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UH Mānoa Nursing Translational Health Science Simulation Center Accredited

Honolulu, Hawai'i (July 28, 2014) – University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Nursing (UH Mānoa Nursing) announced today that the University of Hawai'i Translational Health Science Simulation Center (UH THSSC) has been accredited for three years by the Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH). High fidelity simulation education is a relatively new field. The SSH Simulation Accreditation positions UH Mānoa Nursing at the forefront of simulation education.

The SSH Simulation Accreditation is the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and demonstrates UH THSSC's commitment to offering health care simulation training programs and services that are measurable, accountable, and of the highest quality.

As leaders of excellence and innovation, UH Mānoa Nursing and the UH THSSC provides a facility that simulates hospital, ambulatory care, and home environments for learners. UH THSSC creates real-life scenarios so that students can gain experience, confidence, and the skills they need to provide quality care. Simulation training creates high risk, low frequency situations for students to learn hands-on in a safe, controlled environment. "We are proud to be the only nursing school in Hawai'i to earn SSH Simulation Accreditation," said Dr. Mary G. Boland, DrPH, RN, FAAN, UH Mānoa Nursing Dean.

The SSH Simulation Accreditation verifies that the UH THSSC's internal operations as well as teaching and educational programs meet stringent international standards. The aim of simulation education is to increase patient safety and quality of care when students graduate and enter the workforce. Said Boland, "our students receive the highest quality nursing education here at UH Mānoa, which is good for our students – and our community." In addition to educating UH Mānoa Nursing students, UH THSSC works with local and international health care agencies and organizations to facilitate health care simulation to ensure knowledge and skills competency for health care students, providers, and interprofessional teams. UH THSSC has developed partnerships with education and health care agencies from American Samoa, Australia, China, Guam, Japan, and Micronesia in response to a global need for quality improvement through simulation.

"Our SSH Simulation Accreditation solidifies and confirms our commitment to providing both student and professional learners with the highest quality of simulation education," said Dr. Lorrie Wong, PhD, RN, CHSE-A, Director of the UH Translational Health Science Simulation Center. Through simulation education, health care professionals and their health care teams work together in a controlled and safe simulated environment to reduce preventable errors and deliver safe, quality healthcare.

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About UH Mānoa Nursing

UH Mānoa Nursing, the Nursing Capitol of the Pacific, is the leader in nursing education and research in Hawai'i with outreach to Asia and the Pacific Basin. We support the mission of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa: to provide an innovative, caring and multicultural environment in which faculty, students and staff work together to generate and transmit knowledge, wisdom, and values to promote quality of life and health for present and future generations. The school offers the BS, master's, and doctoral programs. To reflect Hawai'i's unique cultural diversity and heritage, UH Mānoa Nursing is committed to increasing Native Hawaiian and other underserved people in all nursing programs. For more information, visit www.nursing.hawaii.edu.

About UH Translational Health Science Simulation Center

UH Translational Health Science Simulation Center (UH THSSC) is the leader of nursing simulation-based learning, research, information, and technology in Hawai'i with outreach to Asia and the Pacific Basin. UH THSSC's mission is to improve health outcomes by providing programs which promote and enhance safe, quality healthcare through clinical competence, teamwork, and transdisciplinary collaboration. UH THSSC supports bio-behavioral and translational research to add to the body of knowledge on simulation, practice, technology, quality, and safety in the workplace. UH THSSC offers educational programs to organizations, health care agencies, and individuals. For more information, visit www.thssc.nursing.hawaii.edu.

About The Society for Simulation in Healthcare

The Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH) was established in January 2004 to represent the rapidly growing group of educators and researchers who utilize a variety of simulation techniques for education, testing, and research in healthcare. The membership, now over 3,000, is united by its desire to improve performance and reduce errors in patient care using all types of simulation including task trainers, human patient simulators, virtual reality and standardized patients. SSH promotes improvements in simulation technology, educational methods, practitioner assessment and patient safety that promote better patient care and can improve patient outcome. For more information, visit www.ssih.org.