

SDS Universe: news

Monday, October 13, 2008

Nursing Students Commit to Excellence

The School of Nursing hosted its "White Coat Ceremony" on Oct. 12.

Story Highlights

- White Coat Ceremony
- About the School of Nursing

Page Tools

  Text Sizes  Print  Email  RSS

By Greg Block

In an annual Gallup survey about honesty and ethics, nursing consistently ranks on top as the most trusted profession in America.

On Oct. 12, San Diego State University's School of Nursing welcomed 110 new students with a professionalism ceremony aimed at emphasizing the importance of the five key values of nursing that are the hallmarks of the profession that lead to that ranking each year.

White Coat Ceremony

Also known as a "White Coat Ceremony," the event featured students, adorned in their white lab coats and surrounded by several hundred of their family and friends.

During the ceremony, School of Nursing Director Catherine Todero, explained the importance of those values, which include responsibility, trustworthiness, honesty, fairness and respect for others.

"As professionals who care for the well being of others, it is invaluable to have a moral and ethical code to follow," explained Todero, who brought this ceremony to SDSU in 2007 to help instill those principles from the onset of one's career.

It now takes place at the start of each new semester and is an event that students and faculty eagerly anticipate.

After reading the Student Oath of Professionalism aloud as a group, each individual was asked to sign the oath, certifying their commitment to excellence in their new profession. These students will soon begin clinical work in area hospitals, where they will put the oath to practical use.

About the School of Nursing

SDSU's School of Nursing was established as a baccalaureate program in 1953, with a master's program being added in 1982.

The school is part of SDSU's College of Health and Human Services which offers professional education in the health and human service disciplines of

public health, gerontology, social work and speech, language and hearing sciences, in addition to nursing.