April 2003

Dear Graduate Nurse Applicant

As you have expressed an interest in a position in the GNP (Graduate Nurse Program), we would like to draw your attention to Graduate Nurse Program/Mental Health option.

The School of Nursing & Midwifery at FUSA (The Flinders University of South Australia) in collaboration with FMC (Flinders Medical Centre) offer a Graduate Nurse Program/Mental Health option. Graduate Nurses have the opportunity to undertake the GNP while undertaking studies in mental health nursing.

The Graduate Nurse Program/Mental Health option is designed to provide Graduate Nurses the opportunity to extend clinical knowledge and skills and facilitate the transition from student to Registered Nurse in an acute care environment while undertaking the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing to qualify as a Registered Mental Health Nurse.

The Graduate Nurse Program/Mental Health option comprises:

- employment as a Graduate Nurse for a six month acute care clinical placement
- enrolment in the FUSA Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing and the 6-unit topic, Primary Health Care for Mental Health.

On completion of the Graduate Nurse Program/Mental Health option, the Graduate Nurse can elect to either:

- cease further studies and complete the 12 month Graduate Nurse Program at Flinders Medical Centre
- undertake the topic NURS9529 Mental Health Nursing Practice 1, 12 units, and exit with a Graduate Certificate in Health or
- continue in the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing. Mental health clinical experience can be obtained through a further 12 month employment contract with FMC Division of Mental Health.

For further course information visit the FUSA website www.mhnfinders.com. Additional questions regarding the Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing can be directed to Leslie Flegg, Administrative Assistant for Dr. Cynthia Stuhlmiller (Professor of Nursing, Mental Health) at 08 8201 3405. Information regarding the FMC Graduate Nurse Program can be directed to Julie Watkinson, Coordinator GNP at 08 8204 4301.

Applicants who are interested in undertaking the Graduate Nurse Program/Mental Health option will need to lodge separate applications to FUSA and FMC and fulfil the criteria for entry into both the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing at FUSA and the GNP at FMC.
Applications on the enclosed form for the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health Nursing are due by 31st October 2003. Applications will also be considered past this closing date if space is available. They should be forwarded to:

Ms Anne Reichstein  
Administrative Officer (Academic)  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
Flinders University, Adelaide Australia  
GPO Box 2100  
Adelaide SA 5001

We encourage you to consider the Graduate Nurse Program/Mental Health option.

Yours sincerely

Dr Cynthia Stuhlmiller  
Professor of Nursing, Mental Health  
School of Nursing & Midwifery  
Flinders University

Mona Lam  
Nursing Director  
Nursing and Patient Services  
Flinders Medical Centre