

# **PERSPECTIVES ON PRACTICE- FOCUSED DOCTORAL EDUCATION FOR NURSE PRACTITIONERS AND CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETISTS**

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**2020 AACN DOCTORAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE**



**REVIEW OF NATIONAL DATA  
AND LITERATURE ON  
PRACTICE-FOCUSED  
DOCTORAL PROGRAMS FOR  
NURSE PRACTITIONERS**

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National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties

## **NONPF HAS SET THE DATE**

- » On April 20, 2018, NONPF made the commitment to move all entry-level NP education to the DNP degree by 2025



## **STRENGTHEN OUTCOMES DATA WORKGROUP**

### **Phase One (completed)**

- » Reviewed number of DNP graduates
- » Reviewed pass rates of DNP NP graduates
- » Searched literature for DNP Outcome Data

### **Phase Two (in-progress)**

- » DNP Variable Crosswalk Project
- » Continue to track number of DNP graduates and certification pass rates

**GRADUATIONS IN DIFFERENT LEVELS OF NP PROGRAMS BY NATIONAL NP  
CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION THAT THE PROGRAM PREPARES THE  
MAJORITY OF GRADUATES TO TAKE (2013 TO 2017)  
(AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE OF NURSING)**

	August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014	August 1, 2014 to July 31, 2015	August 1, 2015 to July 31, 2016	August 1, 2016 to July 31, 2017
Master's Students	16,260	19,582	22,219	24,519
Post- Baccalaureate DNP Students	573	934	1379	2101
Post-Master's DNP Students	708	942	854	859

**NP PROGRAMS – GRADUATION RATES TRACKED**

NP PROGRAMS ON AACN TABLES
Family NP
Adult NP
Pediatric Primary Care NP
Gerontological NP
Women's Health NP
Neonatal NP
Adult Acute Care NP
Pediatric Acute Care NP
Adult Psych. & Mental Health NP
Psych. and MH NP Across the Lifespan
Adult Gerontology Primary Care NP
Adult Gerontology Acute Care NP
Other NP
NP Dual Tracks
Previously Certified as NP

## **NP CERTIFICATION PASS RATES: COLLECTING DATA ON DNP CANDIDATES**

AACN

AANPCB

NCC

PNCB


ANCC

## **DNP NP OUTCOMES RELATED LITERATURE**

Auerbach, D. I., et al. (2015). The DNP by 2015: A Study of the Institutional, Political, and Professional Issues that Facilitate or Impede Establishing a Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice Program. RAND Health (Sponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing).


## **DNP NP OUTCOMES RELATED LITERATURE**

Minnick, A. F., Kleinpell, R., & Allison, T. L. (2019). DNPs' labor participation, activities, and reports of degree contributions. *Nursing Outlook*, 67(1), 89-100.



## **DNP NP OUTCOMES RELATED LITERATURE**

Beeber, A. S., Palmer, C, Waldrop, J., Lynn, M. R., & Jones, C. B. (2019). The role of Doctor of Nursing Practice-prepared nurses in practice settings. *Nursing Outlook*, 67(4), 354-364.



## **GAPS REGARDING DNP PREPARED NP DATA**

- » A small number of initial publications are reviewing critical DNP prepared NP variables
- » Not enough data available for literature synthesis
- » Substantially more studies are needed that examine outcomes related to DNP prepared NPs
- » Different pathways exist for how nurses can become DNP prepared NPs
- » In addition, differentiation by degree is often not noted in NP outcome studies

## **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE VARIABLE CROSSWALK PROJECT**

- » Multiple organizations that are stakeholders in the DNP degree
  - Have their own database
  - Therefore they have their own set of variables that are used to measure various aspects related to the DNP
- » Variables are related to education, accreditation, certification, licensure and practice
- » Although there are some commonalities among these databases, there is also heterogeneity in what is measured, how it is measured, and how variables are named

## **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE VARIABLE CROSSWALK PROJECT**

There is a need to develop a Minimum Data Set for use in databases that are collecting data related to DNP prepared NPs

By developing a Minimum Data Set, data could be more easily aggregated

This will allow for researchers to perform descriptive, correlational and predictive analyses on larger data sets

## **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE VARIABLE CROSSWALK PROJECT**

NONPF is contracting for the statistical evaluation of several nursing databases to

- 1) Review how questions are asked that capture Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) NP data
- 2) Crosswalk variables collected from questions in different surveys
- 3) Provide recommendations for a Minimum Data Set

(Research project began early January, 2020)

## **DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE VARIABLE CROSSWALK PROJECT**

### **Organizational Data Sets Available For Use in Aggregated Data Analysis**

AACN

AANP

AANP-BC

ACEN

ANCC

CCNE

NAPNAP

NCC

NCSBN

NLN CNEA

PNCB

## **STRENGTHEN OUTCOMES DATA WORKGROUP**



- » Continues to meet monthly
- » Researcher working on the crosswalk survey
- » Workgroup will develop recommendations for the DNP NP Minimum Data Set
- » Will continue to identify DNP prepared NP graduate numbers and certification pass rates for DNP students





PERSPECTIVES ON  
LESSONS LEARNED  
FROM THE CRNA  
EDUCATORS  
REGARDING DESIGN  
AND IMPLEMENTATION  
OF PRACTICE-  
FOCUSED DOCTORAL  
PROGRAMS

Francis Gerbasi, PhD, CRNA  
Chief Executive Officer  
Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia  
Educational Programs

**PERSPECTIVES ON LESSONS LEARNED  
FROM THE CRNA EDUCATORS REGARDING  
DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF  
PRACTICE-FOCUSED DOCTORAL PROGRAMS**



- » AANA Position Statement 2007
- » COA Requirements 2009
- » Practice Doctorate Standards - 2015

## NUMBER OF NURSE ANESTHESIA PROGRAMS AWARDING MASTERS AND DOCTORAL DEGREES FOR ENTRY INTO PRACTICE



## NATIONAL CERTIFICATION EXAM PASS RATES, FY2018

	N	Pass		Fail		5-Year Trend Pass %
		Percent	N	Percent	N	
MSN	551	88.0%	75	12.0%	75	87.0%
MSNA	647	81.6%	146	18.4%	146	83.2%
Other Masters	337	85.8%	56	14.2%	56	85.0%
Doctoral Degree	522	83.3%	105	16.7%	105	83.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,057</b>	<b>84.3%</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>84.8%</b>

## LESSONS LEARNED

- REQUIRED APPROVALS
  - University/Accreditors/State Agencies
  - Must have a realistic timeline and budget



## LESSONS LEARNED

IF YOU WANT TO GO FAST, GO ALONE.  
IF YOU WANT TO GO FAR, YOU NEED A TEAM.  
JOHN WOODEN



### RESOURCES

- Qualified Faculty
- Faculty Resources Matrix

## FACULTY RESOURCES MATRIX

Name	Academic and Professional Credentials (CRNA, RN, MD, etc.), and Area of Specialty.	FTE	Based on conducting institution's definition of "FTE", percentage of time averaged for 1 year allocated to teaching, faculty scholarly activities, service, administrative and clinical responsibilities AND faculty-directed student scholarly activities.	Please indicate the number of courses in which faculty serves as course director (including course name/number); number of hours per year of direct teaching activities (e.g., lecture, online activities, simulation), excluding clinical; and number of final scholarly works per year, including role (e.g., chair or member of project).
Example: Jane Doe	CRNA, DNAP; nurse anesthesia	1.0	teaching 20%; faculty scholarly activities 5%; service 5%; administrative 40%; clinical 10%; faculty-directed student scholarly activities 20%	<p><u>Course director</u> ANES 7310, Principles of Nurse Anesthesia I (Fall semester, face-to-face) ANES 7320, Principles of Nurse Anesthesia II (Spring semester, face-to-face) ANE 8311, Healthcare Management (Summer semester, 100% online)</p> <p><u>Number of hours per year of direct teaching activities excluding clinical</u> Face-to-face lecture contact hours: 90 hours Online course (course execution and administration): 60 hours</p> <p><u>Student scholarly work (see description of student scholarly work)</u> Primary advisor: 5 students Reader of student scholarly projects: 10 students</p>

## LESSONS LEARNED



**Let's not throw the baby out with the bath water.**

- CURRICULUM
  - Must demonstrate all requirements are covered
  - Curriculum Mapping Matrix

## MAPPING TO DOCTORAL GRADUATE STANDARDS

Graduate Standards	Course #/Title/Credit Hours	Applicable Course Outcomes	AACN Essentials for Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice
D23. Use science-based theories and concepts to analyze new practice approaches.	ANES123 Advanced Physiology & Pathophysiology, 3 cr.	At the conclusion of this course, learners will demonstrate: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ability to discuss the internal and external factors that affect specific physiological states along the health &amp; illness continuum.</li> <li>2. Knowledge of the epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiology, and clinical and laboratory manifestations of specific disease processes.</li> <li>3. Application of diagnostic reasoning in assessing and evaluating clients with specific pathophysiologic alterations.</li> </ol>	I. Scientific Underpinnings for Practice <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Integrate nursing science with knowledge from ethics, the biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences as the basis for the highest level of nursing practice.</li> <li>2. Use science-based theories and concepts to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determine the nature and significance of health and health care delivery phenomena;</li> <li>• describe the actions and advanced strategies to enhance, alleviate, and ameliorate health and health care delivery phenomena as appropriate; and</li> <li>• evaluate outcomes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Develop and evaluate new practice approaches based on nursing theories and theories from other disciplines.</li> </ol>

## SUMMARY



- IT'S MORE OF A MARATHON THAN A SPRINT!
- WHITE PAPER ON SCHOLARLY WORK
- COMMON CLINICAL ASSESSMENT TOOL



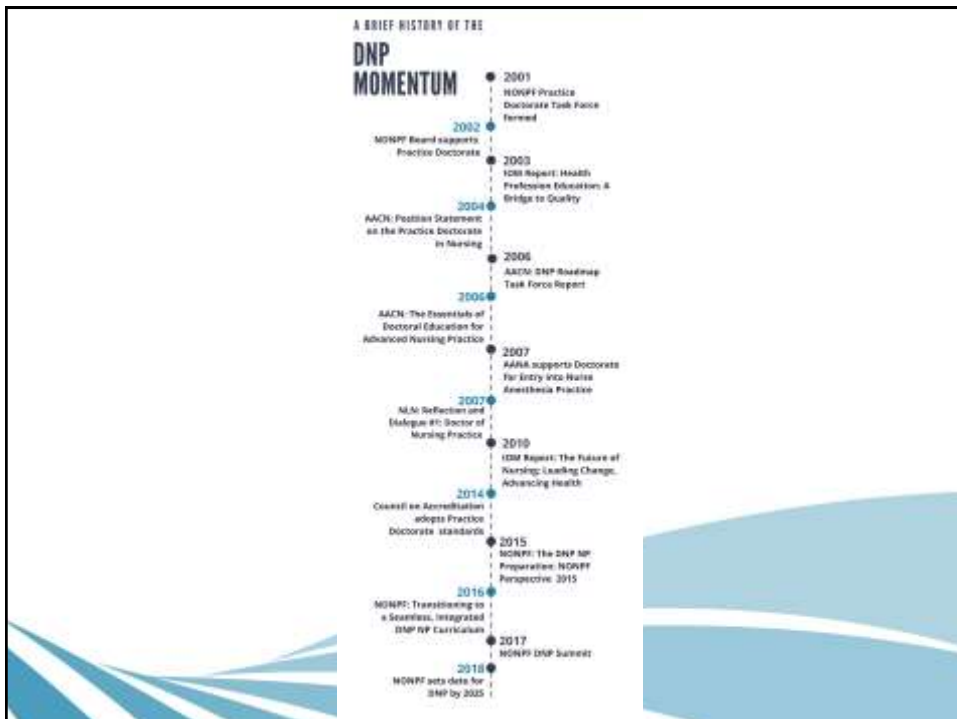
Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

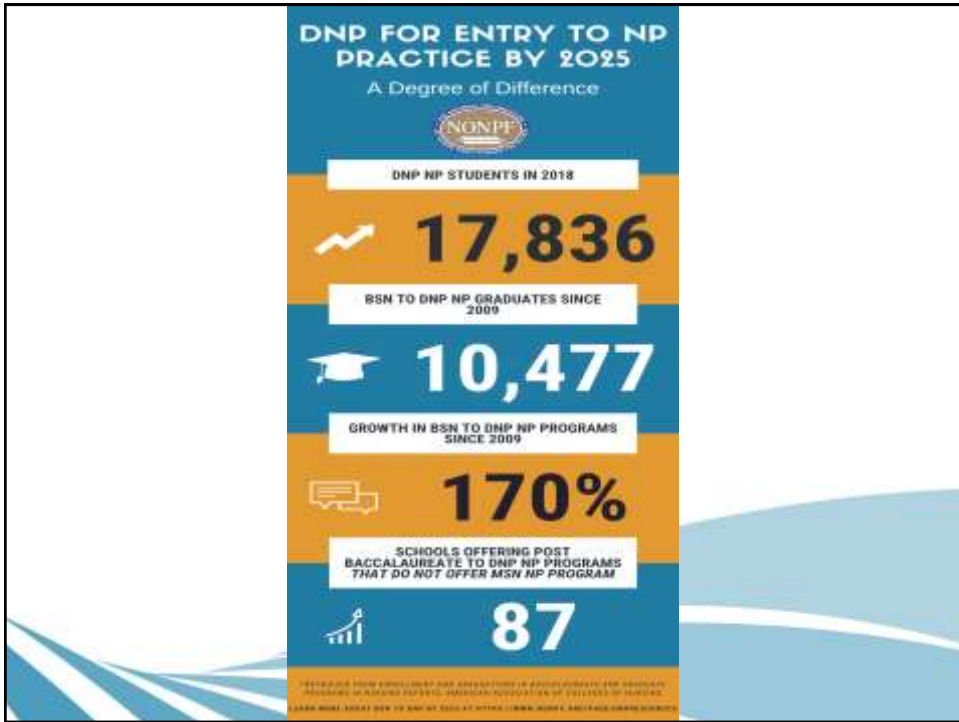


# CHALLENGES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR NURSE PRACTITIONER EDUCATORS: TRANSITIONING TO DNP-LEVEL NP PROGRAMS

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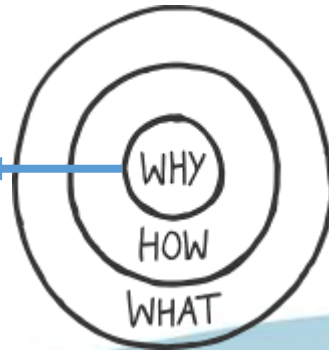
## START WITH WHY

People don't buy **WHAT** you do, they buy **WHY** you do it. And **WHAT** you do simply proves what you **believe**.

Simon Sinek

## WHY DNP BY 2025?

- » Healthcare for Americans has grown increasingly complex
- » NP education is evolving to meet those complexities
- » NP students deserve a degree that matches their educational preparation



## WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES? HOW DO WE.....

- » Convince our dean/provost/president to let go of master's NP programs?
- » Create a seamless integrated curriculum without a master's exit?
- » Assure readiness to begin NP clinical rotations in newly-minted RNs?

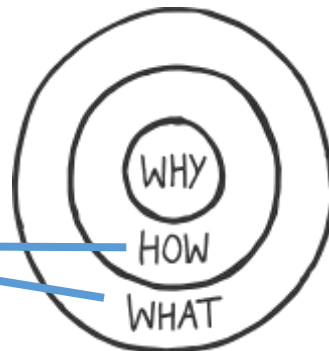


## WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES? HOW DO WE.....

- » Assure readiness to begin NP practice upon graduation?
- » Manage all the DNP projects?
- » Change regulatory barriers? (not addressed today)

## LETTING GO OF THE MASTERS DEGREE

- » Create a [business plan](#)



## **CREATING A SEAMLESS INTEGRATED DNP CURRICULUM WITHOUT A MASTER'S EXIT**

- » Not a master's degree with a post-master's DNP necklace
- » Competency-based
- » Mapped to re-envisioned AACN essentials and NONPF core and population-focused competencies
- » Systems level and direct care competencies are integrated throughout and leveled up



## **READINESS TO BEGIN NP CLINICALS**

- » Competency-based admission and curriculum
- » Boot camps
- » Simulation to test RN-level critical thinking
- » Academic-practice partnerships with longitudinal clinical immersions



## READINESS TO BEGIN NP PRACTICE

- » Competency-based curriculum
- » Academic-practice partnerships with longitudinal clinical immersions
- » Integrated direct care and systems level clinical experiences
- » DNP project is concurrent with clinical learning
- » Graduation occurs at end of clinical rotations



## MANAGING DNP PROJECTS

- » Align projects with practice partner mission and strategic plan
- » DNP Project Team Model
- » Faculty development in quality improvement



Durham, M., Cotler, K., & Corbridge, S.J. (2019). Facilitating faculty knowledge of DNP quality improvement projects: Key elements to promote strong practice partnerships. *JAANP*, 31, 665-674.

## WE CAN ACHIEVE OUR 2025 GOAL

