



When Courtney Rahrig '08 applied for a 12-week fellowship after graduating from Valparaiso University's College of Nursing, she knew she was more than qualified to take part in the program.

Rahrig points to the simulation-based instruction she received through the CoN's Virtual Nursing Learning Center.

"I could definitely tell I was prepared well," Rahrig says. "I know having the experience with simulation at Valpo made me even more confident."

Rahrig was one of 11 to be accepted during the summer of 2008 into the Critical Care Fellowship through the Medical Center of Aurora in Aurora, Colo. The fellowship was geared toward training recent graduates for a career as a nurse on an intensive care unit.

Those who took part in the fellowship were guaranteed a position as an ICU nurse at any of the Health One facilities in the Denver area. Rahrig now works as an ICU nurse at Skyridge Medical Center in Lone Tree, Colo.

The fellowship provided participants with a hands-on learning experience thanks to a heavy integration with patient simulation tools at the Work, Education and Lifelong Learning Simulation Center, a state-of-the-art facility specializing in building clinical knowledge through patient simulation.

"It was basically honing our skills from nursing and applying them to real situations," Rahrig says. "I know simulation has given me more confidence. I'm a hands-on learner. And I think a lot of people feel that way when trying to apply their knowledge."

PHOTO CAPTION: Courtney Rahrig '08 works as an ICU nurse at Skyridge Medical Center in Lone Tree, Colo.