

Submitted by: Margaret E. Winters, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

ESTABLISHMENT OF MULTIPLE MAJORS IN THE DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF NURSING

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the establishment of the following majors in the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program in the College of Nursing:

- Nurse Midwifery
- Neonatal Nurse Practitioner
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner
- Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner- Primary Care
- Adult-Gerontology Nurse Practitioner- Acute Care
- Advanced Public Health Nursing
- Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Primary Care
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner – Acute Care
- Family Nurse Practitioner

The establishment of these majors would be effective Fall Semester 2015.

Background

Nationally, multiple nursing organizations (and their respective credentialing bodies) have changed their philosophical direction. The organizations, including the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, are moving toward a nationwide reciprocity of licensure for advanced practice nurses. This has always been true for our baccalaureate graduates (BSN) but the movement toward a universal licensure for advanced practice nurses is being advocated by all State Boards of Nursing, including Michigan's Nursing Board.

The certifying bodies have required that documents (e.g. transcripts and diplomas) from students applying to take a specialty clinical exam reflect the actual examination being taken. For example, a student who is in our DNP Program with a current focus in Neonatal Nurse Practice and a future advanced certification title of Neonatal Nurse Practitioner will no longer be allowed to sit for the national exam if the Major title on the transcript does not match the exam title. These document changes were required over two years ago, but to date the certifying bodies have temporarily accepted a letter from the College of Nursing clarifying our transcript delineations; however, the College of Nursing can no longer continue to develop these extra letters for all of our graduates.

In addition, the lack of a clinical specialty designation for our DNP applicants has created confusion during the admission process. DNP applicants do not see the specific specialty major

designation in the admissions process and they have frequently applied for the graduate certificate instead of our DNP Program.

Therefore, we are requesting the addition of 10 new majors for the DNP program to better clarify to non-certified applicants which clinical major they will receive upon graduation.

Admission Requirements

The admission requirements remain unchanged.

Curriculum Requirements

No changes are proposed. The curricula for concentrations in these areas will serve as the curricula for the newly established majors.

Graduation Requirements

Requirements remain the same. All coursework must be completed in accordance with the regulations of the Graduate School and the College of Nursing. Students must enroll on a full time or part time basis and must complete the 78-credit requirement, including a terminal clinical inquiry project within six years of admission. Students must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 throughout the program and receive no more than one grade of C to be in good standing.

Program Administration

The proposed inclusion of these ten majors in the Doctorate in Nursing Practice does not affect the administration of the program. The program will remain housed in the College of Nursing and the Director of the Doctorate in Nursing Practice, a faculty member of the College of Nursing, will continue to conduct the orientation to the program, will advise the students, and will monitor each student's progress.

Budget and Resource Requirements

No additional resources are required or requested for creating the ten majors.

Accreditation

Accreditation for the Doctorate in Nursing Practice Program offered by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education applies to this doctoral program, as it does to our Baccalaureate Nursing Program and our Masters in Nursing Science program. Other than the accreditation earned by the University and the College, no other accreditation is needed at this time.

Approvals

The proposal was approved by the faculty, program director, college curriculum committee, interim dean of the College of Nursing, and the Graduate Council.