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## **GRADUATING NURSES GATHER FOR RECEPTION**

PALM DESERT, Calif. (June 9, 2009) – A reception to honor a group of Registered Nurses receiving their Bachelor of Science degree from the Palm Desert Campus of California State University, San Bernardino will take place this Sunday, June 14, at 3:00 p.m., in the campus's Oliphant Auditorium, located at 37-500 Cook Street.

This is the third group from the CSUSB Palm Desert Campus to ever graduate with this honor.

The afternoon will begin with a welcome from Dr. Fred Jandt, Dean of the Palm Desert Campus. The keynote speaker will be Lenny Pepper, CEO of the Desert Health Care District, a major supporter of the campus's nursing program along with Desert Regional Medical Center, Eisenhower Medical Center and John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital.

The nurses being honored are already working out in the field at many desert medical facilities. They have chosen to go back to Cal State's Palm Desert Campus to receive their Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. It is possible to complete the program in two years; however, most prefer the three year plan which provides ample time to complete all requirements for the degree.

A nurse with a BSN can review research papers, advocate for the patient, work with leaders in the hospital or medical facility with confidence and advanced management skills. A nurse with an RN may have all these abilities, yet a BSN enhances them and increases advancement opportunities.

Many RN's return to school to become leaders in the nursing industry, advancing their careers, or move to the next level and receive a master's or doctoral degree.

Management-level nursing requires an advanced degree such as a BSN. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in management, nurses can become anywhere from the assistant head nurse or head nurse, to assistant director, director, and vice president and upwards. Other career opportunities include research, consulting, and teaching. They can also move into the business side of nursing to becoming a manager of an insurance company, pharmaceutical manufacturer, or managed care organization.

For more information, please contact Mike Singer in the campus's Office of Public Affairs at (760) 341-2883, ext. 78107.