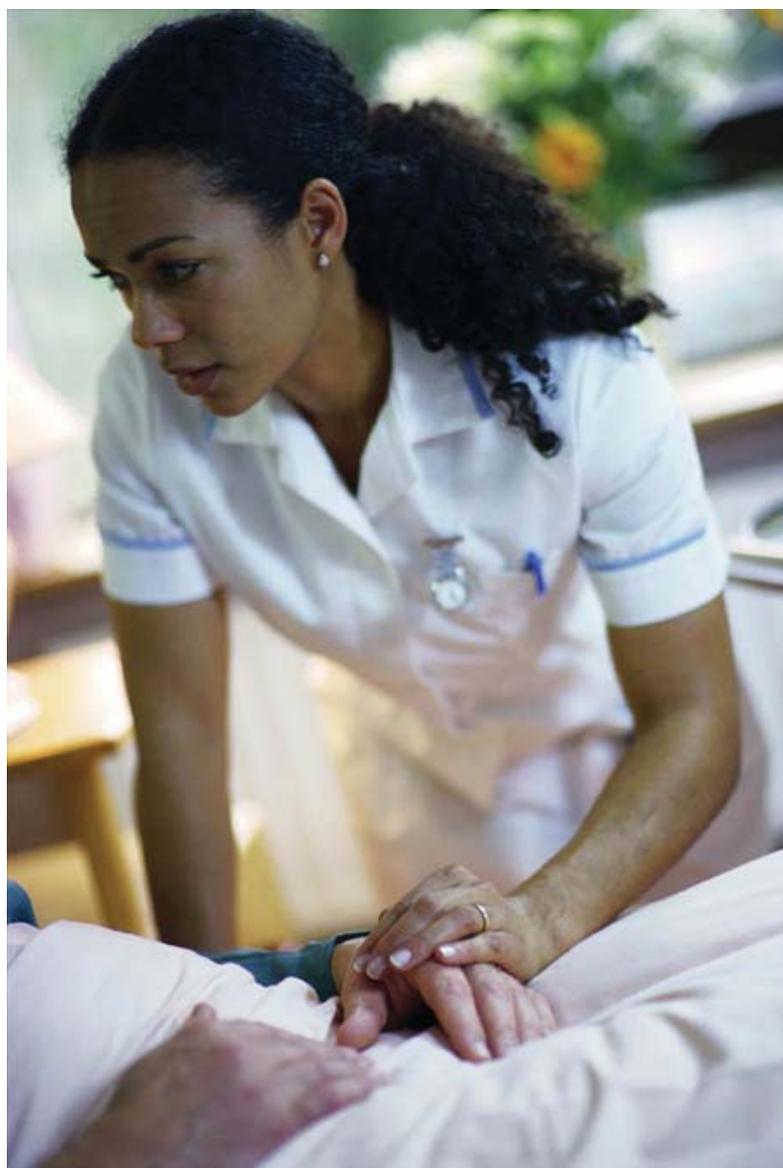
The DNP will be offered years 2011-2013 as a Post Masters DNP to students who have an advanced practice nursing Masters degree. Admission of qualified Post-Baccalaureate nursing degree applicants is projected for 2013. The DNP program will be directed at full-time students with part-time options available. Dr. Copes anticipates the majority of the applicants will be employed full-time and are seeking the DNP for job promotion or career change. Many of these students will be recruited from hospitals and other healthcare facilities where Coppin State University currently has long standing collaborative relationships.

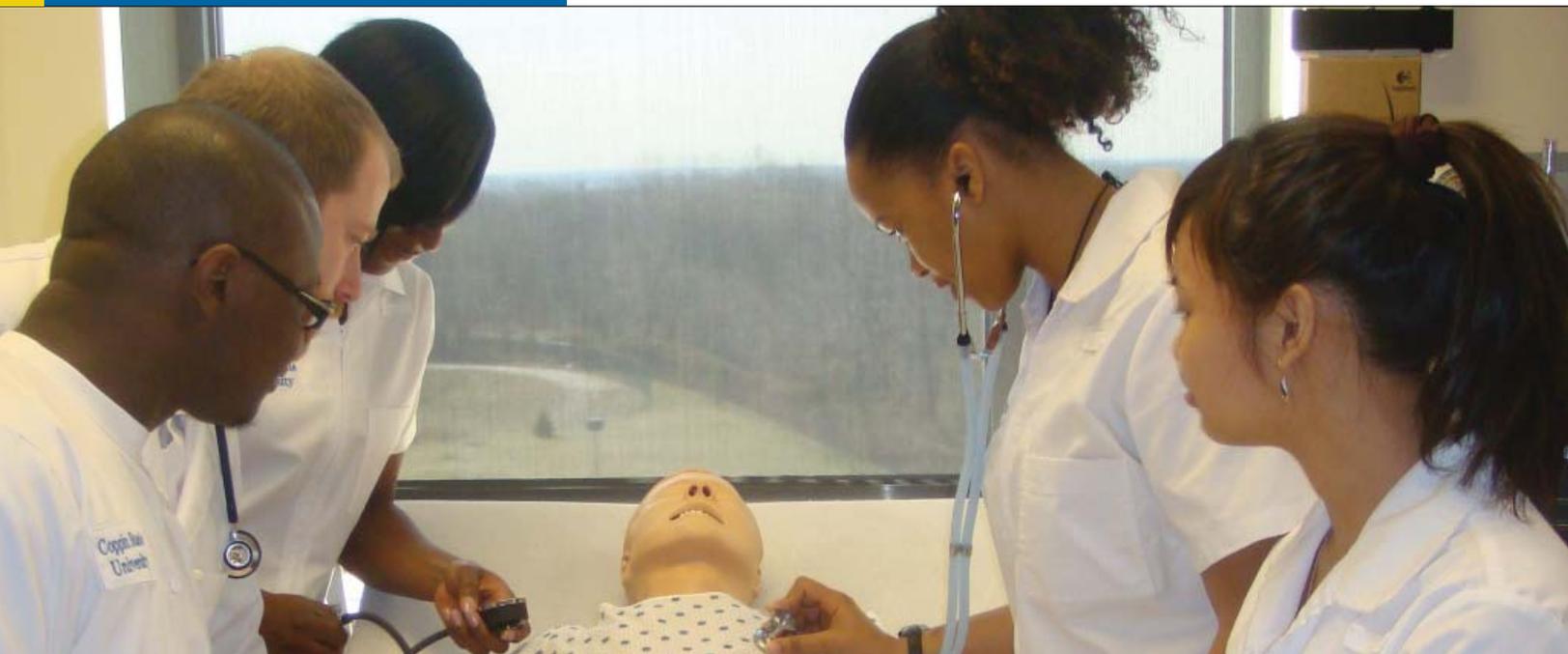
The faculty for the proposed DNP program are Master's and doctoral prepared and have current experiences in a variety of healthcare specializations. The existing faculty has received extensive preparation in the use of technology in an academic setting. Faculty development in this area is ongoing and will continue. There is an active faculty practice environment. The faculty will be comprised of professors with PhDs and DNPs degrees.

"Our program is in full compliance with professional standards for the practice as put forth by the AACN, And we are poised for success."

The current faculty preparation encompasses a range of doctoral prepared disciplines that include Transcultural Nursing, Family Theory, Public Health and Health Policy. The faculty who will teach in the DNP program faculty have conducted evidenced based practice projects, maintain faculty practices and are involved in investigator initiated research which will provide a basis for student analysis and application of research.

"Our program is in full compliance with professional standards for the practice as put forth by the AACN," says Dr. Copes, "And we are poised for success."





# Sim Center

By Mary-Ann Dogo-Isonagie

In August 2008, the Simulation Center (Sim Center) at Coppin State University (CSU) for the Helene Fuld School of Nursing (HFSON) was established to advance and enhance nursing education initiatives at CSU.

“The vision as we moved forward to our Health and Human Services Building (HHSB) opening was to have a facility that would be capable of educating our nursing students using technology,” said Dr. Marcella Copes, dean of the Helene Fuld School of Nursing. “We want to first give students an opportunity to provide nursing interventions in simulated experiences before they go into the clinical area to provide nursing interventions to clients,” she added. “We also want to address the nursing shortage.”

The Sim Center is located on the fourth floor of the HHSB. The center has seven clinical areas and is utilized by graduate and undergraduate nursing students. There are two medical surgical lab high-fidelity simulators, two high-fidelity pediatrics/obstetrics simulators, and two high-fidelity advanced medical surgical simulators.

These state-of-the-art patient simulators are designed to emulate human-like features which will provide future healthcare professionals an understanding of how to provide nursing interventions to patients. The simulators mirror the anatomical and physiological

workings of the human body. Students sharpen their clinical skills and patient safety practices using medical simulators alongside cutting-edge technology with the direct guidance of the HFSON faculty. Each simulation laboratory is fully-equipped with various operational equipment and high-fidelity mannequins that allow a realistic depiction of the hospital environment.

“We are excited because our graduate students will look at this arena as a potential area for future research,” said Dr. Rena-Boss Victoria, director of the Sim Center. “Hence, this simulation center will open many avenues and opportunities for students, as well as faculty. We recognize that many of our students will perform better in the practical component of nursing because they have a hands-on experience. This will ultimately enhance the level of performance by experience.”

According to Dr. Boss-Victoria, the simulators utilized in the center allow for the physical assessment of various clinical signs including heart/breath sounds, palpable pulses, chest excursion, and airway patency that are dynamically modeled using mathematical algorithms of human physiology and pharmacology.

Coppin’s HFSON Sim Center is one of the newest and largest on the East Coast and is a key component in the university’s commitment to providing exceptional learning opportunities and fostering innovative clinical practices and teachings in nursing education. The remunerations of this center will go far beyond Coppin’s nursing school. It will aid in promoting health sciences and clinical practice competencies for medical care throughout the entire state.

The Sim Center is open six days a week, Monday through Saturday, and is available for students to review and practice clinical skills and procedures.

# Helene Fuld School of Nursing Community Health Center

Founded in 1994 by the former Dean of the School of Nursing, Dr. Doris Starks, the Center is a non-profit, community-based primary care clinic that provides comprehensive primary care to the underserved and uninsured residents of the Coppin Heights community, also the faculty and staff at the University.

The Center is also proud to serve as the Student Health Center and provides learning experiences for graduate and undergraduate nursing students and HIM students at Coppin State University.



Its mission is to provide quality health care that is sensitive to societal needs, demands, and values with providers that are culturally sensitive and responsive to changing trends and needs of the inner city. As an integral part of the School of Nursing and Coppin State University, the Center is committed to the mission of its parent institution.

## Contact, Hours & Location

Phone: 410-951-4188

Fax: 410-951-6158

Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m.- 5:00p.m.

Health & Human Services Bldg. Rm. 133 (1st Floor)





# Coppin Opens its Second Health Center to East Baltimore

By Shernay Williams

When Linda Kaminkow, 52, stepped into Coppin State University's Community Health Center in 2005, she quickly fell in love with the friendly smiles, the one-on-one attention and overall positive atmosphere.

"The clinic, overall, is a wonder," Linda said. "From the lady at the front desk to the medical assistants to the doctors, they are very professional and thorough."

Linda and her husband Danny Kaminkow, 60, are now regular patients at the University clinic. Danny suffers from two serious heart conditions and is currently preparing for knee surgery. Linda has already had two knee replacements within the last few years.

Both are undergoing treatment at Coppin's health center. "I can actually say it is one of the best clinics I've been to," Linda added. For 16 years, Coppin State

has headed a community health center on its campus, providing medical and preventative services for West Baltimore and ensuring training opportunities for its nursing students.

This Fall, the university expands its health outreach to East Baltimoreans with the opening of the St. Frances Academy Health Center (SFA) to the greater community. The health hub is located on the left wing of the almost two-century old Catholic high school.

The facility first opened in 2008 as a school-based center for the students and faculty of St. Frances Academy. Today, the clinic is open to the public.

The center, like the clinic on Coppin's campus, is a fully serviced community-based primary care clinic offering immunizations, physical exams, GYN exams, STD testing, and referrals for the "underserved".

The nurse-managed non-profit also treats chronic and acute health conditions and offers preventative dental care for infants. Invested in serving even the uninsured, the health center at St. Frances accepts payment on a sliding scale and guarantees that no child will ever

be denied medical care because of a lack of insurance.

After receiving \$200,000 to upgrade equipment and utilize electronic billing from the Commission on Health Resources last year, Coppin officials decided to open the premier clinic to the surrounding public.

“We decided to open our services to the community because of the extreme poverty and lack of services in our area,” said Mrs. Patricia Setlow, Acting Director and Nurse Practitioner of the St. Frances clinic. “The mission of the Helene Fuld School of Nursing is to serve the underserved. We plan to see patients in a respectful and kind manner and to make sure that they receive not only patchwork care, but have the SFA clinic be their medical home giving them preventive care and health education as well as treatment.”

Mrs. Setlow is a 2003 graduate of Coppin’s Master of Science in Nursing program. She also serves as an Assistant Professor at the University. She says that the East Baltimore clinic may be small, but patients will receive care and attention that many larger clinics cannot offer.

“Because of the make-up of our clinic, we can give personalized service,” she said. “It’s not going to be that you sign in at eight and we don’t see you until 11.”

Coppin’s nursing students can also take advantage of the St. Frances and Coppin Community health centers. Students may elect to receive RN assessment training and learn leadership and community engagement skills at either health hub.

“The fact that we now have a center on the east side shows that we would like to market to all of Baltimore,” said Mrs. Setlow. “We don’t recognize the divide between east and west and we are not limited to only serving the Westside.”

Mrs. Alisa Davis, Director of the Coppin Community Health Center, says the expansion of the St. Frances Center to serve more residents gives Coppin State University more opportunities to serve families like the Kaminkows.

“It opens up the amount of Baltimore city citizens we can serve and offer primary care services,” she said. “It also increases the viability of our school.”

**To visit the CSU HFSON SBHC at St. Frances Academy, call 410-528-8747 and to learn more about the Coppin Community Health Center, call 410-951-4188.**



# Health Information Management

By Keri Hickey

Whether you follow politics or not you most certainly have caught wind of the debate over healthcare reform. Should there be a government option, who should pay for the option, what does this option really mean? Sound familiar?

Well, what you may not have heard about in all of the debates is the money set aside for health information technology and Coppin is poised to prepare students to receive their slice of that \$19.2 billion pie. Coppin State University is the only institution of higher education in the state of Maryland to offer an accredited four-year degree program in Health Information Management (HIM).

Now you may be asking yourself, what is health information management? It is the idiom used to identify the organization, maintenance, storage and retrieval of all the information pertinent to your health. A career in HIM means maintaining, collecting and analyzing the data that doctors, nurses and other healthcare providers rely on to deliver quality healthcare.

Coppin State University's Health Information Program in the Helene Fuld School of Nursing prepares students to become experts in managing patient health information and medical records, administering computer information systems and coding the diagnosis and procedures for healthcare services provided to patients.

WOW! That was a mouthful! Think of it like this. We no longer send handwritten letters. Everything is done by email, text message, twitter, facebook...etc. HIM professionals are moving medical records from handwritten documents to electronic formats.

Health Information Management is vital to how information about your health is stored and shared. Professionals working in the field of HIM are making sure that your information is kept private and secure. The systems they implement ensure that the right information gets to the right people at the right time so that you get the right medical care. HIM professionals partner with the clinician in providing the best possible care for a patient by assuring the health information is readily accessible. This can be critical in emergency situations or when the patient is unable to provide the information themselves. Through electronic mediums this information can be accessible anywhere in the world.

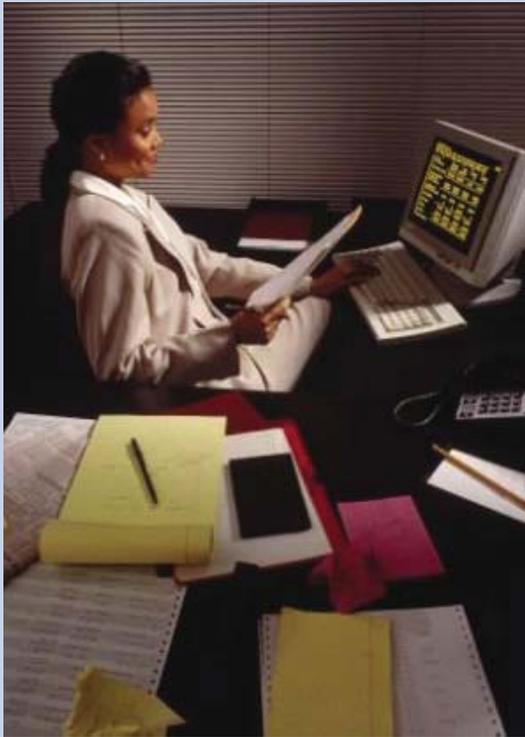
"It does not stop there. HIM keeps your medical information private and secure, and it sets standards for how the information is stored so it can be retrieved quickly when needed. HIM does this on a national level. Now you can travel worry free knowing that your information will be available in case of emergency," says Mona Calhoun, director of the School of Nursing Health Information Management program.

HIM professionals work in a multitude of settings within the healthcare industry including hospitals, physician offices and clinics, long-term care facilities,

insurance companies, government agencies, correctional facilities and as a home care provider. They also hold positions as compliance officers, data quality managers, educators, health-care consumer advocates, privacy/security officers, project managers, reimbursement or revenue cycle managers, information systems managers, or classification standards manager to name a few.



If you would like additional information about the Health Information Management program call 410-951-6200 or visit our Web site at [www.coppin.edu/HIM](http://www.coppin.edu/HIM).



## What's Distinctive about the Coppin Program?

The Helene Fuld School of Nursing offers holistic, student-center, education for aspiring, and professional nurses.

With challenging curriculum, state-of-the-art facilities, and abundant academic support, it's an ideal environment for highly motivated, self-directed students seeking to make a difference.

- The student faculty ratio in the School of Nursing is usually no higher than 30:1. In clinical courses, it is no higher than 8:1.
- Unlike many undergraduate nursing programs, the Coppin program is not prerequisite based. Students are accepted to the School based on past academic performance, but do not need to take any specific courses before entering the program.
- The School provides exceptional student-support services, including tutoring by graduate of the School and the Nursing Student Enrichment program.

## Are Scholarships and Financial Aid Available?

Absolutely. Student in the School of Nursing are eligible for the scholarships, grants, work-study, and loan program available to all Coppin students. These include a variety of generous merit scholarships based on academic performance.

To find out more, contact the Office of Financial Aid directly On the Web: [www.coppin.edu/financialaid/](http://www.coppin.edu/financialaid/)  
**Email:** [financialaid@coppin.edu](mailto:financialaid@coppin.edu)  
**Phone:** (410) 951-3636

Another potential resource is the *Maxie Collier Scholars Program*, designed to prepare promising undergraduates in the fields of nursing, natural sciences, psychology, and social work to serve emotionally disturbed children, adolescents, and their families in Baltimore Metropolitan area. Funded by the Maryland Department of Mentally Hygiene (DMH), this program seeks to educate and recruit qualified African-American professionals into careers in public mental health.

**Learn more online:** [www.coppin.edu/maxiecollier/](http://www.coppin.edu/maxiecollier/)

## How Do I Gain Admission To The Undergraduate Nursing Program?

- You must first apply and be accepted to Coppin state University as a degree-seeking student before applying Helene Fuld School of Nursing.
- The School of Nursing admits new students only in the fall semester, primarily because the curriculum is highly structured and the pace of learning is rapid.
- Well-prepared incoming Coppin students can enter the nursing major if they meet the criteria: (1) have a cumulative grade-point average of 2.5; (2) do not require any developmental course work; and (3) achieve a passing score on the Nursing Entrance Exam (NET).
- The School of Nursing will invite qualified applicants to take the NET. (Students currently enrolled in developmental courses at Coppin cannot take the NET.)

The School of Nursing welcomes undergraduate applicants from students in three categories: (1) applicants without previous college experience; (2) applicants who have current or prior enrollment at Coppin in a different major, or as "unknown"; and (3) applicants who have 25 or more acceptable transfer credits from another college.

**Please contact the School of Nursing directly with any questions regarding your status.**

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM (BSN)

Students entering the School of Nursing as freshmen can complete the BSN in four years of study, while those who enter later will probably require five years to complete the degree. To earn the BSN degree at Coppin you must complete a minimum of 126 credits, including 18 lower division nursing credits, 53 upper-division nursing credits, and 55 general education and elective credits.

All students in the first year of the program take Academic Success in Nursing, which provides an introduction to the curriculum and offers strategies for academic achievement in this challenging major. Subsequent lower-division nursing courses include Introduction to the Nursing Care to Promote Urban Family Health.

During the third and fourth years of the program, you'll be introduced to clinical practice and pursue increasingly specialized nursing course work, such as Medical-Surgical and Psychiatric Nursing and Urban Healthcare within the community.

Graduates of the Helene Fuld School of Nursing consistently outperform graduates of other Maryland nursing programs. The pass rate for the Maryland Board of Nursing RN Licensure Examination is usually between 75 and 100 percent.

## RN TO BSN

This baccalaureate-completion program meets the needs of working registered nurses from a wide range of educational and professional backgrounds. It consists of 63 credit hours, including 32 nursing credits and 31 general education credits. The curriculum and teaching strategies facilitate the professional development of highly motivated, self-directed adult learners.

This program is designed to be completed in one year of full-time study. Your advisor will explain how much time it should take you to complete the program based on your educational background and your advanced placement credit status.

## HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM-BS IN HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

This innovative, interdisciplinary program prepares you for one of today's fastest growing professions. Health information management (HIM) professionals work at the crossroads of healthcare and technology - they are experts in managing patient medical records and administering complex computer systems. As an HIM professional, you will collect, maintain, and analyze the information doctors, nurses, and other healthcare pro-

viders require to deliver quality care.

The Coppin program leads to a Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management. Graduates in this opportunity-rich field are employed in a wide range of professional settings: healthcare facilities such as hospitals, clinics, and doctors' offices; government agencies that deal with healthcare data; insurance companies; pharmaceutical companies; consulting and law firms; and long-term care facilities. In fact, health information management professionals are employed in every industry that utilizes patient data.

High school students interested in this program should take as many math, science, and computer science courses as possible. The curriculum during the first two years of the Coppin program provides a strong foundation in anatomy, physiology, and other natural sciences. Upper-level courses familiarize you with business analysis, computer science, and legal issues surrounding HIM. As a junior and senior, you'll take the professional development courses and have opportunities to gain on-site experience in the HIM department of an acute-care facility.

Earning the BS degree in HIM qualifies you to take the Registered Health Information Administrator (RHIA) certification exam. Annual starting salaries for health information management professionals with RHIA certification are in the \$30,000 - \$50,000 range. With five-plus years experience, RHIA-certified professionals can expect to earn \$75,000 or more.

HIM is an ideal program for transfer students, including former nursing majors who decide, for whatever reason, that nursing is not right for them. To facilitate the entry of transfer students interested in health information management, Coppin maintain articulation agreements with a number of area community colleges, including Baltimore City Community College; Howard Community College; Montgomery Community College; Prince George's Community College; and Community College of Baltimore County.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics at the U.S. Department of Labor, health information management professions are among the fastest growing in the nation, with job growth in that field projected to increase by nearly 50 percent in the next several years.

### To Learn More about HIM Opportunities

- To learn more about the Health Information Management program at Coppin: [www.coppin.edu/HIM/](http://www.coppin.edu/HIM/)
- To learn more about careers in Health Information Management nationwide: [www.ahima.org/careers](http://www.ahima.org/careers)

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING PROGRAM (MSN)

The MSN program provides the advanced skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in both clinical practice and nursing research. Like the BSN program, the MSN program at Coppin focuses on training culturally sensitive nurses with a commitment to serving diverse urban communities.

You'll work closely with nationally acclaimed faculty members at the Helene Fuld School of Nursing, and learn how to work collaboratively with a multi-disciplinary healthcare team providing comprehensive patient care. As a Coppin student, you'll also have access to state-of-the-art clinical facilities and some of the best academic information technology in the region.

Students in the MSN program are eligible for a wide range of scholarship and grant opportunities, including Senatorial, Delegate, Professional, and State Nursing Scholarships to qualified Maryland residents. Contact the Graduate Department of Nursing for detailed information on scholarships, grants, and possible graduate assistantships available for full-time students.

## POST-MASTER'S CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Post-Masters Certificate Program is designed for nurses with the MSN degree who are seeking further certification in order to become family nurse practitioners.

The program consists of 31 credit hours and pre-cepted clinical hours and will prepare you to provide comprehensive primary care to urban families, especially those in underserved areas. You'll acquire in-depth knowledge of health promotion, disease prevention, growth and development, wellness care, assessment, and management of common illness.

Students completing the program are prepared to sit for certification as a Family Nurse Practitioner.

Graduates of the Coppin program work in a wide variety of professional settings in Baltimore and beyond.



# Coppin Academy for Pre-Nursing Success (CAPS) Program

There is not a college, university, or academic program that can survive without finding creative and innovative ways to grow student enrollment, nurture student potential, and keep them engaged as they progress through to graduation. Coppin State University's Helene Fuld School of Nursing has accepted the recruitment and retention challenge head on by developing a program that has proven to be extremely successful.

The Coppin Academy for Pre-Nursing Success (CAPS) program not only addresses shortages in nursing, it also addresses the challenges of recruitment and retention. CAPS is a year-round program that exposes high school students to the tools they will need to succeed in the field of Nursing. CAPS taps into the potential and energy of middle and high school students and focuses it in a way that propels students head first into nursing success.

CAPS' unique, comprehensive approach proves to be an extremely beneficial tool in recruiting, graduating and ensuring licensure of registered nurses. The CAPS program begins preparing students as early as the eighth grade to face the rigors of college. It also exposes students, while still in high school, to the nursing world in a hospital setting.

CAPS is a comprehensive pre-entry nursing preparation program that addresses social and personal development, student engagement, parental support and involvement and the learning environment. Students engage in a summer and winter clinical experience, student tutorials, a summer residential academy, student engagement activities within the SON, peer mentoring, financial and academic counseling, student stipends/scholarships and an Early Entry Option in which select students are du-

ally enrolled at Coppin and their high school. This means that students are earning college credits while still in high school.

The program provides students with crucial academic support services as well as opportunities and experiences aimed at enhancing personal, professional and social growth and development. These strategies prepare the students to meet the challenges and rigors of baccalaureate nursing education. Students participate in a Saturday morning tutorial focusing on math, the sciences, English, writing, reading, SAT prep, strategies for academic success. Students also get help with specific subjects that prove to be especially difficult. Small group and one-on-one individualized tutoring are also available.

The participating high schools also receive benefits from the program. A Future Nurses Club is established at each high school. The high schools are assisted in improving academic performance outcomes for the participating CAPS students. In addition the schools are better informed of appropriate curricular to assure that students are better prepared for college. Weekly meetings are held with teachers, counselors and parents to ensure that the students participating in CAPS remain focused on the achievement of their goals by maintaining GPAs of 2.5 or higher.

Compared to students who do not participate in the CAPS program, students at Coppin tend to have better course grades, higher GPAs as well as better performance outcomes on the NCLEX. To date all the CAPS students who have taken the NCLEX passed on the first attempt. In addition CAPS students tend to be more focused and motivated. There is no other program in Maryland as comprehensive and structured as CAPS.



For more information on the CAPS program contact **Dr. Frances Gordon at 410-951-2631** or via email [fgordon@coppin.edu](mailto:fgordon@coppin.edu)



# Making a Difference in the Life of a Student

By Michael F. Richardson

I am in my junior year at the Coppin State University School of Nursing. I am pursuing a baccalaureate degree in nursing with the intention of serving the health care needs of Baltimore City in an acute care environment. I am not a recent high school graduate, but one who for a variety of reasons found it necessary to pursue a new career.

After a working for many years in the public policy area (in the legislature and private consulting), it became clear to me that I needed to identify a new career path, not simply a new job. As opposed to viewing my situation from a point of fatigue, I chose to look at the future from the perspective of it being an opportunity. After deciding on nursing because of the expanded scope of practice, and the chance to deliver much-needed primary health care, I asked myself this question. First, was I able to handle the science courses and the vast amount of information needed to get a B.S.N. after so many years (my first degree was awarded in 1980)? The answer was

that I had become a better student than I had even been, and considered the near future, my plan to rejuvenate my career was sound.

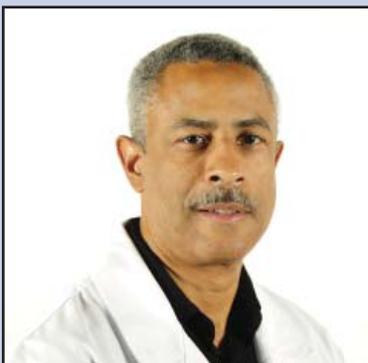
Throughout my post-high school life, I have developed a strong set of communication, analytical and strategic skills. These abilities have served me

well in the past, and are of immeasurable benefit in nursing school. I possess a unique combination of confidence, vision, focus and awareness of priority, which I share with my younger school colleagues in an effort to promote their personal growth. This coming year I will use these same skills to assist high school students as part of a volunteer commitment I made to a Coppin/Baltimore City Public Schools program targeted at mentoring to those who want to be college bound.

The critical encouragement from my professors is something new and welcoming to me. As a student at the University of Pittsburgh in the late 1970's, I never realized the personal commitment and support I have come to experience from the faculty at Coppin. I guess that larger universities don't feel the need to have such an obligation to their students.

I feel comfortable with my chances for success as a result of studying at Coppin's School of Nursing. My commitment to proficiency in developing key nursing skills, willingness to admit what I do not know, and to seek information/advice on matters unclear to me is something that has attracted positive attention among members of my school's faculty.

I sincerely hope that my contribution to Baltimore's health care needs will make a difference, as an example of what a good investment can produce in the transformation of a potentially productive individual, and for the lives I may save or rescue as a future nurse from Coppin State University Helene Fuld School of Nursing and as a mentor with a conscience.



# Partnership with Coppin State University Helps Ease Nursing Shortage

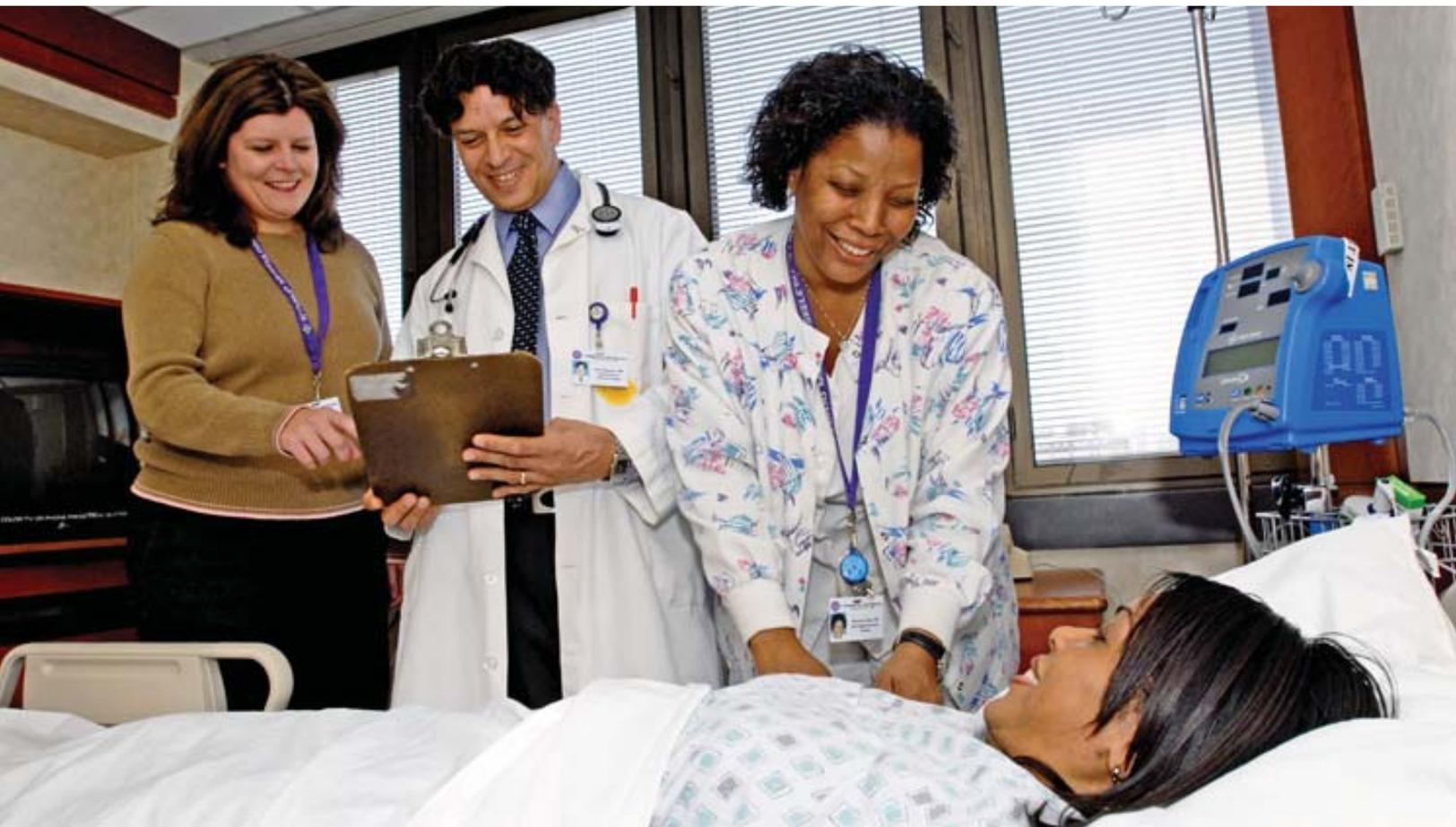
Hiring more nurses, recruiting more health care professionals and enhancing educational opportunities for nursing staff are just a few of the goals of a partnership between Maryland General Hospital and the Helene Fuld School of Nursing at Coppin State University, a historically black college. Maryland General Hospital recently hosted its annual reception dinner for seniors from Coppin's School of Nursing. They were excited and eager to learn about Maryland General's mission and incentives to beginning their nursing careers at the hospital.

Maryland General has successfully recruited nurses and hosted internships from Coppin. The Helene Fuld School of Nursing at Coppin State University is nationally recognized for its nursing programs and has some of Maryland's top educators providing undergraduate and graduate didactic and supervision of clinical practice.

Both the Graduate and Undergraduate programs are accredited by the Maryland Board of Nursing, the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission, and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

"We are pleased to advance our relationship beyond nursing internships toward employment opportunities for our students," said Marcella A. Copes, professor and dean of the Helene Fuld School of Nursing. "Coppin is fortunate to partner with Maryland General Hospital and its staff to educate and employ our nursing graduates."

"Our proactive approach to nursing recruitment and retention is unique and something that we are very proud of," said Edward Strele, RN, chief nursing officer. "My desire is not just to recruit nurses, but to employ people whose main goal is to nurture and be a part of the healing process."



# Giving to the Helene Fuld School of Nursing



The School of Nursing's Alliance for Nursing Guidance, Education and Leadership (A.N.G.E.L.) network, does so much to provide a better quality of living within the Nursing school, assists with student scholarships, improves academic resources, provides faculty and staff development opportunities, and increases recognition for the School of Nursing.

We have many needs and your contribution helps meet some of them that otherwise would not be met. Through A.N.G.E.L. you can help us transform the quality of education for our students, the quality of our program, and the quality of health-care for Maryland and the nation.

Your gift is important. We cannot do it alone.

To make a gift to the Helene Fuld School of Nursing A.N.G.E.L. network to support these and other programs please call 410-951-3993 and/or make checks and money orders payable to: A.N.G.E.L.

**Mail to:**

Coppin State University  
Helene Fuld School of Nursing  
Health & Human Services Building  
2500 W. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21216

**#1** The Helene Fuld School of Nursing ranks **Number 1** among the eight Maryland BSN institutions for the 2010 NCLEX RN passing rate.



# A Conversation with Rochelle Purnell, School of Nursing Alumni Association President

**Question: What year did you graduate from the School of Nursing?**

**Purnell:** I graduated from the RN to BSN program in 1992.

**Question: What have you been doing since you graduated?**

**Purnell:** WOW!!! I have been employed in the Geriatric division of the Baltimore City Health Department for 17 years as a Nursing Supervisor. I obtained a Master's degree in Community/Public Health Nursing from the University of Maryland School of Nursing in 2001. I have taught nursing courses at Coppin State University, and have coordinated the community health clinical placement for Coppin's nursing students at my agency. I belong to several public service organizations and I am an advocate for Community service.

**Question: Why did you choose Nursing as a profession?**

**Purnell:** I have always had the desire to help others, especially those that are less fortunate than me. It brings me joy to help make people feel better, and to provide encouragement and inspiration. I feel that I have been given a gift, to serve others. I really love what I do.

**Question: What was the industry like then versus now?**

**Purnell:** Nursing continues to change rapidly. I began my nursing career in 1978, when patient care was the primary focus. Today, there is more diversity in areas of practice which allows us to practice in the area of our passion. Also, nursing practice today is more health prevention and health maintenance.

**Question: How did you get involved with the alumni association?**

**Purnell:** Dr. Marcella Copes, Dean of the School of Nursing, asked that I become involved in an effort to develop the alumni. She wanted me to gather graduates together who cared about the school and its continued growth.

**Question: Why do you think it is important to be involved in the alumni association?**

**Purnell:** I am extremely proud of the education I received at the Helene Fuld School of Nursing. So, being actively involved in the alumni association is my way of giving back to the institution. I want the same for the future nursing graduates. I want them to be proud to serve, to give back too.



# RECRUITMENT CALENDAR

**CSU FALL OPEN HOUSE**, Friday 12/03/2010 8:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**RN to BSN "Small Career Fair" at AACC**, Friday 12/10/2010 10:00 a.m. - noon

## JANUARY 2011

**High School & Transfer Educator's Day**, Friday 01/14/2011 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**M.A.N.S. Conference**, Saturday 01/29/2011

## FEBRUARY 2011

**MCPS [Mont. Co. Public Schools] Collaboration**, Thursday 02/10/2011 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Howard Community College - Transfer Day**, Monday 02/14/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Anne Arundel Comm. College Transfer Day**, Tuesday 02/15/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**College of Southern Maryland [Prince Frederick Campus] Transfer Day**, Wednesday 02/16/2011 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**College of Southern Maryland [La Plata Campus] Transfer Day**, Thursday 02/17/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Admissions / Financial Aid Program**, Saturday 02/19/2011 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

**Admissions / Honors Program**, Saturday 02/19/2011 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m.

**Prince George's Community College Transfer Day**, Tuesday 02/22/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Montgomery College [Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus] - Transfer Day**, Wednesday 02/23/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Montgomery College [Rockville Campus] - Transfer Day**, Thursday 02/24/2011 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Hagerstown Community College - Transfer Day**, Monday 02/28/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

## MARCH 2011

**Frederick Comm. College - Transfer Day**, Tuesday 03/01/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Montgomery College [Germantown Campus] - Transfer Day**, Wednesday 03/02/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Carroll Comm. College - Transfer Day**, Thursday 03/03/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Harford Comm. College Transfer Day**, Monday 03/07/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**CCBC [Dundalk Campus] - Transfer Day**, Tuesday 03/08/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Baltimore City Comm. College - Transfer Day**, Wednesday 03/09/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**CCBC [Catonsville Campus] - Transfer Day**, Thursday 03/10/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Cecil Comm. College - Transfer Day**, Tuesday 03/29/2011 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**CCBC [Essex Campus] - Transfer Day**, Wednesday 03/30/2011 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



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Helene Fuld School of Nursing

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*A degree from the Helene Fuld School of Nursing*

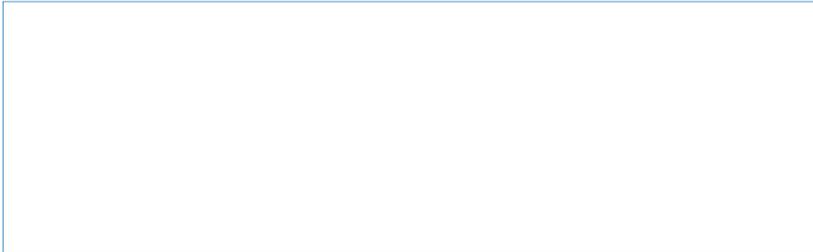
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For more information about our programs visit us online at [www.coppin.edu/nursing](http://www.coppin.edu/nursing) or call 410-951-3970



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## What Makes A University Great?

- Engaged Faculty*
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... **Inspired Philanthropy**

## Why I Give Back?

“It is with great pleasure that I give back to the Helene Fuld School of Nursing. I will always appreciate the knowledge and nurturing I received here as an undergraduate nursing student. I am so appreciative of the start that Coppin gave me. I readily accepted a faculty position here. I take my role in nurturing the development of future nurses very seriously. In addition, I financially support the School of Nursing through yearly gifts to the Maryland State Charity Campaign.”



**Denyce Watties-Daniels,**  
**RN MNS - Class '80**

Coppin State University is the first choice and first chance for hundreds of students from a variety of circumstances.

### We ...

- Uplift students by expanding their horizons and supporting their deepest aspirations
- Accept dozens of students from economically and socially challenged backgrounds
- Educate adult learners, many of whom work and have families
- Celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates and alumni, who make us proud

### Inspired philanthropy ...

- Builds great faculty through endowed chairs and professorships
- Supports students through scholarships and book funds
- Enriches student experiences through foreign exchange and cultural programs
- Strengthens the community through programs and learning opportunities for neighborhood residents

### We ask you to be inspired too.

Visit [coppin.edu/invest](http://coppin.edu/invest) or contact David Balcom at (410) 951-3814 or [dbalcom@coppin.edu](mailto:dbalcom@coppin.edu).