

Message from the Chair

Welcome to the sixth annual Council of Ontario University Programs in Nursing Awards Ceremony. We are gathered to celebrate the hard work, innovation and passion of faculty members, students, preceptors, and agency leaders who support Ontario's university programs in nursing.

COUPN is pleased to honor eleven award recipients in the areas of teaching and student excellence, teaching innovation, and contribution to nursing education by agency and preceptors.

Thank you for taking the time to join us today to celebrate the spirit and accomplishments of nursing educators, students and supporters and to recognize the achievements of these leaders in nursing education.



Catherine Tompkins
Chair, COUPN

COUNCIL OF ONTARIO UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS IN NURSING

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The COUPN Awards Selection Committee would like to thank those who submitted nominations; the level of excellence demonstrated by all the nominees was exemplary.

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COUNCIL OF ONTARIO UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS IN NURSING

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Sixth Annual COUPN Awards Ceremony

Thursday, April 25, 2013
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

89 Chestnut Residence & Conference Centre
Toronto, Ontario



Celebrating Excellence
in Nursing Education
and Scholarship

Agency Recognition Award

Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences (OSCMHS) has been an integral partner of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology- Durham College Collaborative Nursing Program since 2003 when the Program began. In offering UOIT-DC students a 12-week mental health nursing practicum, OSCMHS assists student learning and faculty development in the important area of mental health. It also provides research and practice opportunities, and provides students with a model of a positive and healthy work environment. Overall, OSCMHS demonstrates an unending commitment to the advancement of nursing knowledge and the nursing profession in Ontario.

Doctoral Dissertation Award

Michelle Freeman's research into the migration intentions of recent nursing graduates has resulted in a heightened awareness of health human resource issues currently being faced by Ontario policy makers. In addition to presenting her findings to stakeholders at provincial forums, Dr. Freeman has also produced and published several peer reviewed papers, and shared her research with various ministries within the Ontario government. She was the recipient of McMaster University's *Dean's Award for Excellence in Communicating Graduate Research* in 2012.

Award for Excellence in Professional Nursing Practice at the Undergraduate Student Level

Bahar Karbalaie is a nurse and student committed to continued professional development both for herself and for her chosen profession. She is highly engaged in the nursing student community at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology-Durham College, becoming a student representative for her RNAO chapter. She is an experienced RPN and an advocate for bridging education. She has been invited on many occasions to present on her experiences becoming a nurse, not only at other post-secondary institutions but also at provincial consultations. Bahar's leadership skills go beyond the nursing program. She founded and directs a program that assists women in developing their leadership skills within the Iranian community, for which she was awarded the Chinese Professional Association of Canada Scholarship for Academic Excellence and Community Leadership.

Excellence in Teaching Award

Judy Bornais, Experiential Learning Specialist in the University of Windsor's Faculty of Nursing, is described as "a nurse educator, professor, mentor and colleague who endlessly strives to ignite in students a passion for learning." Her students praise her enthusiasm and passion, and enjoy her hands-on, interactive and relevant approach to teaching. Her commitment to experiential learning ensures her students have access to comprehensive material, and she creates an atmosphere where creative, open and critical thinking thrives. In addition to this year's *Excellence in Teaching Award* from COUPN, Judy has received numerous University, province, and nation-wide teaching and learning awards including the *Ontario Council of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA) Teaching Award*, and the Faculty of Nursing's inaugural *Faculty of the Year Award*.

Masters Student Award of Excellence

Cara-Lee Coghill is a public health nurse whose experience greatly influenced the research for her work in the Graduate Nursing Program at McMaster University. Looking at built environments and how they relate to public health interventions related to physical activity, Care-Lee is addressing a significant knowledge gap in rural public health research. Public health managers are already inquiring about her findings, and she will present her research at the annual Canadian Public Health Association Conference, ensuring that this important evidence continues to be disseminated.

Preceptor Recognition Award

Judi Wilson brings a wealth of experience to her role as Health Promotion Nurse at the University of Windsor, and as a preceptor to third and fourth year nursing students. From orientations at the beginning of each semester through to the end of each rotation, she is a committed mentor, ever willing to impart as much knowledge as she can, and answer any questions that her students may have. She takes the time to understand and address each student's strengths and weaknesses, encouraging them to grow and develop their independence.

Award for Strategic Contribution to Nursing Education

From her work at the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities through to her current work at the Council of Ontario Universities, **Frances Lamb** has made a huge contribution to nursing education in Ontario. Her knowledge and experience in public policy have made her a strong advocate for the fair and equal treatment of colleges and universities in collaborative nursing programs, as well as students. She was heavily involved in initiatives including the creation and implementation of clinical education grants to colleges and universities through Reaching Higher, the development of graduate tuition waivers to develop more nursing faculty, and her leadership role for COU on the question of college standalone nursing degrees. Throughout it all, Frances brought understanding, fairness, and overall, a sense of humour and compassion to her work with the postsecondary sector.

Teaching Innovation Award

The **McMaster Mohawk Conestoga BScN Science Team** has made a great impact on nursing education by embracing new technology and engaging students with interactive learning enhancements. Team members Kirsten Culver, Ruth Hannon, Peter Helli and Terry McCurdy have also developed policies and procedures related to course expectations and course organization, resulting in improved consistency and less redundancies within the curricula and leading to higher levels of student learning and satisfaction. The science team has established itself as a valuable partner to the undergraduate nursing education program at all three post-secondary institutions.

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