



Saskatchewan Collaborative
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
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University
of Regina

Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing (SCBScN)

2016-17 PROGRAM REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM THE DEANS



Netha Dyck, RN, EdD
Dean
School of Nursing
Saskatchewan
Polytechnic



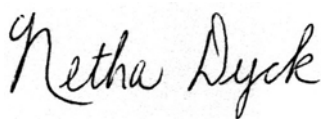
David Gregory, RN, PhD
Professor and Dean
Faculty of Nursing
University of Regina

The SCBScN program is a collaborative and equitable partnership between Saskatchewan Polytechnic, School of Nursing and University of Regina, Faculty of Nursing.

The program has proven itself to be dynamic, with multiple education pathways including early exits where students can obtain their Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) degree in 3, 3.5 or 4 years. The SCBScN program is the only nursing program in Saskatchewan that offers this early exit feature. Licensed practical nurses (LPNs) and registered psychiatric nurses (RPNs) can obtain their BScN in as little as 24 months of study as upper year admits.

One major highlight we celebrate this year is the SCBScN program receiving seven-year accreditation through the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) and five-year program approval through the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA). The reviewers commended the Indigenization of the SCBScN program curriculum, and they noted that employers spoke very highly about the caliber and performance of SCBScN students. This report reveals our commitment to nursing education excellence in the SCBScN program.

Signed:



SWIFT CURRENT GRADUATES FIRST COHORT, SEES CHANGES IN DELIVERY MODEL

The first graduates from the SCBScN program in Swift Current were welcomed into the nursing profession through the time-honoured pinning ceremony tradition, which marks a graduate's passage from student to practicing nurse.

The history of pinning ceremonies dates back to the Crusades of the 12th Century when monks were given Maltese crosses as badges for treating wounded crusaders. Later, Florence Nightingale, considered the founder of modern nursing, also presented medals of excellence to her nursing graduates. The medals have since evolved into pins, and now nurse pinning ceremonies are commonplace around the world.

At the June 2nd ceremony, five Swift Current graduates – Leeta Brisebois, Kayla Christofferson, Carrie Empey, Ellie Koellmel, and Catherine Reimer – were presented with pins which mark the welcoming of newly graduated nurses into the nursing profession.



Graduates and guests at the 2017 Pinning ceremony

“We are very excited to celebrate the first graduates of the SCBScN program in Swift Current,” said Dr. Netha Dyck, Dean, School of Nursing, Saskatchewan Polytechnic. “We look forward to their contribution in the delivery of quality patient and family centred health care in their community.”

All five graduates were hired by the Cypress Health Region.

In September 2017, the delivery model for the SCBScN program in Swift Current changed.

Students enrolled in the eight seats in Swift Current now take years 1, 2, 3 in Regina or Saskatoon and complete year 4 in Swift Current. Using the December exit option, these students can complete the program in 3.5 years. This distributive nursing education model demonstrates innovation and flexibility, provides a cost-effective approach to program delivery, and provides graduates for the Cypress Health Region each year.

ENROLLMENT IN THE SCBScN PROGRAM

Fall 2016	Regina	Saskatoon	Swift Current	Indigenous	International
1 st Year	178	171	8	43	6
2 nd Year	174	162	7	22	3
3 rd Year	158	121	9	22	3
4 th Year	113	95	6	16	0
Total	618	549	30	103	12

An enrolled student is one who has applied, been admitted and has registered in at least one class in the term identified in the report

GRADUATES FROM THE SCBScN PROGRAM

	Regina	Saskatoon	Swift Current	Indigenous	International
2016 December	22	33	0	4	0
2017 April	73	54	5	11	1
2017 August	48	36	0	7	1
Total	143	123	5	22	2

Students can graduate from the SCBScN program in 3 years (August exit), 3.5 years (December Exit), or 4 years (April exit).

The August Exit option is offered only in Regina and Saskatoon. Students continue their studies during the spring and summer session at the end of Year 2 and Year 3, and graduate in three calendar years.

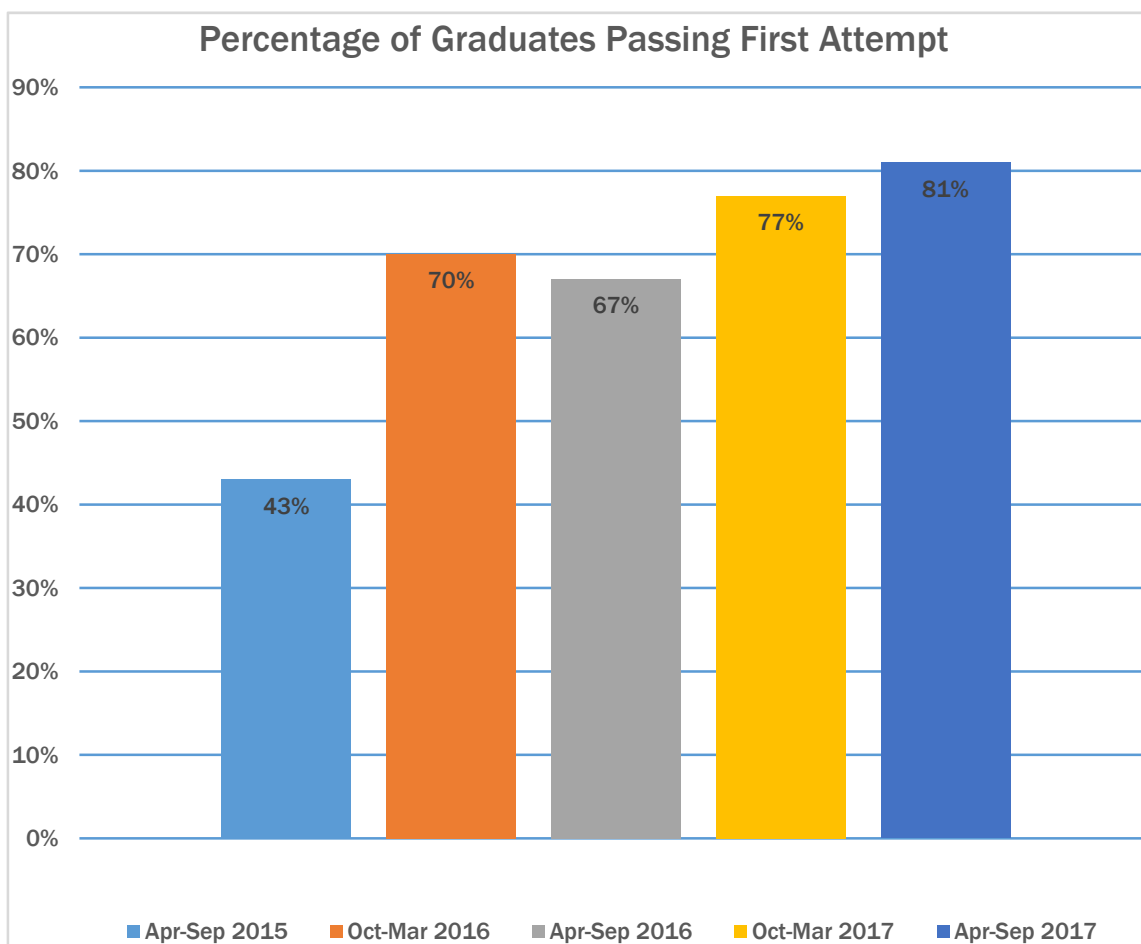
The December Exit option is offered in Regina, Saskatoon and Swift Current. Students continue their studies during the spring and summer session at the end of Year 3, and complete the program in three and a half calendar years.

The April Exit option is offered only in Regina and Saskatoon. The program includes two semesters of course work each year for four calendar years.

MORE SCBScN STUDENTS PASSING NCLEX-RN ON THEIR FIRST ATTEMPT

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), NCLEX-RN tests nursing students upon graduation to measure the competencies required of entry-level registered nurses for safe and effective practice.

The spring 2017 report showed steady growth in the number of SCBScN graduates passing the licensure exam after the first attempt.



SCBScN CELEBRATES SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES



The SCBScN program achieved two significant milestones: Receiving five-year program approval through the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA) and seven-year accreditation through the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN).

This was the first time that CASN and the SRNA partnered to undertake a joint process of accreditation and program approval in Saskatchewan. The intent of the integrated approach was to reduce duplication of effort and information provided by the program, and result in a more efficient and streamlined process.

"Receiving this accreditation means graduates of the SCBScN program can be assured they will be well prepared for entry into an exciting career as members of the health care team serving the citizens of Saskatchewan," observed David Gregory, Dean, Faculty of Nursing, University of Regina.

"Achieving the highest level of accreditation possible is a significant milestone in our SCBScN program and one we are proud to celebrate," said Netha Dyck, Dean, School of Nursing, Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

The CASN reviewers commended the SCBScN program for Indigenizing the curriculum and the offering of courses and clinical placements year-round.

These achievements were celebrated at the University of Regina and at Saskatchewan Polytechnic's Regina and Saskatoon campuses.

BILINGUAL OPTION APPROVED



Dr. Anne Leis, President of Réseau santé en français de la Saskatchewan with Dr. David Gregory, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, at the June 2017 awards ceremony in Saskatoon.

The approval of the French-language bilingual option was well received province-wide. In May 2017, the bilingual option was recognized during the Réseau santé en français de la Saskatchewan Recognition Awards presented as part of the organization's annual general meeting in Saskatoon. The awards celebrate persons or institutions making a significant contribution to improving access to French-language health services.

Dr. David Gregory, Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, and La Cité universitaire francophone at the University of Regina, were honoured for their contributions to the development of French-language health education programs in Saskatchewan.

Gregory has led discussions with La Cité universitaire francophone to explore the possibility of creating a bilingual nursing program in the Faculty of Nursing.

"He has been a real inspiration for the Francophone community and showed tremendous enthusiasm in engaging with the many partners and agencies vital to the success of this endeavor," says Roger Gauthier, Executive Director of Réseau santé en français de la Saskatchewan.

INDIGENIZATION OF SCBScN PROGRAM CURRICULUM

The work to indigenize the SCBScN curriculum began with the initial development of the program and has continued throughout the five years of its existence. During the current review of curriculum and courses, Indigenization opportunities, both existing and future, are recognized and documented. Resources are provided to incorporate indigenization including access to Elders; support for attendance at ceremonies; faculty and student involvement with the Indigenous Nurses Association of Canada; and faculty and staff cultural education.

Staff, faculty and students are learning about the severe effects of colonialism, including intergenerational trauma caused by the residential school system, on Canada's Indigenous Peoples.

Several of our faculty members have taken the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from the University of British Columbia - Reconciliation Through Indigenous Education, over the past academic year. The six-week course presents the histories and current realities of many Indigenous peoples. It introduces how Indigenous world views and learning approaches could be brought into the educational process, leading to respectful Indigenous-settler relationships.

INHS 100 (Introduction to Indigenous Health Studies I) is a required course for all Year One students. The course examines the determinants of health in relation to colonization, residential schools, racism, and social exclusion, and the impact on health and social problems experienced by the Indigenous people of Canada. Topics include racism, terminology, assimilation policies, social determinants of health and root causes (being indigenous is a health determinant), pre contact and contact health, creation stories, land movement, lifestyle, the Indian Act, Treaties, negative residential school experiences, government policy and acts, Royal Commission on Canadian Aboriginal peoples, Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada–Calls to Action, and what students can do as future nurses, Indigenous health and healing, Elders' holistic perspective on health, and trauma and healing in historical perspective.

As well, concepts of indigenization are included in several of the SCBScN program courses, offering students a contemporary view of professionalism in nursing, which entails the ethical responsibility to engage in relationships with patients and other health care professionals that are culturally safe.

INDIGENOUS STUDENTS

The SCBScN program has 53 equity seats, which are distributed in Regina and Saskatoon, for persons of Indigenous ancestry.

An Indigenous student is one who optionally self-declares their Indigenous status on the SCBScN application form. If a student does not self-declare their Indigenous status at the time of application, they can do so anytime once they have been admitted into the program. The Indigenous Nursing Student Achievement Program (INSAP) is offered in partnership between Sask. Polytech and the U of R. It provides academic, personal, social and cultural supports to Indigenous students to help them succeed in the SCBScN program. These supports are available at the Regina, Saskatoon, and Swift Current campuses.

The INSAP team is comprised of an Indigenous Academic Advisor/Support Coordinator at the U of R and two Aboriginal Nursing Student Advisors at Sask. Polytech, one in Regina and one in Saskatoon.

The team fosters student success through a number of initiatives and efforts including, providing academic and non-academic support to Indigenous nursing students; providing contact points and ongoing support for Indigenous nursing students during the application process through to admission into the SCBScN program; supporting the transition to the post-secondary environment by conducting orientations to the SCBScN program and surrounding community for students and their families; facilitating student support services such as counselling, tutoring, access to Elders and Knowledge Keepers, cultural activities, and assistance with applications for financial support; promoting volunteer opportunities; and liaising with high school guidance counsellors, funding agencies, sponsors, and community and cultural agencies.

Student retention is a large component of INSAP. Providing students with the necessary supports during their studies alleviates student stress and increases the likelihood of successful academic progress.

The Aboriginal Student Centres (U of R and Sask Polytech) offer services for students such as workshops, seminars, and events and provide a place on campus to build relationships with other students.



Nursing student Cole Woytiuk

SCBScN PROGRAM EXPLORES EXPANSION TO NORTH BATTLEFORD

In collaboration with Prairie North Health Region and North West College, Saskatchewan Polytechnic and the University of Regina piloted the fourth year SCBScN nursing courses in North Battleford. By expanding program offerings into more communities, students are provided with increased access to the SCBScN program and they are more likely to return home to work as registered nurses.



Up to 35 students participated in the 2016 pilot project 2016

"North West College welcomes this pilot program as a valuable addition to our robust course offerings in the health sciences," said Tavia Laliberte, president and CEO, North West College. The students who learn in the Battlefords will enjoy a supportive learning environment and rich cultural community."

The students were able to put theory into practice through access to clinical placement opportunities in the Prairie North Health Region.

"The presence of the pilot program in North Battleford provides benefits for everyone involved," said David Fan, CEO, Prairie North Health Region. "The students will provide care for patients in our facilities and communities. They will be mentored by Prairie North staff in the values and skills of the nursing profession."

The need for registered nurses and quality care givers continues to increase in Saskatchewan. By providing more nursing education in more Saskatchewan communities we can address that need by providing students with education and training opportunities across the province.

BROADENING HORIZONS THROUGH INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

In 2016, twelve SCBScN students from the Regina and Saskatoon campuses took part in the Malawi Study Tour with Dr. Florence Luhanga and Dr. Joan Wagner. The Malawi Study Tour is a clinical observation experience that provides nursing students with opportunities to see cross-cultural health and nursing care in the developing world.

“In Malawi,” said student Meghan Lybeck, “Midwifery is part of their nursing degree so it’s actually the nurses, not the doctors, who deliver babies.”

Lybeck said she was surprised that there were only two midwives per nine labor rooms. “I learned that here in Canada, nurses and midwives have a greater opportunity to provide competent care and build therapeutic relationships with our patients.”

Later in Fall 2016, eight fourth year students participated in a six-week theory and clinical community health practicum with the Herbertpur School of Nursing in India. That same fall, two professors from North Sichuan Medical University visited the SCBScN program in Saskatoon and Regina for four weeks.

Associate Professor Joan Wagner delivered a presentation titled *Health Care and The Aging of Canadians* to home care leaders and private service workers at a nursing leadership conference at the University of Asia in Taiwan.

Wagner was invited to the conference by Shwu-feng Tsay, Director-General, Department of Nursing and Health Care, Ministry of Health and Welfare, Taiwan. Wagner and Shwu-feng met two years earlier in Geneva at a nursing leadership conference organized by the International Council of Nurses.

In 2017, six SCBScN students spent six weeks in Colima, Mexico, completing their paediatric rotation. The students engaged in learning at a hospital, orphanage, elementary school, prevention clinic, mobile clinic and long-term care centre. They also participated in a variety of Spanish cultural activities and couldn’t say enough wonderful things about their time in Colima.



Students at Lilongwe, Spring 2016

URNSS, SNSS: THRIVING STUDENT NURSE COMMUNITIES

The University of Regina Nursing Students Society (URNSS) and The Saskatoon Nursing Students' Society (SNSS) continue to grow strong in their objectives of creating a supportive environment favourable to the learning needs of their SCBScN student memberships.

URNSS president Tiffany Klemack noted that the society organizes regular academic sessions, and self-care events such as yoga and crochet nights. They also advocate for student nurses at faculty meetings.

“Our role isn't set in stone,” she explained. “Our society wouldn't exist if it weren't for the students, and as their needs change, our society's role changes as well.”



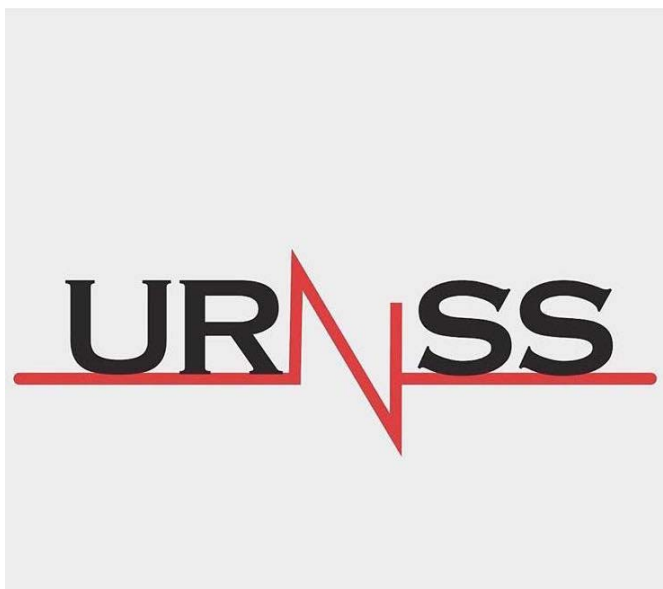
SNSS Men of Nursing Calendar, 2017

The society has been consistent in having representation at Canadian Nursing Students' Association (CNSA) conferences both regional and national.

The Saskatoon Nursing Students' Society (SNSS) is a student-run organization for nursing students in the Saskatchewan Bachelor of Science in Nursing (SCBScN) program in Saskatoon.

SNSS offers its student membership various opportunities for professional and leadership development, social advocacy and peer mentorship through such social events as Welcome Week, Winter Formal, NCLEX-RN Lunch and Learn, to mention a few.

Last year, the student society raised over \$2,000 for the Movember Campaign (an annual event that raises awareness of men's health issues) through proceeds from the SNSS Men in Nursing calendar.



STUDENT AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Dr. Sheila Dresen Prize was awarded to Ashley Smith in October 2016 and to Andrea Wall in June 2017. The award is bestowed upon the graduate receiving a first degree with the highest graduating program average.

The Faculty of Nursing and School of Nursing Deans' Medal is awarded to the graduate receiving a first degree with a minimum average of 80%, who has shown leadership and commitment to extra-curricular activities while a student in the program. Carleen Meszaros was the recipient at the fall 2016 convocation ceremony; Nicole Marchand received the medal at the spring 2017 convocation ceremony.

The SRNA Gold Medal for Excellence in Clinical Practice is awarded to the graduate with the highest combined average in four required 300-level clinical courses. Brittany Ziegler was the recipient at the Fall, 2016 convocation ceremony; Andrea Wall was the recipient at the Spring, 2017 convocation ceremony.

Congratulations to Wei Li and Nicole Marchand who represented the program at the sixth annual International Nursing Skills Competition in Shanghai, China, in November 2016. They competed against 18 international teams and placed second.

Fred Entz received a number of awards and recognition for his contributions during the year. These included the 2017 Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association Ruth Hicks Award for Student Leadership, the 2017 Sask Polytech Outstanding Citizenship award, and a \$1,000 Nursing Division Leadership Team Award. Fred was also elected the Vice-President Finance and Internal Operations for the Sask. Polytech Students' Association.

Sabrina Mills was appointed as Informatics Chair for the Canadian Nursing Student Association Board of Directors. Sabrina presented at the Canadian Nursing Informatics Association/Ontario Nursing Informatics Group Conference in Toronto in June 2017. She is a student member with the Saskatchewan Nursing Informatics Association and participated as a social media ambassador for the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association AGM and conference in May 2017.

Shalla Sharma received a \$1,000 Nursing Division Leadership Team Award. She also joined the Sask Polytech team of June Anonson (Director, Institute for Nursing Scholarship), Heather Plaxton (faculty, Perioperative Nursing) and Allison Hall (nursing advisor, SCBScN Regina) in collaborative education and research in Beijing, China, and Daegu, South Korea.

Brittany Ziegler received the SRNA award for excellence in clinical practice award at the fall 2016 convocation ceremony; Andrea Wall received the award at the spring 2017 convocation ceremony.

There were five students on University of Regina Faculty of Nursing dean's honour list in the fall term and 11 in the winter term.

FACULTY AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Netha Dyck, Dean, School of Nursing, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, was presented with the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) Ethel Johns Award at the annual awards reception held in Ottawa November 2016.

The CASN Ethel Johns Award is named after the founding director of Canada's first university nursing program. It is given in recognition of distinguished service to nursing education in Canada.

"I'm thrilled to congratulate Dr. Netha Dyck on her academic achievements. She is very deserving of the CASN Ethel Johns Award," said Dr. Anne Neufeld, Vice-President Academic and Provost. "Netha provides outstanding strategic leadership in the delivery of 16 nursing programs, as well as a vast array of allied health programs."

The Regina chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals named Cindy Kuster Orban the 2016 Outstanding Individual Volunteer for her work as chair of the Silent Auction Committee for the Alzheimer Society of Saskatchewan. Kuster Orban teaches CNUR 401: Population Health and Community Partnerships, in which nursing students actively engage in community partnerships both on and off campus.

In 2017, Kuster Orban was awarded the University of Regina Teaching Award of Excellence in Experiential Learning. The award recognizes an individual who has displayed excellence in leadership and innovation in experiential learning for undergraduate and/or graduate students at the University of Regina and/or its Federated Colleges.

Sheri McCrystal was one of five instructors honoured with the Faculty Award for Excellence in teaching at Saskatchewan Polytechnic in 2016.

"This award allows us to recognize faculty for going above and beyond to support our students and prepare them for the next step in their career journey," said Dr. Anne Neufeld, Provost and Vice-President, Academic, Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

Always looking for new ways to improve the Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, Sheri regularly contributes new lesson ideas and practical solutions to challenges encountered along the way.

Faculty of Nursing Associate Dean Dr. Karen Eisler received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Toronto where she earned her PhD in Nursing in 2009.

"I was humbled to be recognized for a career that I have loved," said Eisler who has been a registered nurse for almost 40 years, having worked in both intensive care and emergency room settings. Eisler has also served as Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association.

NEW FACULTY

Angela Ahlquist, RN, BScN, MA – Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Deirdra Banks, RN, BN – Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Allison DeCoste, RN, BScN – Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Sharon Flaman, RN, BN – Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Sherry Arvidson, RN, MN, PhD – University of Regina, Regina Site.

Melanie Goodwin, RN, BSN, MN – University of Regina, Saskatoon Site

Heather Gold, RN, BScN, MAEd – Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Anne Guest, RN, BN, MAEd – Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Melissa Hrebenik, RN(NP), BN, MN, CCHN(C) - University of Regina, Regina Site

Jamie Ingram, BN, RN, BCCN - Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Vivian Pupilampu, RN, PhD- University of Regina, Saskatoon Site

Laurie Shoemaker, RN, BScN - Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Brittany Stephenson, RN, MN – Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

Mackenzie Wiebe, RN, BScN, BBA - Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Regina Campus

COMBINED SCBScN RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

RESEARCH ACTIVITY	2014	2015	2016	2017
REFEREED JOURNALS ARTICLES/ASBTRACTS	18	33	26	13
REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES PUBLISHED	28	22	17	24
REFEREED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	42	35	55	47
BOOKS OR BOOK CHAPTERS PUBLISHED	7	7	4	8