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### **Gardner-Webb Signs Nursing Agreement Between Community Colleges and Independent Universities**

Office of University Communications

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# Gardner-Webb Signs Nursing Agreement Between Community Colleges and Independent Universities

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Office of University  
Communications

February 20, 2018

## *Plan Will Streamline the Process for Registered Nurses to Obtain Bachelor's Degrees*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—

Representatives from Gardner-Webb University recently participated in signing a nursing articulation agreement between the N.C. Community College System (NCCCS) and N.C. Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU). The arrangement will streamline the process for registered nurses with associate degrees to obtain bachelor's degrees at Gardner-Webb or another NCICU school.



Signing the contract from Gardner-Webb were Dr. Ben Leslie, Provost and Executive Vice President, and Dr. Catherine Burr, Associate Provost for Adult & Distance Education. They are pictured with Dr. Hope Williams, left, president of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, and Jennifer Haygood, right, Interim President of the North Carolina Community College System.

Dr. Ben Leslie, GWU Provost and Executive Vice President, and Dr. Catherine Burr, GWU Associate Provost for Adult and Distance Education, signed the agreement along with NCCCS Acting President Jennifer Haygood and NCICU President Hope Williams.

The agreement describes a progression degree plan that includes required general education and nursing prerequisite courses acceptable to all participating Registered Nurse (RN) to Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) programs. Students who follow the plan and take those courses at community colleges will meet the entrance requirements for those RN to BSN programs. Nurses may apply to any of the programs without taking duplicate courses.

“Students will be able to plan with confidence that their community college courses will both transfer and satisfy requirements of participating NCICU campuses,” Haygood said.

Under the agreement, a student who completes an Associate in Applied Science degree in Nursing with a GPA of at least 2.0 and a grade of C or better in specified courses, and who holds a current unrestricted license as a RN in North Carolina, will have fulfilled the lower-division general education requirements and nursing program entry requirements for the participating colleges and universities. Because nursing program admissions are competitive, students are not guaranteed admission to the program of their choice.

As of Feb. 15, the following NCICU campuses had signed the nursing articulation agreement:

Barton College

Cabarrus College of Health Sciences

Gardner-Webb University

Lees McRae College

Lenoir-Rhyne University

Mars Hill University

Pfeiffer University

Queens University of Charlotte

University of Mount Olive

Wingate University

Related to the agreement, the NCICU announced plans to build an online portal to provide comprehensive information to community college students about course equivalencies with independent colleges. The portal will be funded by a \$25,000 grant from the Council of Independent Colleges, with an additional \$25,000 raised by NCICU.

*Located in the North Carolina foothills, Gardner-Webb University is a private, Christian, liberal arts university that prepares students to become critical thinkers, effective leaders and compassionate servants in the global community. Emphasizing a strong student-centered experience and rigorous academics, Gardner-Webb ignites learning and service opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Ignite your future at Gardner-Webb.edu.*