

Wednesday 16 December 2009

## **Nurses follow inspiring career paths**

A career in nursing is as diverse as the many patients nurses see each day.

Gold Coast Health will recognise its developing nursing workforce at an inaugural Nursing Oration today at the Gold Coast Hospital in Southport.

Executive Director for Nursing and Midwifery Services Professor Ged Williams said the oration celebrates the diversity of nursing being learned and practised on the Gold Coast.

"Over 40 registered nurses have completed specific studies this year to enhance their career," Professor Williams said.

"It is humbling to see such increasing numbers of our nurses complete post-registration qualifications to increase their skill set," Professor Williams said.

"The inaugural Nursing Oration will recognise our nurses' commitment to their profession and to the patients they see every day," he said.

"Nurses can offer specialised care through their post-registration study in areas such as critical care, mental health, rehabilitation and midwifery.

"It just goes to show the flexibility that exists for people wishing to enter the nursing workforce these days – there are specialised courses and programs available when they are ready to choose a more specific nursing pathway."

Gold Coast Health includes Gold Coast and Robina Hospitals, Carrara Health Centre, Gold Coast Surgery Centre and a number of community-based services.

This year the district took on 93 graduate registered nurses, 14 graduate enrolled nurses and four graduate midwives - a substantial number of these will continue with post registration studies next year.

The Nursing Oration will feature local nurses such as Emergency Department Nurse Researcher Dr Julia Crilly who will speak on the inspirations that have influenced her nursing career.

Clinical Nursing Research Chair Professor Marianne Wallis will deliver the inaugural nursing oration and comment on future challenges as we move towards making the new Gold Coast University Hospital a reality.

The Gold Coast Health inaugural Nursing Oration is being held in Lecture Theatre 4.07A (Level 5), Griffith University School of Medicine and Oral Health, Southport from 1.15 pm and will set precedent for nursing on the Gold Coast for future years to come.

**Ends...**

## **MEDIA OPPORTUNITY**

**Event:** 2009 Gold Coast Health Nursing Oration

**Who:** Gold Coast Health nursing staff  
Nurse Educators  
Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services Professor Ged Williams

**When:** Wednesday 16 December 2009

**Time:** 3.30 pm

**Where:** Gold Coast Hospital, Southport  
**Please meet at the OJ Casey Education and Conference Centre on Little High Street, Southport.**

**For further information contact:**

Alana Myers  
Public Affairs and Media Assistant  
5519 7682 / 0434 564 698