Opening in time for the spring semester, Greenfield Community College and Baystate Franklin Medical Center’s new Simulation Learning Lab will provide a state-of-the-art interactive learning environment for GCC students and BFMC’s health care staff. Partnering to create the new Lab, GCC provided the patient simulation manikin and computers that run it, while BFMC provided the space, a building on the BFMC campus. The Lab is outﬁtted to look like a hospital patient room and is a dedicated space for simulation training for GCC nursing, paramedic, and EMT students and for patient care providers. Using the Simulation Learning Lab, GCC faculty and BFMC’s nurse educators will provide a practice environment for students and hospital staff to practice clinical, team-work, and communication skills. A wide range of speciﬁc patient care scenarios can be programmed into the manikin to address different clinical lessons, such as an older patient with dementia and other health issues, labor and delivery, post-partum care, dementia and other health issues, such as an older patient with dementia and other health issues, labor and delivery, post-partum care, and hospital staff to practice clinical, team-work, and communication skills. A wide range of speciﬁc patient care scenarios can be programmed into the manikin to address different clinical lessons, such as an older patient with dementia and other health issues, labor and delivery, post-partum care, and other areas of need. GCC faculty and staff and BFMC staff were enthusiastic about working together to create a Simulation Learning Lab. Since then, representatives of each institution met to work out the details of the partnership and the two institutions signed a partnership contract in November.

Nancy Craig-Williams PhD, MSN, GCC’s Associate Dean for Nursing Programs, said, “This partnership brings together the resources of two community institutions—GCC and BFMC—to expand educational opportunities for our community. The hospital is providing much needed space for education of GCC’s nursing students, hospital staff through expert direction of BFMC and GCC means everyone—students seeking to develop health care careers, hospital and EMS professionals seeking professional development, and the community being served by area health care professionals.” Bak said, “GCC and BFMC already share a strong working collaboration, and this takes it to another level. Because of our strong connection, the generous donors who provided the simulation equipment want GCC and BFMC’s commitment to our community, BFMC’s nurses and other health care providers will be able to learn in a state-of-the-art safe environment.”

Leesa-Lee Keith RN, MSN, Chief Nursing Ofﬁcer at BFMC, agrees. “BFMC’s nurses and other health care providers on the hospital personnel, the Lab offers a safe learning environment where people can learn to fail. This technology allows us to bring the very best to GCC students and health care providers on the hospital staff. The Lab helps BFMC stay on the cusp of best practices, so we can provide high-quality, high safety, compassionate care to members of our community.”

For information about the new Simulation Learning Lab, contact Nancy Craig-Williams at GCC, nancy.craig-williams@gcc.mass.edu, 413-775-7070, or Kayte Bak at BFMC, katharine.bak@baystatehealth.org, 413-773-2627.

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Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m., Main Campus, East Building
Join us for an orientation and introduction to the W.I.T.S. Personal Trainer Certification class. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about this in-demand career and sign up for the 9-week class that starts soon! Contact the Admissions Office!

PARA MEDIC CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
Thursday, February 26, 2015, 6 p.m.—7:30 p.m., Main Campus, East 167
Find out more about the program and admission requirements. Please bring your current state or national EMT card and current CPR card.

Contact (413) 775-1628 or email jefff@gcc.mass.edu

Preparing for the 9-week class that starts soon! Contact the Admissions Office!