



## **New nursing science program wins national accreditation**

The charter class of 20 nursing students who received their baccalaureate degrees on May 9 had the honor of graduating from a program that meets the highest national standards. They have those bragging rights because the SCSU Department of Nursing Science has been fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

The prestigious, national accreditation is the highest mark of excellence a nursing department can receive. Accreditation is not required, but successful completion of the voluntary quality review process is universally recognized by the healthcare industry.

It is anticipated that another 33 nurses will earn their degrees next spring, bringing to 53 the number of SCSU graduates who can help alleviate the acute shortage of nurses in central and rural Minnesota.

SCSU offers the newest baccalaureate nursing program in the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities system. It was developed in cooperation with the St. Cloud Hospital, HealthPartners, the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and other regional healthcare industry partners.