

MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

COLLEGE OF NURSING

PROGRAM MODIFICATION

**ADDITION OF A PSYCHIATRIC-MENTAL HEALTH LIFESPAN TRACK
TO THE DOCTORATE OF NURSING PRACTICE PROGRAM**



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Name of Institution: Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), College of Nursing (CON)

Name of Program: Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner track, Doctorate of Nursing Practice

Program Designation: Doctoral Degree: Professional Practice

Does the program qualify for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards? No

Proposed date of implementation: August 2016

CIP Code: 51.3818 (Nursing Practice)

Delivery Mode: Distance education: 100% online, asynchronous

Institutional Approvals and Dates of Approval:

1. College of Nursing Faculty Assembly: October 2, 2015
2. Deans' Council: November 6, 2015
3. Senior Leadership Council: November 9, 2015
4. Board of Trustees: December 11, 2015

Background Information

Provide a detailed description of the proposed modification, including its nature and purpose and centrality to institutional mission (1500 characters).

The MUSC CON provides and refines programs of nursing education that support the University Mission to “preserve and optimize human life in South Carolina and beyond” (MUSC, 2015). The CON’s Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program was originally approved by the CHE on 10/6/08, and includes 3 tracks (adult/gerontology, family and pediatric), and a fourth track is being proposed in this application. Research and health care reform recommendations recognize advanced practice nursing roles transform healthcare (IOM, 2011). The proposed Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) DNP program meets the current recommendations of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2006) and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (2013). The PMHNP core competencies have been threaded throughout the proposed curriculum and include: scientific foundation, leadership, quality, practice inquiry, technology and information literacy, policy, health delivery system, ethics, and independent practice (NONPF, 2013). The didactic coursework will provide the knowledge and skills PMHNPs require to be successful. The clinical experiences will allow the PMHNPs to refine the role-specialized skills, behaviors and attitudes. The PMHNP program will admit students at two entry points: post-BSN and post-MSN (must be certified as a PMH clinical nurse specialist (CNS) or certified PMHNP). The PMHNP provides lifespan primary mental health care for individuals, families and populations who are at risk and/or have a behavioral health disorder or problem. There are 3,205 certified nurse practitioners in South Carolina and only 54 (1.7%) practice as PMHNPs (SC Board of Nursing, personal communication, September 11, 2015).

List the objectives of the modified program (1500 characters).

The end-of-program competencies are the same for all DNP Nurse Practitioner tracks (adult-gerontology, family, pediatric and psychiatric mental-health) per accreditation requirements.

Upon completion of the DNP-APRN program, graduates will:

1. Demonstrate competence in an advanced nursing practice role using a specialized area of knowledge derived from a strong scientific foundation.
2. Use analytical methods and a scholarly approach to improve quality and safety in health care systems through organizational leadership, systems thinking, and practice management acumen.
3. Implement continuous quality improvement in patient care providing leadership in practice and clinical decision-making through use of information systems and technology resources.
4. Demonstrate interprofessional collaboration and teamwork strategies in the improvement of population health outcomes.
5. Assess health care policy that determines the financing, regulation, access, and delivery of care.
6. Apply principles of health equity in the provision of care to eliminate health disparities.

Assessment of need

Provide an assessment of the need of the program modification for the institution, the state, the region, and beyond, if applicable (1500 characters).

The need for advanced practice providers (e.g., nurse practitioners) in mental health care settings is large and will continue to increase as the physician shortage worsens, and mental health care becomes more accessible through the Affordable Care Act. In South Carolina alone, there are 3,205 certified nurse practitioners and only 54 (less than 2%) practice as mental health care providers (SC Board of Nursing, personal communication, September 11, 2015). This presents a problem for both healthcare facilities and mental health treatment facilities. The significant burden of chronic disease (e.g. diabetes, heart disease & stroke, cancer) (SC DHEC, 2009) is exacerbated by co-occurring mental/behavioral health disorders, which undermine treatment effectiveness for these conditions and increase health care costs. Additionally, mental health treatment, apart from other physical health conditions, is limited due in part to staffing problems. Persons with untreated comorbidities are also more likely to self-medicate using alcohol and illicit drugs. By 2020, behavioral disorders will surpass all physical diseases as a major cause of disability worldwide.

The encouraging news is that health outcomes improve and health costs decrease when integrated models of care treating both physical and behavioral health problems are addressed (SAMHSA, 2014). Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners are the clinical experts who can do this and improve health outcomes, and yet they are under-represented in the advanced nursing professional. With the approval of this new track in the DNP training program, MUSC's College of Nursing will help address this need and assist in improving life quality and outcomes for South Carolinians by increasing the number of PMHNPs in our state and beyond.

Will the proposed modification impact any existing programs and services at the institution?

No.

If yes, explain (1000 characters).

List of Similar Programs in South Carolina*

Program Name	Institution	Similarities	Differences
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Track	University of South Carolina, Columbia	MSN and DNP APRN program, online program	Post-Graduate Certificate & DNP only at MUSC, asynchronous online program

*The MUSC College of Nursing has been in communication with the USC College of Nursing, Columbia, regarding this proposed program modification. The Dean of the USC College of Nursing has provided a letter of support for the development of the DNP PMHNP program at the MUSC College of Nursing.

Description of the Program

Projected Enrollment

Year	Fall		Spring		Summer	
	Headcount	Credit Hrs	Headcount	Credit Hrs	Headcount	Credit Hrs
2016	10	9	10	9	10	7
2017	15	9	15	9	15	7
2018	20	9	15	9	15	7
2019	20	9	20	9	15	7
2020	20	9	20	9	15	7

Curriculum

Post-BSN Full-Time Plan of Study for the DNP Degree

Year 1, Fall Semester				
NRDNP	838	Advanced Pathophysiology	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	860	Applied Epidemiology and Biostatistics in Health Care	4 sh	(4,0,0)
NRDNP	854	Scientific Underpinnings for Practice	3 sh	(3,0,0)
Year 1, Spring Semester				
NRDNP	856	Advanced Clinical Assessment and Reasoning	6 sh	(5,0,1)
NRDNP	842	Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics	4 sh	(4,0,0)
Year 1, Summer Semester				
NRDNP	836	Informatics in Health Care Delivery	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	864	Advanced Care Management I (180 clinical hours- approx 12 hrs/wk)	6 sh	(0,2,4)
Year 2, Fall Semester				
NRDNP	858	Evidence-Based Practice, Quality and Safety	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	865	Advanced Care Management II (180 clinical hours- approx 12 hrs/wk)	6 sh	(0,2,4)

Year 2, Spring Semester				
NRDNP	866	Advanced Care Management III <i>(180 clinical hours- approx 12 hrs/wk)</i>	6 sh	(0,2,4)
NRPHD	708	Advanced Health Policy and Advocacy	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	862	Practice Inquiry and IRB	3 sh	(3,0,0)
Year 2, Summer Semester				
NRDNP	848B	Role Practicum <i>(270 clinical hours- approx 18 hrs/wk)</i>	7 sh	(0,1,6)
Year 3, Fall Semester				
NRDNP	890	Residency <i>(150 clinical hours- approx 10 hrs/wk)</i>	3 sh	(0,0,3)
NRDNP	850	Organizational Theory and Health Care Systems	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	830	Applied Health Care Economics and Finance	3 sh	(3,0,0)
Year 3, Spring Semester				
NRDNP	846	Frameworks for Leadership & Interprofessional Collaboration	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	890	Residency <i>(150 clinical hours- approx 10 hrs/wk)</i>	6 sh	(0,0,6)
Minimum DNP course work			75 sh	(40,7,28)

Post-MSN Full-Time Plan of Study for the DNP Degree*

Year 1, Fall Semester				
NRDNP	854	Scientific Underpinnings for Practice	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	858	Evidence-Based Practice, Quality and Safety	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	860	Applied Epidemiology and Biostatistics in Health Care	4 sh	(4,0,0)
Year 1, Spring Semester				
NRDNP	846	Frameworks for Leadership & Interprofessional Collaboration	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	862	Practice Inquiry and IRB	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRPHD	708	Advanced Health Policy and Advocacy	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	890	Residency <i>(45 clinical hours total)</i>	1 sh	(0,0,1)
Year 1, Summer Semester				
NRDNP	836	Informatics in Health Care Delivery	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	890	Residency <i>(135 clinical hours- approx. 9 hrs/wk)</i>	4 sh	(0,0,4)
Year 2, Fall Semester				
NRDNP	830	Applied Health Care Economics and Finance	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	850	Organizational Theory and Health Care Systems	3 sh	(3,0,0)
NRDNP	890	Residency <i>(120 clinical hours- approx. 8 hrs/wk)</i>	3 sh	(0,0,3)
Minimum DNP course work			36 sh	(28,0,8)

**Certified CNS in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing students will have a tailored curriculum based upon CNS MSN transcript and degree preparation, and may require additional coursework, e.g. NRDNP 864-866 Advanced Care Management courses to be eligible for the lifespan PMHNP certification examination and DNP degree.*

[sh=semester hour. Semester hour to clock hour ratio: Didactic, 1:1; seminar, 1:2; practicum, 1:3]

Curriculum Changes

Note: Complete this table only if there are changes to the curriculum

Courses Eliminated from the Program	Courses Added to the Program
	Curriculum and clinical content adjusted to focus on lifespan psychiatric-mental health: NRDNP 864 Advanced Care Management 1, NRDNP 865 Advanced Care Management 2, and NRDNP 866 Advanced Care Management 3 – specific problem-based learning cases and psychiatric-mental health clinical placements
	Curriculum and clinical content adjusted to focus on lifespan psychiatric-mental health: NRDNP 848 Role Practicum - specific problem-based learning cases and psychiatric-mental health clinical placements
	Curriculum and clinical content adjusted to focus on lifespan psychiatric-mental health: NRDNP 890 Residency – have psychiatric-mental health clinical placements where a quality improvement project is implemented and evaluated as part of the scholarly doctoral work towards the DNP degree

Faculty

Provide a brief explanation of any additional institutional changes in faculty and/or administrative assignment that may result from implementing the proposed program modification (1000 characters).

To meet the demands of this modified program the CON will need 1 new FTE to begin the program and workload will be monitored to determine if additional effort is needed as the program grows. In addition, the Director of the DNP program will need .05 FTE increase to oversee this program. The current number of faculty and current FTE devoted to the DNP program are shown below. The faculty member to be hired will have experience in the APRN role and have a DNP degree as a PMHNP. Experience in teaching will be critical.

Faculty devoted to the DNP Degree Program			
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
NP faculty	12	4	16
FTE	10.2	1.33	12.03

Almost all regular, tenure track faculty members (90%) are either doctorally prepared (PhD, ScD, DrPH, DNP) or currently enrolled (5%) in a doctoral program (PhD, EdD or DNP). No faculty member holds less than a master's degree, and 65% are nationally certified, including

100% of Nurse Practitioner faculty. The number of educator-researchers (22) is sufficient to further the research mission of the College, and the number of doctorally prepared faculty (49) is adequate to support doctoral programs within the College.

Resources

Identify any new library/learning resources, new instructional equipment, and new facilities or modifications to existing facilities to existing facilities needed to support the modified program (2000 characters).

The proposed program modification will not affect the physical plant's ability to support this program modification. The new physical plant was designed and built with the goal of increasing enrollment and adding programs over time. The Nursing Technology Center (NTC) continues to provide optimal information technology equipment and resources to support the College's faculty, staff and students. The College's web page is viewed as the portal for students and potential faculty, and reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis. The NTC also continues to develop videos to assist with ongoing College's training needs.

All didactic courses will be conducted online using a learning management system (Moodle). Other online resources such as videoconferencing, Skype, Fuze, Tegrity (course content capture system), podcast, and vodcast (video on demand clips) will be used in many of the courses. These resources facilitate and assist students in an asynchronous learning environment to gain the necessary knowledge and skills required for the DNP degree. The CON currently utilizes all these programs so no new programs or software will be needed. The library resources remain unchanged and this modification will not affect the library's ability to support the program. The library continues to serve as a major health science library for MUSC, the state, and the Southeast, and no new acquisitions will be needed to accommodate the additional students for the PMHNP program modification. Students and faculty have access to a vast amount of resources online, and preceptors are also granted access upon request. This supports online education as well as those who live locally. Net IDs and passwords are utilized so that library resources can be accessed from anywhere in the world. Alumni of the program can continue to have access if they visit the library.

The College has established psychiatric-mental health affiliations for PMHNP clinical practicum experiences including the: Veteran's Administration Medical Center, MUSC Institute of Psychiatry, Charleston and Dorchester Mental Health Centers, OneEighty Place, Harvest Free Clinic and the MUSC Emergency Department. The CON Clinical Education Coordinator assists faculty and students with maintaining the affiliation agreements and necessary paperwork for student clinical placement.

Financial Support

ESTIMATED NEW						
CATEGORY	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	4th Yr	5th Yr	TOTALS
Program Administration	\$9,100	\$9,282	\$9,468	\$9,657	\$9,850	\$47,357
Faculty Salaries	\$149,500	\$152,490	\$155,540	\$158,651	\$161,824	\$778,004
Graduate Assistants						
Equipment						
Facilities	\$6,240	\$6,365	\$6,492	\$6,622	\$6,754	\$32,473
Supplies and Materials	\$10,000					\$10,000
Library Resources						
Other:						
TOTALS	\$174,840	\$168,137	\$171,500	\$174,930	\$178,428	\$867,834
SOURCES OF FINANCING BY YEAR						
Tuition Funding	\$143,015	\$120,399	\$128,600	\$137,567	\$141,065	\$670,645
Program-Specific Fees	\$ 31,825	\$47,738	\$42,900	\$37,363	\$37,363	\$197,189
State Funding*						
Reallocation of Existing Funds**						
Federal Funding						
Other Funding (Specify)						
TOTALS	\$174,840	\$168,137	\$171,500	\$174,930	\$178,428	\$867,834

Budget Justification

Provide a brief explanation for the other new costs and any special sources of financing (state funding, reallocation of existing funds, federal funding, or other funding) identified in the Financial Support table (1000 characters).

Note: Only provide this budget justification if any other new costs, state funding, reallocation of existing funds, federal funding, or other funding are included in the Financial Support Table.

Costs are 100% funded through the CON. Tuition listed above assumes the following: Annual enrollment beginning at 9 students (10 is our target but 9 students cover costs), 70% in-state and 30% out of state. Tuition totals are based on the FY15 MUSC tuition for full time enrollment including fees. Tuition increases of 2% per year were estimated. Currently the DNP program's nurse practitioner program averages 300 applications per year with the ability to admit 80 students per year for the 3 current nurse practitioner tracks. The PMHNP track will admit up to 20 students per year in addition to the 80 in the other 3 DNP nurse practitioner tracks, for a total of 100 students in the 4 DNP nurse practitioner tracks. Community nurses, current student nurses, and current MSN prepared PMHNPs have expressed interest and requested this new DNP PMHNP track, and, as noted, there is a statewide lack of PMHNPs and access for mental health care.

Program Administration:

.05 FTE of the Director of the DNP program. Effort includes program oversight, review of program faculty, program outcomes, and program matriculation.

Faculty Salaries:

Faculty member will be hired on a part time basis to complement expertise already available in the current CON faculty. This effort, including fringe benefits, totals approximately 1 FTE.

Supplies and Materials:

Two computers will be purchased to support faculty and staff assigned to the program.

Facilities:

The College is assessed \$26/square foot for space maintenance by the University. This line item will cover the faculty assigned to the program.

Evaluation and Assessment

Will the proposed modification impact the way the program is evaluated and assessed?

No.

If yes, explain (1000 characters).

Will the proposed modification affect or result in program-specific accreditation?

Yes.

If yes, explain if the modification will result in the program seeking program-specific accreditation, provide the institution's plans to seek accreditation, including the expected timeline for accreditation (500 characters).

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) accredited the current DNP program on 10/18/10 through 06/30/16. CCNE accredits at the degree level. The CON has incorporated the 2006 *DNP Essentials* into the PMHNP post-graduate certificate and DNP degree program, and will submit a CCNE substantive change once approval is received from SC CHE. The CON recently had a CCNE accreditation visit on 09/28-30/15, and anticipate full accreditation based upon the visit findings. The state board of nursing does not require notification since they only regulate pre-licensure programs.

Will the proposed modification affect or lead to licensure or certification?

Yes.

If yes, explain how the program will prepare students for licensure or certification (500 characters).

Students enrolled in the post-BSN DNP in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program will already be licensed registered nurses. The post-BSN plan of study will prepare these students as PMHNP eligible to obtain certification through the American Nurses Credentialing Center (2015). The post-MSN students will already be certified as PMHNPs. The program is based on the American Association of Colleges of Nursing *DNP Essentials* (2006) and the NONPF *Population-Specific Nurse Practitioner Competencies* (2013).

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