

Dr. Abigail Matos Pagan June 16, 2025

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#### I. General Information of the Dean's Office and Associated Units

- a. Mission and Vision
  - 1. Mission and Vision of the Department of Nursing

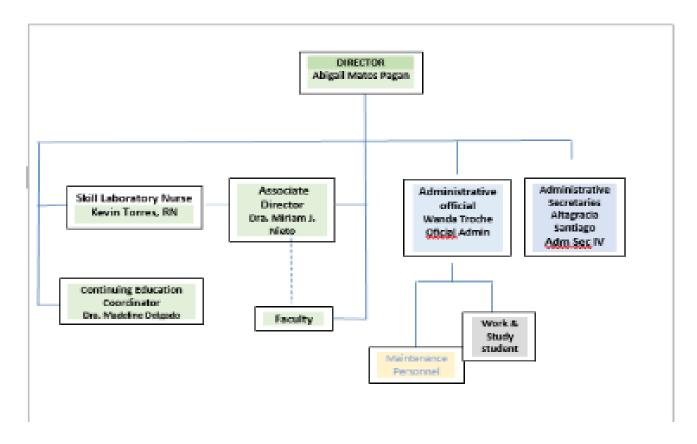
The Mission and Vision of the Department of Nursing are congruent with the values, mission, and goals of the College of Arts and Science and the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez. The goals that the Department of Nursing shares with the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez are to lead in higher education throughout PR while guaranteeing the best education for our students.

**Vision:** To prepare Nursing professionals accountable, competent, and committed to improving the quality of life of the Puerto Rican and international society.

**Mission:** Prepare highly qualified Nursing professionals who participate in health promotion and maintenance, prevention and management of illness, rehabilitation, and end of life care to a diverse society at all levels of healthcare delivery, and contribute in health care public policies.

- b. Organizational Structure
  - 1. Organizational Chart of the Department of Nursing

#### DEPARTMENT OF NURSING ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# II. Report on Initiatives, Activities, and Achievements in Accordance with the Strategic Plan and International Activity

#### a. Executive Summary

In 24-25 academic year, the faculty and the Department of Nursing administration have worked closely to accomplish the goals, and outcomes of the Nursing Program and the mission of the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez. We have continued working towards a curricular revision and a Master of Science in Nursing degree. At the same time, we are working towards improving the data gathering and analysis, developed a plan for outcomes assessment and improve the retention rate, following the guidelines of the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. This year the faculty completed eleven new courses for the MSN in cardiovascular, forensic and community health and there is optimism that the proposal submitted will be reconsidered. We continue to integrate students in diverse clinical and community scenarios, COOP and, health promotion health fairs. The Department of Nursing increased collaborative agreements with community agencies to provide clinical experiences for services that are difficult to establish and included additional opportunities for students to do COOP, residencies and internships in USA and PR. The Faculty and the Department of Nursing are committed to increasing and diversifying the institutions sources of revenue through our program of This year the 2025 Cardiovascular Scientific Convention Continuing Education. generated for the Department of Nursing, revenues for the CEU. As providers for continuing education units we have opportunities to increase the Department's revenue. The students and faculty engaged in many creative endeavors, increasing our visibility and opportunities. Three Nursing students in conjunction with one from the school of mechanical engineering obtained a challenge prize from Toyota Mobility Challenge for the construction of an independent mobility home car, named Home Racer. We are also involved in the establishment of a Certification for OR Instrument Technicians for adult learners in collaboration with the Perea Hospital and Department of Education. The director of the Department of Nursing continues to provide research opportunities to students who are interested in doing so. This year students participated in the Close Encounter project and identified students with high blood pressure. The data and analysis was presented in the 25<sup>th</sup> Scientific Convention of the American College of Cardiology Puerto Rico. Two faculty members are also participating in evidence-based research activities with Rutgers University School of Nursing and will consider the areas of mental health and maternity nursing. The faculty continues to contribute in the orientation of caregivers who request assistance related to the care of the patient with chronic and debilitating diseases. Our spirit, pride and identity is always encouraged and motivated through our health promotion activities, recruitment and the honor of wearing the UPRM Nursing uniform.

#### b. Objective 1: Institutionalize a culture of strategic planning and assessment

- In the 2024-2025 academic year, the Department of Nursing continued to work on the strategic plan developed for the year.
- The Curricular Committee established a curricular revision plan to revise the number of credits for Program completion. A new proposed BSN Program with 130 credits will be submitted by the end of 2025. Included in this plan is the consideration of General Academic required courses.
- The Personnel Committee reviewed the Faculty Recruitment and Retention Plan by the University of Puerto Rico's 2028 guidelines and strategic plan.
- The Department of Nursing is an accredited Nursing Program committed to maintaining excellence in academics. To this end, the Evaluation Committee is developing new metrics aligned with the New Standards for the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, which will assess end-ofprogram student learning outcomes and program outcomes.
- The Personnel Committee reviewed and developed the Faculty Recruitment and Retention Plan according to the guidelines and strategic plan of the University of Puerto Rico 2023-2028.
- The Evaluation Committee completed all courses evaluations for 2024-2025, affiliated agencies evaluation, satisfaction with the program of graduating students' evaluation, and an exit test to measure outcomes of Student learning outcomes by levels of competencies.
- The Evaluation Committee analyzed the Completion Rate for academic year 2024-2025.

# c. Objective 2: To lead higher education throughout Puerto Rico while guaranteeing the best education for our students

- The Department of Nursing completed its annual report 2024 in compliance with the yearly requirement to the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing.
- We completed the proposal for the Master of Science in Nursing with three specialized areas: cardiovascular, forensic, and community health. After assessing the community's professional needs, policies, and established laws, a designated professor was paid to implement and evaluate the survey, which identified the necessary changes to the proposed program. This proposal was placed on hold by the central administration until further notice but will be resubmitted in August 2025 with justified requirements.
- The Faculty of Nursing submitted eleven new courses to the Curriculum Committee of the Department of Nursing and to the College of Arts & Sciences for the Master in Science of Nursing Proposal.

- One new course was approved (Certification 25-27 amended UPRM Academic Affairs, ENFE 5006- Public Health Policy:) available to students in their senior year.
- The Department of Nursing integrated students in diverse clinical and community scenarios, COOP and, health promotion health fairs.
- The Department of Nursing established collaborative agreements with six new community agencies to provide clinical experiences for services that are difficult to establish.
- The Department of Nursing received the visit on three consecutive times this
  year from the University of Rochester Medical Center to recruit students for
  Residency and Internship. Three students were selected for internship and
  two were selected for the Residency Program.
- The Department of Nursing received The Army Nurse Corp recruiting officers and, the Air Force recruiting officers providing orientation and opportunities to senior students.
- Program completion on December 2024: <u>3 students</u> and, Graduating class on June 2025: <u>33 students</u>.
- Student Recognition Night: Recognition was offered to honor 39 student's academic achievement and leadership (Sigma Theta Tau International-Epsilon Lambda Chapter, Student Association and College of Nursing Professionals of PR) for academic year 23-24. The 2025 Laura Guillen Award, was awarded for community service to one student during the afternoon of the Honor achievement held on April 25, 2025 in the Department of Nursing.
- Nursing Student Association of UPRM inducted new students and a new board for the 2025-2026 academic year.
- All faculty completed professional continuing education, maintained professional licenses to practice nursing and kept the legal requirement by the College of Professional Nursing in PR and the Board of Nursing.
- Two faculty members shared learning experiences from the 2024 Convention
  of the National League of Nursing, celebrated in San Antonio Texas and
  sponsored by Rutgers University, School of Nursing and as part of the
  collaborative research activities.

### d. Objective 3: To increase and diversify the Institution's sources of revenue

- The Department of Nursing scheduled 11 activities of Continuing Education for year 24-25. Five were face to face and 6 modules.
- Faculty visited Bella Vista Hospital, Perea Hospital and La Concepcion Hospital to offer CEU to personnel who requested the service.
- The Department of Nursing offered 12 CEU's to nurses of the American College of Cardiology - Cardiovascular Team Section 2024 Scientific

Convention which generated a revenue of \$1,000.00 to the Department of Nursing. The 2025 Convention will generate approximately \$1875.00 from nurses and other professionals that accepted the program outline submitted to the board.

- The Department of Nursing was certified as a provider of Continuing Education for the Board of Pharmacist of Puerto Rico, the Board of Counseling Professionals, Board of Technology and XRay Technicians and the Board of Psychology.
- Promotion and marketing were done using social media, and through email.
- Tentative programing of new CEU for 2025-2026 was distributed as previously mentioned.

#### e. Objective 4: To implement efficient and expedient creative endeavors

- The Department of Nursing faculty have been collaborating with Rutgers University School of Nursing on Clinical preceptorship and leadership with affiliated agencies nurses. Two faculty members are in conversation with the faculty of Nursing to establish a collaborative research in the area of mental health and maternity nursing.
- The Department of Nursing participated in the **2024 Toyota Mobility Challenge** for the first time and obtained the \$25,000.00 award for the creation of an independent mobility home car; **the Home Racer** is a mobility home car for people with mobility challenges at home. The project was presented by Dr. Abigail Matos, 3 nursing students and one Mechanical Engineering student. The team will be working with this project during the 1 St. semester 25-26.
- The Department of Nursing has a proposal with the Department of Education and the Perea Hospital to establish a Certification on Operating Room Instrument Technicians for adult learners. A first meeting was conducted with Hospital Perea leadership and the Department of Education of Puerto Rico represented by Ms. Noemi Ramirez Ramirez, Occupational Superintendent, Mayaguez Region. A formal letter of intention and a Memorandum of intent will be drafted in August 2025.
- The Department of Nursing collaborated with medical offices personnel who needed to follow with HIPAA law compliance. Continuing Education was prepared online and 18 personnel were certified as compliant.
- The Sigma Theta Tau, International, Epsilon Lambda Chapter, only chapter in Puerto Rico of the Nursing Honor Society had induction of new members at the Department of Nursing.
- The Department of Nursing and the STTI, Epsilon Lambda Chapter presented a conference at international level of Human Trafficking: International Crime, with the cooperation of an international speaker, Dr. Luis

- Rivera-Cintron. The conference was offered to all chapters of the STTI in South America, Spain and members of Puerto Rico Chapter through the TEAMS platform.
- The Department of Nursing continued to provide continuing education to professionals of the healthcare area. Approval of 12 hrs of CEU to participants of the 25 Scientific Convention of the American College of Cardiology Puerto Rico – Cardiovascular Section was approved by various boards of the Puerto Rico Health Department.
- Dra. Abigail Matos, Dra. Miriam Nieto and Profs. Kevin Torres and Elba Caballero presented conferences at the 25 Scientific Convention of the ACC-PR at the Caribe Hilton, San Juan on April 11-12, 2025.
- The faculty of the Department of Nursing continued to provide conferences and presentations to Elder Home Care Institutions and other organizations who request services for health fairs.

### f. Objective 5: To strengthen research and competitive creative endeavors

- The Director of the Department of Nursing is committed to strengthen research activities and for that reason, has hold groups of students who are interested in participating in research. This year a continuation of the project: Close Encounters of the First Kind identified students with hypertension. The data that was obtained and analyzed was presented as a poster in the 25 Scientific Convention of the American College of Cardiology Puerto Rico-Cardiovascular Section.
- Faculty and students are continued to be motivated in the involvement of research activities and divulgation of these endeavors.
- Two faculty members participated in the evidence-based research activities with Rutgers University. The areas of mental health and maternity will be considered to establish a collaborative research between faculty from both universities.
- Faculty will continue to work towards the Master of Science in Nursing for the Department of Nursing to strengthen research and creative endeavors.

#### g. Objective 6: To impact our Puerto Rican society

 The Faculty of Nursing continues to participate in health fairs, conferences and educative activities for the professional community and affiliated agencies. The faculty has provided community presentations with students in various health fairs, home care, elderly institutions and homeless shelters.  Faculty contributes in the orientation of caregivers who request assistance related to the care of the patient with Alzheimer's disease, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer.

#### h. Objective 7: To strengthen school spirit, pride, and identity

- The Committee of promotion and recruitment of the Department of Nursing continues to visit high schools in the western area of PR to promote the nursing program and provide orientation.
- The Department of Nursing and its faculty actively participates in all Campus activities, recruitment and promotion, and how students wear the UPRM nursing uniform with pride and honor.





Toyota Mobility Challenge 2024







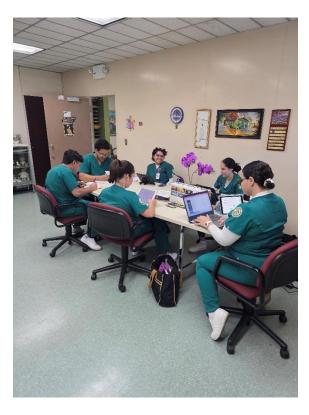
#### American College of Cardiology- PR Cardiovascular Section





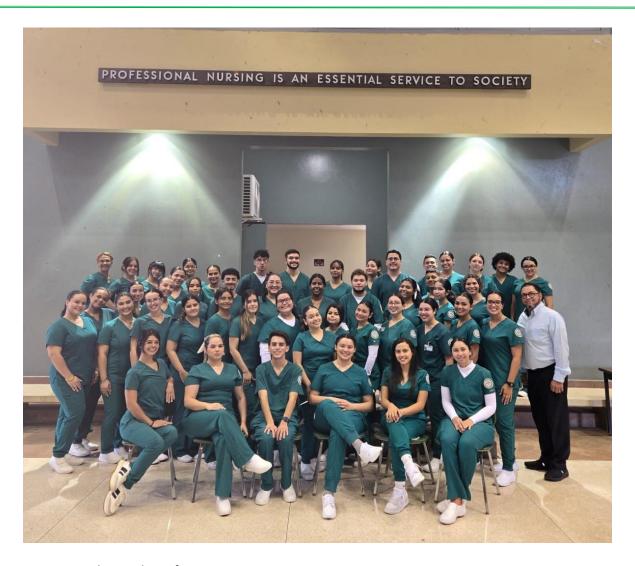












Nursing Freshman class of 24-25

