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Gardner-Webb University Nursing Students Spend Spring Break in New York City

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Group Visits Historic and Cultural Sites to Enhance Educational Experience

By Jill Blank, Communications Intern

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—New York City: the city that never sleeps. Several Gardner-Webb nursing students and professors learned the truth of that slogan firsthand when they chose to spend their Spring Break visiting historic and famous landmarks in the Big Apple on a cultural education trip organized by the University.

The annual GWU Spring Break trip to New York City was established over 20 years ago as a way to provide students with an opportunity to learn outside the classroom. “This trip, like most of our education-based travel, provides students with knowledge that they may not encounter otherwise,” Dr. Bobbie Cox, associate provost of the College of Adult and Distance Education and one of the trip’s leaders, shared. “I usually tell students that this is a part of education that you cannot obtain from the textbooks and classroom. The experience of travel and culture in different environments, and the emotion that students feel during the trip, cannot be replicated in the classroom.”

The 2015 trip focused on providing nursing students the opportunity to visit locations relevant to their degree. Sites included New York University’s College of Nursing, the Top of the Rock at Rockefeller Center, the United Nations, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, the Sept. 11 memorial, and Broadway.

“I think this trip helps me appreciate the diversity in various cultures and traditions, even across state lines,” offered Ann Bell, a participating student. “My favorite location was the Sept. 11 memorial, which helps us to remember those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001. As a medical professional, this visit helped me to appreciate the increased training on disaster preparedness.”

Plans are already underway for a trip to New York City during next year’s spring break. For more information about the trip, contact Cox at bcox@gardner-webb.edu.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University provides exceptional educational opportunities within a Christian environment, preparing students to think critically, to succeed professionally, and to serve faithfully as members of their local and

global communities.