

Date: October 7, 2011

Submitted by: Dr. Randy Pembroke, Vice President for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: Proposed Program for Doctorate of Nursing Practice

Description:

#### Curriculum

- The emphasis on the DNP program will be the enhancement of the breadth and depth of clinical knowledge coupled with information on fundamental business practices to enhance the opportunities for the establishment of independent advanced nursing practice.
- The Post-Masters DNP curriculum is 44 credits for the master's prepared nurses who have obtained NP certification and 69 credits for those master's prepared nurses without NP certification. The curriculum builds upon the MSN program. The Post-Master's program will be available to those family or adult nurse practitioners who are seeking a terminal practice doctorate degree as well as MSN prepared nurses who are not APRNs but wish to complete the curriculum to be eligible to be certified as a family or adult nurse practitioner.
- The BSN-DNP curriculum is 73 credits and is designed to educate a BSN-prepared nurse for a role as an advanced practice nurse who is eligible for national certification as a family nurse practitioner with a practice doctorate degree.
- There is a strong emphasis on entrepreneurship within the DNP program. DNP students may earn up to 15 credits which can be applied to an MBA degree from the School of Business at Washburn University.

#### Internal Resources

- Library resources currently exist to provide support for clinically-focused doctoral students with the necessary information resources to adequately perform evidence-based practice analyses.
- The School of Business supports the interdisciplinary focus of the DNP project and is willing to deliver those courses required for an entrepreneurship focus within the DNP program.
- The number of nursing faculty with doctoral preparation continues to grow, allowing for an adequate number of faculty with the appropriate academic credentials to support a practice-doctorate program.

#### Financial Analysis

- Pro Forma report indicates a need for adequate funding of the DNP program for the first three years of the start of the program due to the small number of students projected to be admitted in the first three years.
- If student admissions are increased in years 3, 4, and 5 to total approximately 50 new admissions each year, revenues will continue to increase annually to help offset the expenses.

#### Market Dynamics

- The American Association of Colleges of Nursing supports the establishment of doctoral preparation for advanced practice nurses by 2015.

- Over 5000 DNP students are currently enrolled in DNP programs in the United States, with projected increases in both numbers of students and programs within the next five years.
- There are only two DNP programs in the state at this time.
- Kansas APRNs and Washburn BSN students report interest in obtaining graduate education, at both the Masters' and Doctoral level.

Rationale: See Attached

Financial Implications: See Attached

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2012.

Request for Action: *Faculty Senate*

Approved by: Graduate Committee meeting September 29, 2011

*Faculty Senate on date*

Attachments Yes X No