9-1-1 Interprofessional Simulation Promotes Teamwork between EMS and Nursing Students

On June 16, 2015 Broward College Health Sciences Simulation Center had a historical event occur. The first full scale interprofessional simulation experience (IPE) occurred between the Paramedic Level 3 and ASN Nursing students. The EMS students had backup from Davie Fire Rescue paramedics and the utilization of the Davie Fire Rescue Ambulance. The Simulation Center is designed to train students and community professionals for interprofessional education and practice, breaking the old educational model of training in silos.

Professor Jennifer Kantis (Nursing) and Professor Matt Whiteshield (EMS) in collaboration with the Simulation Team lead by Eric Dotten, Assistant Director created the simulation learning objectives to include a 9-1-1 call for chest pain, triage in the Simulation Center ED/Triage, and admission to the Critical Care Unit on the second floor. The simulated patient, Professor Carl Shapiro developed chest pain while teaching a class at the college. The scenario involved Davie Fire Rescue with our paramedic students responding to the college for a professor with chest pain. The Paramedic students assessed, began the chest pain protocol, loaded the patient onto the EMS stretcher and transported to the Emergency Department Entrance.

Upon arrival to the Emergency Department Room 136, as assigned, a report was given by the paramedic students to their nursing counterparts. A triage nurse (Nursing student with Professor Kantis) quickly assessed the patient and requested the patient be admitted to the critical care room on the second floor.

After care was transferred from EMS to Nursing (IPE), nursing began assessing the patient who then went into cardiac arrest. This was the first formal collaboration between two different student groups and Davie Fire Rescue to allow the students to practice in the role of their respected disciplines.

A special Thank You to Davie Fire Rescue, Assistant Fire Chief and Battalion Chief Robert DiFernando for participating in the 9-1-1 Simulation with our students.