



INCHES: Creating the International Nursing Consortium of Honors Educators and Scholars

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Problem

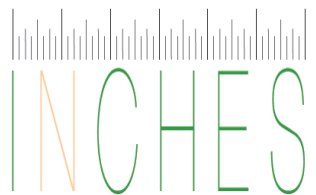
- ▶ Nursing faculty and students are working in silos with little collaboration.
- ▶ Broad lack of understanding of honors education and how honors can leverage achievement of broad nursing goals to propel the profession forward.
- ▶ Need exists for formal structure/leadership to support faculty/students.
- ▶ By working strategically and synergistically, we can make significantly larger strides in developing the next generation of leaders and scholars.



International Nursing Consortium of Honors Educators and Scholars

Purpose

- ▶ Purpose of this presentation is to introduce the steps in creating a nursing honors network
- ▶ INCHES: International Nursing Consortium of Honors Educators and Scholars



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Background: Honors Education

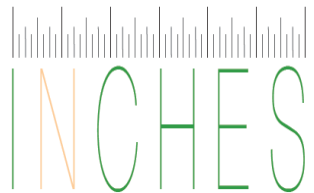
- ▶ Honors offers high-achieving students enhanced educational choices that support their career development.
- ▶ Honors education facilitates developing longitudinal faculty-student relationships through mentoring and collaboration.
- ▶ Honors experiences include undergraduate research opportunities, service-learning, discussion-based classroom experiences, study abroad, specialized internships, and other modes of active learning.
- ▶ The National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) has underscored the need of honors programs to look beyond traditional research experiences and include interdisciplinary experiential learning through service and leadership education.



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Literature: Support of Honors Education

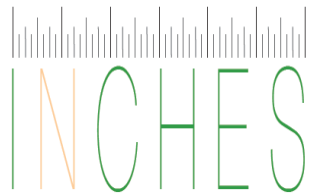
- ▶ Lim, et al. (2016) described nursing honors education through a review reviewed the literature.
- ▶ Neuberger (2016) described these programs as offering specialized curricula to highly motivated students.
- ▶ Benefits have been reported (Bull, et al., 2018).
- ▶ High impact practice in honors education include study abroad (Buckner & Holcomb, 2015), undergraduate research and service learning (Jukkala, et al., 2016).
- ▶ Global nursing honors education has been reported in Australia (Halcomb, et al., 2018).
- ▶ A network of honors educators for continuing dialog is needed.



Honors Programs in Nursing

Types of programs:

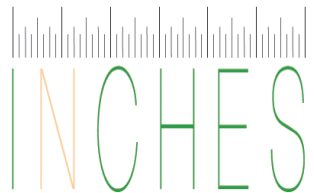
- ▶ Honors in the Major as a mechanism for completion of the University Honors thesis or capstone (includes credit hours)
- ▶ Nursing Departmental Honors as a track for BSN students supporting enhanced scholarship opportunities (includes credit hours)
- ▶ Curricular options such as honors contracts on existing courses
- ▶ Additional honors coursework to support thesis or capstone (independent study or electives)
- ▶ Interdisciplinary experiences or internships with scholarly outcomes (with or without academic credit)



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INCHES: Initial Steps

- ▶ Initiation by three experts in nursing honors education
- ▶ Development of programs and ideas through Sigma leadership academies
 - ▶ Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy
 - ▶ Experienced Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy
- ▶ Exploration of a new organization
 - ▶ Review of literature
 - ▶ Presentations and round table discussions at Sigma conventions as well as those of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC)
 - ▶ Creation of a database of nursing honors programs in the U.S.



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INCHES: The Steering Committee

- ▶ Ten honors educators were recruited from Arkansas, Connecticut, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Texas.
 - ▶ Nursing educators
 - ▶ Honors Educators
- ▶ Met four (4) times in group call format
- ▶ Develop organization's mission, vision, core values, and initial strategic plan
- ▶ Determine organizational structure
- ▶ Strategic vision
 - ▶ Resource collection, storage, development, usage
 - ▶ Plan for scholarship on honors education



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INCHES: Planning

The image shows a Zoom meeting window on the left and a website overview on the right. The Zoom window displays a grid of participants, including Larry Z Slater (Host), AnnMarie DellPizzi, Audrey Beauvais, Gary Hartenburg, Jennifer, Jessie Casida, Pam Ashcraft, Renae Schumann, and Stephanie Jeffers. The website overview on the right is for the International Nursing Consortium for Honors Educators and Scholars (INCHES). The website header includes navigation links for Home, SURF 2016, Faculty Mentoring Program, RN-BSN Alumni Network, UCUR/OUR/HON301 Nursing, and Research and Development. The main content area features the INCHES logo and a welcome message from Ellen Buckner, PhD, RN, CNE, AE-C. The right sidebar contains an Announcements section with a message: "There are currently no announcements." Below this is a Message Center Notification section with a "New in Forums" link.



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INCHES: The Need

- ▶ Facilitate dialogue and collaboration on nursing honors
- ▶ Provide resources and mentorship on nursing honors
- ▶ Develop scholarship on the impact of nursing honors

- ▶ **MISSION:** INCHES is a global collaborative of interprofessional educators and scholars supporting development of best practices, partnerships, and resources in nursing honors education.

- ▶ **VISION:** To be the essential global network for nursing honors programs in all schools of nursing, transforming the profession, fostering interprofessional collaboration, and developing nursing honors educators, researchers, and scholars.



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INCHES: Ready for Launch to Nursing Honors Network

- ▶ Review/update nursing honors program/contact database
- ▶ Finalize organizational structure
- ▶ Develop virtual presence
 - ▶ Website
 - ▶ Resource-sharing platform
 - ▶ Interactive forums
- ▶ Establishing mentoring and consultation services
- ▶ TO LAUNCH: SPRING 2020



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INCHES Impact: Profession

Great Minds
Don't
Think Alike

- ▶ Timing
- ▶ Advancing the profession exponentially through collaboration
- ▶ Strategic collaboration > more meaningful data
- ▶ Greater collaboration > greater outcomes
- ▶ Early immersion in scholarly & leadership network - launching pad

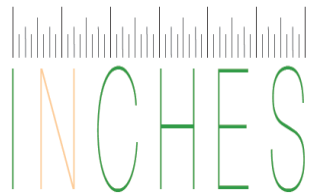


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INCHES Impact: Personal

Great Minds
Don't
Think Alike

- New leadership opportunities
- Support network for problem-solving & idea sharing
- Access to new resources & mentors
- Recognition for innovation in honors
- New opportunities for Scholarship, Teaching, & Service
 - Multi-site research
 - Peer review opportunities
 - Symbiotic relationships
 - Promotion & Tenure Gold Mine
- Increase Scope of Impact

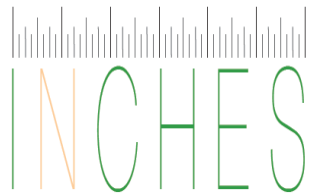


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INCHES Impact: Institutional

Great Minds
Don't
Think Alike

- ▶ Timing = university recognized as a pioneer in honors
- ▶ International collaboration > visibility & support
- ▶ Access to data & experts to secure institutional support
- ▶ Attract highly-motivated exceptional students and faculty

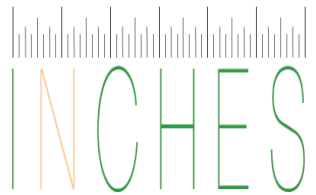


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INCHES: Next Steps

Great Minds
Don't
Think Alike

- ▶ Promote INCHES nationally and internationally
- ▶ Develop robust mechanisms for communication and idea-sharing
- ▶ Build a culture of honors education that aligns with mission/vision of individual home institutions



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How can I get involved with INCHES?

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