Creating a Statewide Nurse Practitioner Student-Led Organization in Utah

Thomas Rowley, RN, BSN
College of Nursing
University of Utah

Background

- Research (Veronesi, et al., 2012, Phillips, et al., 2016) shows that student organizations help students:
  - Develop leadership abilities
  - Increase network of peers and professionals
  - Enhance professional development
  - Attain mentorship opportunities
- Student nurse organizations have been around since 1952 and have over 60,000 members (NSNA, 2017)
- No formal statewide or national student nurse practitioner organizations exist
- As of Fall 2017, 400+ student nurse practitioners are preparing to improve health care in Utah

Methods

- Determined desire for student organization by word of mouth among students
- Contacted nurse practitioner program directors to recruit student leaders
- Developed mission and bylaws to provide foundation for the organization
- Announced the creation of student organization through multiple channels of communication
- Created events based on member input

Results

- Membership increased from 4 to 62 in 10 months
- Bylaws were accepted and executive board was established
- 60% of members attended organization events because of successful buy-in (Kotter, et al., 2010)

Next Steps

- Achieve non-profit status
- Increase membership to 100+ by fall 2018
- Create specialized committee to support new graduates and facilitate preceptorship opportunities

References


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