

The ART and SCIENCE of
**NURSING
EXCELLENCE**

**2019 Twelfth National Doctors of Nursing Practice Conference:
Washington, D.C.**

**Strategically Leveraging the DNP Scholarly Project to
Achieve Excellence in Nursing Practice³²**

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Objectives

By the end of this presentation, the participant will be able to:



1. Identify how the DNP essentials support the concept of organizations partnering with DNP students on their scholarly projects.
2. Identify that through implementation and evaluation of DNP projects the DNP student becomes a vital member of the interprofessional team.
3. Recognize the benefits of supporting and partnering with DNP students on their scholarly work.

Introduction

- Support for scholarly projects
- Utilization of DNP students' scholarly projects
- Evidence of positive results with DNP student scholarly project
- Improved patient care and positive impact on care models



Benefits of Advanced Degree and Doctorally Prepared Nurses

- Nurses with doctoral degrees contribute to increase in the number of BSN prepared nurses. 
- Higher proportion of RNs with baccalaureate degrees has been shown to improve patient outcomes - CAUTI, falls, pressure ulcers, etc. 
- When 80% of RNs have BSN degrees there is a positive impact on the financial bottom line.



Barriers and Motivators

Motivators

- Internal vs external motivation
- Role-modeling
- Professional development
- Professional achievement

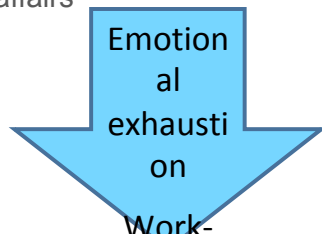
Barriers

- Financial Costs
- Balancing time for
 - family
 - work
 - studies



Nursing Leadership and organizational support

Want nurses engaged in hospital affairs



Work-family conflict

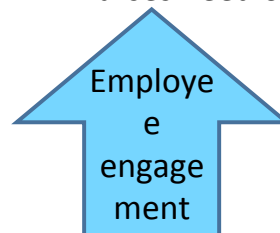
Support from Nurse Manager is so vital



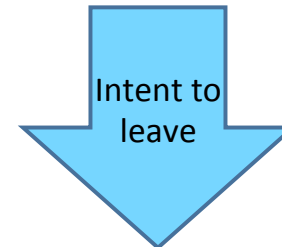
Emotional exhaustion

support

Nurses need opportunities for development



When Nurse Manager facilitates flexible scheduling



Positive Practice Environment to Support Nurses Earning DNP



DNP students can contribute to and be supported within a positive practice environment.

- Shared governance
- Leaders support and foster their growth as a leader
- Safety & Quality initiatives with DNP project and beyond
- Support team Well-being
- Develop professionally

Organizational Case study

- Have a process for scholarly projects/dissertations and practicums
 - IRB approval from university first, then present to Nursing Research/EBP prior to IRB
 - Written manager and director support required & student liaison
 - Relationships with local universities
 - Align projects with quality outcomes
- Support through
 - Tuition reimbursement
 - Flexible scheduling
 - Employing doctorally prepared nurses in multiple roles
 - Mentorship
- Doctoral students' success is beneficial as it has a positive impact on patient care



References

For references:

- Email request to Melissa.Bates@ana.org or Jennifer.Hargreaves@ana.org
- See the article “Support for Nurses Earning Doctoral Degrees” in *Nursing Management* (https://journals.lww.com/nursingmanagement/Fulltext/2019/06000/Support_for_nurses_earning_doctoral_degrees.2.aspx)

Q&A