

## April 9, 2009 - Murtha Praises new Pittsburgh VA-Waynesburg University Nursing Partnership

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Congressman John P. Murtha, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, praised today's decision by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in selecting the Waynesburg University School of Nursing and the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System as a site for the VA Nursing Academy's Enhancing Academic Partnership Program.

Under the partnership program, Waynesburg's School of Nursing will begin offering onsite educational classes at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System, Highland Drive location in Pittsburgh. The purpose of the program is to encourage VA nurses to return to school to complete their Bachelor of Science in nursing. The onsite program will offer a 30 to 48-credit curriculum which can be completed in three to four years.

"The Pittsburgh VA-Waynesburg University nursing partnership will provide our nurses with the education and training they need to deliver the first-class medical care our veterans rightfully deserve," commented Murtha.

"Utilizing the research and educational strengths offered by such partnerships will better enable the VA to meet future needs of highly skilled health care professionals by helping to cultivate and retain an educated workforce locally," said Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Secretary of Veteran Affairs in a letter to Murtha. "It will allow our young men and women in the local area to stay close to their homes and receive the education necessary to assist our Veterans."

For more information, please visit <http://www.va.gov/oa/vana/>

#

# #