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Hunt School of Nursing 50th Anniversary Symposium Held at GWU on April 9

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March 24, 2016

Internationally-Known Nurse Theorist Dr. Jean Watson Served as Keynote Speaker

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – The Gardner-Webb University Hunt School of Nursing hosted a 50th Anniversary Celebration and Symposium titled “Caring Science: Framework for Transformation of Self/System.” The event—sponsored by Charlotte Area Health Education Center—was held Saturday, April 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and featured renowned nurse educator and theorist Dr. Jean Watson as keynote speaker.

“Dr. Watson is an expert in the field of caring science, which is the idea that nursing is not just about the physical, but also about the spiritual, emotional, and all other aspects of being human,” explained Dr. Quanza Mooring, assistant professor of nursing at GWU. “Her theory of caring science has really changed the way we practice nursing and it has absolutely influenced the way we care for our patients.”

Watson is the author of numerous texts, including “Nursing: The Philosophy and Science of Caring.” She developed the Theory of Human Caring, which has been incorporated into education and patient care at hundreds of nursing schools and healthcare facilities around the world. She is a distinguished professor and dean emerita of nursing at the University of Colorado College of Nursing Anschutz Medical Center campus (Denver, Colo.), and she founded the Watson Caring Science Institute (Boulder, Colo.) in 2008.

In addition to Watson’s keynote presentation, which was held in GWU’s Tucker Student Center, the symposium also showcased nursing research presentations in the new GWU College of Health Science building, located at 315 W. College Avenue in Boiling Springs.

“Our College of Health Sciences building has such great resources for our students,” Mooring shared. “We have new labs that feature simulation patients so nursing students can go in and get the experience they need and make the mistakes with the mannequins, not with actual patients. By the time they are in clinical rotations, they are confident in their abilities because they have already had a lot of hands-on practice.”

Since its establishment in 1965, the nursing school at GWU has awarded nearly 3,500 degrees from the associate’s degree to the doctorate level. “We have Gardner-Webb graduates in leadership

and administration in most—if not all—local hospitals, doctor’s offices, and clinics,” Mooring offered. “You see our graduates all over. We really have had—and continue to have—a big impact in our local community.”

For 50 years (1965-2015), the Gardner-Webb University Hunt School of Nursing has educated quality, highly-skilled nursing professionals. The school offers nursing degrees from the associate to doctorate levels and has awarded nearly 3,500 total degrees. Accreditation is maintained through the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing Inc. (ACEN). For more information, visit gardner-webb.edu/nursing.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University is an award-winning, private liberal arts institution that aims to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education. Through its warm and welcoming community, Gardner-Webb unites outstanding academics and a student-centered environment, inspires in students meaningful intellectual thought and personal spiritual growth, and equips them for well-rounded lives of lasting impact, Pro Deo et Humanitate (For God and Humanity).

Click here to access the full WGWG.org interview with Dr. Quanza Mooring: