

# OUTCOMES

## THE E-NEWSLETTER OF DOCTORS OF NURSING PRACTICE, INC.



At this time of year we celebrate the graduation of many new DNP prepared colleagues. Congratulations to the growing number of doctorally prepared nursing professionals prepared to improve outcomes, enhance practice, and change lives. This is a great time to be a part of our ever-changing health care delivery system. The contributions of DNP prepared professionals continue to influence health and delivery systems while saving money.

Please check out the latest updates on this year's National Doctors of Nursing Practice conference. Register for the conference early and reserve your room as the block of rooms is going fast.

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Editor: David  
Campbell-O'Dell DNP

## *The Ninth National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference: Baltimore*

This month's featured faculty presenter at the 2016 National DNP Conference in Baltimore is

**Tracy E. Williams, DNP, RN**

Senior Vice President and  
System Chief Nursing Officer  
Norton Healthcare



Dr. Williams has been recognized as a Business First Partner in Health Care from 2007 through 2012. In 2011, Williams received HCPro's prestigious Nursing Image Award for her action-oriented leadership in implementing a culture centered on patients

and their families. The Florida Nurses Association named Williams one of District II's 100 best nurses in 2000 and District II Nurse Administrator of the Year in 1996. She is a frequent national speaker on nursing, health care, innovation and leadership topics. She is active in many professional organizations, including the American Organization of Nurse Executives, American College of Healthcare Executives, National League for Nursing and Sigma Theta Tau nursing honor society. A 1994 graduate of Leadership Louisville, Williams currently serves on the boards of the Fund for the Arts, the Kids Center and SOAR.

# *Transforming Healthcare Through Collaboration*

**Baltimore Marriott  
Inner Harbor at  
Camden Yards  
October 5-7, 2016**

**Join colleagues at this year's event to celebrate successful methods of collaboration to improve health care outcomes and explore future opportunities and challenges.**

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*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  
19 to 21 CE's anticipated*

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  
**Nursing and Health Policy Collaborative**  
University of New Mexico

# Save the Date!

## January 17, 2017

This fourth annual one-day event will immediately precede the January 2017 AACN Doctoral Education Conference at Hotel Del Coronado, Coronado, CA.

## RWJF Nursing and Health Policy Collaborative at UNM

Join us for an exciting national exploration of cross-cutting issues and innovative strategies in preparing nursing students as health policy leaders.



*Registration Information coming soon. Visit our website often for additional information*

*[www.nursinghealthpolicy.org](http://www.nursinghealthpolicy.org).*

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

**Hotel del Coronado,  
Coronado, CA**



# Contributors

If you or someone you know would like to share an article in **OUTCOMES**, **please see the guidelines** and **contact us** any time.



## MAY 2016 DNP, INC SURVEY RESULTS

May 2016 Survey Results from the informal data collection revealed interesting and disturbing results. See what you think.

A surprising **52%** of respondents believe that the DNP degree is progressing and moving in a good direction, and **48%** believe we are somewhat or minimally moving in a good direction.

Only **57%** of respondents believe that those with the DNP degree are indeed demonstrating their worth. Similarly, **57%** believe that value of the DNP degree has not yet been realized.

**60%** believe that health care delivery systems see the value of the DNP degree in their organizations (either somewhat or very much). The down side of this reflection is that **40%** do not believe that the DNP degreed professional is seen as valuable in their organization.

**62%** of respondents believe that the DNP degree has made a favorable impact on the shortage of nursing faculty.

Even though this data reflects the perceptions of a few, we can all glean insights on where we are as a profession. Thank you for participating in the June survey.

Click [HERE](#) to take the June 2016 survey



## ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

Most of the efforts of the DNP Inc. staff and leadership have been directed to building this year's national DNP conference taking place October 5-7, 2016 in Baltimore.

Other activities include an on-going effort to build a listing of all DNP programs. Did you know that you are able to post your school's information on the web site and update information for free? See page 8 for more details. This allows the school much more latitude in sharing information that is seen by students, potential students, faculty, and others interested in this degree.

The repository for projects is finishing its beta testing to assure that all processes of submission, peer review vetting, and posting of content are accurate. This feature has been a long time in coming and could help to display the work of valued colleagues for all to see.

### CONVERSATIONS OVERHEARD IN THE DNP ONLINE COMMUNITY:

#### Professional Image and the DNP

What do you do to enhance the image of nursing? Does it impact how you dress? If so, what is professional dress for a nurse or a DNP? How do you feel about the posters, art and jewelry that promote nursing? Do you use them?

<http://doctorsofnursingpractice.ning.com/forum/topics/re-professional-image-and-the-dnp>

#### Should the DNP be required of the Nurse Executive?

There is currently a large debate on the education level required for nursing executives. Should a DNP be required for executive nursing administration (chief nursing officers, clinical nursing leaders)? (yes or no) or Is a MSN/MBA sufficient? Should a separate track be established for a DNP in administration?

<http://doctorsofnursingpractice.ning.com/forum/topics/should-dnp-be-required-for-nurse-executives>

#### The Reality of the DNP Degree

As I have been in school for my DNP for a short period of time, I have already been hit with a load of bricks about the 'you can do this but you can't do that' with the DNP degree. This realization has come in the form of textbook reading, and interviewing other DNP graduates.

<http://doctorsofnursingpractice.ning.com/forum/topics/the-reality-of-the-dnp-degree>

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TODAY

## Is Advanced Practice Better with the DNP Degree?

By David G. Campbell-O'Dell, DNP, ARNP, FNP-BC, FAANP

Article originally published in  
**advance healthcare NETWORK for NPs & PAs**

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For anyone that has participated in social media discussions related to the DNP (either on the DNP Inc. website, through FaceBook or LinkedIn) – the topic of the value of the DNP degree comes up with questions of its value for practice. Just the other day a nurse practitioner colleague asked why the DNP degree was important relaying that she is already performing at her best with her MSN degree. So the question we continue to ask ourselves in one-way or another, is this: Does the DNP degree make advanced practice better?

For the sake of discussion, we won't explore all of the aspects of advanced practice but group them all together to include any practice that requires a master's degree. That leaves the discussion ripe for exploring the value of a terminal doctoral after a role has been achieved through a master's degree. Does doctoral practice show added value to our patients individually and/or collectively? Does doctoral practice reflect an increased satisfaction to the advanced practice nurse? It's difficult to quantify "better" but these two parameters of improved outcome and increased satisfaction may help us answer the question.

We may not be able to find data that definitively states that outcomes are improved as a result of the terminal doctorate degree in nursing, but there are many publications and presentations in various conferences that point to the value of the DNP prepared nursing professional's contributions to our health care system. A textbook by Dreher and Glasgow, *Role Development for Doctoral Advanced Nursing Practice* should be on everyone's bookshelf. A thorough and in-depth exploration of practice and doctoral preparation is offered. Conversations about the value of doctoral education have taken place long before the DNP degree became a reality. The value of what the individual graduate contributes to his or her practice reflects in the caliber of the outcome. The educational process points to an improved outcome, and on many isolated instances this is being demonstrated, yet no aggregated data is available to demonstrate that the doctorally prepared advanced practice nurse is "better" than the non-doctorally prepared nurse.

An outcomes survey completed by Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc. in 2015 revealed some unexpected results. Between 50 and 58% of respondents reported either not change or a slight change in practice regarding the following: Policy; Administration; Developing, implementing and/or evaluating information systems; initiating a program to address disparities in practice; and initiating an organizational wide practice change. That may seem like a lot of folks that are

## Is Advanced Practice Better cont'd.

NOT applying their newly developed skills as a DNP prepared professional to improving practice, yet on the flip side of that coin, between 42 and 50% of respondents are indeed applying their expertise to practice and outcomes. Does this demonstrate that advanced practice nursing is better with the DNP degree? Tacitly it does – yet again, solid data is still yet to be collected and analyzed.

In order to wrap our thoughts around the satisfaction of the DNP graduate with this degree, a series of questions were asked in a 2014 survey. The majority of those that responded (77%) stated that the reason for pursuing the DNP degree was a personal goal. Clinical advancement was another reason (38.4%), followed by academic advancement (35.9%), and administrative advancement (13.2%). At that time only 5.9% stated that there was a job requirement for the degree.

Clearly, the data implies that advanced practice is better as a result of the DNP degree, yet this is a slippery question to quantify. The most likely statement of satisfaction will come from both the individual and the organizations in which they work. How would you answer this question? Are you in the process of demonstrating your best skills and talents as a masters or doctorally prepared colleague? I hope that you can build practice and improve outcomes so that we can collectively answer the question and validate the implied improvement of practice that the DNPs bring to the table.

*David G. Campbell-O'Dell, DNP, ARNP, FNP-BC is the president of Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc. [www.DoctorsofNursingPractice.org](http://www.DoctorsofNursingPractice.org)*

# Social Media Buzz

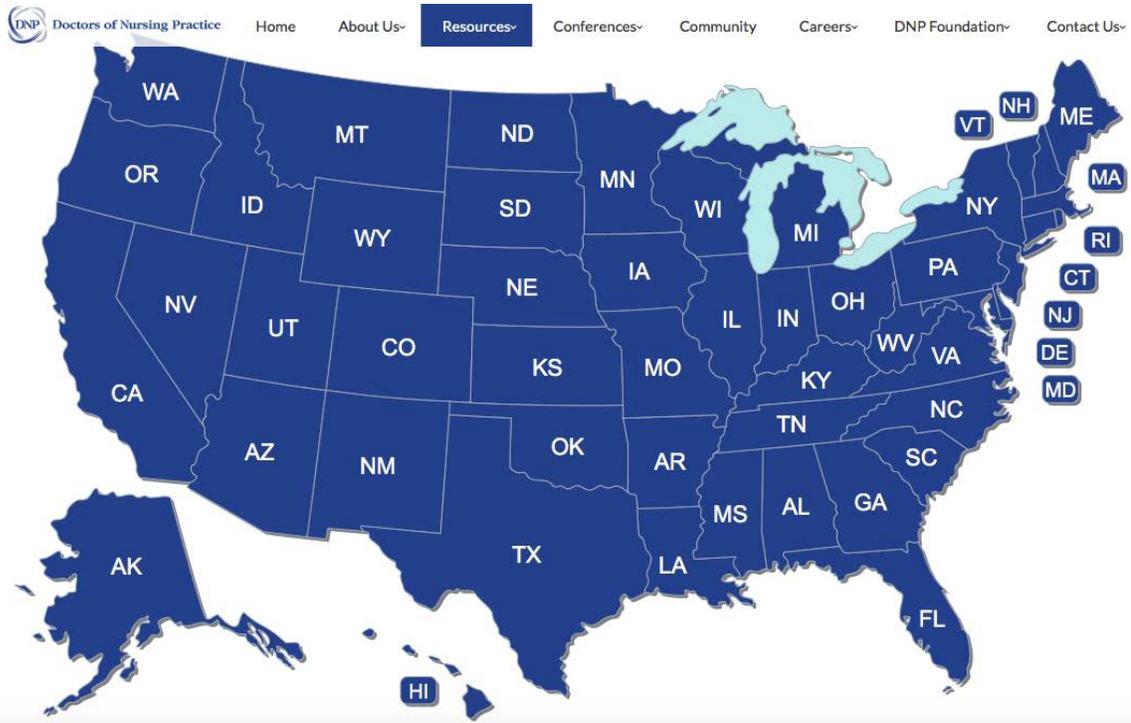
[Why the DNP is Here to Stay](#)

[Are Nurse Practitioner Doctors Real Doctors?](#)

[Big Challenges, Even Bigger Opportunities for Nurses  
in Today's Healthcare Arena](#)

[Practice Ownership & the DNP](#)

The newly redesigned [University DNP Program Directory](#) is now LIVE! Is your program content correct? Contact us at [info@doctorsofnursingpractice.org](mailto:info@doctorsofnursingpractice.org) to receive your username and password so you can perform edits and keep your listing current.



# Useful Links

[DNP PROGRAM LIST](#)

[FACULTY RESOURCES](#)

[INDIVIDUAL BLOGS](#)

[VALUABLE LINKS](#)

[CAREER LISTINGS](#)

[GROUP PAGES](#)

[DNP PROJECT REPOSITORY](#)

[MULTIPLE FORUM TOPICS](#)

[GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS](#)

[ADVERTISING OPTIONS](#)



# Doctors of Nursing Practice

DNP Inc. is proud to share DNP specific activities. Please click into the offering to learn more, and support all activities that enhance our practice in order to improve outcomes. To learn more about what other DNP groups are doing around the country, please visit the Valuable Links page. A listing of sites valuable to DNP practice, organizations, regional groups, specialty organizations, and professional nursing organizations are provided.



FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
JULY 2016

The first annual Virginia Association of DNPs (VADNP) conference will create a forum for the exchange of ideas and networking opportunities between DNPs and student DNPs from the region.

Our mission is to connect, coordinate, and unite DNP providers and executives in Virginia thereby increasing visibility and optimizing their overall impact to improve healthcare and healthcare outcomes of the population.

The speakers and panel members have dynamic experiences to share with conference attendees. The poster presentations will be thoughtfully chosen to highlight the DNP and what the future has in store.

Please visit our website to for more information and to register:

[www.vadnp.org](http://www.vadnp.org)