

Sigma's VIRTUAL 31st International Nursing Research Congress (Wednesday, 22 July - Friday, 24 July)

An International Collaboration to Establish a PhD Program in Nursing

Lila de Tantillo, PhD, MS, RN¹

Hilary S. Morgan, PhD, MSN, BSN, ARNP, CNM¹

Mohammad R. Asia, PhD, MA, RN²

Michelle L. Edmonds, PhD, FNP-BC, CNE¹

(1)Keigwin School of Nursing, Jacksonville University, Jacksonville, FL, USA

(2)Allied Medical Sciences and Faculty of Nursing, Arab American University of Palestine, Rammalah-Birzeit, Palestine

Purpose: There is a severe ongoing worldwide nursing faculty shortage (Nardi & Gyurko, 2013). Nurse educators with advanced preparation are needed to train the nurses anticipated to meet the health care demand globally. A major university in the Middle East with a graduate nursing program recently identified a need in its country to establish a nursing PhD program to educate nurses at the doctoral level.

Methods: The National League for Nursing (NLN, 2013) and the American Association of Colleges in Nursing (AACN, 2018) recommend developing consortia between academic institutions to support the preparation of future nurse educators. The university in the Middle East formed a partnership with a university in the United States to share faculty, library, and online resources in the formation of the PhD program. Graduate nursing faculty at both schools collaborated to design a curriculum for a three-year PhD in nursing degree. All course learning outcomes are aligned with AACN standards (AACN, 2010). Faculty members from both universities will teach courses and chair dissertations. All courses will be available at the Middle East campus to students enrolled in this institution.

Results: Curriculum was approved by both schools in 2019. Electives allow for students to develop further specialization in nursing education, research, and health informatics (Booth, Emerson, Hackney, & Souter, 2016). The new PhD nursing program will begin Fall 2020 with a cohort of 12 students.

Conclusions: This innovative international collaboration establishes a mechanism to increase the number of PhD nurse scientists in the Middle East. The new PhDs will receive a rigorous education that meets U.S. academic standards of doctoral education and is applicable to local cultural context. As faculty, they will be ready to train new nurses and address the education-practice gap (Benner, Sutphen, Leonard, & Day, 2009). These PhD prepared nurses will be equipped to serve as nursing faculty, conduct research, and advance nursing science globally.

Title:

An International Collaboration to Establish a PhD Program in Nursing

Keywords:

Middle East, Nursing Education and Nursing Faculty

Abstract Summary:

An innovative international collaboration between a university in the Middle East and one in the U.S. has established a PhD in nursing program to educate doctoral level nurse scientists to reduce faculty shortages and serve as global health care leaders.

References:

- American Association of Colleges in Nursing. (2010). The research-focused doctoral program in nursing: Pathways to excellence. Retrieved from <https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/Publications/PhDPosition.pdf>
- American Association of Colleges in Nursing. (2018). The PhD pipeline in nursing. Retrieved from <https://www.aacnnursing.org/Portals/42/news/surveys-data/PhD-Pipeline.pdf>
- Benner, P., Sutphen, M., Leonard, V. & Day, L. (2009). Educating nurses: A call for radical transformation. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.
- Booth, T. L., Emerson, C. J., Hackney, M. G., & Souter, S. (2016). Preparation of academic nurse educators. *Nurse Education in Practice*, 19, 54-57. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nepr.2016.04.006>
- National League for Nursing. (2013). A vision for doctoral preparation for future nurse educators. Retrieved from http://www.nln.org/docs/default-source/about/nln-vision-series-%28position-statements%29/nlnvision_6.pdf?sfvrsn=4
- Nardi, D. A., & Gyurko, C. C. (2013). The global nursing faculty shortage: Status and solutions for change. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 45(3), 317-326. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jnu.12030>

First Primary Presenting Author

Primary Presenting Author

Lila de Tantillo, PhD, MS, RN
Jacksonville University
Keigwin School of Nursing
Assistant Professor
Jacksonville, Florida
USA

Author Summary: Lila de Tantillo, PhD, MS, RN is assistant professor at Jacksonville University Keigwin School of Nursing. Dr. de Tantillo served as co-investigator of the Heart Failure Medication Adherence Study. She has served extensively in higher education and co-authored numerous publications on nursing education. She received her PhD, MSN, and BSN in nursing from the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies, an MS from Columbia University and a BA from Yale University.

Second Secondary Presenting Author

Corresponding Secondary Presenting Author

Hilary S. Morgan, PhD, MSN, BSN, ARNP, CNM
Jacksonville University

Keigwin School of Nursing
Professor
Jacksonville, Florida
USA

Author Summary: Dr. Hilary Morgan has been a nurse educator for 7 years at Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, FL. She has been a Certified Nurse Midwife for over 30 years and continues to practice as a reservist in the Navy Nurse Corps. She is also the Director for DNP programs at JU.

Third Author

Mohammad R. Asia, PhD, MA, RN
Arab American University of Palestine
Allied Medical Sciences and Faculty of Nursing
Dean of Faculty
Rammalah-Birzeit
Palestine

Author Summary: Dr. Mohammad R. Asia is Dean of Faculty of the Allied Medical Sciences and Nursing of the Arab American University Palestine, formerly Arab American University-Jenin.

Fourth Author

Michelle L. Edmonds, PhD, FNP-BC, CNE
Jacksonville University
Keigwin School of Nursing
Professor
Jacksonville, Florida
USA

Author Summary: Dr. Michelle Edmonds is a family nurse practitioner and a Professor of Nursing at Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, FL. She has conducted qualitative research studies on educational innovations including study abroad, simulation, and transition to practice.