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**Donations boost dynamic School of Nursing**

President Alexander Gonzalez has announced the School of Nursing’s campaign to raise $1.8 million as well as a $300,000 gift from Catholic Healthcare West (CHW). Meeting that fundraising goal is crucial if California is to help stem a projected shortage of 12,000 registered nurses by 2014.

“I see the success of the campaign thus far as an enormous vote of confidence from the community in the work we are doing,” Gonzalez says. “The teaching equipment funded by the campaign will allow nursing faculty to build on its legacy of excellence in educating nurses for California.”

School of Nursing Chair Carolynn Goetze concurs, emphasizing that the School of Nursing’s simulation labs prepare students for a hospital environment: “As we begin the implementation of our new Accelerated Second Bachelor’s program in collaboration with CSU Stanislaus, simulation will be an integral part of the curriculum.”

The seven simulation labs are part of the nursing school’s spacious facilities in Folsom Hall. The 60,000 square feet worth of new classrooms and labs is six times larger than the program’s previous cramped quarters. This, in turn, has accelerated the nursing program’s ability to expand its number of students and the preparation they receive.

The human-patient simulators feature mannequins that mimic the symptoms and mannerisms of live patients. These life-size “patients” enable students to practice techniques and processes they’ve learned in the classroom in a hospital-type environment.
Specialized simulators replicate adult and infant emergencies, enabling students to better handle real, life-threatening clinical situations. Nursing student Chris Massaglia says working in the lab is like being in a real nurse’s station with real patients.

Sacramento State’s dynamic School of Nursing will become even more productive in proportion to the generosity of those who appreciate the value of providing state-of-the-art equipment for top-flight training.

“We are pleased to support Sacramento State’s accelerated nursing program,” says Rosemary Younts, director of community benefit for Mercy Sacramento, a member of CHW. “We look forward to the additional health care resources this will provide to the communities we serve.”

To learn more about the campaign and contribute to the School of Nursing, visit http://www.csus.edu/ua/nursingcampaign or call University Development at (916) 278-6989.

For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Office of Public Affairs at (916) 278-6156.

– Alan Miller
amiller@csus.edu

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