Happy New Year from DNP Inc. May the New Year bring to you the warmth of love, and a light to guide your path towards a positive destination.
“DNP Outcome Dissemination via a Project Webpage”

In the spirit of this publication, “Outcomes,” I wanted to present to my Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) colleagues and curious DNP students an example of project dissemination that is slightly untraditional. First, I would disclaim that students should follow the recommendations of their institution regarding dissemination requirements. Second, I would remind this audience that the American Association of Colleges of Nursing White Paper (August 2015), DNP Projects: Current Issues and Clarifying Recommendations, essentially states that dissemination can take on a variety of forms.

Since I am a faculty member, and a Specialty Director for DNP Projects at my university, I absolutely support the recommendation that DNP students should publish their work as appropriate in peer-reviewed journals. I support the recommendation for online DNP Project repositories. But, I also believe that requiring students to develop a DNP Project website, is a novel idea that deserves consideration. There are several free-platforms for website construction at are easy to use and offer online tutorials. Students can use the web platform when consenting project participants, presenting the intervention to stakeholders, and when disseminating their project findings.

I chose to do this for my own DNP work initially out of necessity to complete my project. However, what I am learning is that it continues to be a means of ongoing dissemination. For example, I now use it as I teach DNP Project Planning and Implementation courses. I use it to share with others my infographic gallery. I am also starting to add commentary to help prospective DNP students better understand how I came up with my ideas and translated evidence to make them a reality. The webpage continues to evolve as a platform of my “future scholarship,” which is exactly what AACN says DNP scholarship should encompass.

Before attempting this, I would offer the following considerations. First, do not publish a DNP Project webpage without the support and permission of your DNP Team and/or university. I also caution against use of institutional information or identifiers of our practice partners without express written permission. I did not release my page until my IRB approvals were complete and my DNP Chair gave permission. Second, creating a webpage is NOT a DNP project. Rather it is a platform for the collection and storage of a body of scholarship. Third, and most importantly, I personally would recommend ensuring that the audience for the webpage is clearly defined prior to developing it. Certain projects may require different approaches, such as adjustments for health literacy, if the intended audience is a patient vs a professional.

In summary, development of a DNP Project webpage may have multiple utilities but should be carefully developed with the supervision and input of the DNP Team and Project Stakeholders. It may provide a unique mechanism to share project “OUTCOMES”. I invite you to explore my own DNP Project site at: http://npmollyb.wixsite.com/who4nprx.

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Advanced Practice Nurses Granted Full Practice Authority in VA System

On December 14, 2016, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) modified their regulations to allow three types of advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) full practice authority within their scope of practice if employed in the VA system. Certified Nurse Practitioners (CNP), Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS), and Certified Nurse Midwives (CNM) will fall under this new ruling. For now, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNA) will not be included in the VA's full practice authority.

This ruling will permit CNP, CNS, and CNM to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and certification. The ruling standardizes APRN practice without regard to individual state regulations.

Advanced practice nurses are experts in a variety of areas including primary care, geriatrics, women’s health, adult health, acute and critical care and chronic health care conditions. APRNs perform assessments, order and interpret diagnostic tests, diagnose, manage treatment plans, influence and improve system outcomes.

One of the roles of the Veterans Health Administration is to provide healthcare services to veterans. By allowing APRNs to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and certification, veterans will receive increased access to healthcare providers.

Lerner (2015) noted that in 2014, more than 1.2 million veterans lacked health insurance. A CNN report (Devine, 2015) claims that 307,000 veterans may have died while awaiting health care at the VA.

“The VA’s inspector general found that out of about 800,000 records stalled in the agency’s system for managing health care enrollment, there were more than 307,000 records that belonged to veterans who had died months or years in the past. The inspector general said due to limitations in the system’s data, the number of records did not necessarily represent veterans actively seeking enrollment in VA health care.”

By allowing APRNs to practice to their full authority, access to care for veterans will improve.

The VA health system ruling to allow advanced practice registered nurses to practice to the full extent of their education, training, and certification, will improve veterans access to quality care.

References
Devine, C. (2015, September 3). 307,000 veterans may have died awaiting Veterans Affairs health care, report says.

Jill Beavers-Kirby, DNP, MS, ACNP-BC

Jill Beavers-Kirby received her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at The Ohio State University in May 2011. She currently serves Coordinator of Nurse Practitioner Programs and Associate Professor at Mount Carmel College of Nursing; she has served in this role since November, 2015. She also serves as a Visiting Professor for Chamberlain University in 2014. She has been a Board Certified Acute Care Nurse Practitioner since 2005 and she is also Board Certified as an Adult Nurse Practitioner. She has worked in a variety of patient settings most recently in hematology working with patients who have leukemia and lymphoma. She is licensed as a Registered Nurse in 12 states which permits her to educate students across the U.S. She has an extensive teaching history which includes Health Policy, Health Assessment, and Transition to Professional Roles for Nurse Practitioners. Dr. Beavers-Kirby is a founder, past president, and president elect for the Council for Ohio Health Care Advocacy (COHCA). She is also a devoted patient advocate and is actively involved with the Ohio Nurses Association Legislative Committee and she is an Ambassador for the Arthritis Foundation Policy.
2017 Tenth National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference

Conference Objectives

1. Reflect the progress of the DNP practice through the last decade,
2. Explore the ways our diversity contributes to our strength and impact,
3. Highlight the ways DNPs mitigate the impact of health disparities, and
4. Discuss innovative and inclusive approaches to practice led by DNPs.

Western Multi-State Division
Continuing Education

To receive contact hours for this activity, the participant must:
- Attend selected breakout and plenary sessions in their entirety
- View and engage with the poster presenters
- Complete evaluation forms reflecting participation, insights and feedback

This activity has been submitted to the Western Multi-State Division for approval to award nursing contact hours. The Western Multi-State Division is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation.

For more information regarding contact hours, please call Stephen Campbell-O’Dell at 1-888-651-9160 option 2

16 CE’s anticipated
Welcome to 2017! Happy New Year to all that receive this digital newsletter, and best wishes to health, happiness, and success as we strive individually and collectively to meet our common goals of improving health care outcomes. This is likely to be a challenging year as we strive to keep our finger on the pulse of changes in the health care delivery system. Similarly, the Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc. organization continues to make strides in implementing strategies that will support the growth and development of nursing colleagues with an interest in this terminal practice degree.

Along with the annual National DNP Conference (this year taking place in New Orleans in September), DNP Inc. is continuing to build the dissemination team, repository of doctoral projects, a foundation to support the completion or expansion of practice change projects, and also the development of continuing education to address the unique educational needs of the practice doctorate. We are proud to collaborate with colleagues, contributors and professional organization with similar goals of improving practice. Keep your eye on this monthly e-newsletter to see activities that will support our collective efforts.

CONVERSATIONS OVERHEARD IN THE DNP ONLINE COMMUNITY:

Battling Burnout by our friend and colleague, Ellen O'Grady

*Effective Boss:* Authentic leaders who are positive, self-aware, have integrity and transparency are shown to protect people from burnout. If you have a boss who does not have these traits, it may be bad for you to stay.

*Awareness of Self-Undermining Behaviors:* Paradoxically, those in burnout create more job demands, as their creativity and capacity to mobilize resources and effective problem solving dissolves, at the same time; they lose support, creating a 'loss cycle.' They become less likely to receive support; to experience job autonomy; to participate in decision-making; and to have access to information.

Requesting the Help of a CNS-Prepared Colleague by Nesi Villaraza Napod in Los Angeles is seeking the support and help of a CNS prepared nursing professional. Click into her blog to offer your support.

Opinion of the American Board of Comprehensive Care

What are the opinions of the American Board of Comprehensive Care DNP certification exam?

DNP as Adjunct Faculty – Issues

Are others having issues and concerns as shared in this forum post?

DNP Groups of Interest:

- CNM/OR/GYN/Women Health DNP Group
- DNP Health Informatics
- DNP Health Policy
- DNPs Seeking Positions in Academia

January Events:

- Nursing Informatics Boot Camp
- Nursing Science and the Research-Focused Doctorate Pre-Conference
- Faculty Practice Pre-Conference (PLN)
- Palliative Care Education, Practice, and Research Pre-Conference
- Research Leadership Network (RLN) Program
- Doctoral Education Conference
December 2016 Survey Results: How the DNP Degree has influenced perceptions

The November 2016 survey elicited responses regarding perceptions of how the DNP degree has influenced perceptions of practice and the health care system. We hope that you find these results interesting.

Question 1: In 2016 I was more active in my profession as a result of earning the DNP degree: 53% very much to absolutely, 47% somewhat to not at all

Question 2: The DNP degree has enhanced appreciation of health care system and/or patient care processes. 78% very much to absolutely, 22% somewhat to not at all

Question 3: As a result of earning the DNP degree, I am more frustrated with what I see in the health care delivery system. 44% very much to absolutely, 56% somewhat to not at all

Question 4: My ability to be successful has increase as a result of earning the DNP degree. 63% very much to absolutely, 37% somewhat to not at all

Question 5: Without hesitation I recommend the DNP degree to anyone that has an interest. 78% very much to absolutely, 22% somewhat to not at all

Survey results suggest that the respondents that have earned the DNP degree are happy with this educational choice, and are also satisfied with their level of activity and direction of the health care system.

What do you think? Do these findings reflect your point of view?

Click HERE to take the January 2017 survey
Be a part of disseminating doctoral practice projects that improve outcomes.

The mission of Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc. (DNP Inc.) is to improve health care outcomes by promoting and enhancing the doctoral prepared nursing professional.

Click HERE for more information

All nursing doctoral degree prepared colleagues and programs are welcomed to participate. Any colleague or organization that is dedicated to demonstrating improved health care outcomes through doctorate in nursing preparation are encouraged to contribute.
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