



PennState
College of Nursing

Message From the Dean

Dean's Update to Students for April 24, 2020

Dear Students,

I hope you were able to power through another week. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter. There is only one more full week of regular instruction and then we are into our culminating week of finals, Commencement, and our College Celebration on May 9th.

Information you need for this week:

1. Remember our first rule to take care of yourself. As the pressure of the final weeks of the semester are upon us, it is more important than ever.
2. We are planning a special College of Nursing program for all graduates across all levels and all campus locations on May 9th at 4pm. We will invite all graduates to join us live in the zoom program. We are preparing a live Facebook streaming for family and friends to view.
3. Remain confident and remember "you rock". This week we heard from one of our Alumni and I am sharing her story with you in advance of our media posting because I found it so powerful and I believe you will too. Read it at the end of this letter.

We continue to be proud of you. Your stories and the stories of our alumni provide hope for all of nursing! Keep sharing your incredible experiences as well as your concerns and how we can best help you through these last two weeks. You are our inspiration that the future of nursing shines bright!

We are ...Penn State Nursing. We are...truly in this together.

Be well,
Dean Laurie

We received the below message and photo from CON Alum, Julia Mauro —Be sure to note her words bolded below:

I am a NICU nurse at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth. I am an active duty RN in the U.S. Navy. I am currently deployed on the USNS Comfort helping the people of NYC during this COVID-19 pandemic. It has been quite an experience, on the Comfort I am working in the adult step-down unit/ ICU.

I feel like Penn State Nursing prepared me to be adaptable to any variety of clinical situations. During this time nurses are being challenged; we are being asked to step up and face new and different clinical situations, and Penn State Nursing prepared me to do just that on the Comfort.

Although I have been in a few areas of nursing since joining the Navy, NICU is my passion. My favorite part about being a NICU nurse is working with such a resilient and complex patient population. It is absolutely amazing watching our babies grow, heal, and graduate from the NICU. I am honored to have the opportunity to take care of our military's dependent sons and daughters.

To all the current nurses, we can do this! To all the future nurses, nursing is hard, being a nurse is mentally and physically draining, don't forget to take care of yourself first so you can take care of others.

