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TYLER MIGNAULT/CHRONICLE

By **GINA LORUSSO**
Managing Editor

Quinnipiac University celebrated the ribbon cutting for its new bookstore March 3. The event featured a DJ, student fashion show and discounted Champion apparel for attendees.

"It just was a great experience, and I love seeing so many people coming out to celebrate our new building and our new location," Campus Store Manager Brittany Calabro said.

The fashion show showed off the bookstore's new apparel as students circled the top floor, making their way through the crowd and showing off their own personality.

"I thought it was a really cool way to display the items that we have and the sale that's going on today, and just celebrate our students and the new bookstore," Jessie Auerbach, sophomore behavioral neuroscience major, said.



TYLER MIGNAULT/CHRONICLE

Guests enjoyed provided water and snacks at the bookstore ribbon cutting.

University administrators echoed the enthusiasm shared by students reflecting on the store's redesign and relocation.

"This is the kind of space students at Quinnipiac deserve for getting their books, their accessories and their swag," Chief Experience Officer Tom Ellett said.

According to Sandip Patel, associate vice president for budgeting and financial planning, the new bookstore had a 50% increase in sales in February alone.

"It's not just the wonderful layout of this store. You know what else it is? It's the people who greet you," President Marie Hardin said. "It's that Quinnipiac smile, that welcoming team that is going to be talking with you when you come in here, and helping you and wanting to know about your day."



TYLER MIGNAULT/CHRONICLE

Senior journalism major Rocco Di Carlo participates in the bookstore's fashion show on March 3.



TYLER MIGNAULT/CHRONICLE

The Quinnipiac University Bookstore Grand Opening features a live DJ.

NURSING from cover

..... the profession, some are also leaving early on.

"We're seeing some studies showing that up to maybe 30-40% of new nurses are leaving after their first two years," Slater said. "And they're not just changing jobs, they're leaving the profession altogether. So that's made it really difficult to maintain a robust and stable nursing workforce."

With many nurses leaving, the shortage takes a large toll on the nurses who continue to stay in the profession.

"It is the idea that we have a shortage (that) makes work that much harder," Slater said. "So if, when we're fully staffed, a nurse may have, say, six patients on a unit, because they're short staffed, they may be having eight or nine or 10, so their regular work day is much more demanding."

A number of factors go into causing a shortage, with a chain of different effects.

Slater notes that people are often apprehensive about the profession entirely for a number of reasons.

The cost of tuition combined with the struggle of balancing schooling and clinicals cause hesitancy. Slater highlights that these factors are not just affecting young adults just beginning their higher educa-

tion, but also affecting those considering nursing in a career shift as well.

Not all nurses enter the profession as their first career. For Slater and many others, they take an interest in it later down the road. Slater made a career shift into nursing during a previous shortage.

"(I) went to school for nursing after reading articles that said that there was a nursing shortage, and they needed nurses and it was something that interested me," Slater said.

However, while many are interested in the profession, there are still barriers like the aforementioned tuition costs and time commitment issues.

"It's hard for them to go full time to school, work full time because they're full time in school," Slater said. "It's not just classes."

In response to this, Quinnipiac launched a program with Hartford Healthcare called New Careers in Nursing.

The two-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program includes only one day of classes and one day of clinical — leaving the rest of the week for studying and working a full-time job.

"These are people we're finding in this program that never would have come to Quinnipiac for nursing," Slater said. "They never felt like they had the finan-

cial means and the opportunity to do it, because they're also getting tuition and remission to support that."

The shortage also affects universities themselves, with one of the biggest issues that schools like Quinnipiac are facing is having less educators.

"The struggle with that is it has to be somebody that really is interested in teaching and wants to get into academia," Slater said.

With less faculty available, there could be less students who are able to be accepted as well.

Slater notes that Quinnipiac has maintained the number of applicants for the nursing programs, however universities could face the issue of having to decrease the amount of available spots for incoming students.

The shortage also leaves universities to face issues in running out of sites for students to have their required clinical placement. Nearby Connecticut schools are all trying to place their students in the same spots — including Yale New Haven Health, Hartford Healthcare, Gaylord Hospital and Griffin Hospital — however, there are only so many spots available.

"We work together with our clinical partners very well, but they just have that limited space to provide all of us with what we need," Slater said.