**2017 CCNE Accreditation Renewal Notice for MSN Programs**

Dear Faculty, Staff, Students, and Friends of the WellStar School of Nursing

The WellStar School of Nursing will be hosting an on-site evaluation team from the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), website link) from November 1-3, 2017 as part of the accreditation renewal process for the WSON Master’s of Science in Nursing programs. The visitors will be meeting with members of the university and professional community as part of their evaluation.

This review is conducted to ascertain the WSON’s compliance with accreditation standards of the CCNE. As a part of the evaluation process, the WSON is asked to inform it communities of interest of the opportunity to provide written input to the review team for their deliberations. Written and signed third-party comments will be accepted by the CCNE through October 11, 2017. All communications should be directed to:

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education

Attn: Third-Party Comments

655 K St., NW, Suite 750

Washington, DC 20001

Please note that the CCNE shares third-party comments with members of the evaluation team. The evaluation team only considers third-party comments that are related to the program’s compliance with the accreditation standards. At no time during the review process are the comments shared with the WSON. However, all compliance concerns related to the accreditation standards will be identified in the accreditation report and the program will have an opportunity to respond to those concerns as part of its response to the report.

**What is CCNE?**

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) “is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public's health. The Commission ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate, and residency programs in nursing. The Commission serves the public interest by assessing and identifying programs that engage in effective educational practices. As a voluntary, self-regulatory process, CCNE accreditation supports and encourages continuing self-assessment by nursing programs and supports continuing growth and improvement of collegiate professional education and entry-to-practice nurse residency programs.” Accreditation by CCNE is intended to accomplish at least five general purposes:

1. to hold nursing programs accountable to the community of interest – the nursing profession, consumers, employers, higher education, students and their families, nurse residents – and to one another by ensuring that these programs have mission statements, goals, and outcomes that are appropriate to prepare individuals to fulfill their expected roles;

2. to evaluate the success of a nursing program in achieving its mission, goals, and expected outcomes;

3. to assess the extent to which a nursing program meets accreditation standards;

4. to inform the public of the purposes and values of accreditation and to identify nursing programs that meet accreditation standards; and

5. to foster continuing improvement in nursing programs – and, thereby, in professional practice.

For a printable version of the above, please download here as a Word Document or as a PDF.