Greetings from UNC Charlotte! There is so much happening in the School of Nursing this spring, including our 50th Celebration on April 20. In this email, you’ll find information about the activities planned to celebrate 50 years of excellence in nursing education, our new crowdfunding project and student and faculty achievements. I am so honored to have recently been named Director of the School of Nursing and am excited to lead our exceptionally talented faculty and extraordinary students. I hope to see you at our 50th Celebration!

Sincerely,

Dr. Dena Evans
Director, School of Nursing

School of Nursing 50th Celebration
Friday, April 20 | 2:00 – 7:00 PM
College of Health and Human Services
Join alumni, faculty, staff and friends of the program to reflect on five decades of excellence and leadership in nursing education. The celebration includes tours of the Nursing Simulation Lab, a Reflection and Awards program and an anniversary reception.

White Coat Ceremony Crowdfunding Project
The School of Nursing's biannual White Coat Ceremony celebrates and welcomes our graduates into the nursing profession in a formal, profound and heartfelt way. Our graduates are recognized for their compassion, their dedication to the profession and their community service. Your support of this crowdfunding project will help cover the costs of new lab coats for all graduates. No simple uniform, the white coat symbolizes an official acceptance into a paramount profession at a critical time.

Lessons for Life: Simulation Labs Enhance Nursing Education
To those unfamiliar with the College of Health and Human Services, the third floor looks like many others in an academic building on UNC Charlotte’s campus. However, behind many of the card-swipe-access doors stand Learning Resource Center classrooms, where simulation labs are transforming the learning process for students and faculty, especially in the School of Nursing.

Three Faculty Recognized for Contributions to the Nursing Profession
Dr. Willie Mae Abel, Dr. Kathleen Jordan and Margaret “Peggy” MacKay were all recently recognized and honored for their expert contributions to the nursing profession.

Master’s Student Tapped for American Health Council Position
UNC Charlotte nursing master’s student Brandon Bryant has been selected as a member of the Board of Nurses for the American Health Council (AHC).

Dr. Dena Evans Named Director of the School of Nursing
Dr. Dena Evans is the newly appointed Director of the UNC Charlotte School of Nursing and an associate professor. Dr. Evans has worked in higher education for over 25 years. She has served as an assistant professor, associate dean and dean of the School of Nursing at The University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Her professional interests include teaching and learning, curriculum development, and program evaluation.

Dr. Evans received her bachelor’s degree in nursing from Black Mountain College and a master’s degree in nursing from Northeastern University. She earned her doctorate in nursing education from the University of Florida.

Dr. Evans’ research focuses on developing and implementing curricula designed to meet the needs of nurses working in rural communities. Her research has led to the development of several educational programs that have been adopted by nursing programs across the country.

In addition to her work in higher education, Dr. Evans has served as a consultant for the American Nurses’ Association and the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. She has also been a keynote speaker at numerous conferences and workshops.

Dr. Evans is a strong advocate for improving patient care and has been involved in many initiatives to improve the quality of nursing education. She has contributed to the development of several national nursing education guidelines and has served on numerous committees and task forces.

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