# Executive Academic Leadership Challenge: Leading Online Programs

Tara L. Spalla, PhD, RN 9.26.14

## Objective

To understand how to use various leadership theories to address micro and macro challenges of leading online nursing programs

### Statement of the Problem

- Seamless academic progression for RN-BSN students to 80% level by 2020 in the USA
- Student demographics and geographics
- Online programs to fill need
- New skillset for nursing leadership

#### Reference:

Institute of Medicine [IOM], (2011). *The future of nursing: Focus on education.* Retrieved from, http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2010/The-Future-of-Nursing-Leading-Change-Advancing-Health/Report-Brief-Education.aspx

# Leadership Styles

- Mindful
- Servant
- Quantum

## Micro Challenges

- knowledge of distance education pedagogy/ andragogy
- online technology proficiency, including instructional design
- online orientation, advisement and support of online students
- orientation and mentoring online faculty

### National Benchmarks

- AACN
- Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)
- Online Learning Consortium (formerly Sloan-C)
- **EDUCAUSE**

### International View

Country	Year	% Online	Notes
			take at least 1 course
USA	2010	31%	online
Australi			multi-modal (of full-time
a	2010	78%	students)
			take at least 1 course online; great variability
Canada	2008	11%	between institutions

#### References:

Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2012). Education and training. *Year Book Australia, 2012*. Retrieved from, http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/1301.0~2012~Main%20Features~Higher%20education~107

Babson College. (2010). *Going the distance: Online education in the United States, 2011.* Retrieved from, http://www.onlinelearningsurvey.com/reports/goingthedistance.pdf

Canadian Virtual University. (2012). *Online university education in Canada: Challenges and opportunities*. Retrieved from, http://www.cvu-uvc.ca/Online%20University%20Education%20%20jan17%202012.pdf

### International Benchmarks

- Quality Matters (USA)
- Joint Information Systems Committee e-Learning Programme (UK)
- Canadian Recommended E-learning Guidelines (CanREGs)

## Macro Challenges

- maintaining compliance of online programs with accrediting agencies and national quality benchmarks
- establishing articulation agreements with Associate Degree programs
- collaborating across institutions of higher education, as well as local and national health care systems
- understanding the evolving state regulations authorizing distance education

### Macro Resources

- AACN White Papers
- CCNE
- Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA)
  - Regional Accrediting Bodies, such as HLC
- WICHE Cooperative for Educational Technologies (WCET) - State Approval Regulations for Distance Education
- State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA)

### Results

- Private, Catholic, Nursing College
  - 1,100 students
- Transitioned F2F RN-BSN Program to Fully Online 3 years ago
- Enrollment moved from 30 to 300 students in 3 years
- ROI met in first year
- Geographic shift from central Ohio to 20 states
- Online RN-BSN Faculty score highest on CoursEval by students compared to other faculty groups
- High Online RN-BSN Faculty satisfaction

### **Contact Information**

### Tara L. Spalla, PhD, RN

- tspalla@mccn.edu
- 614.234.5950