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Editor's note: In August 2011, the Central Arkansas Radiation Therapy Institute officially changed its name to CARTI. No longer an acronym, CARTI appears in all capital letters with no periods.

Arkansas State And CARTI Form Partnership for Students to Receive College Credit

JONESBORO, Ark. — Arkansas State University and CARTI are pleased to announce a partnership that will allow students enrolled in the CARTI Radiation Therapy program to receive college credit for articulation work.

CARTI is currently accredited by the Joint Review Committee for Education in Radiologic Technology and offers a certificate to its Radiation Therapy graduates. ASU in Jonesboro is accredited by the same body and offers the graduate a bachelor of science degree. This articulation will allow students to transfer certificate hours toward a bachelor's degree.

"This partnership will allow ASU and CARTI to pool resources and talent which will benefit the State of Arkansas through our graduates," said Ray Winters, chair of the ASU Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences Department. This is a benefit not only to the students but also to both institutions. Tracy White, ASU Radiation Therapy program director, concurs, "This will allow our program to collaborate for clinical and didactic education with one of the most respected and successful radiation therapy organizations in the state."

"For CARTI, the relationship with ASU provides our students access to a bachelor's degree in Radiologic Sciences and gives us the opportunity to partner with a program that is accredited and has an excellent graduation history," said Janice E. Burford, President and CEO of CARTI. "CARTI has long been supportive of advancing the profession of radiation therapy, having educated a large number of therapists in the state of Arkansas and our region since opening our school in 1979. While some of our students choose to graduate with a certificate in radiation therapy, this partnership with ASU allows those who want to complete their bachelor's degree to do so through ASU's radiologic sciences program. We are thrilled about working with them to make this available to our students."

Dr. Susan Hanrahan, dean of the College of Nursing and Health Professions, noted that CARTI has been a pleasure to work with. "This partnership supports Governor (Mike) Beebe's initiative to increase the number of bachelor's degree graduates in the state," Hanrahan said. "We are excited about formalizing this relationship."

Since CARTI opened its school in 1979, 240 students have graduated from the program. CARTI is an independent, nonprofit network of cancer care facilities that offers radiation therapy, medical and surgical oncology and diagnostic radiology. Facilities are located throughout Arkansas in Little Rock, North Little Rock, Benton, Conway, Mountain Home and Searcy. For more information, visit <u>www.carti.com</u>. The initial Radiation Therapy class at Arkansas State graduated in 2000. Since that time, more than 80 students have graduated with their bachelor of science in Radiation Therapy from the program.

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