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Practical Nursing Program Pinning Ceremony

BUNKER HILL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CLASS OF 2016

Thursday, July 14, 2016
6 p.m.
Health and Wellness Center, Gymnasium
The Nursing Pin

The tradition of the nursing pin and the ceremonial pinning originated in the 1860s at the Nightingale School of Nursing at St. Thomas Hospital in London. Having been recently awarded the Red Cross of St. George for her selfless service to the injured and dying in the Crimean War, Florence Nightingale chose to extend the honor to her most outstanding graduate nurses by presenting them each with a medal of excellence. The Pinning Ceremony now marks the passage from the student role to the practice role.

The pin of each school of nursing is unique, and only graduates of that school may wear the pin as a statement that they have completed that program. Bunker Hill Community College’s pin is round and depicts the Bunker Hill Monument.

The Nightingale Pledge

The Nightingale Pledge, an adaptation of the Hippocratic Oath taken by physicians, was composed by Lystra Grettter, an instructor of nursing at the old Harper Hospital in Detroit, Michigan, and was first used by its graduating class in the spring of 1893. Following is an adaptation of the original pledge:

I solemnly pledge myself before God and in the presence of this assembly, to pass my life in purity and to practice my profession faithfully. I will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, and will not take or knowingly administer any harmful drug. I will do all in my power to maintain and elevate the standard of my profession, and will hold in confidence all personal matters committed to my keeping and all family affairs coming to my knowledge in the practice of my calling. With loyalty will I endeavor to aid the physician, in his work, and devote myself to the welfare of those committed to my care.