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2011.12.20

Number of winter graduates grows at Jefferson College



Jefferson College of Health Sciences President N.L. Bishop speaks during winter graduation. (Photo courtesy of Jefferson College)

[Correction: This story has been updated to correct a math error.]

As Jefferson College of Health Sciences has added more graduate level programs the private Roanoke school has seen a sharp increase in the number of people graduating during the winter.

This year 98 students graduated from the Carilion Clinic-owned college. That's more than five times the number who graduated in December 2008.

The first jump in winter graduates occurred a year ago when 81 graduated. In 2009, just 27 students graduated.

Last year represented the first time any master level degrees were given.

And about half of the students who graduated during [Friday's commencement ceremony](#) earned master level degrees, said college spokesman Mark Lambert.

In 2008, Jefferson College added graduate programs in occupational therapy and physician assistant. Prior to that the school offered its first master of science in nursing.

Congratulations to all the graduates.

