

**Summary of Year 3 Nursing Department Project  
Faculty Development Grant  
December 2005**

The Nursing Department was selected as the Year 3 recipient of project grant monies under the Faculty Development Grant funded by the Bush Foundation, area 2a. Specifically this portion of the grant is dedicated to “projects exploring nontraditional learning experiences, upward mobility programs in specific professions...or exploring the learning implications of expanding the college’s work with nontraditional and older-than-average students”. In its interpretation of “nontraditional” students, the Nursing Department chose to focus on 1) learning experiences for international students, 2) clinical skills development through simulation, 3) cultural competency of faculty, and 4) application of technology-based learning.

- 1) The largest portion of the grant was expended to develop and implement a two-week curriculum for international students coming to Augustana as fulltime nursing students. The first students came for the fall semester of 2005. The project was primarily implemented by Pamela Schroeder, Assistant Professor of Nursing at Augustana, and establishes important groundwork for the department’s continued work with future international students. Funds were used to pay a portion of Pamela’s salary during the summer of 2005 as she reviewed the education literature and built upon that review to create and implement a the curriculum to enhance the Norwegian nursing students’ transition to the United States and to the Nursing Program at Augustana. With respect to the overall Faculty Development grant goal #2a, the development and implementation of the preparation program for international students in nursing contributed immensely to future matriculation of nursing students from Norway (and other countries). The students’ orientation to the college, to the US health care system, to clinical practice sites and standards of practice for nurses and nursing students in the US, and to specific expectations of nursing students at Augustana was essential to the success of their educational experience. Without this kind of a bridge, the students would not have been able to participate fully in the nursing major courses in which they were enrolled.
- 2) Nursing faculty Pamela Schroeder and Margot Nelson attended the International Clinical Skills Lab Conference in San Antonio in June of 2005 to learn about and engage in dialogue regarding current state-of-the-art clinical simulations and specific innovations being utilized across the nation. Simulated learning will augment the preparation of both traditional and nontraditional students for professional nursing practice by presenting them with predictable scenarios to augment their real world experiences. The intended outcomes are greater confidence and improved clinical judgment and decision making for students.
- 3) Registration was paid for department faculty to attend a webcast focused on Cultural Competency. This opportunity also related directly to improving the quality of educational experiences for students of diverse backgrounds, including those we often refer to as nontraditional students.
- 4) A departmental workshop was led by Augustana’s Educational Technologist, Sharon Gray in May of 2005. The purpose of the workshop was intended to

assist faculty in developing WebCT curricular applications, another teaching tool for an increasingly diverse student pool. Lunch was provided through grant funding.

Below are the details for use of funds by the department:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Amount of expenditure</b>
1-Salary support for Pamela Schroeder	2797.98
2-Clinical Skills Lab Conference	2063.62
3-Cultural Competency Webcast	100.00
4-WebCT workshop faculty lunch	38.40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5000.00</b>

The Department of Nursing expresses its sincere thanks to the Bush Committee for the opportunity to pursue these important areas. Evaluation of these endeavors is in process, and plans are being made to build on them during the current academic year and into the future.

Sincerely,

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