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DNP INC. ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

Preparing an educational conference in the midst of a global pandemic is challenging, but it is not impossible. The DNP Inc. organization cancelled the 2020 event but are pressing forward with a face-to-face conference to take place in August of 2021 in Chicago. This is the goal, no one can predict with any authority what the next few months will reveal. The DNP Inc. organization is exploring a hybrid program to honor a face-to-face meeting along with a real-time virtual conference, and also an enduring access to the event. The details are being discussed and explored.

One of the joys of attending a national conference is to network and reconnect with colleagues. This is the foundation of what DNP Inc. strives to achieve and this will continue to be the guiding principles for what we do to support the growth and professional development of colleagues.

This is one of many services offered by DNP Inc. Visit the DNP Website for other services and features designed to support professional growth to improve health care outcomes.

The mission of Doctors of Nursing Practice, Inc. is to improve healthcare outcomes by promoting and enhancing the doctorally prepared nursing professional.

The organization is dedicated to:

- Providing accurate and timely information
- Supporting, developing and disseminating professional practice innovation
- Collaborating in a professional manner that demonstrates universal respect for others, honesty, and integrity in communications and,
- Responding with open discussions and dialogues that promote the evolution of advanced nursing practice and the growth of the DNP degree.

We welcome you to visit the site, tap into the available services and offer your support and talents to help maintain the momentum of growth and development for us all.

Please visit the DNP Inc. website at www.DoctorsofNursingPractice.

Best wishes to all,
David Campbell-O'Dell, DNP

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PANDEMIC CHALLENGES CREATE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR DNPS

The extraordinary public health crisis is creating complexities, uncertainties, and chaos in our lives. Preceding the coronavirus pandemic, what was known as our normal and comfort zones has been completely rearranged as a result of this dreadful virus. The pandemic has triggered record shifts in the health care landscape, many of which lead us into uncharted territory. In the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) world, the coronavirus crisis has created a time of a heightened awareness of nurse's contributions, sacrifices, and leadership needed to ensure the health of the communities we serve. In both the academic and practice environments, the need for innovation, interprofessional engagement and a shared commitment has never been greater.

In academia, the impact of the pandemic is intricate and poses major challenges for DNP education. The manner in which curriculum is delivered, DNP projects are conducted, and clinical immersion experiences occur spark the need for adjustments and latitude.

DNP students, commonly employed fulltime, are confronted with unparalleled conflicts between professional, personal, and academic expectations. This has been a time for nursing educators to be creative, innovative, and nimble. For example, some DNP projects near implementation had to be completely redesigned and re-envisioned. Alternative strategies to practicum experiences has required a 'think out of the box' mindset, often shifting to non-traditional use of virtual, remote, or simulation modalities.

At the helm of practice, healthcare organizations are faced with multifaceted, convoluted issues in delivering health care. Organizational DNP-leadership roles are integral to mobilizing response strategies in crisis management; policy, procedure, and protocol development; and safety and quality improvement. A prime example is how Telemedicine became a necessary use of innovation to deliver healthcare. The swift transition to remote access to care through technology was demanded by urgency. While historical barriers prevented fully implementing Telemedicine, the pandemic fueled the quick resolution for reimbursement processes. Nurses providing direct-care during the pandemic are working in a precarious, rapidly changing environment. Nurses are faced with unique situations while caring for individuals where loved ones and supports are unable to be present. This has resulted in the use of innovative communications with smart phones and other technology to make connections during a horrific event, often at the end of life. The impact of lived ethical and moral distress in these situations may have devastating implications over time to include negative emotional consequences and/or leaving the profession (Henrich et al., 2017).

For years to come, real-life DNP stories will be shared that offer insight into the chaos we are experiencing and will highlight how innovation helped us to the other side of the public health crisis. What resonates among these authors is the true essence of the nursing profession to pull together, embrace, and deliver across a multitude of roles during these extraordinary times. Nursing's contributions cannot be understated or underscored!

As we reflect on this unprecedented time pondering the challenges and opportunities we face, it is clear that DNP-prepared nurses are poised to serve as influential leaders in our profession. Prepared with a practice-doctorate, we are ably qualified, skilled, and competent to facilitate partnerships and engage key stakeholders to shape the future. Harnessing new and innovative opportunities to improve, optimize, and/or to sustain processes and outcomes will give rise to shaping the future.

PANDEMIC CHALLENGES CREATE INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR DNPS CONT'D

This inaugural article is intended to spark interest, invoke reflection, and provide a glimpse into envisioning the future. Forging forward, expect a monthly reflective article in the OUTCOMES newsletter embracing a variety of topics that we hope you will find thought provoking and encouraging! We look forward to spotlighting stories, highlighting the amazing and courageous work being done by DNP nurses across the nation. We look forward to sharing with you and wish you all health and happiness!

References

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MONTHLY DNP INC. SURVEY

The October 2020 Survey explored how DNP projects are shared. What are your thoughts on these findings?

Question 1: The way we disseminate our scholarly practice work is important. As a DNP graduate, I know of work completed by colleagues outside of school that is being shared.

39% very much to absolutely, 61% somewhat to not at all

Question 2: I am able to locate the latest work of DNP prepared colleagues that are not school projects.

17% very much to absolutely, 83% somewhat to not at all

Question 3: The publications I review share the work of DNP colleagues in the practice setting.

50% very much to absolutely, 50% somewhat to not at all

Question 4: I believe we have all of the journals needed to disseminate the work of a DNP prepared colleague.

39% very much to absolutely, 61% somewhat to not at all

Question 5: The number of publications available for DNP practice-project dissemination is not adequate.

22% very much to absolutely, 78% somewhat to not at all

These are inspiring results pointing to the need to recognize and develop processes to continue to enhance the professional growth and development of DNP prepared colleagues.

Click [HERE](#)
to complete the
November 2020 DNP Survey

DNP INC. FEATURED REPOSITORY PROJECTS

Dissemination Team Information

Is your DNP Program a part of the Dissemination Team? This is a collective effort to support the dissemination of completed DNP student projects. See [THIS PAGE](#) for details. A modest annual investment provides a \$5 discount for all students in your program that upload their completed projects to the DNP Repository.

Programs that have signed on for the Dissemination Team effort include [San Jose State University](#) and [Purdue Global University](#). Regardless of your current plans for a repository, consider supporting a broader method to disseminate the talents of your program's graduates.

DNP Repository Featured Scholars

The contributions and posting of doctoral projects in the DNP repository continue to reflect the skills and talents of DNP prepared colleagues. Here's a sample of what can be found in the [DNP Doctoral Project Repository](#):

[Cultural Competency in Nursing Education: Eliminating Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health Disparities](#), by Zachary I. Nethers, DNP, MBA, MSN, RN, a graduate of Chatham University

[RN/CHW Collaborative Home Visit Program to Reduce Readmission Rates](#), by Marcia A. Morgan Parker, DNP, RN, a graduate of Chamberlain University

[Dysphagia Screening Adherence in the ED: Impact of a Nurse Champion](#), by Tina L. Augusta Morris, DNP, RN, a graduate of Bradley University

[Promoting Bone Health Through Utilization of a Nurse-Led Protocol](#), by Millicent W. Mucheru, DNP, RN, a graduate of Touro University Nevada

[Development and Evaluation of a TeamSTEPPS® Program Among Cardiac Procedural Unit Staff in a Mid-Atlantic Community Hospital to Improve Teamwork and Patient Safety](#), by Dawn K. Mutchko, DNP, MSN, RN, FNP-C, APN-C, a graduate of Wilmington University

The Doctoral Project Repository is an archive of curated documents. This archive is not peer-reviewed and does not replace or presume any publication effort. Each listing is owned by the individual that uploads the completed academic scholarly practice project. This service allows you to share ideas and work products into both the scholarly and consumer communities.

Is your doctoral project in the repository? Are colleagues and graduates of your university listed? [Click here](#) to learn more and to upload your project.

DNP INC. ONLINE CONVERSATIONS

To all colleagues, please note: A new and improved DNP Online Community is now in place. Please sign-up for the new site's online community by clicking the Login option on the top right hand corner of www.DoctorsofNursingPractice.org.

Groups including:

[Dual Certified DNPs](#)
[Chamberlain University](#)
[DNPs of Color \(DOCs\)](#)
[DNPs Seeking Positions in Academia](#)
[Virginia Association of DNPs \(VADNP\)](#)
And more!

Forums including:

[November 2020 DNP Survey](#)
[Virginia Association of DNPs \(VADNP\)](#)
[COVID-19 Pandemic: Bearing Witness, Telling our Story](#)
[DNP Faculty](#)
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Blogs including:

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Events including:

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If you have an event that supports the growth and development of nursing colleagues, please send information via an email to: info@DNPInc.org so that we may post it for others to access.

HOW CAN WE BE 'GREAT AT WORK'?

Being a doctor of nursing practice comes with an insurmountable challenge. One has to balance between the clinical leadership, strategic planning, and measuring healthcare outcomes, among other roles. Striking a balance in the roles of a DNP demands competence in clinical focus, is strong interpersonal skills, and robust personal traits. Diverse healthcare set up with influences from the political, social, and economic factors often presents an obstacle in delivering the desired form of leadership. In his book *GREAT AT WORK*, Hansen (2018) formulates that dedication to achieve high quality, ability to get the desired skillset on board, and creating an organized, professional team can help leaders such as DNPs to overcome leadership obstacles and spearhead a revolution in the healthcare setting.

Complexity, high rates of change and quality issues are among the issues that make clinical leadership necessary. DNPs must strive to deliver high-quality and safe care for patients by ensuring that teams working under their leadership adhere to safety standards and codes of conduct (Joseph & Huber, 2015). Hansen's (2018) account of the first trip to the south pole reveals that dedication to achieve quality can be a step towards achieving success in leadership. As such, DNP ought to vouch for specially trained nurses to handle specific tasks in the clinical setup and embark on strategic planning that ensures that clinical teams gain access to state-of-the-art equipment to deliver the desired quality in care delivery.

Clinical competence is another sphere of concern for DNPs. Although DNPs have profound competence in delivering clinical practices, they cannot manage the entire workload single-handedly. Therefore, DNPs must have the ability to get the desired skillset on the clinical teams that they head. According to Hansen (2018), Amundsen's ability to get Hassel on board facilitated the team's ability to reach the South Pole days ahead of Scott's team. Similarly, the ability of DNPs to get specialists to handle various clinical tasks can mark the difference between achieving high-quality and safe patient care and failure.

The success of clinical leadership lies in the ability of DNPs to establish clinical teams that endeavor to deliver high-quality care. Hansen (2018) reveals that a team can only be as fast at achieving the goal as the slowest member. Therefore, DNPs creating and mentoring an organized clinical team can create a sense of belonging for junior nurses and ensure that all are geared towards the same direction – achieving high-quality and safe patient care. Although it is often impossible to have an entire team having similar opinions, DNPs can involve the teams in decision-making and explain the rationale of some of the decisions they make to get the entire team motivated.

Overall, DNPs have a challenging role of leading clinical teams, strategizing the course of clinical nursing practice, and evaluating whether the unit they lead achieves the desired health outcomes. Hansen suggests that if leaders obsess to achieve high-quality, increase their ability to get the right skills for a particular task, and create teams embark on delivering to the set objectives, they can achieve the desired success amidst the prevailing challenges. Similarly, when DNPs assume these qualities, they will deliver high-quality patient care despite political, social, and economic hindrances.

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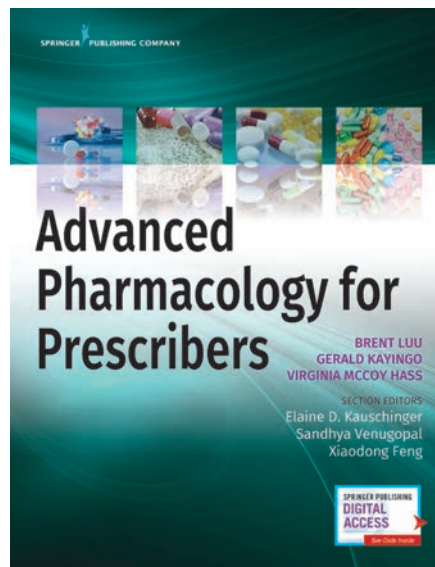
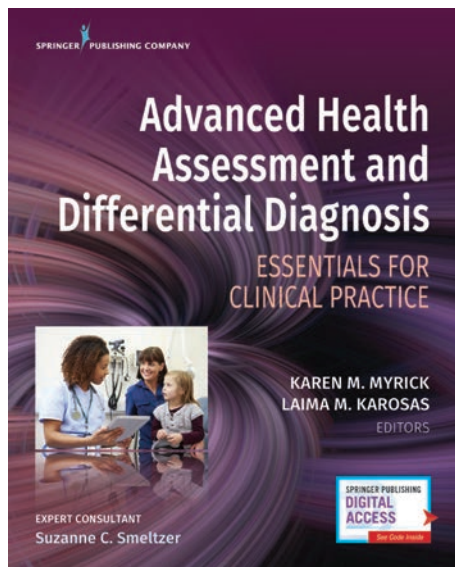
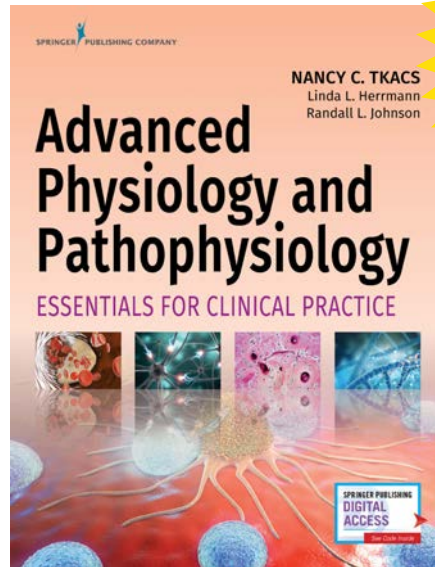
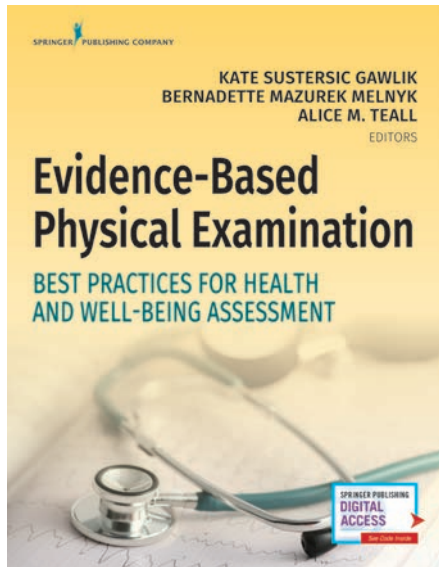
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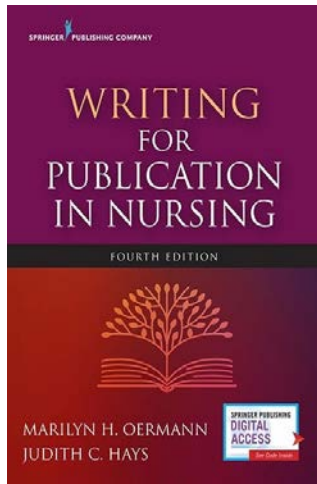
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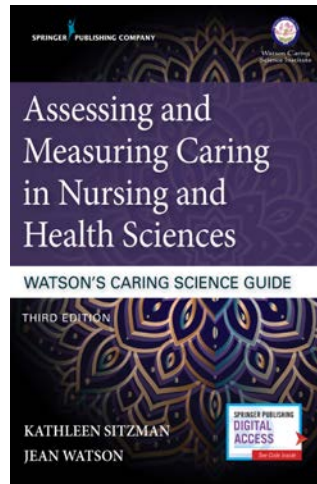
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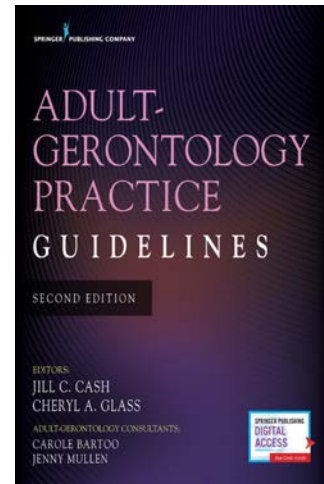
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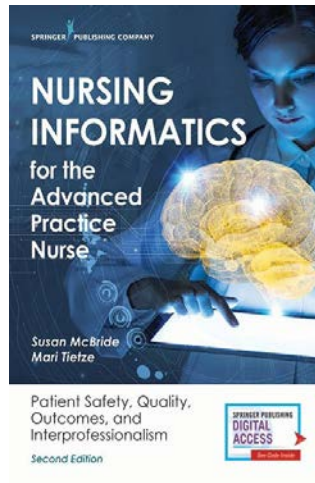
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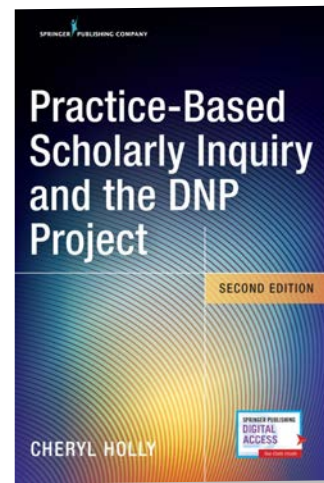
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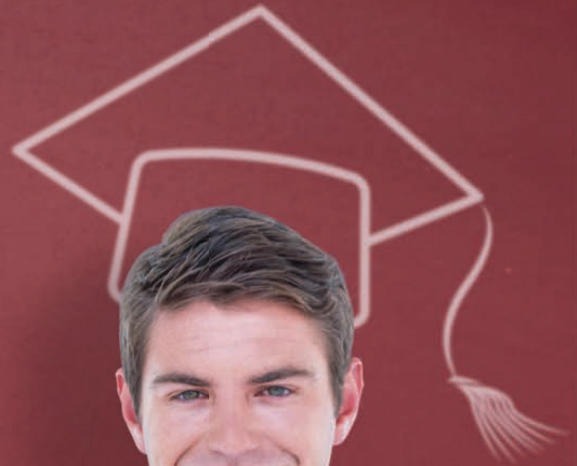
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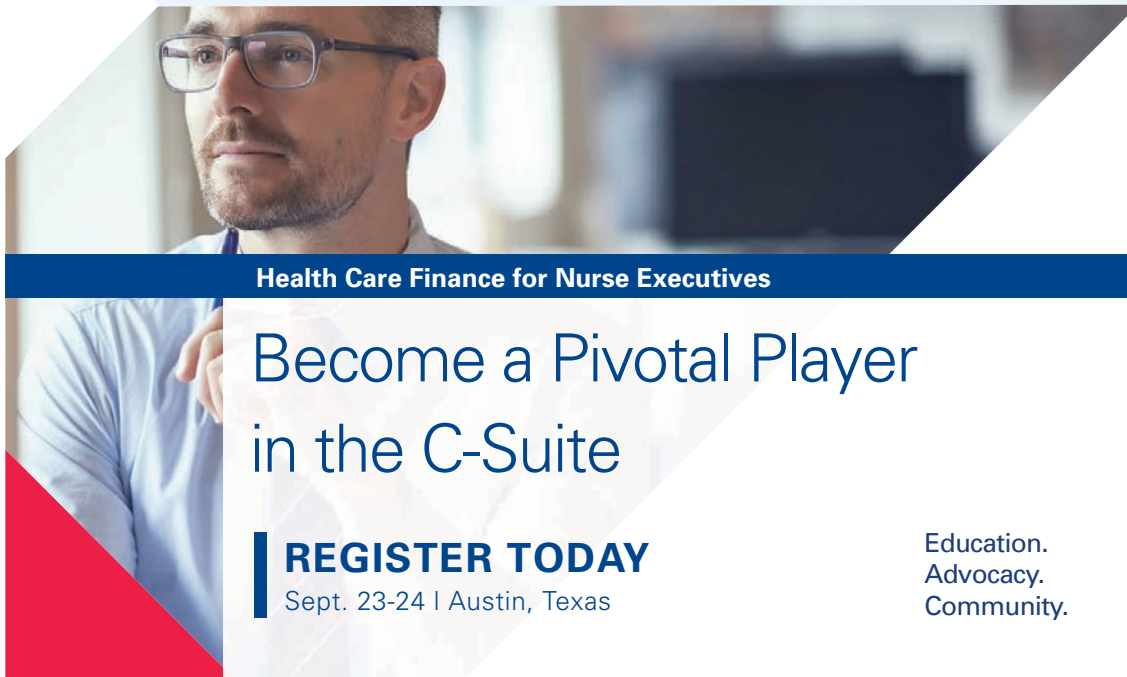
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In these tough times we must rely on the generosity of colleagues. We have exhausted all other avenues for funding and are currently financing operations from personal funds. All donations are tax deductible since DNP, Inc. is a 501c3 corporation.

If you would like to help us continue our mission please [CLICK HERE](#) to contribute. Help Spread the Word!

Your kindness and support are appreciated. David and Steve

