Starting and operating a Educational and Executive Leadership DNP Program - From A to Z

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Disclosure Statement:

Conflict of interest: This educational activity does not include any content that relates to the products and/or services of a commercial interest that would create a conflict of interest.

Learning Outcomes:

- Identify the life-cycle of a DNP student in the specialization tracks.

- Identify alternative ways of handling DNP Projects through the DNP Project rooms.

- Recognize how processes changed as the program evolved.

- Distinguish the curricular changes that were made as a result of improved program outcomes and evaluation of the curriculum

- Discuss how DNP Project Chairs are assigned

- Describe how defenses are conducted via an online university.

General Overview of the DNP Program

Four Specializations:

- Executive Leadership
- Educational Leadership
- Informatics Leadership
- Generalist

General Overview – Continued

14 courses in the Program (42 credits)

- Program Structure
  - o 7 Core Courses
  - o 5 Specialization Courses
  - o 2 Elective Courses

- Course Components
  - Assignments
  - Discussions (weekly)
  - Practice Experiences

- DNP Project
  - Implementation Science
  - Students committee comprised of two members
  - Proposal and Final Defense

General Overview - Continued

Residency

- One 4 day face to face residency in Colorado (taken during their first Capstone Course (2nd or 3rd Course). Focus is on their project development and program policies and processes.

- Second residency is a two day "virtual" residency taken during their second Capstone course – utilize various technologies. Also provide optional sessions during the week of the virtual residency.

Challenges that we faced

- Rapid growth of the program
- Change in nursing leadership
- Poor tracking system to track DNP Projects and the faculty chairs activity
- Students who had stalled out with their DNP projects which impacted graduation rates
- Payment system for DNP Project chairs
- A lot of resources being used for students who were stalled out.
- Poor communication strategies for keeping students aware of process and policy changes

Challenges - continued

- Curriculum changes needed to address DNP projects
- Students wanted increased flexibility for their specializations – ability to take education courses while in the executive track
- Meeting practice hours through meaningful experiences.

DNP Workroom

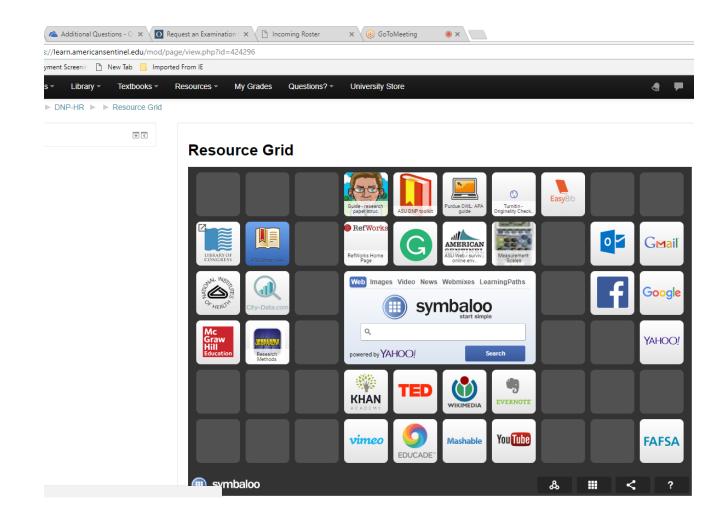- Learning Platform is Moodle
- Module Based
- Organized around Milestones in the program
- Focus is on forward progress of the DNP Project
- Chairs are in the room with the students
- Students must submit their project assignments in the room – important for tracking purposes.
- Students are placed in the workroom after three of their DNP courses that focus on research and the project development.

DNP Project Chair

- Course was developed for faculty training
- Required for all Chairs
- Chairs are placed in the Moodle room with their group of students
- Chairs have policies regarding timelines for getting feedback to students.

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Outcomes of DNP Project Workrooms

- Curriculum went from 3 Capstone courses to 2
- Increased student completion of DNP Projects
- Increased communication between student and faculty and ability to track this communication and activity in the workroom
- Ability to track student progress

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Use the database to track and comment on your practice experience hours.

📣 Module Feedback

Thank you for participating in this brief course evaluation for this DNP Capstone Workroom module. As an educator, it is of the upmost imp
understand where I can improve my methods of teaching as well as the subject matter being taught and resources being used.

Your responses will directly affect how I teach this course in the future, so please provide thoughtful responses to the questions listed.

If you have any questions regarding the course evaluation, or prefer to provide feedback in person, please don't hesitate to email your facu

Workroom Introduction

Sections 1 & 2 IRB

IRB ▸ N765PE

N765PE ▸ N77

Section 8

N770PE Defense

ePortfolio & Commencement

Other Resources

Section 9

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