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Presentation Title

Enhancing Faculty Skills: An Innovative Strategy to Improve Teaching Practices

Abstract Summary

This poster presentation identifies an innovative solution to a growing educational issue. A creative educational experience aimed to support academic nurse educators in their quest for knowledge. The asynchronous activity is mapped to all major content areas for the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) credentialing examination.

Submission Type

- Poster Session

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion, participants will be able to:

1. Describe strategies for assessing nursing students and facilitate learning
2. Discuss the role of the nurse educator in scholarship, leadership, and service
3. Describe nurse faculty's role in self-improvement

Presentation Abstract:

Describe the problem address, methods/procedures, findings, limitations, conclusions and implications for nursing education, practice, or research.

According to AACN's report on 2016-2017 Salaries of Instructional and Administrative Nursing Faculty, the average ages of doctorally-prepared nurse faculty holding the ranks of professor, associate professor, and assistant professor were 62.4, 57.2, and 51.2 years, respectively. For master's degree-prepared nurse faculty, the average ages for professors, associate professors, and assistant professors were 55.5, 56.4, and 50.6 years, respectively. Efforts to expand the nurse educator population are frustrated by the fact that thousands of qualified applicants to graduate nursing programs are turned away each year due to declining numbers of qualified nursing faculty.

Fewer nursing faculty have formal training in education or nursing education. There is a lack of knowledge and or skills related to teaching nursing students. AACN (2019) found that 10,788 qualified applicants were turned away from master's programs, and 2,909 from doctoral programs. The primary reasons were a shortage of appropriately prepared nursing faculty and clinical education sites. Providing skills and knowledge to current and new faculty could assist in addressing the faculty shortage.

In addition to mastery of adult learning and educational theory, nursing faculty need comprehensive knowledge and skills to help their students achieve success. Utilizing the Universal Design for Learning framework, an asynchronous learner-paced educational activity supports faculty review and attainment of essential competencies. Mapped to all major content areas for the Certified Nurse Educator (CNE®) credentialing examination and the QSEN graduate competencies, this six-course program allows nursing faculty to gain the necessary knowledge and skills related to teaching nursing students.

Bio-Sketch

Matthew S. Howard, DNP, RN, CEN, CPEN, CPN

Dr. Matthew Howard currently serves as the Director of Scholarship at Sigma. While serving as faculty at Northern Kentucky University, he also works as a staff nurse in the emergency department at Eskenazi Health. His nursing career has taken him from stretcher-side nursing to academia and back. His clinical background includes emergency nursing, flight nursing, and trauma nursing in several leadership positions. He currently serves several nursing associations including the Emergency Nurses Association, National Nursing Education Research Network, the International Network for Doctoral Education in Nursing, and Sigma.

Danielle EK Perkins, PhD, RN

Dr. Danielle Perkins Manning is manager of the Center for Excellence in Nursing Education for Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (Sigma). In this role, she oversees the administration and ongoing review of nurse faculty leadership enrichment institutes and academies and leads the development of professional role education for international nursing faculty. For over half of her career, she has taught undergraduate baccalaureate nursing students in clinical, classroom, and online settings in the areas of nursing research, psychiatric, medical-surgical nursing, and community health nursing. She is a member of several nursing organizations including Sigma, Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Incorporated, and the American Psychiatric Nursing Association.

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