



DNP's Emergence Into Academia

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Introduction

Fundamental DNP education is not geared to prepare the graduate to become an educator. However, many DNP programs across the country offer additional course work for those students interested in academic appointment. These offerings may include elements such as curriculum development and nursing research. The DNP as expert clinician is positioned to conduct practice research

Considerations

Strengths of the DNP degree are multifaceted. Increasing the number of nurses with doctoral degrees is occurring with the addition of DNP as a career choice. Nurses with a primary interest in clinical practice as opposed to a research focused degree can pursue a DNP degree. DNP prepared nurses possess strong qualities of leadership, collaboration, advocacy, and expert clinical skills.

Method

Survey DNP prepared nursing faculty to assess preparation for the faculty role, mentorship from other faculty, and overall roll satisfaction in Schools of Nursing.

A descriptive, non-experimental, mixed methods survey instrument will be used, with data analyzed through descriptive and correlational statistics.

Challenges

- Number of DNP's in the Academia
- Variations in degree preparation for the DNP
- Time in the academic institution
- Variation in teaching roles, from undergrad through doctoral studies and including simulation and clinical supervision.