



May 2022

Nursing Externships

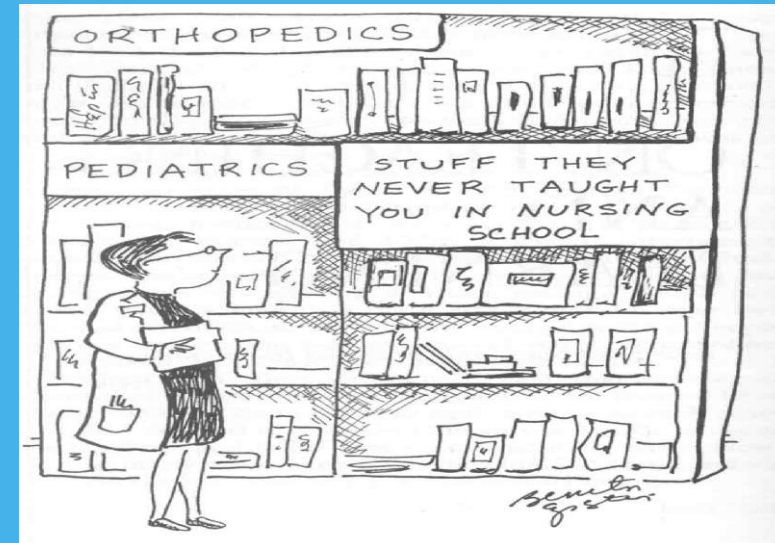
DR. LISA RUTH-SAHD

Learning Outcomes

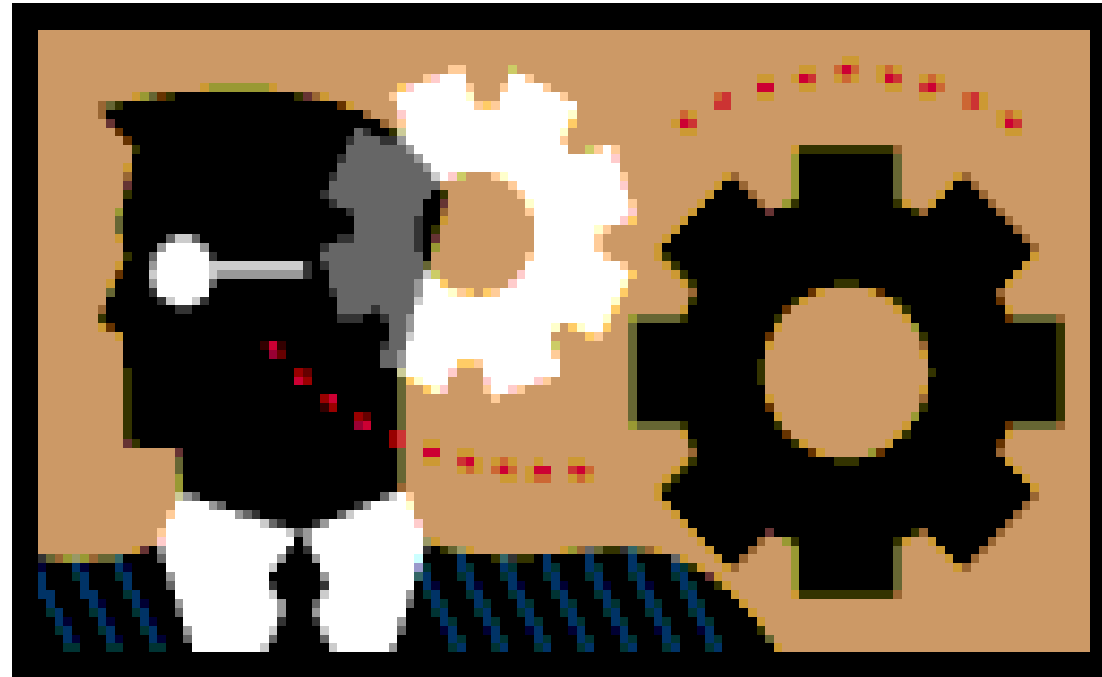
- Recognize the value of nursing externships
- Describe the benefits of nursing externships for student, faculty and institutions
- Develop strategies to build collaborative partnerships

Recognize the value of nursing externships

Nurse externships (also called internships) provide valuable experiential learning opportunities to reinforce the student's prelicensure, clinical education



Encourage critical thinking to foster clinical reasoning while using a holistic perspective regarding patient care



Foster relationships between nursing externs and RN Nurse role models



Introduce the externs to the culture of nursing to increase the likelihood they will choose an acute care facility as their specialty upon graduation.



Benefits of nursing externships for students, faculty and institutions

Students

- Gain clinical experiences working with expert clinical preceptors
- 8-10 weeks of clinical immersion

Faculty

- Reinforce current clinical concepts
- Network for potential adjuncts
- Clinical hours to maintain certifications
- Augment classroom teaching

Institutions

- Work with students as potential hires
- Impacts recruitment, onboarding and retention

Extern Unit Ambassador

- Along with the nurse manager and staff on the units, ambassadors will welcome the extern to the institution and the unit
- Resource for some unit specific or general hospital questions externs may have

Other benefits to students

- Lunch-n-learns
- Post clinical conferences
- Observation experiences

Strategies to build collaborative partnerships



Celebrate the completion



- Closing ceremony/ Graduation
- Certificate of completion with amount of clinical hours noted
- Foot in the door at extern site



Selected References

- Barrett R. Changing preceptorship to achieve better quality training and less attrition in newly qualified nurses. *Br J Nurs*. 2020; 29(12):706-709. [https://doi: 10.12968/bjon.2020.29.12.706](https://doi.org/10.12968/bjon.2020.29.12.706). PMID: 32579451.
- Ruth-Sahd, L. (2022). Experiences and perceptions gained by student nurse externs working during a pandemic. *Nursing Education Perspectives*, <https://doi.org/10.1097/01.NEP.0000000000000939>
- Ruth-Sahd LA. (2022). Implementing a Nurse Externship to Foster Interprofessional Collaboration, Resilience and Self-Advocacy. *Nursing*.
- White KA, Fetter ME, Ruth-Sahd LA. Extern programs promote confidence and reduce anxiety with clinical decision making in nursing students. *Nurse Educator*. 2019a; 44(5): 239–244. <https://doi:10.1097/NNE.0000000000000625>
- White KA, Fetter ME, Ruth-Sahd LA. Considering the benefits of student nurse externship programs. *Nursing*. 2019b;49(9): 58-59. [https:// doi:10.1097/01.NURSE.0000577728.62251.d1](https://doi:10.1097/01.NURSE.0000577728.62251.d1)

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16-18 September 2022 | Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

22-23 September 2022 | Virtual

CREATING HEALTHY WORK ENVIRONMENTS

10-12 February 2023 | Austin, Texas, USA

Virtual dates to be announced

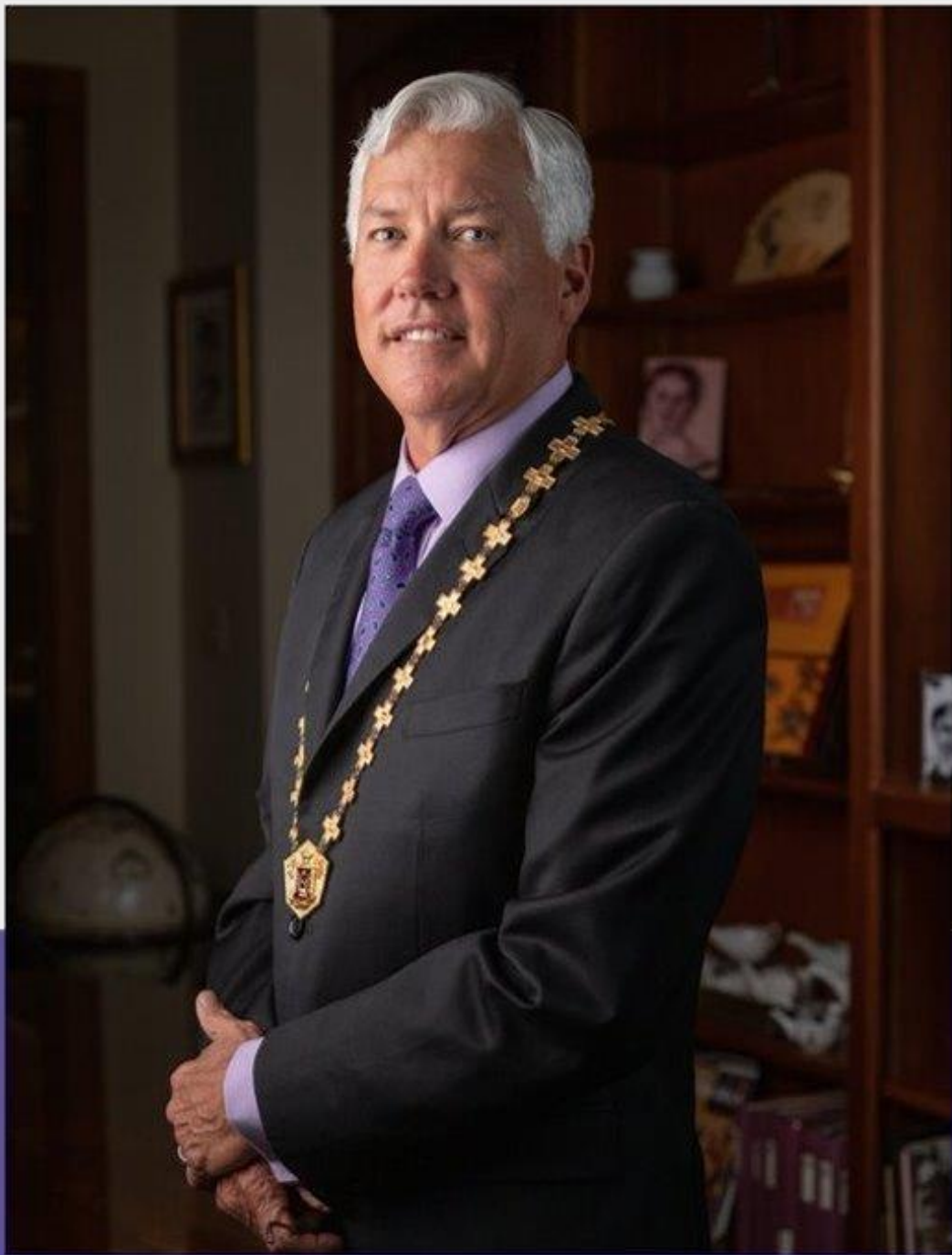
47th BIENNIAL CONVENTION

11-15 November 2023 | San Antonio, Texas, USA

Virtual dates to be announced



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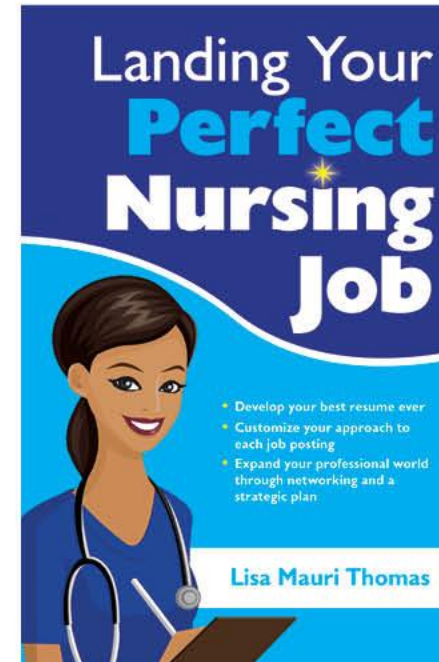
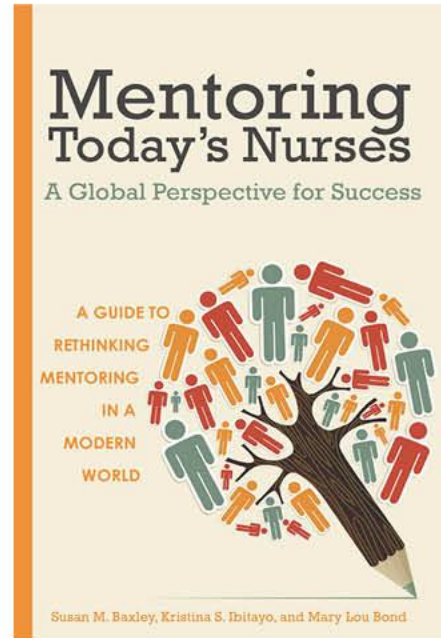
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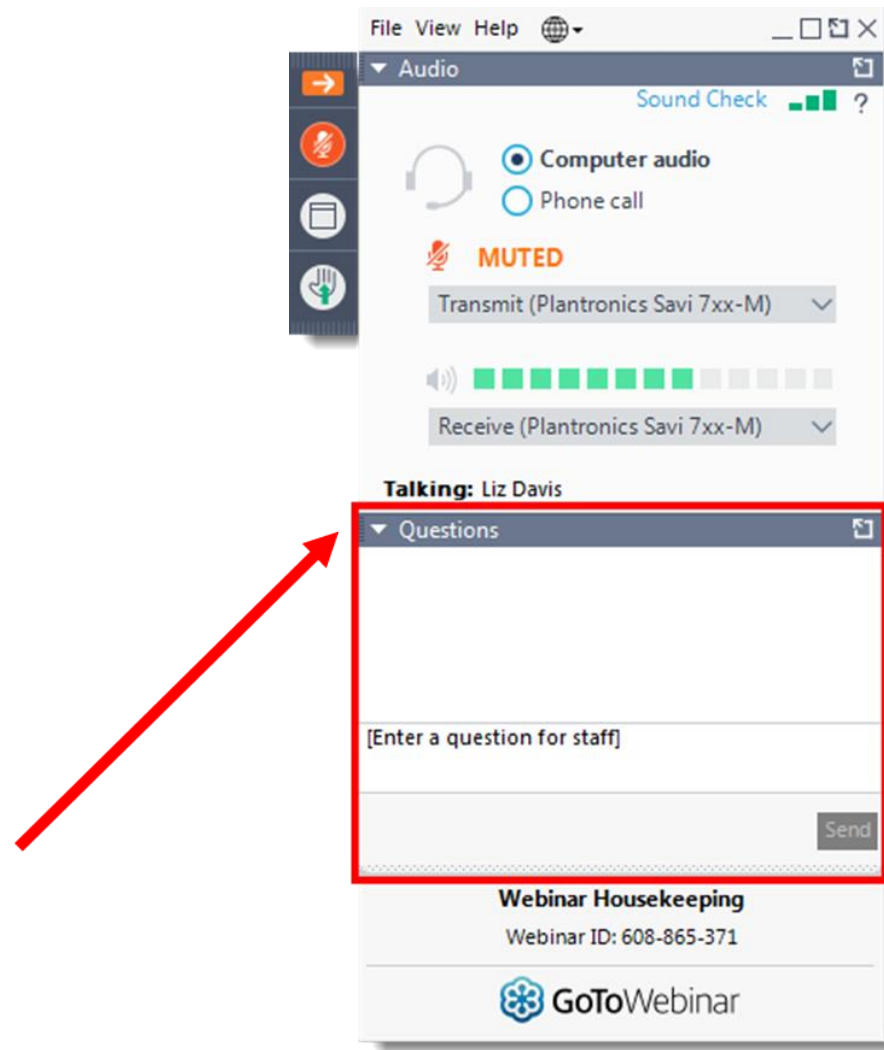


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