

GANNON



UNIVERSITY

Under the Arch
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Our Events



Our Big News

Monday, Feb. 19

- **Health Care Insurance Meeting.**

2 to 3 p.m. and 3 to 4 p.m., Founder's Room, Nash Library. To discuss new insurance premiums effective April 1. For info, call Human Resources, ext. 7351.

- **Vatican II lecture.**

Erie Bishop Donald W. Trautman will present "The Challenge of Vatican II: Fulfilled and Unfulfilled." Sponsored by the Theology Department. 7 p.m., Zurn 104. Free and open to the public.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

- **Gathering in Praise: Celebrating Diversity.**

11 a.m., Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel. Community luncheon to follow in lower lounge.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

- **Health Care Insurance Meeting.**

10 to 11 a.m., Pietraszek Room, Waldron Campus Center. To discuss new insurance premiums effective April 1. For info, call Human Resources, ext. 7351.

Thursday, Feb. 22

- **Erie County Community Health Report Card.**

Presented by Nancy K. Rea, Ph.D., epidemiologist, Erie County Health Department. Sponsored by Gannon Health Science Faculty Brown Bag Health Dialogues. 5 to 7 p.m., Palumbo 3208.

Nursing school ranks 3rd in state for exam pass rate

Gannon University's Villa Maria School of Nursing has achieved the third highest ranking in the state for the rate of students passing their state licensing exams to be registered nurses.

Gannon's pass rate is listed at 94.1 percent for 2000, according to the National Council of Licensure Examination and the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing. That percentage is the third highest pass rate among the 31 colleges and universities in Pennsylvania that offer bachelor's degrees in nursing, said Carolynn Masters, Ph.D., chair of the school of nursing and an associate professor.

In addition to being the third highest rate in the state, Gannon's 94.1 percent pass rate also is well above the state average of 83.7 percent. The figure reflects the percentage of recent graduates passing the test during the exam period for 2000, Masters said, noting that 18 Gannon graduates took the exam in 2000.

"This pass rate reflects very positively on the strong educational program that has given our students a solid knowledge base, and it reflects on the commitment of our faculty and students who have worked hard for this success," she said.

The nursing school in recent years has strengthened its focus on preparing students for the exam, resulting in the pass rate's steady improvement. The 2000 rate of 94.1 percent continued that upward trend, surpassing the 1999 rate of 91 percent.

"Within the last two years, the nursing faculty has implemented a mentoring program whereby select faculty meet with students on an on-going basis to review and prepare for the exam throughout the students' senior year," Masters said. "We also offer a week-long review course at the end of each spring semester for seniors, and we have contracted with a consulting firm that tests our nursing students every semester beginning in their freshmen year to identify strengths and weaknesses in their knowledge base."

Passage of the exam is required for new graduates to be licensed as registered nurses. A strong pass rate for a university often results in an increased demand and more career opportunities for its students.

"When a nursing school has an excellent pass rate, employers will recruit that school's graduates because they know the graduate nurses will know their jobs well, they will pass their licensing exams, and the employer will not lose that new employee because of a failure to gain a license," Masters said.

Prayers requested

✠ Prayers were requested Feb. 13 for **Dr. Robin Powers**, associate professor, Psychology, who was to undergo surgery Feb. 14 at the Cleveland Clinic.

✠ Please remember her in your prayers.

Sing Happy Birthday to...

☺ Feb. 19... **Roberta Barilla, Kim Jablonski, Christine Kelly.** ☺ Feb. 20... **Richard Decker, Jane Mallin.** ☺ Feb. 21... **Lawrence Maxted.** ☺ Feb. 22... **James Nunes, Gary Maus, Karie McGranor, Lesley Yaniv.** Feb. 23... **Angela Joyce, Terry Pyle, Caroline Clark.** ☺ Feb. 24... **Msgr. Addison Yehl, Marilyn Mitchell, Johanna Wostl, Edward Borgia.** ☺ Feb. 25... **Margaret Tronetti, Misty Shields.** ☺ Feb. 26... **Charles Cornfield, Tina Rapp.** ☺ Feb. 27... **Gary Mahan, Gerard Miele, David Gustafson.** ☺ Feb. 28... **Joseph Vergona.** Feb. 29... **Jane Kanter.** ☺ March 1... **Catherine Tenney, Aleli Schneider.** ☺ March 2... **David Prizinsky, Scott Mahle, Patricia Puzar, Amy Adams-Gierlak.** ☺ March 3... **Rebecca Wagner, Colleen Hetrick, William Elias.** ☺ March 4... **Edward Phillips, Jose Morales.**

Welcome to GU

✧ **Deborah Anderson**, distribution clerk, Distribution Services. ✧ **Richard Crawford**, adjunct faculty, Criminal Justice. ✧ **Joann Leute**, part-time distribution clerk, Distribution Services. ✧ **Dr. Gunter Moritz**, adjunct faculty, Graduate Outreach Education. ✧ **Christina Myers**, part-time staff nurse, Health Services. ✧ **Rajan Nischal**, adjunct faculty, Computer and Information Sciences. ✧ **Thomas Savidge**, adjunct faculty, Education. ✧ **Thomas Shannon**, business consultant, SBDC. ✧ **Latoya Thomas**, adjunct faculty, Business. ✧ **Anthony Thompson**, part-time security guard, Campus Police and Safety.

Make a Senior Salute

Let your senior students know that March 8 is their day. This year's Senior Salute will be Thursday, March 8 from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Waldron Campus Center. Seniors can finalize all graduation details in one place. Prizes and refreshments will be featured.

Celebrating Women

Gannon will celebrate Women's History Month with numerous events in March. RSVP now for an International Women's Day reception March 8. The "Hands Around the World" reception will be from 11 to 11:50 a.m. in the Boardroom of Old Main, and all members of the Gannon Community are invited to attend. This special multi-cultural event will celebrate what we all have in common, and attendees are encouraged to dress in clothing of your particular cultural heritage. Additionally, as part of this event, community members are asked to donate a household item for the International Institute. RSVP to **Marilyn Rositer** at ext. 5882.

Watch future editions of *Under the Arch* for more Women's History Month Events.

A house-full of awards

Sunday, April 1 is the date of this year's Spring Open House and the Founders' Day Awards Convocation.

At Spring Open House, all academic and support services departments will have the opportunity for their representatives to meet with prospective students. Registration will be from 11:30 a.m. to noon in the Waldron Campus Center, followed by a brief Welcome at 12:15 p.m. in the Hammermill Center. Immediately following, further activities and faculty meetings will take place. For more information, contact **Christine Elliott** in Admissions at ext. 7414.

The Founders' Day Awards Convocation is a formal awards ceremony at which senior students are recognized for academic excellence, leadership and service. All faculty, staff and administrators are encouraged to attend the event, set for 3:30 p.m. at the Avalon Hotel Ballroom. For more information and to reserve your tickets, call the Office of Student Development at ext. 5618.

Commence a little earlier

A reminder that this year's May Commencement activities will take place one day earlier than usual. Rather than the usual Sunday event, the May Commencement will take place on Saturday this year.

Activities will begin Friday, May 11, with the Commencement Dance in the Hammermill Center from 9 p.m. to midnight.

Saturday, May 12, events will be: 8 to 9:15 a.m., ROTC Commissioning Ceremony, Yehl Alumni Room of the Waldron Campus Center; 9:30 to 11 a.m., Mass, St. Peter Cathedral; 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Brunch, Yehl Alumni Room, WCC; 1 p.m., student line up, Erie Civic Center; and 2 p.m., Commencement, Erie Civic Center.