***The Maryland Higher Education Commission Awards Maryland Nurse Faculty for Outstanding Service***

Baltimore, MD – (1.20.22) – The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) Secretary, Dr. James D. Fielder, announced that members of Maryland’s nurse faculty were recently recognized for their contributions in nursing education and their service to Maryland nursing students.

The Nurse Support Program II (NSP II), which is administered by the Maryland Higher Education Commission and funded through the Health Services Cost Review Commission, recently announced the FY 2022 Nurse Faculty Annual Recognition Awards (NFAR) totaling $230,000, showcasing 23 of Maryland’s finest nurse faculty. Each of the award recipients were nominated by their Dean or Director of Nursing as full-time nurse faculty and will receive $10,000.

“The ongoing efforts of these outstanding individuals deserve to be applauded and recognized for their commitment to all Marylanders, as they not only provide cutting-edge training for the current nurse faculty, but are creating new and innovative ways of educating the next generation of nurses in Maryland.”

The award recipients were chosen from selected areas of excellence demonstrated by the faculty member in the following categories: A. Excellence in Teaching, B. Impact on Students, C. Engagement in the Nursing Program and Employment Institution, D. Innovation in Education and Technology and E. Contributions to Nursing Education.

* Mr. Rick Cooper​​, Allegany College of Maryland
* ​Ms. Denise Lyons, ​​Anne Arundel Community College
* ​Dr. Birthale Archie, ​​Bowie State University
* ​Ms. Jo Lynn Minnema​, Carroll Community College
* ​Dr. Rhonda Rash, Cecil College
* ​Dr. Heather Westerfield, ​Chesapeake College
* ​Dr. Sara Cano​​​, College of Southern Maryland
* ​Dr. Stephanie Kratzen​​, Community College of Baltimore County
* ​Dr. Danita Tolson, ​​Coppin State University
* ​Dr. Andrea Hagen, ​​Frederick Community College
* ​Ms. Lori Manilla​​​, Hagerstown Community College
* Ms. Mary Beverly Gallagher​, Harford Community College
* Ms. Colleen Young​​, Howard Community College
* Dr. Laura Lucas, ​​Johns Hopkins University
* Ms. Brenda Knopp​​​, Montgomery College
* Dr. Mary O’Connor​​, Notre Dame of Maryland University
* Ms. Barbara Engh​​​, Prince George’s Community College
* Dr. Mary DiBartolo​​, Salisbury University
* Dr. Nancy Hannafin, ​​Towson University
* Dr. Joan Davenport​​, University of Maryland
* Dr. Mary Schroeder​​, University of Maryland Global Campus
* Dr. Nellie McKenzie​​, Washington Adventist University
* Ms. Andrea Stern​​​, Wor-Wic Community College

“The average teaching experience of the award recipients was 20 years and included fourteen nominees with doctoral degrees and nine nominees with master's level preparation,” said NSP II Director Dr. Peggy Daw.

For more information on the awards, go to<https://nursesupport.org/nurse-support-program-ii/grants/statewide-initiatives/-nurse-faculty-annual-recognition-nfar-/>