The Invisible Education and Its Gatekeepers

Dr. Alanda R. White, DNP, MSN, APRN, FNP-C, PMHNP-BC

**Purpose**

- The purpose of this Diversity Leadership Institute Capstone Project for Purdue University Global (PUG) School of Nursing (SON) Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (PMHNP) Program is to obtain knowledge of student perceptions of campus climate that is focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.
- To address the lack of BIPOC students who are enrolled into the PUG PMHNP program.
- To identify barriers/challenges BIPOC students face in the PUG PMHNP program and its completion.

**Objective**

- Increase the number of BIPOC students who enroll the PUG SON PMHNP program.
- Create a stimulating environment where PUG SON PMHNP students and faculty have opportunities to engage in supported activities that are focused on increasing diversification, equity and inclusion.
- Increase the number of BIPOC students who complete the PUG SON PMHNP program.

**Review of Literature**

- BIPOC Nursing students – the nursing profession continues to struggle with recruiting and retaining a workforce that represents the cultural diversity of the patient population.
- BIPOC and Mental Health - it is crucial to highlight the spaces that do exist that address racism-based stress and trauma, while affirming the countless strengths of BIPOC communities.
- DEI for nursing students - the AACN continues to champion DEI while promoting the development of a more diverse and inclusive student, staff, and faculty population.

**Current Role**

- Contributing Clinical Adjunct Faculty in the Purdue University Global School of Nursing Graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program supported by Blissful Essence Mind & Body Solutions, LLC to attend Diversity Leadership Institute
- National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Facilities (NONPF) 2-year appointment to Diversity Committee member.

**Expected Outcome of Capstone project**

- The number of BIPOC students who enroll in the PUG PMHNP program will increase by 7%.
- Both PUG SON PMHNP students and faculty will engage three DEI activities and have open conversations to discuss after action reports and their results.
- The number of BIPOC students who complete the PUG PMHNP program will increase by 7%.

**Methods and Evaluations**

- Graduate Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner student feedback/student evaluations
- Campus Climate Survey on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Annually)
- Implement DEI curriculum into the PMHNP program beyond cultural competence
- Read books focused on DEI
- Participate in DEI workshops, trainings, and presentations
- Increase opportunities to implement DEI projects amongst faculty and students.

**Next Steps**

- Submit abstract to national conferences
- Submit manuscript for publication
- Transfigure current nursing communities into evidenced based communities with a direct focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion amongst BIPOC students.

**References**


**Notes**

- This work is supported by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Diversity Leadership Institute.
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Diversity Leadership Institute: Capstone Presentations and Graduation

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Biography

Dr. Alanda White is the Contributing Clinical Adjunct Instructor at Purdue University Global in the School of Nursing Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Program. In addition to teaching graduate and doctoral students, she is a published clinician.

As a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, she focused on reducing the stigma associated with serious mental illness and mental health disparities. As a Family Nurse Practitioner, she focused on reducing the A1C results of those poverty-stricken with lower socioeconomic status. Dr. White is a leadership, subject matter expert (SME), and nursing consultant to the Texas Board of Nursing. Dr. White is the Founder/Owner of Blissful Essence Mind & Body Solutions, LLC.

Dr. Alanda White holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) from Grand Canyon University (2017), Post Master’s Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Certification from Regis College (2019), Master’s Nursing Science and Family Nurse Practitioner Certification from Texas A & M University of Corpus Christi (2012), a Bachelor of Nursing Science from University of the Incarnate Word (2006) and an Associate Degree in Nursing from San Antonio College (2004).

Dr. Alanda White has received several national, regional, and local awards for her commendable service and leadership within non-profit sectors and practice, teaching, and community settings. She has served in a presiding office/chair capacity for over 10 organizations within academic, professional, non-profit, and civic-minded organizations including but not limited to Chi Eta Phi Sorority Incorporated, Worldwide Women’s Association, African American Health Disparities Council, Nurse Organization of Veteran Affairs, and Diversity & Inclusion Leaders, to name a few.

Dr. Alanda White is committed to creating and maintaining a diversified nursing workforce. She has participated in multiple diverse initiatives for nursing and healthcare. Dr. White is the founder and chair of Nurturing Our Nurses Mentoring program for the Theta Eta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority Incorporated. She is also the founder of the Certification Champions and Academic Achievers for Theta Eta Chapter of Chi Eta Phi Sorority Incorporated. Her professional contributions have been recognized by way of several local and national professional awards and acknowledgments.

Contact Information

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