



NEWS
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Inaugural class of GSW Accelerated BSN program graduates

AMERICUS--Georgia Southwestern State University (GSW) celebrated the inaugural graduating class of its Accelerated BSN degree program May 5, 2007.

Nine nursing students successfully completed the fast track second-degree baccalaureate program designed for students who have a bachelor's degree but not in nursing. The graduates were: Sulenia Bobb, Shawanda Griffin, Litonya Granville, Robert Kite, Megan McGorman, Connie Ozimba, Angela Randall, Jill Wiggins, and MariannaYinh.

"This is an innovative approach to the nursing program that is gaining national momentum," said Sandra Daniel, Ph.D., interim dean and professor of the School of Nursing. "Georgia Southwestern State University is proud to be offering a program that is responsive to society's health care needs."

Daniel also mentioned that a shortage of registered nurses is expected to be greater than one million by 2012. The National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice has also recommended that at least two-thirds of the nursing workforce hold baccalaureate or higher degrees by 2010.

Nursing programs throughout the nation are responding by developing innovative ways to reach out to new student populations. By offering the Accelerated BSN degree, Georgia Southwestern hopes to reduce the nursing shortage, as well.

What's more, according to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, second-degree students are easily motivated, more mature and have higher academic expectations than high school entry baccalaureate students.

The second class of accelerated degree students is expected to graduate Fall 2007.

For information regarding this program, call the School of Nursing at (229) 931-2275.

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