



Helene Fuld
College
of Nursing

A College Committed to Providing Quality Nursing Education

Alumni Newsgram

December 2017 | Volume 31 Issue 1



Helene Fuld College of Nursing Ranked #1

Helene Fuld College of Nursing was ranked the #1 two-year college for producing the highest-paid graduates in PayScale's 2017-2018 College Salary Report.

Payscale, the world's leading provider of on-demand compensation data and software, published its annual College Salary Report for the 2017-18 school year, naming Helene Fuld College of Nursing the top Associate Degree-Granting Institution in the United States with the highest-earning alumni.

PayScale ranked hundreds of two-year colleges by how much their alumni go on to earn. The data used in PayScale's College Salary Report is collected through their ongoing, online compensation survey. Graduates complete the PayScale survey to understand their salary potential in the labor market and users provide data about their current jobs, compensation, employer, demographics and educational background. In return, PayScale provides them with a detailed compensation report that compares their compensation to others like them.

This data is rigorously tested and verified before it is considered for reporting. The sample considered for the 2017 - 2018 College Salary report was 2.3 million college graduates. The sample size for each school included ranges from 30 profiles per school to over 20,000 per school, depending largely upon the size of the institution.



HELENE FULD COLLEGE OF NURSING JOB FAIR

Wednesday, January 31, 2018 • 1-4 PM

(Snow Date: Wednesday, February 7th, see page 5 for more information)

Don't miss!

RN to BS Students Recognized for Overall Excellence

Hard work and determination do not go unnoticed. RN to BS students **Tracey Hyatt-Smith** and **Gerard Ragoobar** can certainly attest to that fact. They both have been recognized and awarded scholarships from multiple external organizations. These scholarships were based on a combination of factors including their academic performance, service to their communities, professional references, and essay submissions.

In 2017 alone, Tracey, a native of Jamaica W.I., received scholarships from IOTA Chi Chapter Incorporated Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Harlem Hospital School of Nursing Alumni Association, Omicron Chapter NYC Chi Eta Phi Sorority Inc., Caribbean American Nurses Association, The Guyanese Nurses Association of America, and the New York Black Nurses Association. In 2016, she was awarded scholarships from MSI-AHEC and Granby-Omicron Chapter Chi Eta Phi Sorority.

Gerard Ragoobar, a native of Trinidad W.I., was the recipient of scholarships from The Trinidad and Tobago Nurses' Association of America, Inc., The Guyanese Nurses Association of America, and MSI-AHEC, in 2017.

Both students graduated from HFCN's LPN to RN Associate Degree program and are active in student government. Tracey is the senior class president and Gerard is vice president of the class. They are expected to graduate in May 2018. Tracey's long-term goal is to pursue a career in emergency nursing. Gerard plans to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist. One thing is for certain...they both have bright futures ahead of them.



MSI-AHEC Honors Dr. Wendy Robinson

The Manhattan Staten Island Area Health Education Center (MSI-AHEC) held its 4th Annual Champions of Diversity Awards Reception on Thursday, November 9, 2017, at SUNY College of Optometry in New York City. MSI-AHEC addresses health care disparities through increased workforce diversity and improves access to health care by providing education services, particularly for medically underserved communities. **Dr. Wendy Robinson** was presented with the Dr. Muriel Petioni Award in Health Professions Education. Other notable honorees included the President of the National Association for Hispanic Nurses (NY Chapter), **Jorge Prada, MS RN NP-C**, who received the Dr. Muriel Petioni Award in Advocacy, and **Aletha Maybank, MD, MPH, Deputy Commissioner, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Director,**

Center for Health Equity, was the recipient of the Dr. Muriel Petioni Award in Public Health. The awards are named in honor of Dr. Muriel Petioni (1914-2011), a renowned doctor, educator, and community activist, known as "The Mother of Medicine" in Harlem. Proceeds from the annual event are used to fund scholarships.



November 2017 Graduation



Commencement exercises were held at First Corinthian Baptist Church on Thursday, November 16, 2017. There was a total of 51 Associate in Applied Science Degree students who graduated in the fall. Various awards were presented during the ceremony. **Parneet Kaur** had the distinct honor of receiving The Award for Academic Excellence. **Tanisha N. Latimore** and **O'Shea Everajn Hardy** received The Awards for Academic Honors. **Brittany Roxanne Isaac** and **Owen Ricardo Leiba** were the recipients of The Awards for Clinical Honors. **Shadna Labinjo** and **Richelle M. Sunico** received The Awards for Clinical Excellence. The Marguerite Haggerty Memorial Award (for excellence in medical-surgical nursing) was presented to **Shadna Labinjo**. The Carol A. Thompson Perseverance Award was given to **Evey D. Parchment** and the Sylvia Modeste Nursing Leadership Award was bestowed upon **Chanel D. Hannah**.

Joanne Sylvestre, HFCN's 2016-2017 distinguished alumni award recipient, delivered the commencement address. She focused on unforeseen opportunities and rising above being standard at best. The farewell address was presented by Class Valedictorian **Parneet Kaur**. Both speeches were well-received by the graduating class. Great job ladies!



November 2017 Pinning and Candle Lighting Ceremony



The pinning and candle lighting ceremony was held at the Alhambra Grand Ballroom on Monday, November 13, 2017. **Dr. Wendy Robinson** provided

the opening remarks and welcome address. **Professor Heather Buccello** provided students with survival kits. As she discussed what being a nurse meant, she mentioned the symbolism behind each item in the kit. For example, there was a lifesaver candy that represented how many lives the nurses will save, a starburst fruit chew was for the extra burst of energy they will need, a mint served as a reminder that their compassion is worth a mint to their patients, a paper clip was for the times when they feel like they are losing it and will need to hold things together, and finally, a rubber band symbolized their need to be flexible in various situations.

Professors Justine Fitzgerald, Catherine Mbewe, and Delores McGregor pinned the students. The recitation of the nursing pledge and the candle lighting were led by Professor Jayne Kier.

After the ceremony, dinner and celebration cake were served. Students danced to the sounds of music provided by a live deejay. Gift bags with personalized HFCN items including license plate holders, pens, mugs, and chargers, were distributed to the soon-to-be-graduates.



May 2017 Graduation

Helene Fuld College of Nursing (HFCN) hosted its spring commencement exercises on Friday, May 5, 2017. The ceremony was held on the eve of the kickoff to National Nurses Week. One hundred nine students graduated in total. The spring graduating class of 2017 consisted of 20 students from the College's Upper Division Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science Degree Program and 89 students from its Licensed Practical Nurse to Registered Nurse Associate Degree Program.

Various awards were presented during graduation. **Emmeline Fourcand**, the May 2017 valedictorian of the BS program, was the recipient of the Bachelor's Degree Award for Academic Excellence. Just two years earlier, in May 2015, Emmeline stood on the same stage as valedictorian of the AD program and proud recipient of the Award for Academic Excellence. The Bachelor's Degree Awards for Academic Honors were presented to **Ann Gray** and **Marynez Morales**. The first place Bachelor's Degree Capstone Awards were presented to **Claire Bristol**, **Hazel Davis Adams**, **Ann Gray**, **Joy Iriagbon Oseki**, and **Maria Vazquez**. **Emmeline Fourcand**, **Wanda Perez**, and **Tomica Young** took home the second place award.

Nicole Spence, the valedictorian of the AD program, received the Associate Degree Award for Academic Excellence. **Patricia Owusu-Abboah** and **Marie Pardieu** were recipients of the Associate Degree Awards for Academic Honors.

The Associate Degree Awards for Clinical Excellence (clinical recognition in 4 nursing courses) were bestowed upon **Yi-Hsiang Hsiao** and **Ashley Young**. **Gregory Bovenzi**, **Cherae Johnson**, and **Kwana Valdes** received The Associate Degree Awards for Clinical Honors (clinical recognition in 3 nursing courses). The Maguerite Haggerty Memorial Award (for excellence in medical-surgical nursing) was given to **Yi-Hsiang**. **Shaidete John** proudly accepted the Carol A. Thompson Perseverance Award and **Hope Hampton** received the Sylvia Modeste Nursing Leadership Award.

Award-winning actor and New York Times best-selling author, **Hill Harper**, delivered the commencement address. Hill Harper is perhaps best known for his role on CSI-New York. Other credentials include Homeland and Tupac Shukar's biopic, 'All Eyez on Me' that hit theaters last summer. Harper is a graduate of Harvard Law School and served on President Obama's Cancer Panel.



May 2017 Pinning and Candle Lighting Ceremony



The Spring Pinning and Candle Lighting Ceremony took place on May 1, 2017. The AD and BS graduating classes participated in the event.

Dr. Wendy Robinson provided the opening remarks. **Heather Buccello** answered the age old question, What is a Nurse? Students were called one by one to receive their pins. **Professors Stephen Lawrence**, **Delores McGregor**, and **Jayne Kier** pinned students and posed for pictures with them. RN to BS

students **Ann Gray** and **Tomica Young** provided very moving reflections of their experiences at the College.

Professor Emily Edwards led the recitation of the nursing pledge and the symbolic candle lighting. **Professor Bernice Banschick** provided the closing remarks.



Students had the opportunity to mingle over dinner and on the dance floor. As a small token, the College provided students with 3-in-1 power bank charger sets personalized with its logo and Class of 2017 imprinted on the gift items.

November 2016 Graduation



Fall 2016 commencement exercises were held on Thursday, November 16th. The graduating class consisted of ninety-five AD nurses.

Highlights of the event included the awards presentation. The Award for Academic Excellence and the Marguerite Haggerty Memorial Award (for excellence in medical-surgical nursing) were bestowed upon valedictorian **Savonna Monique Ormond**. **Alan Fong** and **Khalika M. Pierre** received The Awards for Academic Honors. The Clinical Excellence Awards were presented to **Alan Fong**, **Savonna Monique Ormond**, and **Daisy Jasmine Zhao**. **Chimere Clark**, **Chenice R. Coq**, and **Candi A. Lowe-Williams** were the recipients of The Awards for Clinical Honors. **Daisy Jasmine Zhao** received the Carol A. Thompson Perseverance Award.

During the ceremony, **Ruth Brown**, who served on the HFCN Board of Trustees for 21 years and provided many graduating students with scholarships bearing her name during her tenure, was recognized for her distinguished service.

The Honorable Tanya R. Kennedy, a Supreme Court Justice and former Supervising Judge of Civil Court who serves on the College's Board of Trustees, provided the commencement address.



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Companies include:

Acacia Network, Advanced Care Staffing, Advantage Care Physicians, Archcare, Army, Bayada, Boriken Neighborhood Health Center, Cardinal McCloskey Community Services, Family Pediatric Home Care, Healthfirst, Jewish Board, JSP Life Agency, Meridan Nurse Recruiters, Northern Manhattan Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, START Treatment and Recovery Centers, Workforce 1 Healthcare Center, YAI

Recruiters are looking for HFCN alumni with all levels of experience including new graduates.

If street parking is unavailable, please note parking lots/garages in the area:

Park-it Harl Parking Corp.

**Parking Garage at 1481 5th Ave (119th St)
(212) 410-1817**

NYC Parking 118 Parking Corp.

**Parking Lot at 1682 Park Ave (118th Street)
(646) 243-6930**

Henry J. Carter Hospital - Lot #73

**Parking Garage at 1752 Park Ave
(btwn. 122nd and 121st St.)
(646) 660-3660**

For more information

or to RSVP please contact:

Michelle.Hernandez@helenefuld.edu

or Althea.Brown@helenefuld.edu

**or call 212-616-7200 no later
than Friday, January 26th.**

**To be held at Helene Fuld College of Nursing,
24 East 120th Street New York, NY 10035, Room 301**

November 2016 Pinning and Candle Lighting Ceremony



The pinning and candle lighting ceremony was held at the Alhambra Ballroom on Monday, November 14, 2016. **Dr. Wendy Robinson** provided the opening remarks. **Professor Heather Buccello** spoke to students about what being a nurse means. In what has become a tradition at these events, she ensured that nursing survival kits were given to each student and spoke about the symbolism behind each of the items in the kit. **Professor Emily Edwards** led the students in the recitation of the nursing pledge and the candle lighting. **Dibenise Sanchez** spoke to students about her experiences in the RN to BS program. Closing remarks were provided by **Professor Bernice Banschick**.

Dinner and dancing occurred after the ceremony. The students participated in the mannequin challenge. Students were given journals with the WalletHub 2016 Best Community College 1st place badge on the cover as a keepsake of HFCN's top ranking in the nation.



Helene Fuld College of Nursing mourns the passing of November 2016 graduate **Jibu George**. Jibu was an outstanding student. The Helene Fuld family is so proud that he was able to pass his boards and realize his goal of becoming a registered nurse before his untimely death from cancer.

Recognition Reception Commemorating HFCN's #1 Community College Ranking

HFCN hosted a recognition reception at its facility on Friday, December 2, 2016, to commemorate its ranking as the Number One Community College in the nation by WalletHub. The event kicked-off with the sounds of live jazz music, a cocktail reception and an art exhibit that showcased the trajectory of nursing over time. The art exhibit included pieces from various artists, including **Leroy Campbell**. The selected works celebrated medicine, ancient healing arts, the pride and power of education, nursing pioneers, the forces of wellness and life, and the African American journey. Artifacts that provided a look into early medical and academic practices were loaned to the College by Harlem Hospital School of Nursing and the Museum of Nursing History in Philadelphia. Coverage of the event was featured on NY1 News.



Immediately following the cocktail reception, guests proceeded to the fourth floor for the second half of the program. **NY1 News Anchor Cheryl Wills** served as Mistress of Ceremonies. **Dr. Wendy Robinson** and the **Chair of the Board of Trustees, Jim Frauenthal**, provided opening remarks. HFCN's "Get to Know Us" video was premiered at the event for the one hundred-fifty plus attendees.

Community Service Awards were presented to **Emmeline Fourcand** and **Marynez Morales**. Margaret Wines Awards were bestowed upon **Emmeline Fourcand** and **Wanda Perez**. (All three award recipients graduated from HFCN's RN to BS program in May 2017). **Sandra Senior**, Director of Student Services, was honored for her 30 years of dedicated service to the College. The first distinguished alumni award was presented at the affair. It was bestowed upon 2009 graduate, **Joanne Sylvestre**. Joanne

currently serves as Vice President for Dialysis Services at Alaris Health. She is the Executive Director and Founder of the non-profit organization, Nutressence Network, and Vice President of Black Nurses Rock NYC. Recognizing that an institution like Helene Fuld College of Nursing could not exist without the brave men and women who broke down barriers to provide opportunities for nurses of color, HFCN also presented its first-ever Legend Award to 92 year old, retired nurse educator, **Ms. Mildred Norman**, a graduate of Harlem Hospital School of Nursing. The Harlem Hospital School of Nursing was opened in January 1923 because of refusal of the City Hospitals to accept Black nurses. The school continued to train nurses until its closing in June 1977. Guests later partook in a champagne toast and were treated to dinner, all compliments of the College.

HFCN's Director of External Affairs Receives Professional Achievement Award



HFCN's Director of External Affairs, Michelle Hernandez, received the Professional Achievement Award from Omicron Chapter NYC, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Inc. The organization recognized Michelle for exemplary dedication to professional achievement and the advancement of nursing. The 59th Annual Awards and Scholarship Luncheon was held on Saturday, November 11, 2017, at Maestro's Caterers in the Bronx. Trailblazer **Mildred Norman**, who was honored at the College's Recognition Reception last December, presented Michelle with the award at the event.

In her speech, Michelle thanked the sorority for recognizing her efforts and praised her mother, who was in audience, for being the epitome of the acronym **N.U.R.S.E.**, stating that she was a Nurturer, Uplifter, Reassurer, Source of Strength, and an Empowerer for both her and her brother (also in the audience), whom she raised as a single parent.



Pay it Forward

Support Helene Fuld College of Nursing. Providing Opportunity and Education to Nurses



When you make a gift to Helene Fuld, you know you're making a gift with long-term benefits. Your donation supports all of the elements that reinforce HFCN's status as a premiere nursing college—from our faculty and uniquely empowering academic environment, to our amazing students. And you are investing in the future of a talented group of students who will enrich the nursing profession for years to come.

Support Helene Fuld. Invest in nurses. They will thank you.

Helene Fuld College is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. THANK YOU!!

To donate, visit us at:

<https://www.helenefuld.edu/donate.php>

Or mail your check or credit card information to:

**Development Office
Helene Fuld College of Nursing
24 E. 120th Street
New York, New York 10035**

**For questions, contact Michelle Hernandez,
Director of External Affairs, 212.616.7278,
michelle.hernandez@helenefuld.edu.**

Faculty & Staff Notes

Moving in...

2017

Shanice Bailey, Bursar

2016

Ahmed Elwasli, Financial Assistant

**Dr. Janto Tachjadi, Assistant Professor,
Biological Sciences**

Sharon Mais-Jeter, Assistant Professor, Nursing

Moving on...

2017

Rose Bazile, Instructor, Nursing

Mohammed Hashem, Finance Assistant



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Newsletter Highlights...



RN to BS Students,
pg. 2



MSI-AHEC Honors Wendy Robinson,
pg. 2



Recognition Reception,
pg. 6

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To view pictures from these and other events and to learn about the latest news at HFCN, please visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/pages/Helene-Fuld-College-of-Nursing/205237532850062. You can also link to our Facebook page from the homepage of the website. Go to www.helenefuld.edu.

We welcome updates for the Alumni Newsgram.
We want to know about your career progress, family news, and other significant events. Please send submissions and changes of address/updated email addresses to: michelle.hernandez@helenefuld.edu

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