

### **Accelerated Bachelor of Science (BSN) Program Up and Running**

Our accelerated BSN program is now up and running, with a class of 17 students starting on June 8, 2009, following an orientation day in May. The anticipated graduation date for these students is May 2010. The accelerated BSN program is a “fast track” way for students with baccalaureate degrees in areas other than nursing to receive a BSN in a shortened length of time. The accelerated curriculum consists of 58 nursing credits that are completed over a 12 month period. To be admitted to the program, students must have finished all of the pre-requisite courses including, science, psychology, and statistics requirements required of our traditional undergraduate students. With the intensive nature of this program, time is going to fly by quickly for these students. More information regarding the accelerated BSN program can be found on our Prospective Students Page (<http://www.uwec.edu/nurs/prospective.htm>).

### **Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Program Approved**

We have wonderful, ground-breaking news to report regarding our Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. On May 8, 2009, the University of Wisconsin System Board of Regents approved establishing a doctor of nursing practice degree program at UW-Eau Claire. This will be the first doctoral program at UW-Eau Claire and at any of the UW System’s 11 comprehensive universities. A DNP program also was approved for UW Oshkosh (Due to the fortunes of alphabetical order, we were announced first by the Board of Regents.). The timing of the approval announcements was particularly special, as they were done in the midst of Nurses Week.

The first class of students in the DNP program will begin in Fall 2010 for students who currently have an advance practice Master’s degree in nursing, in the areas of advanced clinical practice (nurse practitioner or clinical nurse specialist) or nursing administration. Information regarding applications to the DNP program will be available by October, 2009.

For now, we will continue to offer our Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) options in the areas of advanced clinical practice (nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist), nursing education, and nursing administration. However, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) has determined that the DNP be the graduate degree for advanced practice nurses, including clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners, nurse anesthesiologists, nurse midwives, and nurse administrators, effective in 2015. We will be ready for this new requirement.

### **New Chair for the Department of Nursing**

Dr. Rosemary Jadack, Professor in the Department of Nursing, has been appointed Chair of the Department. Dr. Jadack has been a member of our faculty since 1999. She assumed this position following the recent retirement of Dr. Lois Taft, Professor Emeritus. We wish Dr. Jadack and Dr. Taft all the best as they assume their new roles!

