

FKCC Graduates Nurses



FKCC Dean of Nursing and Allied Health Debbie Allish leads the graduating nursing class in reciting the Nursing Pledge.

KEY WEST, FL, December 20, 2011—Florida Keys Community College marked the graduation of 29 soon-to-be nurses with a traditional nurses' pinning ceremony on the Key West Campus last Friday. Each graduate was presented his or her pin by select family members and friends. Originating with nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale, the presentation of the nurses' pin symbolically welcomes new nurses to the profession.

"The knowledge and experience we have gained from this program has given us the ability to become fantastic nurses," said graduate Alexis Williams in her farewell remarks to her class. "Let's take this knowledge, add to it, and pass it on."

FKCC Dean of Nursing and Allied Health Debbie Allish presented several awards to the highest performing students. Kendra Coffield and Cecil St. Cyr were recognized for excellence in clinical practice, and Sandra Kaster was awarded for academic excellence.

The Associate of Science in Nursing is a limited-access 22-month program that prepares students to meet the healthcare needs of broadly diverse populations in continually changing and evolving settings. Upon completion, graduates are eligible to take the NCLEX-RN state exam to become registered nurses. Currently, FKCC boasts a considerably high NCLEX-RN

pass rate with 92-100 percent of the graduates over the last two years earning licensure—compared to an 88% state average and 89% national average.

Many of these graduates will immediately enter the workforce—staffing hospitals, doctor’s offices, and health clinics throughout the Keys and elsewhere.

For more information about FKCC’s Nursing and Allied Health program, visit <http://www.fkcc.edu/academics/as-nursing.da>.

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