Welcome back to OUTCOMES, the e-Newsletter for and about improving health care outcomes by the doctoral prepared nursing professional. As you review this second issue, we focus on successes that impact outcomes, trends in DNP education, and a look to the future of what to anticipate as more and more nurses earn and practice with this degree.

As this degree grows and evolves, one trend that is gaining recognition and momentum both within and outside of the nursing discipline is collaboration. No discipline, specialty, or focus of practice operates in isolation. Practice is reflected in successful interactions with stakeholders, colleagues, systems and certainly our patients, families and communities. Please read on to see more information about successful scholarship teams, practice, and educational opportunities. All comments and questions are welcomed. Please contact us any time.
The Ninth National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference: Baltimore

Transforming Healthcare Through Collaboration
Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor at Camden Yards
October 5-7, 2016

If you are a DNP graduate or student, you know the challenges of successfully completing the academic challenges of this degree. Each school or college of nursing has its own rigor and expectations of faculty that are driven by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) reflected in the Eight Essentials of Doctoral Education.

The trends in number and growth of DNP programs cannot be denied. The images from the AACN reflect these trends. As more graduates integrate their talents into the health care delivery system, changes are taking place and the value of the degree is being demonstrated.
This year the DNP Annual Conference planning committee is being lead by a scholarship team. We are honored to introduce Dianne Conrad, Kathy Moran and Rosanne Burson. Since 2011 this DNP prepared threesome has a long history of approaching work in an integrated, team manner that has improved the quality of the content of their work, the amount of work they are able to accomplish, and keeps the fun at a high level! A few examples of the scholarship they have developed in this context include:

1. A textbook for DNP students that helps guide students through the development of their scholarly project. The second edition of this textbook is currently in production.

2. Spearheading events that highlight the DNP within organizations and academia. One notable event was the “Roundtable of Distinction: Transforming Healthcare in Michigan” event that was held in Lansing, MI in 2013. Through collaboration and innovative partnerships this team was able to bring together all nine universities with DNP programs in MI, as well as health systems and other practice partners, to discuss how the DNP prepared nurse could be used to address the unique healthcare challenges in the state.

3. Many journal articles and national, state, and local presentations around the scholarship team and the value/impact of the DNP prepared nurse.

The group is approaching the 2016 National DNP conference in this same innovative manner; using synergy to create an outstanding event for next year’s conference. The focus of the conference will include regional expertise that will bring together organizations, universities, health systems, speakers, and exhibitors that address issues from a local to national perspective.
The Ninth National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference Baltimore

Transforming Healthcare Through Collaboration

Conference Objectives

- Discuss the impact of collaborative partnerships involving the DNP prepared nurse with intra and inter-professional colleagues to transform healthcare.
- Identify methods to maximize professional organization partnerships that improve healthcare outcomes.
- Explore the cultivation of partnerships between academia and practice.
- Critically reflect on methods to utilize collaboration to maximize nursing productivity.

DNP, Inc. will begin accepting abstracts for the 2016 conference on December 1, 2015

CLICK HERE to begin your abstract submission

We are proud to applaud the success of nursing colleagues as recognized by the Future of Nursing Campaign for Action (a collaboration between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association of Retired Persons). Please click here for more information about the Culture of Health: Breakthrough Leaders in Nursing.
Be on the lookout for services to highlight doctoral prepared nurses that are improving outcomes through a more advanced project repository. Currently Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc. has a database of projects, and is working to develop a system to collect, vet, and then post these projects for easy access and dissemination. There are other companies that provide this type of service, yet the system being developed at DNP Inc. will afford the opportunity to easily access, interact, and share links of information. A nominal one-time charge is required to defray the expense of software application.

The posting of a project to the repository is one way to assist in the dissemination of successful doctoral work that reflects improved health outcomes. The DNP Inc. organization is also developing plans for enduring web-based continuing education and considering a dedicated on-line journal. These vehicles could all help broadcast the great work being performed by doctoral prepared nurses in practice including those that earn the DNP degree.

In collaboration and support of the Projects Repository, the DNP Inc. organization will approach all colleges and universities with a DNP program to be a part of the dissemination plan. College and school programs will have the ability to upload information about their respective programs and can alter this information at any time. These services will be free. To be a part of the dissemination plan, an annual fee will be requested. This annual fee will allow students from that DNP program to post their projects at a discounted rate. The annual fee will also help to fund the DNP Foundation and provide a preferred status for students to apply and potentially receive an operational grant.

The DNP Foundation was started during the 2015 DNP National Conference in Seattle. The foundation received $1,942.88. The organization is building processed to increase donations, along with application and vetting processes. Applications and distribution of grant money will begin the second quarter of 2016.

This is exciting news for our nursing and doctoral prepared nursing community, don’t you think?

Stay tuned for more services and opportunities in the near future.
Are You a Success Story? (continued)

Still, the challenges of earning the degree are more than passing tests and posting on discussion boards. Working successfully with stakeholders in multiple organizations and roles, overcoming unexpected obstacles and demonstrating effective change is more than a classroom assignment. Can you relate to this? If so, please share your experience in a one-page article so that it can be included in the monthly OUTCOMES publication. Your experiences shared with others cannot only help others in their efforts; it can also help us all grow as a discipline. Please share a one-page, single-spaced article about your experiences and include a JPG image of yourself.

Visit the DNP Inc. WEBSITE for the latest information!

Have you completed a project that can demonstrate improved outcomes? Would you like to be highlighted in future issues of OUTCOMES, the e-newsletter of Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc.? If so, please send us your story in a one-page, single-spaced, 12 font article sharing experiences that reflect your work.