

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT



REPORT TO THE 2010 LEGISLATURE

ANNUAL REPORT ON

NURSING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

HRS 304A-3305 (Act 116, SLH 2005)

November 2009

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The Nursing Scholars Program was established to encourage students to pursue graduate study in master's and doctoral programs which will prepare them for an academic career in nursing. The student is expected to "commence nursing instruction in the State within one year after completion of an approved graduate degree in nursing for a period of one year for each academic year the student received a master's or doctoral degree, for a period of one year for each academic year the student receives a scholarship grant ..." and "...reimburse the State for all amounts received under this chapter and interest thereon, as determined by the department, if the student fails to comply with this subsection." This program is essentially a loan program which requires payback should the student fail to comply with the agreement as mentioned above.

The School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene (SONDH) Office of Student services publicized the Nursing Scholars Program, collected applications, reviewed applicants for eligibility, conducted entrance interviews, and continued to monitor student's academic progress and successful completion of the degree program.

We are pleased to report that two applications were received for the Nursing Scholars Program. The recipients were Ms. Henny Breen and Ms. Estelle Codier, each receiving an award of \$8,928. The amount of the award was determined in coordination with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Financial Aid Office to reach each student's maximum eligibility. The total amount expended to date from the Nursing Scholars Program is \$17,856.

Ms. Breen is a PhD student, in good academic standing, who was on an approved Leave of Absence for fall 2008 and resumed her studies in Spring 2009. Dr. Estelle Codier graduated and was awarded her PhD in Nursing in December 2006 after successfully completing her dissertation defense, "The emotional intelligence of clinical staff nurses". We are also pleased to report that Dr. Codier was hired as an Assistant Professor with the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene, Department of Nursing. She is teaching in the undergraduate, graduate and master entry in nursing (MEPN) program in the Department of Nursing.

Student assistance is an important part of a multifaceted response to the nursing shortage. The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene applauds the Hawai'i State Legislature for developing and funding the Nursing Scholars Program as an initiative to help address the shortage in the State, particularly the shortage of nursing faculty. This act provided an incentive and added opportunity for students to enter and/or successfully complete the graduate nursing program with a focus on educational preparation to teach nurses. We appreciate the Legislature's commitment to ongoing continued support and a strategic public sector approach to sustain a robust, qualified nursing workforce to meet Hawai'i's health care needs into the future.