Students Toured Audubon Hospital Laboratory

Students in the Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) program had the opportunity to tour a hospital laboratory through their Introduction to MLT class, which helped give them a better understanding of their field.

The lab manager was happy to take students through the different departments. Along the way, she explained important concepts such as infection control, the use of personal protective equipment, HIPAA and accreditation requirements. The students were able to see lab techs at work and ask questions. After touring the hospital lab, the students showed greater enthusiasm in the classroom.

**Licensure Pass Rates High Again This Year!**

Several Spencerian College programs require certification or licensure upon graduation to practice in the field. Of these programs, the following first-time pass rates have been achieved year-to-date:

- **Medical Laboratory Tech.** 100%
- **Practical Nursing** 94%
- **Radiologic Technology** 100%
- **Registered Nursing** 97%
- **Respiratory Therapy** 100%

**21st Century Teaching Aid REAL-ly Helps Students**

Spencerian’s nursing programs, the Practical Nursing diploma program and the AAS Nursing program, plus the Patient Care Assistant certificate program were designed to meet the medical needs of the Kentuckiana area.

The Patient Care Assistant certificate program is a short-term program that can be completed in six months during the day or in nine months during the evening. It gives students a strong foundation in healthcare that can help advance a student’s career. The student has training in today’s high-demand areas of mental health, home health and restorative health. Completion of this short program leads to eligibility to sit for the Kentucky State Registered Nurse Aide certification. Two current graduates have decided to continue their medical training next quarter, one in the AAS Surgical Technology program and the other in the Limited Medical Radiography diploma program.

The Practical Nursing diploma program has graduated thousands of students since its inception in 1978. Many of these graduates have come back to Spencerian to enter the AAS Nursing program, which began in 2001. Since that time, over 750 graduates have become licensed registered nurses (RNs) working not only in the Louisville/Indiana communities, but also in many states across the country. In all three programs, students train on a “simulation man,” a valuable teaching tool. He’s a 21st century mannequin who can be computer programmed to act like a real patient. A student can walk up to him and ask, “How are you feeling today, Mr. Sim?” Sim Man can be programmed to respond as the instructor wishes. Examples include “My chest hurts,” or “I’m tired,” or “I don’t feel well.” Sim Man can cough, sneeze, cry and replicate many more real-life scenarios. He can be programmed to demonstrate both normal and abnormal breath and heart sounds. He can also be put on a stretcher and moved to the classroom. This is helpful when an instructor is lecturing on a disease or condition, such as congestive heart failure. The Sim Man can demonstrate the cough that might accompany this diagnosis. This allows the students to “see” what this patient will look or act like while in the classroom.

The use of simulation provides a safe environment in which students can learn and make mistakes without endangering the life of a real patient. This relieves some of the stress that accompanies nursing care and allows the student to focus on learning prior to entering the clinical setting.