Overcoming Geographical Boundaries to Master's Education

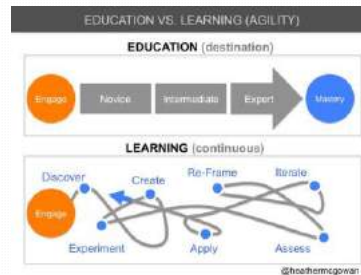Becker College
Worcester Massachusetts

Objectives

- Describe the process of assessing an unmet need in graduate education.
- Discuss the integration of technology as a vehicle to create value in providing graduate education to rural nurses.
- Apply the principles of the agile mindset to program development and recruitment of regional, national, and international nurses seeking pathways to graduate education.

Aligning Mission, Need, & Opportunity

- *April, 2015: Build a graduate program that will meet the unmet needs of local, regional, & national, cohorts of nurses.*
- *May, 2015: Yunus Social Business Centre @ Becker College is announced.*
- *Operationalize the development of a graduate program in nursing using the agile mindset competencies.*

Building Learning Agility in Rural Nurses

Shift: From Learning the Art & Science of Nursing, To Learning From the Art & Science of Nursing

- *To find, frame, and address problems faced by rural nurses that are not yet known.*
- *Acknowledge that solutions may need to be modified based upon cultural nuances.*

Entrepreneurial Outlook

- *Maximizing the use of technology & innovation in building curriculum.*
- *Utilize strategies such as surveys & focus groups utilizing virtual platform.*
- *Monthly Open Forums targeted at rural nursing cohorts.*
  - *Investigate alternative funding options to support educational costs.*
- *International avenues for the delivery of accredited graduate programs for rural populations of nurses.*

Social & Emotional Intelligence

- *Build a curriculum that teaches students skills to collaborate with others to create solutions.*
  - *Create an education model beyond survival.*
  - *Utilize our rural students as our educators.*

Challenges & Opportunities

- Program Launch: Scheduled for May, 2016.
- Meeting the needs of international applicants.
- Supporting the goals of our international partners to build capacities to offer baccalaureate education.
- Coordinating virtual & on-ground Capstone experiences for national and international rural students.

References

- McHugh N, Baker R, Mason H, Williamson L, van Exel NJA, Deogaonkar R, Collins M, Donaldson C (2015) Extending life for people with a terminal illness: a moral right and an expensive death? Exploring societal perspectives BMC Medical Ethics 16:14. Open access link:http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6939/16/14
- Roy M, Donaldson C, Baker R, Kerr S (2014) Beyond caring: a model and systematic review of the health-generating potential of social enterprise. *Social Science & Medicine* Special Issue: Civil Society. **123**: 182-193
- Roy M, Donaldson C, Baker R and Kay A. Social enterprise: new pathways to health and well-being? Journal of Public Health Policy (advance online publication, 22 November 2012; doi:10.1057/jphp.2012.61).
- Cam Donaldson, Rachel Baker, Francine Cheater, Morag Gillespie, Neil McHugh, Stephen Sinclair (2011) Social Business, health and well-being. *Social Business* 1, 1: 17-35
- Cam Donaldson, Rachel Baker, Morag Gillespie, Stephen Sinclair, Neil McHugh, Flora Cornish, Francine Cheater, Jackie Tombs, John Godwin (2011) Markets and health in the home of Smith and Yunus. *The Journal of Social Business* 1 1: 155-167
- Connell J. M. (2011) Social Enterprise: A comparison between Scotland and Singapore, 3rd International Social Innovation Research Conference, South Bank University, Sept.
- McGowan, Heather. (2016, January 3) Retrieved from
- https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/education-answer-part-1-heather-mcgowan?trk=pulse_spock-articles