NEWS RELEASE

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Five UCM Nursing Students Receive Veteran Challenge Coin Award

WARRENSBURG, Mo. (Dec. 5, 2014) — Advancing the University of Central Missouri’s standing as military friendly, the Department of Nursing honored five graduating students with veteran challenge coins during the Fall 2014 pinning ceremony, Saturday, Dec 6.

“I have always loved science and nursing is the perfect blend of both. I lost my mother to cancer when I was 10, now I want to be able to make a difference in someone’s life,” said Veteran Challenge Coin recipient, Tiffany Bell.

Bell served eight years in the U.S. Navy on active duty and reserves. She is currently stationed at Whiteman Air Force Base but plans to move with her husband, Robert, and children to Birmingham, Alabama after graduation to work in pediatrics. Robert recently completed 30 years of active duty in the U.S. Air Force.

Four other students are receiving a coin this semester; Ashley Korson, daughter of a United States Air Force Veteran; RuthAnne Owens, who served in the Army National Guard; Ashley Cox, who served in the Army National Guard; and Stacey Lyon, who served in the U.S. Army. Any nursing student or faculty member who is a veteran of the US armed forces and reservists, or using a Post 9/11 US GI Bill from a veteran family member is applicable to receive a Veteran Challenge Coin.

Funding for the Veteran Challenge Coins was provided by the UCM Foundation Opportunity Grant program in 2013. Grant recipient, Karin Sartwell, is an assistant nursing professor and applied for the grant to provide greater learning opportunities for military and veteran students.

“We wanted to highlight the fact that we are part of the culture of service, and that our program allows transfer credits from some military courses for the nursing program,” said Sartwell.

Offering these types of greater learning experiences is the goal of the UCM Foundation Opportunity Grants. For more information about projects the program has funded, visit http://bit.ly/12l6Hg5

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Equal Education and Employment Opportunity
Caption:
University of Central Missouri honored five veteran nursing graduates with a special honor at their pinning ceremony during Fall 2014 Commencement ceremonies. The Veterans Challenge Coin shows the UCM nursing emblem on one side while the other shows the U.S. flag and the words, respect, dignity and determination. Recipients were from left: Tiffany Bell, Stacey Lyon, Ashley Korson, RuthAnne Owens and Ashley Cox.

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