

# Today



*A publication for alumni,  
parents and friends of  
the university.*

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## School of Nursing receives national accreditation

The School of Nursing at The University of North Carolina at Wilmington has received full accreditation by a unanimous vote from the National League for Nursing. The league's board of review made the announcement on March 17 from its New York headquarters.

The National League for Nursing is a professional organization that voluntarily accredits programs that meet standards of excellence beyond those required by state boards of nursing. The UNCW nursing program is accredited by the North Carolina Board of Nursing, the state's official licensing agency.

"National accreditation will make a significant impact on recruiting nursing students to UNCW. Many prospective nursing students want to enroll in such programs," said Dr. Marlene Rosenkoetter, dean of the School of Nursing.



Dr. Marlene Rosenkoetter, dean of the School of Nursing

In addition to being a recruiting tool, the accreditation will give UNCW's nursing graduates more career options. A nursing student must graduate from a nationally accredited undergraduate program for acceptance into NLN-accredited master's programs, schools of anesthesia, or to enter the military as a commissioned officer. Equally important, graduates of nationally accredited nursing schools are often given preference in hiring and job promotions.

To achieve its new status, the School of Nursing submitted to the league's review board a lengthy self-study on the school's administration and structure, faculty credentials, budget and resources, curriculum, and support services.

National accreditation has been awarded at an early phase in the career of the UNCW School of Nursing. UNCW's baccalaureate degree nursing program began in 1984. It graduated its first baccalaureate class in May 1987, with the class having a 100 percent pass rate on the registered nurse licenser examination.

Rosenkoetter noted that the accreditation's long-term effect will be a program that will attract more graduates to help alleviate the nursing shortage.

There are currently 40 students enrolled in the nursing program at UNCW. The School of Nursing has a full-time faculty of 11, with two adjunct professors.

— Renee Brantley



UNCW's Hoggard Hall, home to the School of Nursing, is decorated with balloons in celebration of the School's receipt of national nursing accreditation.

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