MINUTES
Graduate Council
August 12, 2014
Electronic Poll

An electronic poll was conducted of the Graduate Council to approve the following items:

Item I: Approval of LIMITED Status
Dr. David Karl Carpenter, Educational Technology and Leadership
Dr. Jon Michael Croghan, Language and Communication
Ms. Phyllis Lear, Creative and Performing Arts – Art
Dr. Mark O. Melder, Criminal Justice, Social Sciences and History
Dr. Jarrod Sanson, Educational Technology and Leadership

Action: Approved with no opposition by majority

Item II: Approval of the Addition of New Courses
o NURG 7000 – Scientific Underpinnings for Practice (3-3-0).
o NURG 7001 – Clinical Prevention and Population Health (3-3-0).
o NURG 7002 – Clinical Scholarship (3-3-0).
o NURG 7003 – Biostatistics
o NURG 7004 – Organizational Theory and Systems Leadership (3-3-0).
o NURG 7005 – Information Systems Technology (3-3-0).
o NURG 7006 – Epidemiology (3-3-0).
o NURG 7007 – Healthcare Policy: Analysis, Advocacy, and Transformation (3-3-0).
o NURG 7008 – Genetics (2-2-0).
o NURG 7009 – Global Healthcare Advocacy and Transformation (3-3-0).
o NURG 7010 – DNP Scholarly Project Practicum I (3-1-12).
o NURG 7011 – DNP Scholarly Project Practicum II (3-1-12).
o NURG 7012 – DNP Scholarly Project Practicum III (3-1-12).

Action: Approved with no opposition by majority

Item III: Addition of the Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) to Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree program effective Fall 2014.

The Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) clinical doctorate program is a 38 credit hour online program designed for advanced practice registered nurses. Students will have earned 1,000 clinical hours, minimum, upon degree completion. This includes clinical hours earned in their respective APRN MSN programs. This is a selective admissions program that enters students each year in the fall semester. The purposes of the DNP program are to:
I. Provide APRNs with expertise, specialized competencies, and advanced knowledge required for evidence-based nursing practice and mastery in an area of specialization within the larger domain of nursing.

II. Prepare APRNs to influence, design, direct and implement change in healthcare practice, education, and policy through the development of collaborative alliances to improve healthcare outcomes and decrease morbidity and mortality in vulnerable populations.

III. Develop APRNs who contribute to nursing's body of knowledge through professional development and scholarly inquiry into practice, processes, or outcomes which affect morbidity and mortality in vulnerable populations.

Admission/Program Requirements

All applicants must be nationally certified advanced practice nurses, who hold a current unencumbered, unrestricted APRN license, and meet all NSU's Graduate School requirements. Additionally requirements include a cumulative graduate GPA of 3.00 or greater on a 4.00 scale; official GRE score (combined verbal and qualitative) or 284 or greater; and a letter of recommendation, using the DNP recommendation form, for all three of the following: (1) former faculty, (2) person who can attest to applicant's clinical abilities, and (3) character reference. Each applicant must also submit: (1) a completed DNP Program Application; (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) a one to two page (maximum) paper describing the applicant's proposed area of practice for the final scholarly project that is congruent with the DNP program outcomes, and (4) undergo a personal interview with the DNP admissions committee. All components of the application process except the interview are due by May 15th preceding the fall semester of anticipated enrollment. Interviews will be scheduled beginning each June.

Selection of Applicants

Admission to the University does not guarantee enrollment in the DNP program. Selection for enrollment is competitive for available spaces. Applicants who meet the program requirements and submit the appropriate documentation as outlined on the DNP Program Application by the deadline will be considered for admission the following fall. Applicants will be ranked according to GRE scores, cumulative graduate GPA, paper describing proposed area of practice for scholarly project, and personal interview, with consideration of letters of recommendation. Applicants will be notified of admission prior to July 15th, preceding the fall semester of anticipated enrollment. Applicants who are not selected to enter the DNP program are invited to resubmit the required documents and undergo the selection process the next year.

Transfer of Credit

A maximum of 12 credit hours can be transferred into the DNP program. There are three courses (ttal of nine credit hours) that articulate in the Inter-Institutional Collaborative Agreement between Louisiana's Collaborating Universities and NSU. These courses are three credit hours each, and are (1) Scientific Underpinnings for Practice, (2) Clinical Prevention and Population Health, and (3) Healthcare Policy: Analysis, Advocacy, and Transformation. Transfer of credit hours from another university is requested through the Graduate School. Only transfer courses with grades of "B" or better will be accepted.

Progression in Program

DNP students' progress through the program by maintaining a "B" or better in all courses and maintaining good standing with both the program and university. Students follow a sequential curriculum pattern, and if a course must be repeated, the student must wait until the course if offered again.

Dismissal from Program

Any student who loses unencumbered and/or unrestricted licensure status as an APRN will be dismissed. Further, students who violate any form of the Academic Honor Code will be immediately and permanently dismissed from the DNP program. Academic dishonesty infractions are defined in the University Catalog.

Graduation

DNP students must complete all University requirements for graduation. Additionally, students must complete all courses with a GPA of 3.00 or greater with no course grade lower than a "B"; provide evidence of at least 1,000 post baccalaureate clinical hours; complete a satisfactory oral defense of their DNP scholarly project; be in good academic and fiscal standing with the University, and attend commencement unless officially excused by the President of the University. All course work towards the APRN to DNP degree must be completed within 6 calendar years.

Technology requirements

OS: 7 or later
RAM: 2GB or better
Hard Drive: 2 GB of free space
Modem: Broadband
Browser: Microsoft Internet Explorer 10.0, Mozilla Firefox 21 or newer
Browser Settings: Java Runtime Environment (JRE) 1.7.0_21 or newer & Cookies enabled
Word Processor: Microsoft Word or alternative word processor that can save to the Rich-Text format
E-mail: Browser, Mobile Device

Curriculum pattern:

Year 1	Semester One	Cr. Hr	Semester Two	Cr. Hr	Semester Three	Cr. Hr
	NURG 7000 Scientific Underpinnings for Practice (knowledge development ad mid-range theories)	3	**NURG 7002** Clinical Scholarship (includes translation of research, analytical methods for EBP, and informatics) (clinical hours)	3	**NURG 7004** Organizational Theory and Systems Leadership (includes inter/intra professional collaboration)	3
	NURG 7001 Clinical Prevention and Population Health (risk reduction and population health outcomes)	3	**NURG 7003** Bio-Statistics	3	**NURG 7005** Information Systems Technology (to improve and transform health care)	3
Sem. Total		6		6		6

Year 2	Semester Four	Cr. Hr	Semester Five	Cr. Hr	Semester Six	Cr. Hr
	NURG 7010 DNP Scholarly Project Practicum I	3	**NURG 7011** DNP Scholarly Project Practicum II	3	**NURG 7012** DNP Scholarly Project Practicum III	3
	NURG 7006 Epidemiology	3	**NURG 7007** Healthcare Policy: Analysis, Advocacy, and Transformation (includes social justice and ethics)	3	**NURG 7009** Global Healthcare Advocacy and Transformation	3
			NURG 7008 Genetics			
Sem. Total		6		8		6

Total Credit Hours: 38

Total Program Clinical Hours: 1,000 (Students will be given credit for graduate practicum hours earned in their respective APRN MSN Program)

Action: Approved with clarification points offered by Dr. Dana Clawson, Dean of the College of Nursing and School of Allied Health, in an email format. Copies of these responses are added as amendments.

The following members of the **Graduate Council voted approval** on all items:
Dr. Laura Aaron, Radiological Science
Dr. Dana Clawson, Nursing
Dr. Cynthia Lindsey, Psychology
Dr. Dennette McDermott, Creative and Performing Arts
Dr. Sarah McFarland, Language and Communication
Dr. Connie Mott, Nursing
Dr. Gerra Perkins, Education
Dr. Terrie Poehl, Education
Mr. Donald Stewart, Criminal Justice, Social Science, and History

Mr. Joel Hicks, Radiological Science, Associate Member
Ms. Robyn Ray, Nursing, Associate Member
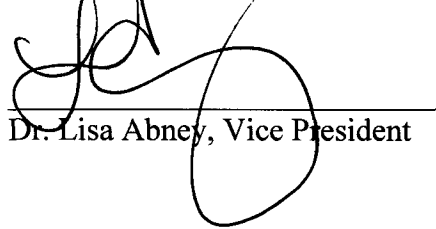

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Horton, Ph.D., Chair
Dean and Vice Provost
Arts, Letters and Graduate Studies

Approved

Dr. Lisa Abney, Vice President

Dr. Randall J. Webb, President

Ashley Briggs

From:	Dana C. Clawson
Sent:	Tuesday, August 12, 2014 3:34 PM
To:	John Dollar; Ashley Briggs; Clyde Downs; Connie Roppolo; Cynthia Lindsey; Dennette McDermott; Donald R. Stewart; Gerra Perkins; Joel M. Hicks; Laura Aaron; Robyn Ray; Sarah McFarland; Steven Horton; Terrie T. Poehl
Cc:	Carrie Smith; Steven Horton; Lisa Abney
Subject:	Re: Graduate Council Agenda -- completed -- electronic poll

I think I answered all but more detail on question #1 and the final question asked . Those answers are now below.

Dr. Dana C. Clawson, DNS, WHNP-BC
Northwestern State University
College of Nursing and School of Allied Health
Dean
(318) 677-3100
roed@nsula.edu
"Encourage one another" (Heb 3:13)

From: John Dollar <dollarj@nsula.edu>
Date: Tuesday, August 12, 2014 at 2:43 PM
To: Ashley Briggs <briggsa@nsula.edu>, Clyde Downs <downs_c@nsula.edu>, Connie Roppolo <roppoloc@nsula.edu>, Cynthia Lindsey <lindseyc@nsula.edu>, Dennette McDermott <mcdermottd@nsula.edu>, "Donald R. Stewart" <stewartd@nsula.edu>, Gerra Perkins <perkinsg@nsula.edu>, "Joel M. Hicks" <hicksj@nsula.edu>, Laura Aaron <carwilel@nsula.edu>, Robyn Ray <rayr@nsula.edu>, Sarah McFarland <mcfarlands@nsula.edu>, Steven Horton <hortons@nsula.edu>, "Terrie T. Poehl" <poehlt@nsula.edu>
Cc: Carrie Smith <chandlerc@nsula.edu>, "Dana C. Clawson" <roed@nsula.edu>
Subject: RE: Graduate Council Agenda -- completed -- electronic poll

Ashley:

1) On the 7000/7001, 7004, 7008, course, syllabus lists Examinations (#5) as part of the teaching/ learning strategies, but does not award any percentage of the course requirements for course evaluation methods. What is up with this? Are the examinations not a part of the overall grading process in these courses?

In NURG 7001, 7004, 7008 portions of the on-line modules developed in coordination with Jones and Bartlett have built in quizzes or examinations throughout their required readings They are not counted as a percentage of the grade in those courses- so yes they are teaching/learning strategies for students to progress from one module to another- but they are not a weighted portion of the grade. So those are correct- hope that further explains those courses.

2) The syllabi look like they were developed in mass and not written specific to the respective courses indicated by numbers. I understand the need to get the degree up and running, but this is a doctoral level program, and the attention to details should be more apparent/specific.

3) Epidemiology only requires a 5% role for examinations.

1

4) Are any of the online examinations proctored? Is there even a concern for examination dishonesty?

5) NURG 7010, 7011 and 7012 T&L strategies do not align with the evaluation methods nor the grading scale??

7010, 7011, and 7012

NURG 7010: teaching and learning strategies include audio visual lectures, class discussions, group work, reading, exams and writing assignments. All of those are covered in the course evaluation methods: literature summary table (written assignment); completion of swot analysis I written assignment, group work, class discussion via noodle and built in quiz on swot analysis during the module- not counted as grade); scholarly project outline, timeline, completed proposal and oral defense all are a part of the teaching and learning writing assignments as is IRB approval- a writing assignment after completing a noodle discussion and IRB quiz.

NURG 7011: teaching and learning strategies include written assignments and group work and class discussion and audio/video enhanced learning- ALL OF WHICH are listed under course evaluation methods as: scholarly project paper completion; work process document completion; and clinical hour portfolio. They have a formal evaluation/examination of their evaluation instrument in front of their evaluation panel (which includes major professor) so all teaching learning strategies are present in evaluation methods. Again no percentages are assigned at this time- we will assign percentages as we work with our course contents and DNP committee along they way.

NURG 7012: same strategies and continuation of the other two courses:
Scholarly project paper completion- writing assignment after lecture via noodle and web ex
Scholarly project final paper defense- writing assignment after reading about oral defense and Moodle module completion
Completed Clinical Hour Portfolio- some of these hours require collaboration in various other disciplines and amongst the group of students- thus group work; and writing assignments after doing web program on portfolios
Completed one deliverable: those are either publication in scholarly journal; presentation at regional or national level .. Written requirements for either type of deliverable.

As with all of our graduate level courses we use grading rubrics for each assignment. Those will also be used during these courses.

Overall, a great program an d a necessary one. Once again, all online and lots of problems not planned for.
 I agree we have probably not addressed EVERY potential problem that will arise in our program, but we have addressed and planned for the majority of problems we foresee based on DNP consultations with Deans in the state (loyola) out of state (university of southern Alabama and through our accreditation agency meetings on the DNP (four DNP meetings in the past two years)

Therefore, Although I believe we will have some problems develop that are not planned for, I DO NOT AGREE that we have "lots of problems not planned for." But, thank you for your opinion.

John Dollar

From: Ashley Briggs
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2014 8:40 AM
To: Clyde Downs; Connie Roppolo; Cynthia Lindsey; Dennette McDermott; Donald R. Stewart; Gerra Perkins; Joel M. Hicks; John Dollar; Laura Aaron; Robyn Ray; Sarah McFarland; Steven Horton; Terrie T. Poehl
Cc: Carrie Smith; Dana C. Clawson
Subject: Graduate Council Agenda -- completed -- electronic poll

Good morning, all!
Attached you will find the *completed Graduate Council Agenda*. Please review and respond with your approval or denial of the items no later than **12 noon on Tuesday, August 12.** I know that this is a short window but we must approve the agenda prior to the DNP going to CRC at 3:30PM.
If you have any questions please let me know.
-Ashley

Ashley Briggs, M.A.
Coordinator of Graduate School Client Services
Liberal Arts Advisor
The Graduate School
College of Arts, Letters, Graduate Studies & Research

From: Ashley Briggs
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 12:05 PM
To: Clyde Downs; Connie Roppolo; Cynthia Lindsey; Dennette McDermott; Donald R. Stewart; Gerra Perkins; Joel M. Hicks; John Dollar; Laura Aaron; Robyn Ray; Sarah McFarland; Steven Horton; Terrie T. Poehl
Cc: Carrie Smith; Dana C. Clawson
Subject: Graduate Council Agenda -- not complete!

Attached you will find the *incomplete* Graduate Council Agenda. I have one more person to add to the Graduate Faculty approvals but am waiting on Dr. Horton's review.

Please review the information for the DNP and let Dr. Clawson or Dr. Mott know if you have any questions.

I'll send out a new and completed agenda on Monday if not sooner for the actual electronic poll. No response is currently required.
-Ashley

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