



May 8, 2015  
For Immediate Release

### **APRIL DAVIS NAMED 2015 OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR**

**Charlotte, NC** – The School of Nursing’s Associate Dean put it succinctly: “April Davis is an amazing educator and teammate.” April Davis has been a nurse for 26 years and has shared her passion for nursing by serving Carolinas HealthCare System for 19 years and Carolinas College of Health Sciences (CCHS) for 17 of those. At CCHS she’s taught in both the nursing program and the surgical technology program, and has taught at Mercy School of Nursing as well, demonstrating her flexibility and teamwork.

Student success is a top priority for April Davis. Her warm and effective communication skills are perfectly suited to first semester nursing students, those new to the “nursing world” and fearful of much. Her non-threatening, open manner increases their confidence and willingness to ask for help. She is often at the college before anyone else arrives in the morning, and after most have left in the evening. Sandwiched between those two is a full day spent serving students. Though never compromising her high expectations, she goes to great lengths to help students rise to the level of those expectations. When a student in need of assistance seeks April out, she inevitably puts her work aside, sits back in her chair, and—in an unhurried way - offers to help in any way she can. April is always approachable and understanding, while simultaneously holding the student accountable for his/her responsibility in the learning process. This student comment is typical: “April is the kind of nurse I want to be. She gets to know each student. Her love for teaching and learning are obvious. You can tell she enjoys her career as a nurse and that she loves teaching. It is such a pleasure to be taught by a woman who is so incredibly brilliant! I'm grateful to April for helping me WANT to succeed at an even greater level.”

April is an innovative instructor. Her creativity and curriculum insight were instrumental in revamping the Nursing Fundamentals class so that students are better prepared for clinical success in their first semester. She has spent hours applying technology solutions to the fundamentals class, making the class easier for students to complete at their own pace and place. This delivery method is helpful to and popular with students facing unexpected schedule demands. She has also explored using webcams and software applications to teach simultaneously in two classrooms.

A highly effective communicator, April builds consensus and trust through collaborative, respectful listening and negotiating skills. At the same time, she does not shy away from crucial conversations, but is careful to preserve the dignity of others—even in conflict—by applying thoughtful and holistic communication skills.

Service to students is a cornerstone of her higher education philosophy. In addition to tutoring, advising, and teaching, she recently accepted the honor of advising the Student Nurses Association. She served as a coach during the recent college phone-a-thon, and she spends her personal time offering free yoga classes for college employees, students and the community.

April is also an active member of the Association of Operating Room Nurses, Dogwood Chapter, and has served in many official capacities both locally and nationally. She is a member of Mu Psi chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, National League of Nurses, and the American Nurses Association.

[Carolinas College of Health Sciences](http://www.CarolinasCollege.edu) ([www.CarolinasCollege.edu](http://www.CarolinasCollege.edu)), recently ranked the number one two-year college in the nation for two consecutive years, offers programs in many areas of health care. Graduates consistently exceed state and national certification testing benchmarks, demonstrating their exceptional preparedness in careers such as medical laboratory science, nursing, radiation therapy, histology, radiologic technology, and surgical technology. The College also offers individual courses in the sciences and liberal arts as well as continuing education programs in professional skills and integrative medicine. Carolinas College offers student access to the Carolinas Simulation Center, a rich collection of high fidelity human patient simulators and procedural task trainers.

-----

**Contact:** Hampton Hopkins, Carolinas College of Health Sciences, Dean of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, 704-355-5585, [hampton.hopkins@CarolinasCollege.edu](mailto:hampton.hopkins@CarolinasCollege.edu)

**Location:** Carolinas College of Health Sciences, 1200 Blythe Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28203  
[www.CarolinasCollege.edu](http://www.CarolinasCollege.edu)



Ms. April Davis