

Respiratory Care Program Approval from Commission for Higher Education

The Commission for Higher Education has approved a Respiratory Care Program for the Ivy Tech State College – Bloomington campus. This new program will be offered beginning in the 2005 fall semester and is being added to Ivy Tech's inventory to meet a community demand for respiratory care professionals.

"The addition of a Respiratory Care Program is a direct result of our partnership with Bloomington Hospital," explains James Smith, Ivy Tech – Bloomington's Dean of Academic Affairs. "Respiratory care professionals are in high demand and the hospital has identified a dearth of trained professionals in our area. By adding this program, we are doing what community colleges do – meet the demands of the communities they serve."

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The Respiratory Care Program will prepare students by giving them a scientific background and training them in clinical settings to care for patients. Respiratory therapists are qualified to assume primary responsibility for all respiratory care modalities, including respiratory therapy technician functions. Students wishing to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Respiratory Care will be able to do so by completing the Associate of Science Degree at Ivy Tech - Bloomington and transferring it to IUPUI.

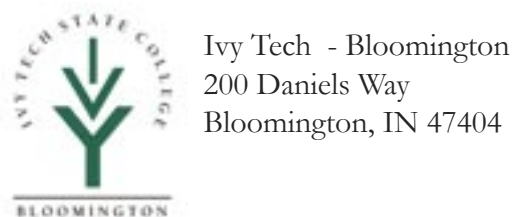
John Whikehart, Ivy Tech State College – Bloomington Chancellor, cites the program as another example of the institution's growth in the life science arena. "We are pleased to add respiratory care to our inventory of life science programs to meet both the workforce needs of area medical providers, and the health care career path desires of individual students seeking positions in local demand."

MPRI & Ivy Tech

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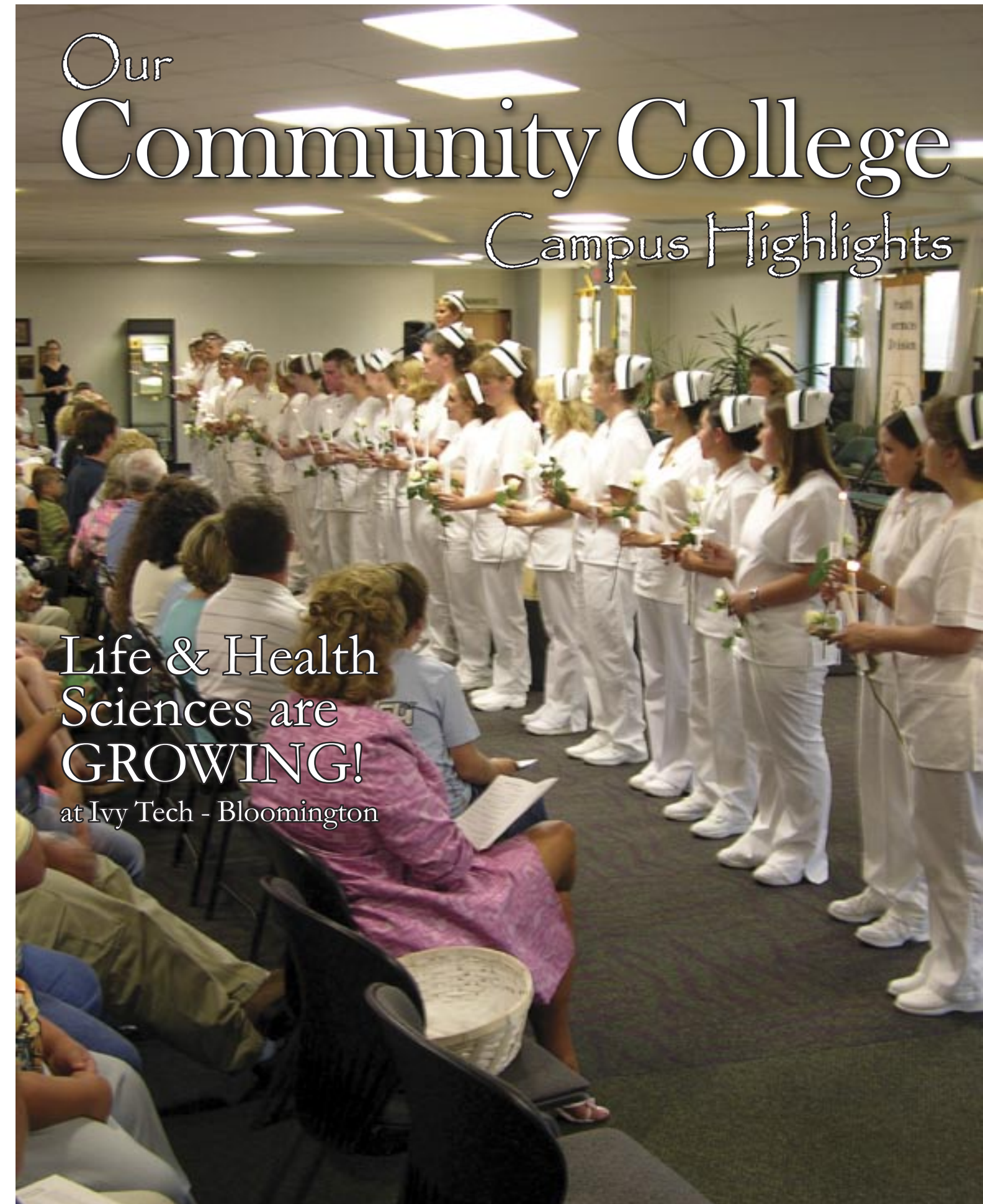
James Smith, Dean of Academic Affairs for Ivy Tech State College – Bloomington, cited the program as another example of Ivy Tech's persistent contribution to the local life science economy. "We continue to add programs that are vital to the long-term growth of the life science economy in South Central Indiana. The Radiation Therapy Program will produce graduates highly sought after for the skills they have developed, and due to our partnership with MPRI they will have the opportunity to secure excellent positions in the Bloomington area."

The Ivy Tech – Bloomington Radiation Therapy Program is the first such program offered by Ivy Tech throughout the state. Ivy Tech-Bloomington Chancellor John Whikehart stated that the creation of this new degree program was significant for two reasons. "The radiation therapy degree demonstrates the faith the local medical community continues to place in this campus to meet its workforce development needs, and the faith the college places in us to initiate a new system degree to meet the professional needs of our students and our state."



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Health Information Technology at Ivy Tech

The Ivy Tech State College Board of Trustees recently gave approval to Ivy Tech – Bloomington to offer an Associate of Science degree in Health Information Technology. The proposal will now go to the Indiana Commission for Higher Education for final approval. Ivy Tech officials hope to be able to offer the new degree program during the fall 2005 semester. The Health Information Technology degree is just one of a number of life and health sciences degrees that Ivy Tech – Bloomington has added to its inventory over the past year.

Degrees in Radiation Therapy, Respiratory Care, and Biotechnology have already been approved by the Commission, and an associates

degree in Kinesiology is currently making its way through the process. Ivy Tech - Bloomington's dean



“ Ivy Tech is committed to being a workforce provider in the new regional life science economy. ”

of academic affairs, James O. Smith, stated that the addition of the Health Infor-

mation Technology program augments Ivy Tech's expanding life and health science initiative: “This program

provides students another opportunity for careers in the life and health sciences,

and it will complement degrees already approved by the Commission. Ivy Tech is committed to being a workforce provider in the new regional life science economy.”

The Health Information Technology degree program will prepare students to work in the fields of health information and medical records management. In addition to the opportunities the program will offer students, it will benefit the medical community by providing employees in health information management for the expanding health care needs of the area. Students who complete the associate of science degree will be able to transfer to IUPUI to complete a baccalaureate degree in Health Administration in the School of Informatics.

Ivy Tech and the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute Create Valuable Partnership



The Commission for Higher Education has approved a historic Radiation Therapy Program for the Ivy Tech State College – Bloomington campus. The program is a result of a partnership between Ivy Tech and the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (MPRI) and is intended to meet a growing need for more radiation therapists in Indiana.

The Associate of Science degree in Radiation Therapy is designed to produce highly skilled professionals who will provide both conventional radiation therapy and proton therapy related patient services under the supervision of a radiation oncologist or medical radiation physicist. Radiation therapists administer targeted doses of radiation to a patient's body to treat cancer and other diseases, and also help to provide basic care and assist with emergency patient treatment.

While most radiation therapists are employed in hospital settings, there are also newly created institutes such as MPRI that will have a need for highly trained individuals. MPRI is one of only four Proton Therapy treatment centers in the United States and is one of only three full-service centers. MPRI treats children and adults with brain tumors and tumors adjacent to vital organs incapable of successful treatment by traditional methods. In the next 24 months, MPRI plans to add 26 radiation therapists to its center in Bloomington with the eventual goal of 70 new positions locally.

Dr. Alan Thorton, Medical Director of MPRI, spoke to the Commission of Higher Education about the need for such a program in Bloomington. “I started a successful two-year radiation therapy program in Massachusetts before coming to Bloomington and I am confident our relationship with Ivy Tech will provide the same high quality graduates we benefited from there.” Dr. Thorton also discussed the relationship between the two institutions. Thorton said, “This is a groundbreaking relationship between MPRI and Ivy Tech, and I am certain it will pay great dividends for our community and the patients we serve.”

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Current Life and Health Science Offerings at Ivy Tech



KINESIOLOGY (proposed)

This new associate degree, which offers three specialties in fitness, exercise science, and sports management, is also part of an articulation agreement with Indiana University – Bloomington to allow our graduates to continue through the I.U. Department of Kinesiology for completion of the baccalaureate degree.



BIOTECHNOLOGY

This associate degree program covers very broad areas that use living organisms or their substances to make beneficial products for humanity.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This program is designed to serve students who are seeking education in the health informatics profession.

NURSE AIDE TRAINING

A certified nursing assistant (CNA) is an entry-level provider of direct patient care in today's health care environment.

NURSING, ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Associate Degree Nurses provide a high level of patient care characterized by critical thinking, clinical competence, accountability, and commitment to the value of care and are prepared to address the acute and chronic health needs of patients.

PARAMEDIC SCIENCE

This associate degree program will prepare students as pre-hospital care professionals able to function in the environment of emergency medicine.

PRACTICAL NURSING

Licensed Practical Nurses provide nursing care to patients and are responsible for the administration of medication. They are also responsible for collecting, reporting, and recording patient information on the medical record.

RADIATION THERAPY

This is the first such associate degree in the Ivy Tech statewide inventory and has been developed in conjunction with the Bloomington based Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute (MPRI), a proton therapy treatment center that uses a precise method for delivering radiation to a disease site, while minimizing the dose to healthy tissues.

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

Our campus partners with the Terre Haute campus to provide this associate degree to students in our local communities.



RESPIRATORY CARE

The Respiratory Care associate degree program is designed to prepare students theoretically and clinically in the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with diseases affecting the lung and cardiovascular system.