

April 1, 2008

Dear Student:

Welcome to the Decker School of Nursing. The information provided in this mailing is essential for Baccalaureate Accelerated Track (BAT) students beginning their program of study. This packet contains answers to many questions you may have and provides instructions that must be followed by students beginning the BAT program on Tuesday, May 27, 2008.

1. **PREREQUISITES.** The following prerequisite courses must be completed prior to beginning the nursing curriculum upper-division coursework:
 - Two composition courses
 - Descriptive statistics course
 - Two semesters of human anatomy and physiology
 - One microbiology course
 - Two semesters of chemistry (encompassing principles of inorganic, organic and biochemistry);
 - Introductory psychology course
 - Developmental psychology course

Understand that eligibility for registration and enrollment in upper-division nursing courses is contingent upon the Decker School's receipt of documented, successful completion of all prerequisite courses. Students must submit documentation to DSON Student Services (Room AB 112) in the form of an official or unofficial transcript, grade report, or letter from the faculty of record at the college or university attended no later than Thursday, May 22. Transcripts may also be submitted in person on 5/22 at Orientation.

- **Note:** Official transcripts sent to the Student Services Office of the Decker School are required in order to officially transfer course credits.
2. **UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS.** Uniform attire is required of all nursing students for participation in clinical experiences. A copy of the Decker School's *Uniform Policy* is enclosed and gives complete details on student nurse uniform requirements. Students are required to follow the *Uniform Policy* guidelines when purchasing and wearing uniform attire. Uniforms may be purchased from a uniform company or store of the student's choice. The purchase of two uniforms is recommended so that one can be worn while the other is laundered.
 - **Note:** Students are required to purchase the WHITE SWAN brand of the v-neck, hunter green unisex scrub top.
 - **Note:** Only one lab coat is needed.
 3. **SUPPLY & EQUIPMENT FEE.** All BAT nursing students are required to pay a one-time \$25 supply and equipment fee. This fee helps to defer costs incurred by the School's Innovative Practice Center and audiovisual resource room.
 - **Note:** Check or money order is payable to: Research Foundation Account #27374.
 - **Note:** Submit payment to Brenda Belles in Room AB 112 (the Decker School Student Services Office), no later than June 6, 2008.

4. **COURSE SCHEDULE INFO.** For your information, the 2008 Summer Schedule of Classes is available to students through the **BUSI** (Binghamton University Student Information) web site at <http://busi.binghamton.edu>. Once at the BUSI web site, click the tab at the top of the page labeled, "Schedule of Classes."

The 2008 Fall Schedule of Classes is available via **BU Brain**, the new student registration system that will replace BUSI beginning in the fall 2008 semester. Information for fall 2008 may only be accessed by going online to: <http://bubrain.binghamton.edu>. Once there click one of the schedule of classes links in the "Look up Classes" box.

- **Note:** Students will need to complete the University's "Code of Conduct" to gain access to *both* systems. There will be links on both BUSI and BU Brain that allow you to do so.
5. **TEXTBOOKS.** Once available, required textbook and course pack information for summer 2008 courses will be posted via the University Campus Bookstore web site at: <http://www.campusstores.com/inghamton/index.asp>.
- **Note:** Textbook information may not be readily available on the Bookstore's web site until the start of classes on May 27. Textbook and/or course packet info will also be available on Blackboard, a BU online learning system. Access to Blackboard is given to students sometime after summer course registration is complete.
6. **EQUIPMENT.** All students are required to buy basic medical (assessment) equipment and a pharmacology kit for clinical practice experiences. Students may purchase basic medical equipment from any medical supply company or store of choice given one of each item as listed below is obtained. The pharmacology kit, however, is only available through Grace Training Supply (GTS), and students are required to purchase the pharmacology kit from GTS.
- **Note:** Enclosed for your convenience is a GTS order form.
 - **Basic Medical Equipment:**
 - Nylon, adult aneroid blood pressure cuff (any color);
 - Stethoscope with a diaphragm and bell (e.g., Littman Classic II or equivalent—any color);
 - 5 ½ inch bandage scissors;
 - Penlight (do not buy a disposable model);
 - 5 ½ inch hemostat
 - **Equipment Order Deadline:**
 - The order deadline printed on the order form requires that students place their order no later than 5 pm EST May 8, 2008. This deadline must be met so that equipment orders shipped to the Decker School for student pick-up will arrive *prior* to the start of classes on May 27.
 - For your convenience the GTS order form will also be posted to the Decker School website at http://dson.binghamton.edu/cs/current_info_summer08.htm.
7. **STUDENT LISTSERV.** All students need to read the enclosed flyer on subscribing to the Decker School listserv (DSON-UG). Electronic listserv is the primary method of communication regarding school-related matters. This flyer tells you how to subscribe to the DSON undergraduate listserv and how to receive e-mails at your preferred account.
8. **NURSING STUDENT ASSOCIATION (NSA).** Students will also be interested in reading the enclosed flyer from the NSA. All matriculated nursing students are automatically members.

9. **HEALTH REQUIREMENTS.** All students enrolling in the BAT program in summer 2008 will receive a mailing asking them to complete and submit the required 2008-09 Annual Student Health Evaluation form along with the required CPR course certification and evidence of health insurance to DSON Clinical Site Coordinator, Rebecca Christophersen, no later than Friday, May 16. DSON health forms are additionally posted to the Decker School web page at: http://dson.binghamton.edu/cs/current_info_summer08.htm.
10. **TRANSPORTATION.** The University assumes no responsibility for providing transportation for travel from campus to the clinical health agencies used for student clinical experiences. Students arrange their own transportation to clinical agencies. Some clinical experiences require students to travel up to a 100 mile distance away from campus. There may be parking costs at some clinical agencies.

Should you have questions, contact the Student Services Office at (607)777-4954.

Sincerely,

Jennie M. Orton, BS
Assistant to Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs

Enclosures