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DNP INC. ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

The conference **WILL** take place **August 11-13, 2021** in Chicago! We are making plans to assure the safety of everyone that attends and are pulling together the pieces to assure that those that join the conference in person, and those that tap into the recordings and enjoy the conference either streaming or asynchronously will enjoy a great event. Though many have captured the secret recipe for running a virtual conference, or a hybrid event, we at DNP Inc. are exploring these details and appreciate the kindness and support from the numerous organizations and talented individuals to help us move this forward.

The call for abstracts ends April 15, 2021 so if you have the interest, please move that forward and submit your work for consideration.

The DNP Online Community continues to be migrated from one site to another. We are building the NEW online community as an integrated part of the main website. The platform is WordPress which has all of the features we could need to provide the services desired, to include forums, events, blogs, and groups.

The OLD DNP Online Community (the one with NING in the URL) is being dismantled to assure that we save all conversations and entries over these past 10+ years. That online community will be shut down in the end of May of this year. If you are a member of the NEW community, you are good to move forward with all of the features of the online community. If you are still in the OLD community, please plan on signing up for the new one. We are sorry but we cannot port all members from the old to the new system.

We are doing all of this and more to assure that we are meeting the mission and vision of the organization.

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.

As we press forward together, we keep our sight on this mission and vision to direct us in assuring the best strategy for the future.

We welcome you to share your thoughts, insights, and recommendations.

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

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

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UTILIZING EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION IN NURSING LEADERSHIP

Collaboration, the act of working together to achieve a common goal, sounds like a simple and straightforward concept. Yet, collaboration in our complex health care systems continues to prove challenging, for both patients and providers. As Steihaug, Johannessen, Adnanes, Paulsen, and Mannion (2016) point out, clinical work and patient outcomes suffer when collaboration is insufficient. By focusing on improving collaborative efforts in clinical practice, nurse leaders can hone their leadership abilities and strengthening the relationships necessary to improve patient outcomes.

In *Emotional Intelligence for the Modern Leader: A Guide to Cultivating Effective Leadership and Organizations*, Christopher D. Connors examines emotional intelligence, or EQ, as a skill set that will help leaders enhance professional relationships, heighten one's own self-awareness, and better understand how and why emotions influence behavior. Connors posits that utilizing the pillars of EQ, self-awareness, self-management, motivation, empathy, and social skill, enables leaders to make better decisions and positively impact their organization. He highlights specific examples of successful leaders that exhibit high EQ and discusses how EQ impacts various leadership styles. Self-assessments on each pillar of EQ are provided in the book to allow the reader to identify where their own strengths and challenges lie and to use this information to cultivate their own leadership abilities. He expands the concept of emotional intelligence beyond personal development, associates professional development with the leader's commitment to personal development, and encourages leaders to do this work to build a more emotionally intelligent organization.

While the themes of this book and Connors' message of applying emotional intelligence in leadership directly relate to four of the eight foundational DNP education essentials outlined by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN), and could arguably relate indirectly to the others, I found Connors' book to be strongly related to *Essential VI: Interprofessional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes*. This essential of DNP education emphasizes collaborative team functioning and leadership that is fluid depending on patient and team needs (AACN, 2006). This competency is intended to prepare the DNP student to utilize effective communication and collaboration, lead interprofessional teams, and apply consultative skills with both intraprofessional and interprofessional teams to lead change in our complex healthcare systems and organizations (AACN, 2006). By nurturing the five pillars of EQ, nurse leaders can strengthen their communication with others, which will help strengthen collaboration skills. Throughout the book, adaptability is emphasized as a critical skill that emotionally intelligent leaders and emotionally intelligent organizations must embrace to create sustainable change. As Connors (2020) puts it "adaptability is at the heart of every great change initiative," (p. 111). This speaks directly to the objective of fluidity in DNP Essential VI. Another running theme in the book is connection. The emotionally intelligent leader connects to others and helps others connect to the tools they need to be successful. Connors' stance is that the emotionally intelligent leader intentionally makes time to forge connections with others across their organization, from those at the executive level to those they directly lead.

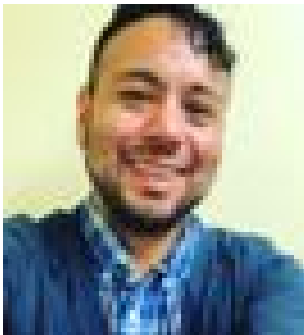
A qualitative study by Folkman, Tveit, and Sverdrup (2019) examining leadership and collaborations in health care services concludes to reach overall goals, leadership must be able to facilitate change, encourage creativity in an interprofessional team, and support the individual and collaborative efforts of team members. Connection, or collaboration, will be more successful when leaders are more self-aware, can better self-manage, are highly motivated and can motivate others, show high levels of empathy, and have the social skills necessary to create, and keep, connections.

UTILIZING EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION IN NURSING LEADERSHIP CONT'D

These are some of the skills that will help the nurse leader to be successful in both communication and in the collaborative process that is critical for safe, effective, patient-centered care. *Emotional Intelligence for the Modern Leader* can help create a solid foundation for successful, team-based, nursing leadership.

References

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2006, August 21). *The essentials of doctoral education for Advanced Nursing Practice*.
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- Folkman, A. K., Tveit, B., and Sverdrup, S. (2019). Leadership in interprofessional collaboration in health care. *Journal of Multidisciplinary Healthcare*, 12, 97-107.
- Steihaug, S., Johannessen, A. K., Adnanes, M., Paulsen, B., and Mannion, R. (2016). Challenges in achieving collaboration in clinical practice: The case of Norwegian health care. *International Journal of Integrated Care*, 16(3), 1-13.



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MONTHLY DNP INC. SURVEY

The March 2021 Survey explored how the pandemic has affected your stress and workload. What are your thoughts on these findings?

Question 1: We all have felt the impact of a world-wide pandemic. As a DNP prepared colleague, has your workload increased over these past 12 months?
70% very much to absolutely, 30% somewhat to not at all

Question 2: Reflecting on this past year, are you recognizing unexpected stress related to your work and experiences as a DNP prepared colleague or personally?
69% very much to absolutely, 31% somewhat to not at all

Question 3: Have you received a vaccination for COVID-19?
70% very much to absolutely, 30% somewhat to not at all

Question 4: Are vaccinations readily available to you due to your age group, health, or status as a health care provider?
67% very much to absolutely, 33% somewhat to not at all

Question 5: Do you believe you have received support for nursing colleagues when working through the challenges of providing nursing services so far during this pandemic?
67% very much to absolutely, 33% somewhat to not at all

Click [**HERE**](#)
to complete the
April 2021 DNP Survey
regarding continuing
education.

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 includes [Lourdes University](#), [Purdue Global University](#), [Sacred Heart University](#), [Saint Louis University](#), and [Wilmington 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](#):

[Promoting Volunteerism for A Private Non-Profit Charitable Organization That Provides Free Healthcare Services, Community Food Pantry, And Housing for Displaced Community Members](#), by Jennifer Lynn Stanisch, DNP, RN, a graduate of Bradley University.

[Advance Directives: A Protocol in Geriatric and Palliative Care Clinics](#), by Michael W. Steffan, DNP, a graduate of Touro University Nevada.

[Personal Resilience, Workplace Civility, And Staff Retention in Behavioral/Mental Health Crisis Stabilization Units](#), by Paula D Stover, DNP, RN CNS, a graduate of Georgia College & State University.

[Sepsis Educational Intervention for Emergency Department Nurses](#), by Margaret Stroehlein, DNP, ANP-BC, RN, a graduate of Hunter College of CUNY

[Dignified Descent: Older Experienced Nurses Leaving the Profession](#), by Cynthia Ann Tagg, DNP, MSN, RN, NHDP-BC, a graduate of the University of New Mexico.

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

Conversations and Discussions in the DNP Online Community

The new and improved DNP Online Community is gaining traction. The OLD online community (with NING in the URL) will expire at the end of June 2021. 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 home page.

Groups including:

[DNP's Seeking Positions in Academia](#)
[Dual Certified DNPs](#)
[DNP's of Color \(DOCs\)](#)
[Greater Boston Doctors of Nursing Practice Group](#)
[Virginia Association of DNPs \(VADNP\)](#)
And more!

Forums including:

[April 2021 DNP Survey](#)
[Virginia Association of DNPs \(VADNP\)](#)
[COVID-19 Pandemic: Bearing Witness, Telling our Story](#)
[DNP Faculty](#)
[DNP Practice Issues](#)
[DNP Professional Growth](#)
And more!

Blogs including:

[Final Draft of the AACN Essentials: To be voted on in March 2021](#)
[Bad Actors Have Compromised Legitimate University Websites](#)
[Nursing Schools pay for a Government Mistake](#)
[Reject the Myth of Equal Opportunity](#)
[DNP Quality Improvement Project](#)
[Our African-American Mothers of Nursing Celebration during Black](#)

History Month

[How Does Language Impact Inter-Professional Collaboration?](#)
[Organized Medicine is Putting Profit Ahead of Patients, and It's Making](#)

America Sick

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.

“THE DNP CONVERSATION”

Welcome to our monthly contribution to the **DNP Inc Newsletter**. This is our second month to offer a new format of sharing information. We are providing a brief narrative introduction of the DNP we interviewed and including a video link to the actual dialogue. It is a pleasure to share through DNP Inc. the incredible work DNP leaders are doing across the globe.

This month we interviewed **Dr. Cathy Jennings**, DNP, CNS, RN from Roanoke, Virginia. She received her BSN from Radford University 1980, MSN from Duke University 1982, and her **DNP** from Case Western Reserve University in 2009. Dr. Jennings recently retired after a 38-year career as cardiac surgery **Clinical Nurse Specialist** at Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital, a tertiary care, level I trauma center and the flagship hospital of Carilion Clinic, based in Roanoke, Virginia. She joined the cardiac surgery program 6-months after opening. The program has grown tremendously over the years and is now part of Carilion Clinic Cardiovascular Institute (CVI), which offers high level cardiothoracic and vascular care serving a large geographic area and multiple communities.

Many thanks Dr. Cathy Jennings for sharing your valuable insight and allowing a glimpse into your amazing career! To all our followers, we hope you enjoy hearing Dr. Jennings.

Thank you for listening to “**The DNP Conversation**” and let’s keep the conversation going!

Link here to the [YouTube Interview with Dr. Cathy Jennings](#)

or copy/paste: <https://youtu.be/xbISfbh1-H4>

Our very best regards, Brenda Douglass & Jeannie Garber



Brenda Douglass,
DNP, APRN, FNP-C, CBDCE, CTTS
DNP Program Director
Associate Clinical Professor



Jeannie S. Garber,
DNP, RN, NEA-BC
Professor of Nursing
Doctor of Nursing Practice
(DNP) Program

2021 DNP Conference Update

*Room Rates have been reduced from
\$199.00 to \$169.00 so book early*

*We have been in contact with the Swissotel to ensure
they have safety protocols in place for a
safe conference.*

*Please **CLICK HERE** to view their
ALL SAFE ACCOR program*

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS CLOSE APRIL 16, 2021

DNP Foundation News

FROM THE CLASSROOM TO THE BOARDROOM

The Doctors of Nursing Practice Foundation has been created to assist nursing colleagues in realizing their plans to impact health care delivery. Many scholarly projects are lacking the support needed to make a sustainable impact. The intent of the DNP Foundation is to assist in these efforts to improve outcomes.

To learn more about the foundation and how you may be a part of the process, visit [THIS LINK](#).

All donations are 100% tax-deductible according to IRS Code section 170.

Thank you to the following donors:

Diamond Donor: **Patricia Thompson, Girard, KS**

Ruby Donor: **Jeffery Hudson-Covolo, Springville, CA**

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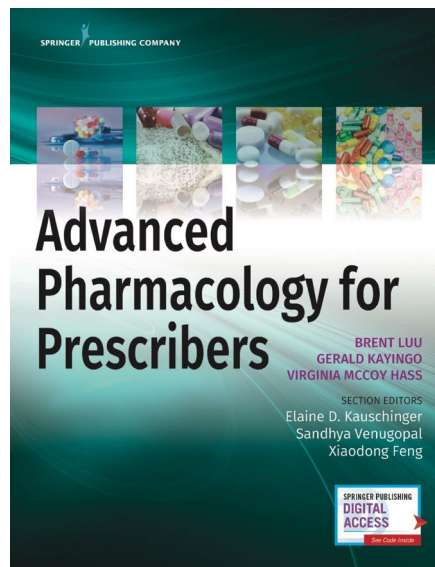
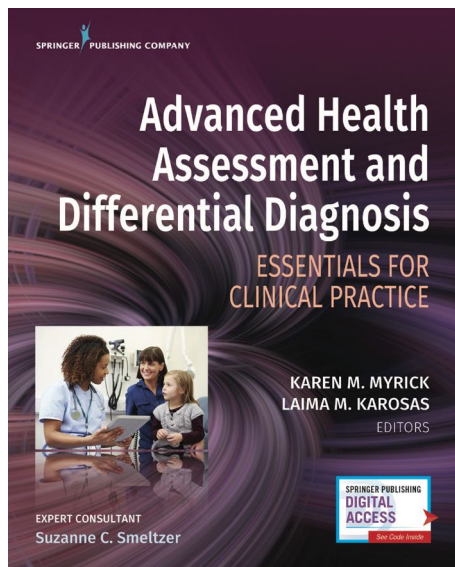
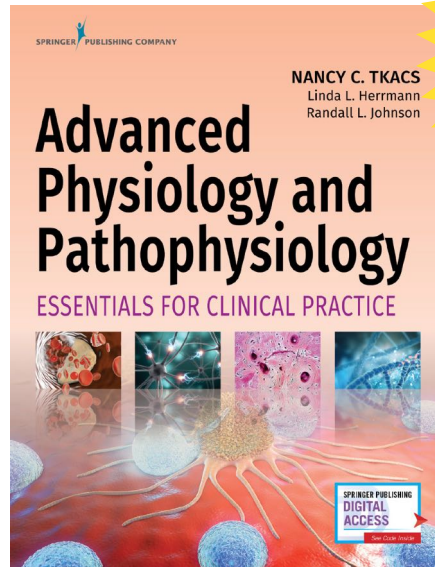
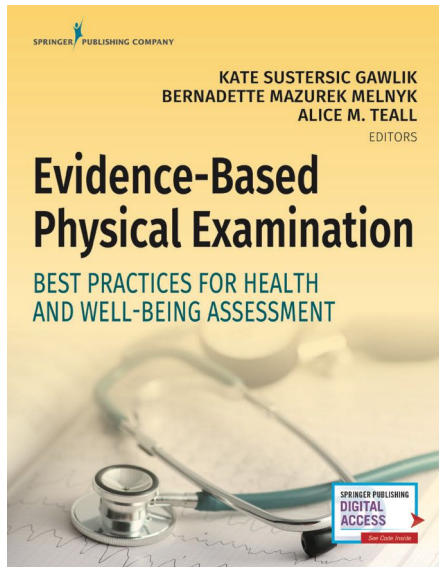
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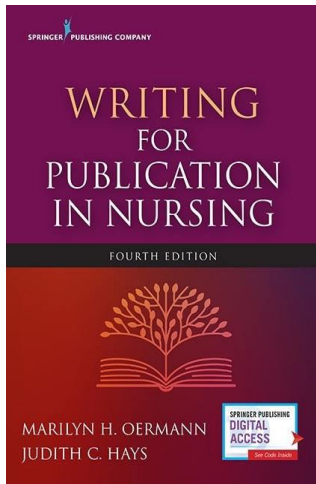
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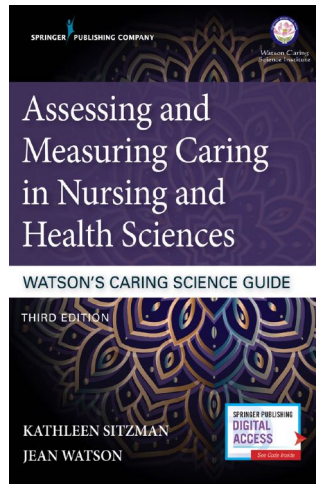
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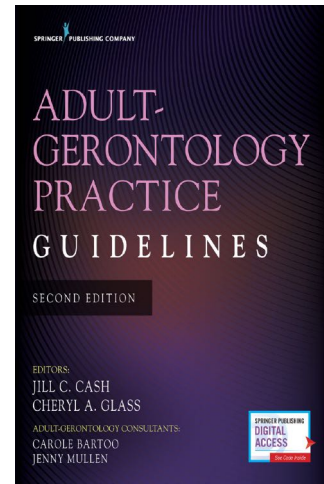
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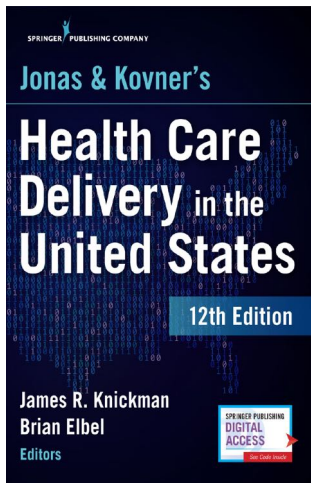
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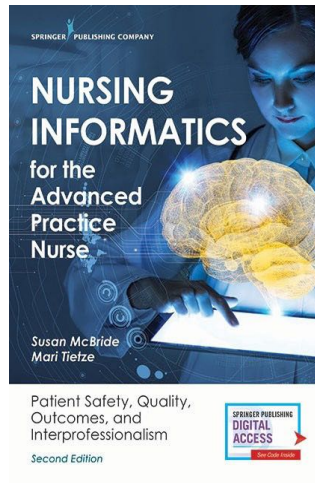
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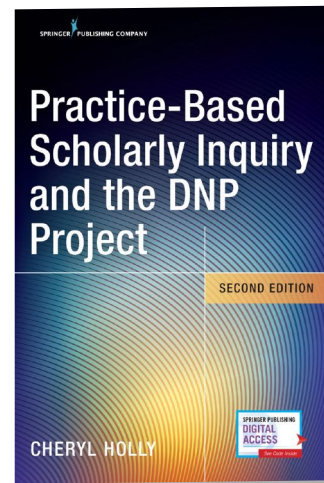
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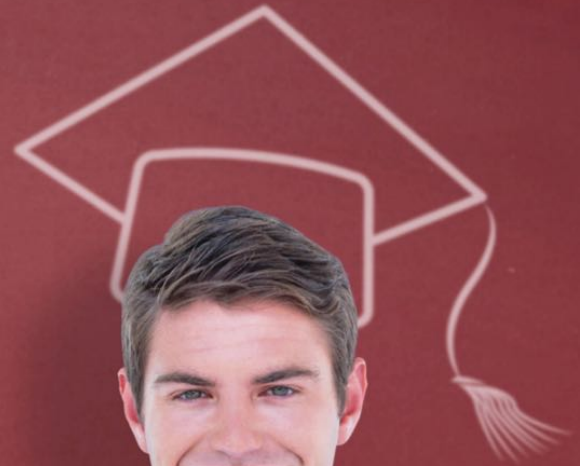
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 A photograph of a man with glasses and a light blue shirt, looking thoughtfully to the side. The image is partially obscured by a blue banner and text overlays.

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic DNP, Inc. had to make the difficult decision to cancel the annual national DNP conference. This national conference sustains the organization. Without this revenue the organization's operating budget has suffered a major setback. It is now a challenge to meet the Mission and Vision of DNP, Inc.

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





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**ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS
CLOSE APRIL 16, 2021**

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**The DNP and Quality Improvement
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