

# Fostering An Inclusive Learning Environment

## AACN Diversity Leadership Institute

Millie Hepburn, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, SCRN Associate Professor Program Director UG Nursing Lienhard School of Nursing

### Lienhard School of Nursing - Est 1966

A regional reputation for producing high quality professionals

## The HRSA grant award in 2021 provides opportunities

\*Enhanced assessment of current learning environment \*Reflection: What is working \*Current challenges: Sharing \*Brainstorming in small groups \*Building opportunities into strengths \*Developing support systems for diverse students

Strengths	Opportunities
Exceptional nursing program	Several Faculty members retired in 2020 Several new faculty in 2021
Strong support from University Leadership to enhance diverse student success	80% of Faculty Caucasian 20% of all faculty are first generation
Several programs to pursue advanced degrees	No existing faculty programs to foster learning among diverse students

#### My DLI Assessment

• Historically, little to no previous development of faculty or staff in creating an inclusive earning environments

#### **Observations and Available Data:**

80% of Faculty are Caucasian, 20% of all faculty are first generation
52% of students self-describe as non-white
On time Graduation Rates

Non-White RN4 Students (94%) Non-White ABS Students (94%) White RN4 Students (87%) ABS White Students (95%)

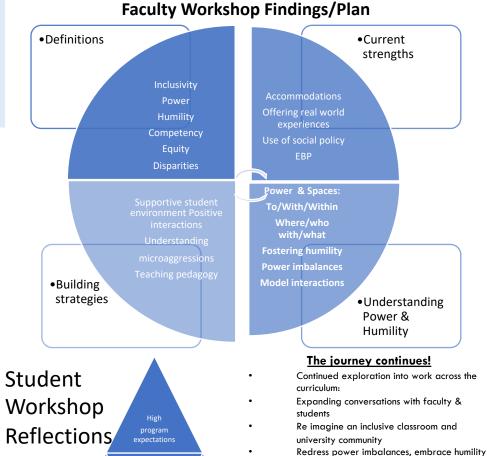


## Intervention! 2 steps so far....

**Step 1:** 4/11/22: Faculty/faculty leadership team Workshop: Facilitating an inclusive classroom

**Step 2**; April 18, 2022: Student workshop: Facilitating an Inclusive Community





Limited

faculty availability

students often less

engaged

Diverse

students less likely to ask

- Develop mutually beneficial relationships within the community
- Exploring novel inclusive pedagogy Continued sessions with Dr. Harris in fall 2022!

Embrace holistic admissions process Redesign classroom activities for improved interactivity



## **Fostering An Inclusive Learning Environment**

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### **Biography**

Dr. Hepburn is an Associate Professor of Nursing at Pace University in New York. In July 2022, she will assume the role of program director for the Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant at Pace University. Known for her research and collaboration, she is the author of several publications in the fields of neuroscience and health care disparities, especially among urban Black women. Over the past two decades, she has worked toward improving clinical care for diverse populations, and has developed hospital based cultural humility programs in an effort to improve care to diverse patients. In her current role, she seeks to further create an inclusive learning environment for the next generation of nurses. Dr. Hepburn is the PI for a clinical trial entitled MASTER: Music After Stroke To Enhance Rehabilitation, aimed at reducing post stroke disability. She has received multiple awards, notably the Nursing Spectrum award for Mentoring, Columbia University Medical Center's award for excellence in Advanced Practice Nursing, and the American Stroke Association award for excellence in program development. Dr. Hepburn is most thankful to have participated in AACN's Diversity Leadership Institute as the experience has been a great learning opportunity. She plans to engage this exceptional learning experience and the wonderful network of professionals in her work moving forward.

### **Contact Information**



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