

From: Karen M. Daley, RN, PhD,

Dean, Dr. Susan L. Davis, RN, & Richard J. Henley College of Nursing at Sacred Heart University

Date: August 18, 2025

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff and Professional Colleagues of The Dr. Susan L. Davis, RN, & Richard J. Henley College of Nursing,

This coming fall semester, The Davis & Henley College of Nursing will host an in-person visit with The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) - a nationally recognized accrediting agency for baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs, entry-to-practice nurse residency programs, and nurse practitioner (NP) fellowship/residency programs. The date for the in-person visit is **November 5-7**.

CCNE is the accrediting arm of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), which establishes curriculum standards for all collegiate nursing programs through *The Essentials: Core competencies for professional nursing education* (2021). The only program that CCNE will be reviewing is our newest addition, begun in 2023, the Post-graduate APRN Certificate Program with Post-MSN certificates in Family Nurse Practitioner and Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse Practitioner.

In accordance with CCNE's procedures, the Commission provides the opportunity for program constituents and other interested parties to submit, in writing, third-party comments concerning a program's qualifications for accreditation. Third-party comments must be received by CCNE by no later than 21 days prior to the first day of the evaluation, and therefore, **the deadline for comments is**October 13, 2025. Third-party comments must relate to the CCNE Standards for Accreditation of Baccalaureate and Graduate Nursing Programs (2024) which includes standards for Post-graduate APRN Certificate Programs.

All third-party comments submitted to CCNE must be written in English, consistent with CCNE's policy on Conduct of Business in English. Comments are shared only with the CCNE evaluation team appointed to review the nursing program being reviewed. Please submit comments to CCNE via email to thirdpartycomments@ccneaccreditation.org.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Sofia Timina, Accreditation Assistant, at <a href="mailto:stimina@ccneaccreditation.org">stimina@ccneaccreditation.org</a> or 202-887-8478, ext. 257.

Thank you for providing feedback about the Post-graduate APRN Certificate Program.

Sincerely,

Dr. Karen M. Daley

Dr. Karen M. Daley

Dean

Dr. Susan L. Davis, RN, & Richard J. Henley

College of Nursing

5151 Park Avenue Fairfield, CT 06825 (203) 365-7578 (office) (203) 365-7662 (fax)