



SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE

CONNECTICUT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – July 20, 2011

Contact: Cynthia A. Mariani, Director of Marketing and Communications

Telephone: 860.231.5387

E-mail: cmariani@sjc.edu

Grant to Aid Graduate Nursing Students at Saint Joseph College

WEST HARTFORD, CONN. – Ten graduate students in Nursing will benefit from a \$28,943 grant to Saint Joseph College. Students were selected based on scholastic achievement at the college.

The award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services can be used for tuition and books in the next academic year. More than 100 nurses, many of whom are also working full-time, are studying in the College's Master's program for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, or nurse practitioners. Students spend on average 3 – 4 years earning the degree.

Pamela Aselton, Ph.D., director of graduate programs in Nursing, said the grant recognizes the importance of helping nurses prepare to provide primary care and mental health services in the community.

“All of our graduates are getting jobs,” she said. Nurses in the program can specialize in primary care, mental health services, and nursing education. She said some employers have cut back on tuition reimbursement, so the grant will help working nurses who are returning to school for advanced education.

In September 2012, the college plans to begin a post-master's Doctorate of Nursing practice or DNP, which will focus on the advanced role of nursing in clinical practice.

#

Saint Joseph College, founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy to provide higher education opportunities for women, is a comprehensive institution serving women from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. Responsive to the evolving educational needs of the community, the School of Graduate and Professional Studies also offers both women and men graduate degree programs in many fields, a Weekend Program for Adult Learners, professional certificate programs relevant to today's workforce, and other continuing education opportunities. In the fall of 2011, the Saint Joseph College School of Pharmacy, the first doctoral program in the College's 78-year history, will open at Hartford 21 on Trumbull Street in downtown Hartford. View our Web site at www.sjc.edu.

OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

1678 Asylum Avenue ♦ West Hartford, Connecticut 06117-2791 ♦ Tel: 860.231.5334 ♦ Fax: 860.233.5695