

Program Planning Summary

Master of Science in Nursing: Nurse Educator

to be offered by

Francis Marion University



Luther F. Carter, President

May 10, 2011

I. Name of Proposed Program: Master of Science in Nursing/Nurse Educator

II. Academic Unit: Francis Marion University Department of Nursing

III. Designation, Type, and Level of Degree: New Program Planning Summary, Graduate Program, Master of Science in Nursing/Nurse Educator

IV. Number of Credit Hours in Program: 36

V. Proposed Date of Implementation: January 2013

VI. CIP Code:

VII. Delivery Mode: Traditional and hybrid

VIII. Program Description: Francis Marion University requests approval of a Master of Science in Nursing/Nurse Educator degree, which will be offered in conjunction with the proposed MSN/Family Nurse Practitioner degree program.

Graduate-level nurse educators are needed to ensure the future of proposed and existing nursing programs. Graduates of the proposed MSN program will fulfill the competencies established for nurse educators by the National League for Nursing (NLN, 2008). By completing the program, the graduate will earn a Master of Science in Nursing and will become a competent nurse educator who can function effectively in academic settings, provide staff development instruction, and serve as a patient educator. The proposed nurse educator track will use several of the same core courses as the Master of Science in Nursing/Family Nurse Practitioner program. Practicums for the Nurse Educator program will take place in cooperation with other South Carolina universities and technical colleges, and in cooperation with staff development offices in healthcare institutions. Some courses of the program may be delivered in a hybrid format. Competencies in educational skills will be evaluated by the criteria set forth by the NLN (Wittmann-Price & Godshall, 2009).

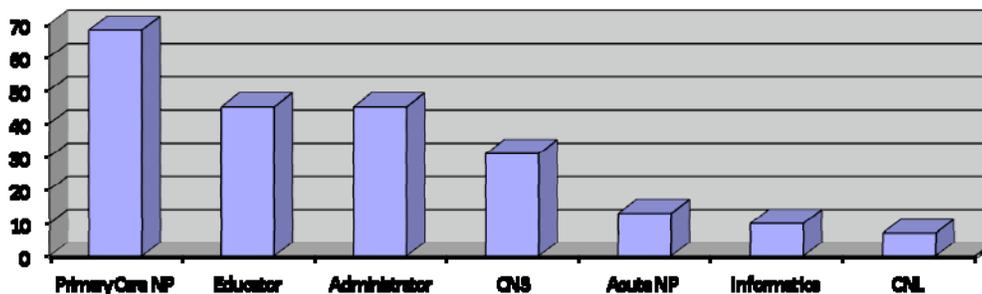
IX. Proposal Date for Implementation

The proposed date for implementation is Spring 2013 with the admission of the first cohort of 12 graduate students increasing thereafter to 20 graduate students per year.

X. Justification of Need

At the present time the only deficit affecting the nursing profession that is more serious than the nursing shortage itself is the declining number of nurse educators to teach nursing students (Joint Commission, 2003). According to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN, 2006), U.S. nursing schools turned away 41,683 qualified applicants to baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs in 2005 and this trend has continued. This situation is a result of shortages of faculty, clinical sites, classroom space, clinical preceptors, and funding. One of the main reasons for the faculty shortage is the aging population of nurse educators. The average age of the nurse educator who was doctorally-prepared in 2006 was 53.5 and the average nurse educator retires at age 62.5 (AACN, 2006). A 2006 report by the NLN states that 50% of faculty working at that time will retire by the year 2016.

A thorough needs assessment was conducted by the nursing faculty of Francis Marion University in the spring of 2008. Two hundred and eighty-one surveys were mailed to baccalaureate educated nurses in a hundred mile radius of the university. A robust 87% return rate was realized ($N = 244$). Of the respondents that indicated that they intended to return to school ($n = 180$; 72%), 63% of those anticipated returning to school within a year or two. When asked about the advanced practice degree they would pursue 247 respondents answered as indicated by the following graph:



XI. Anticipated Program Demand and Productivity

The program will admit 12 students the first year and 20 students in the second year. We anticipate that increasing numbers of RNs will earn BSNs, which will increase the eligibility of RNs for graduate school.

XII. Assessment of Extent to which the Proposed Program Duplicates Existing Programs in the State

Charleston Southern University has a newly instituted nurse educator track; Clemson University also offers a nurse educator track, as does the Medical University of South Carolina. FMU nursing faculty often serve as preceptors for MUSC Nurse Educator students.

XIII. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Existing Programs at the Proposing Institution.

The proposed program will run simultaneously with other programs in the Department of Nursing and will interface with the proposed proposed MSN/Family Nurse Practitioner track. Six core courses for the Nurse Educator track will be shared with the FNP track. Therefore the curriculum for the Nurse Educator track will include the following courses.

MSN Curriculum

Nursing Graduate Core Courses (9)

APRN 501 Theory, Knowledge Development, APN Role (3)

APRN 502 Biostatistics (3)

APRN 503 Advanced Research and EBP (3)

APRN 507 Population and Epidemiology (3)

APRN 508 Health Policy and Leadership (3)

EDUC 611 Solving Instructional Problems Using Technology (3)

Nurse Educator Upper Division (18) (270 practicum hours)

APRN 606 Curriculum Development and Evaluation (3)

APRN 607 Teaching / Learning Theories (1)

APRN 608 Academic Practicum I (3: 0, 9) (135 practicum hours)

APRN 609 Instructional Design (2)

APRN 610 Assessment/Measurement & Evaluation (2)

APRN 611 Clinical Practicum II (3: 0, 9) (135 practicum hours)

APRN 612 Nurse Educator Role in Academia and Practice (2)

APRN 613 Education Capstone Seminar (2)

Semester	Course	Credits
Spring	APRN 501 Theory, Knowledge Development, APN Role (3)	3
	EDUC 611 Solving Instructional Problems Using Technology (3)	3
	APRN 503 Advanced Research and EBP (3)	3 = 9

Summer Session I	APRN 502 Biostatistics (3)	3
Fall	APRN 507 Population and Epidemiology (3)	3
	APRN 508 Health Policy and Leadership(3)	3
	APRN 607 Teaching / Learning Theories (1)	1 = 7
Spring	APRN 608 Academic Practicum I (3:0, 9) (135 practicum hours)	3
	APRN 606 Curriculum Development and evaluation (3)	3
	APRN 609 Instructional Design (2)	2 = 8
Fall	APRN 610 Assessment/Measurement & Evaluation (2)	2
	APRN 611 Clinical Practicum II (3:0, 9) (135 practicum hours)	3
	APRN 612 Nurse Educator Role in Academia and Practice (2)	2
	APRN 613 Education Capstone Seminar (2)	2 = 9
	Total	36

(Lecture hours = 1:1, practicum hours = 3:1) Conferences can only be applied to 10% of practicum hours)

XIV. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Other Institutions via Inter-institutional Cooperation

A. The proposed program will be administered solely by FMU faculty but practicum courses will need to be completed in other educational institutions. The clinical practicum course will be completed with students in a patient care setting and the academic clinical practicum is designed to run during traditional spring semester to ensure that students are able to obtain teaching sites.

Practicum I: In this practicum the student will be placed in an academic setting with an expert nurse educator. The goal of this practicum will be mentorship and role modeling for the student. The student will assess the learning environment and develop a lecture that will be video recorded, critiqued, and presented to the instructor. The student will be evaluated by the instructor and the preceptor.

Practicum II: In this practicum the student will be placed in a clinical setting with an expert nurse educator. The goal of this practicum will be mentorship and role modeling for the student. The student will assess the learning environment and develop a clinical learning project that will focus on student, staff, or patient learning. The student will be evaluated by the instructor and the preceptor.

B. The Francis Marion University Department of Nursing will work closely with other higher education institutions that offer the baccalaureate degree in nursing in order to facilitate admission into the MSN/Nurse Educator program at FMU.

XV. Total New Costs Associated with Implementing the New Program

A. Personnel Budget: The costs of the MSN/Nurse Educator program will be borne in large part by the MSN/Family Nurse Practitioner program. 1. One graduate program director (tenure eligible faculty member) with a terminal degree at a cost of \$90,000, plus \$30,600 in benefits. 2. Two additional tenure track faculty members with terminal degrees at a cost of \$75,000 each (\$150,000 in salaries) plus \$51,000 in benefits. 3. Existing faculty will also teach selected courses in the MSN/Nurse Educator program.. 4. The program will be administered under the organizational structure of the FMU Department of Nursing.

B. Equipment and materials: The annual operating budget to cover other costs for graduate programs in Nursing is projected at \$70,000 per year.

C. Facilities: The FMU Department of Nursing is housed in the Lee Nursing Building, completed in 2006, which will provide adequate facilities for the program. Looking to the future, FMU is confident of obtaining private funding from a local foundation and from one other donor for a new Health Sciences building to be located in downtown Florence that will provide additional facilities and more than meet the needs of the proposed MSN program.

D. Revenue: By year three, the cost of the program will be met by tuition revenue.

References

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (2003) <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/media/newsreleases/enr103.htm>
- Joint Commission (2010). http://www.jointcommission.org/NR/rdonlyres/244361EE-15AA-4F60-BBB1-10695C2C6B57/0/RWJ_Future_of_Nursing.pdf
- National League for Nursing (NLN) (2008) Nurse educator competencies.
- Wittmann-Price, R. A. & Godshall, M. (Editors) (6/2009). *Certified Nurse Educator (CNE) Review Manual*. NYC: Springer Publ.