

November 16, 2010

Harlan Onsrud, Chair, PCRRC
Spatial Information Science & Engineering
5711 Boardman Hall
The University of Maine

Dear. Dr. Onsrud,

On behalf of the School of Nursing faculty, I am writing in support of sustaining the University of Maine programs in Public Administration. The expert faculty and courses in the MPA program are vital to the success of the School of Nursing MSN program for nurse administrators. Graduates of the MSN-Admin track serve as nurse executives at local hospitals, including St. Joseph Hospital in Bangor. Four nurses are currently enrolled in the MSN-Administration program.

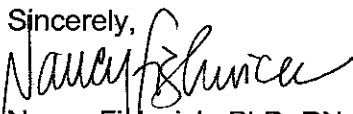
As you can see in the attached MSN-Administration program of study, MSN graduate students are expected to take at least four 600-level PAA courses that are germane to financial and organizational management in health care systems.

Dianne L. Swandall, RN, MSN, Vice President for Patient Care Services of St. Joseph Hospital in Bangor, is a 2004 graduate of the MSN-Administration program who recently was interviewed for the School of Nursing website. Ms. Swandall described the important role of public administration courses in her program of study as she "moved to a position of executive leadership" in a complex health care environment.

The School of Nursing graduate faculty have organized a marketing campaign to boost enrollment in our MSN programs, including the nursing administration track. We trust that our students can count on the stability of UMaine's Public Administration program, and, most especially, the availability of expert public administration faculty and graduate courses that are essential for nurses preparing for executive leadership positions in health care settings.

Please contact me for further information: fishwick@maine.edu or 581-2607.

Sincerely,



Nancy Fishwick, PhD, RN
Director and Associate Professor
School of Nursing