

BUILDING THE DNP PROJECT

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Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to illustrate how the continuous quality improvement cycles can be used to streamline the DNP Project process and improve the project's rigor.

Learning Objectives

1. Discuss essential aspects of the DNP Project
2. Describe the SLU courses directly related to the project with associated milestones
3. Review student and faculty feedback that promoted process change
4. Discuss the resultant changes in the SLU DNP Project process.

Background

The DNP project purpose was to synthesize and integrate the DNP curriculum. Project completion also demonstrated student competency related to the DNP Essentials. The DNP Project Process was not clearly defined or exemplified.

In 2011 SLU accepted the first Post-MSN DNP cohort. Infrastructure to support the DNP Project was developed.

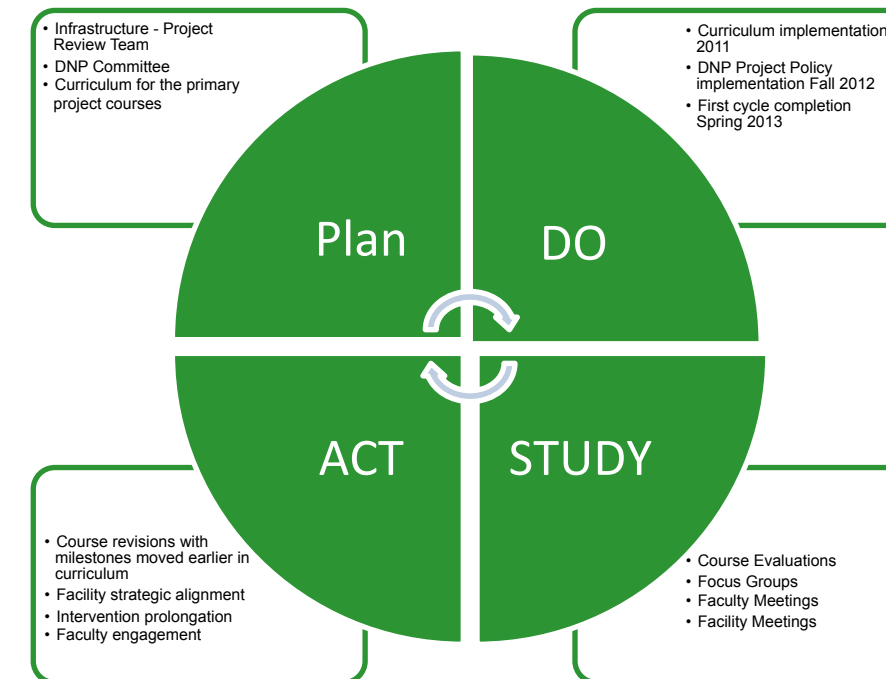
Acceptable Projects

- Quality Improvement
- Translating Evidence into Practice
- Clinical or Practice-based Inquiry
- Healthcare Delivery Innovation
- Program Development or Evaluation
- Demonstration Project
- Healthcare Policy
- Development & Utilization of Databases (Big Data Projects)

Building the DNP Project



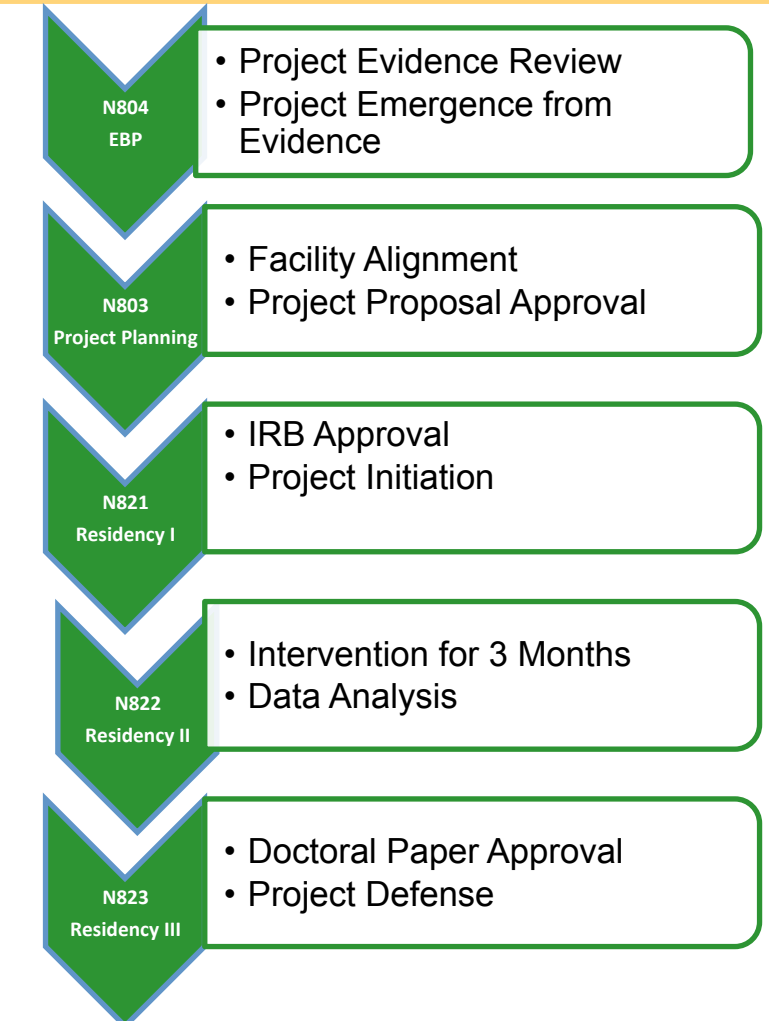
PDSA Cycles



Feedback

STUDENTS	FACULTY
Begin proposal earlier	Milestones earlier
Heavy workload	Writing resources needed
Project stages not clear	Depict project process in map
Too jammed at end	Approve paper prior to defense
Need more organization	Align with facility strategic plans
Avoid course by course approach	Revise courses together
Not enough time for implementation	Emphasize practice

Revised Building Blocks



Conclusions

- Early project planning essential
- Project must align with facility
- Project milestones incorporated into coursework
- Prolonged intervention improves rigor
- Faculty engagement crucial

References available upon request

