FKCC Holds Pinning Ceremony for Fall Nursing Graduates

KEY WEST, FL—Florida Keys Community College will hold a pinning ceremony for the Fall 2010 graduates of the Associate of Science in Nursing program this Friday, December 10 at 3:30 p.m. at the San Carlos Institute located at 517 Duval Street in downtown Key West. Sixteen students from throughout the Keys comprise the college’s forty-fifth nursing class. This is only the second cohort to complete in the fall semester, a result of opening enrollment for the nursing program to twice a year in 2007.

During the traditional ceremony graduates receive their nurses’ pin, symbolically welcoming them to the profession. The rite was originated by nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale who presented war medals to honor nurses during the Crimean War. Each graduate selects a family member or friend to present their pin.

“Many of these graduates have made significant personal sacrifices to juggle their studies with family responsibilities and jobs,” said Debbie Allish, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health. “So it’s truly heart-warming and inspirational to see the graduates share their moment of accomplishment with the loved ones who have supported them through their academic journey.”

The ceremony will also include remarks from FKCC President Dr. Larry Tyree, nursing faculty and graduating students.

These graduates, having completed the 22-month rigorous curriculum, are now prepared to take the NCLEX-RN state exam to become registered nurses. Currently, FKCC boasts a perfect NCLEX-RN pass rate with 100 percent of the graduates from the last two classes earning licensure.

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 Allied Health and Nursing program, visit http://www.fkcc.edu/academics/as-nursing.da.

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