

**POSITION DESCRIPTION****RUSH UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING**

**TITLE:** Chairperson, Department of Women, Children and Family Nursing

**REPORTS TO:** Dean, College of Nursing

**THE COLLEGE and UNIVERSITY**

The *U.S. News & World Report* consistently ranks Rush University College of Nursing in the top 5% of U.S. nursing colleges that offer graduate programs. With a world class faculty, the College of Nursing has multiple top 10 ranked nursing graduate programs and is ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in NIH funding. Students are prepared to advance the quality of patient care and nursing practice in a multitude of health care environments, to assume leadership positions, and to conduct innovative clinical research. The College of Nursing enjoys a close partnership with Rush University Medical Center, having recently earned its 3<sup>rd</sup> Magnet designation, through collaborative efforts in patient care, evidence-based practice and research projects.

Over the past several decades, Rush University has expanded from one college with fewer than 100 students to four colleges with over 1,300 students. The University now includes the College of Nursing, Rush Medical College, the College of Health Sciences and the Graduate College. Rich opportunities exist for interdisciplinary collaboration in research, educational, and clinical endeavors.

The heritage of the College of Nursing dates back to 1885, when the College's first antecedent, St. Luke's Hospital Training School of Nursing, opened to offer diploma education to nurses. In 1903, the Presbyterian Hospital School of Nursing accepted its first students. From 1956 to 1968 nurses were taught at the merged Presbyterian-St. Luke's School of Nursing. Before the establishment of the College of Nursing in 1972, more than 7,000 nurses had graduated from these schools. Today, almost 6,000 baccalaureate, masters and doctoral students have graduated from Rush University College of Nursing.

**DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND FAMILY NURSING (WCFN)**

The WCFN faculty are a diverse mix of educators, clinicians, scholars, and scientists. Many faculty follow the rich Rush tradition of the practitioner/teacher model and provide leadership in medical center activities. Faculty teach specialty content related to women's health, neonatal, pediatric nursing and core research and theory courses at all levels of the curriculum (GEM, MSN, DNP, PhD). WCFN faculty have received numerous awards and recognition from local, regional, and national organizations for their outstanding work in clinical practice, curriculum design, innovative education, and research. Faculty are leaders in prominent state and national

organizations and programs dedicated to improving the care of women, children, and families.

The Department of WCFN offers outstanding advanced practice nursing programs: Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (PNP), Neonatal Nurse Practitioner (NNP), and Acute/Chronic Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner (AC PNP), Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) programs in pediatric and neonatal nursing. A goal of the faculty is to now develop an equally outstanding program for Women's Health Nurse Practitioner/CNS. The pediatric programs are ranked 7<sup>th</sup> by the *U.S. News and World Report*.

WCFN faculty have research grants from the National Institute of Health (NIH) as well as from private foundations and industry sponsors in the areas of parenting, fathering, child health, breastfeeding for premature infants, living with a chronic genetic risk and genetic decision-making, and physical activity in women. Many of these studies focus on reducing health disparities in ethnic minority families.

## **POSITION**

The Chairperson of the Department of Woman, Children and Family Nursing is a major contributor to the establishment and accomplishment of the College of Nursing and Departmental goals as detailed in the College's mission, vision, and strategic plan. Qualifications and experience include:

- a. A graduate degree in nursing and an earned doctorate in nursing or a related field.
- b. Licensure/license eligibility as a registered nurse in Illinois.
- c. Eligibility for appointment at senior academic rank.
- d. An established pattern of external funding for research/educational programs.
- e. Evidence of scholarship (regular publication of papers in peer-reviewed journals, invited presentations, editorial board and/or research grant study section participation).
- f. Evidence of progressive leadership responsibility accompanied by evidence of improving and expanding programs or fostering the creations of new ones.
- g. Demonstrated budgetary and fiscal accountability.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **a. Vision and Leadership:**

- i. Develop the faculty by inspiring, mentoring, guiding, educating, to assure that faculty meet their career goals and that their career goals are consistent with the College of Nursing goals.
- ii. Lead the department in setting departmental values, goals, and strategies.
- iii. Evaluate members of the faculty for the purposes of assisting them to develop their full potential as educators, researchers/scholars, practitioners, leaders, and College and University citizens.
- iv. Participate in College leadership and work with other academic units of Rush University.
- v. Contribute to the values, goals, and strategic vision of the College.

### **b. Resource Identification and Management**

- i. Recruit, develop, and retain an excellent Faculty.
- ii. Assure an appropriate assignment of work for each member of the faculty.
- iii. Prepare a financial plan and manage a budget that is congruent with the Departmental and College goals.
- iv. Seek external fiscal and resource support in collaboration with the Dean.

## **PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES**

- a. Leadership skills and qualities must be evident.
- b. Must have the presence and integrity to win credibility with students, faculty and peers.
- c. Demonstrates well developed interpersonal skills to enable inter-departmental and inter-college cooperation, collaboration and sharing, conflict resolution and similar skills. This person must be diplomatic.
- d. This individual should be able to very quickly earn trust and respect across the entire college.

e. This person will be a coach, motivator and leader who leads by example.

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