Launching a Research-Focused Doctoral Program in Nursing Using a Transdisciplinary Framework

Indiana Center for Nursing Summit
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Jane Kirkpatrick, PhD, MSN, RNC-OB, ANEF
Karen Foli, PhD, MSN, RN, FAAN
Karen Yehle, PhD, MS, RN, FAHA
Objectives

• Appreciate unique research opportunities at a non-academic health sciences campus

• Describe at least three transdisciplinary collaborations relevant to nurses pursuing a nursing PhD
To improve the health of the nation

• Nurses must be prepared to participate as full partners in transforming health care
  – shaping public policy
  – teaching the next generation of nurses

• Increase nursing researchers who can lead transdisciplinary teams to address the grand challenges we face in health and healthcare
Future of Nursing

• Identified the need for highly educated nurses
• While 13% percent of nurses hold a graduate degree, fewer than 1% have a doctoral degree.
• Goal is to double the number of nurses with a doctorate by 2020.
• Prepare and enable nurses to lead change to advance health
Campaign for Action

Six Major Pillars

• Advancing Education transformation
• Leveraging nursing leadership
• Removing barriers to practice and care
• Fostering interprofessional collaboration
• Promoting diversity
• Bolstering workforce data
Background: Trends and Projected Need
Nurse Scientists are needed in

**Education**

**Hospitals and Healthcare Systems**
- Leadership roles
- Research roles

**Industry**
- Research & Development of new products & delivery systems
Nursing Faculty Shortages

Faculty vacancies of 1,236 in 714 BSN & higher nursing programs (AACN, 2014)

6.9% vacancy rate (89.6% of the open positions required or preferred doctoral degree)

Doctorally prepared nurse faculty average age:
- Professor = 61.6
- Associate professor = 57.6
- Assistant professor = 51.4

Master's degree-prepared nurse faculty average age
- Professors = 57.1
- Associate professors = 56.8
- Assistant professors = 51.2

http://www.aacn.nche.edu/media-relations/FacultyShortageFS.pdf
www.aacn.nche.edu/research-data
Nursing Shortages

Total job openings for nurses due to growth requirements and replacements will be 1.05 million by 2022 (Bureau of Labor)

– The RN workforce is expected to grow 19% from 2.71 million in 2012 to 3.24 million in 2022,

– Projected need for 525,000 replacements nurses (retirements)

http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecopro.t08.htm
Labor Force Composition by Generation

- Greatest: 2%
- Silents: 2%
- Boomers: 29%
- Gen Xers: 34%
- Millennials: 34%
- Post-Millennials: 1%

Pew Foundation, 2016
Demographics
Projected Population by Generation

Pew Research Center (2016) tabulation of US Census Bureau
Purdue’s Response
PhD Program is designed to

• prepare the nurse scientist through transdisciplinary work

• operationalized by interprofessional collaborations and teams.

Core belief: *Innovations in healthcare delivery systems and care are optimally achieved through teams.*
Transdisciplinary Research
Collaborations

Industrial Engineering
Veterinary Science
Psychological Sciences
Computer Sciences
Regenstreif Center for Healthcare Engineering
Sociology
Collaborations

- Public Health
- Health & Kinesiology
- Homeland Security
- Brian Lamb School of Communication
- Human Development & Family Studies
- Center for Aging and the Life Course
- Extension Education and Services
Highlights include

• Team Science

• Faculty support - Primary and secondary mentorship to match learner’s career goals

• Emphasis in allowing students to complete nursing core, electives, research and methods with emphasis on research
Transdisciplinary interactions include:

- **College of Health and Human Sciences Colloquia Series**: *Weekly opportunities* to participate in colloquia from across the nine academic units comprising the College of HHS

- **Health and Human Sciences annual research day**

- **Center for Aging and the Life Course (CALC)** a transdisciplinary center focused on aging.

- **Fall and Spring symposia**

- **Cross-listed courses**
Purdue’s PhD Framework
Required Nursing Core: 13 Credits
4 Seminars (4 credits)
Innovative Care/innovations in Healthcare Delivery (one course)
Implementing Theory in Healthcare Research
Healthcare Policy: Local to Global*

Electives: 12 Credits
Health Policy/Economics
Health Behavioral Theory/Health Behavioral Change
Gerontology/Optimal Aging
Health Promotion
Health Outcomes/Utilization
Healthy Families
Organizational Change

Required Research Core: 13 Credits
GRAD 61200: Responsible Conduct of Research (1 credit)
Research Methods
Qualitative Methods
Advanced Quantitative Statistics
Additional Methods Seminar

DNP Courses (Dual Credit): May count as Elective Courses
Ethics, History and Innovation in Healthcare Delivery Systems*
Economics and Finance for Healthcare*
Nursing Informatics*
Evidence Based Practice*
Healthcare Policy Residency
Summer Institute Courses (Systems Approaches in Healthcare Engineering; Human Factors in Healthcare Engineering; and Principles of Epidemiology

Additional Options:
Duel Titled Degree w/CALC; Teaching Certificate

* = Online Format
Program Competencies

Research: Develop new knowledge that impacts health, using theory-based, high quality scientific methods while adhering to the highest standards of scientific integrity. Synthesize research findings in the context of prior understanding of phenomena.

Leadership: Provide leadership to advance nursing, including research, theory, education, and health care delivery.

Collaboration: Apply principles of collaboration to generate scientific knowledge to improve practice, policy, and health care outcomes.

Communication: Disseminate research findings through presentation, publication, and professional discourse to a wide range of global stakeholders including the academic community, health service professionals, policy makers, and health care consumers.
1. Application to Graduate School w/ Required Documentation & Interview

2. Graduate Admissions Committee Meets, Reviews Dossier: Applicant is Admitted

3. Chair is Identified, and Draft Plan of Study with Electives is Completed

4. Coursework Begins; Plan of Study Approved after First Two Semesters; Committee Members Selected

5. Finish Coursework; Study for Comprehensive Examinations

6. Written and Oral Comprehensive Examinations: Questions over Core Material (Nursing and Research) and Area of Specialization (Electives) Selected

7. Begin Writing Dissertation Proposal; When Complete, Present to Committee; Receive Decision to Proceed with Study

8. Conduct Study as Outlined in Final, Committee-Approved Proposal

9. Final Defense of Dissertation to Committee; Receive Thesis Receipt from Graduate School

Years 1-2

Years 2-3
Program Delivery

• Selected classes in the Doctor of Nursing Practice curriculum may be used toward course requirements in the PhD program

• Campus-based program which builds on Purdue’s land-grant research intensive mission
Dual Titled option in Gerontology

Addresses our future demographic

Addresses large HC consumer group

Significant Challenges such as

• Quality improvement in LTC
• Person-centered Care
• Polypharmacy
Applications underway

• First cohort of 6-8 students
• Three-year full time completion
• Primarily on-site study
• Part-time enrollment
Launch is Fall of 2017

Karen Foli, PhD, MSN, RN, FAAN
PhD Program Director
kfoli@purdue.edu
(765) 494-4023

Ashley Brooks
albrooks@purdue.edu
(765) 494-9248
PhD Information Session/Open House

November 19th
Main Floor
Johnson Hall of Nursing
502 University St.
West Lafayette

*Come meet our faculty and explore the possibilities!*

**RSVP**
Ashley Brooks albrooks@purdue.edu (765) 494-9248

Applications due January 16th, 2017
Questions