

2013 Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF PROGRAM EVALUATION

Prepared by Margaret W. Baker PhD, RN & Jane Chung MSN, RN

The 2013 Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program evaluation report was generated from the following surveys: (1) **End-of-Program Evaluation (EPE)**, (2) **Practice Inquiry Scale (PIS)**, (3) **DNP Alumni Survey (AS)** for the graduates of 2010 and 2012, and (4) **Supervisory Colleague Evaluation (CE)**.

Response Rate

	EPE			PIS			AS			CE		
	S	R	%	S	R	%	S	R	%	S	R	%
2013	42	27	64.3	42	42	100	49	14	28.6	49	6	12.2
2012	30	23	76.7	30	30	100	46	18	39.1	46	5	10.9
2011	26	20	76.9	26	23	88.5	11	7	63.6	11	3	27.3

S: number of survey sent. R: number of survey returned %: response rate

1. End-of-Program Evaluation (EPE)

Among 42 new graduates from Summer 2012 to Spring 2013, 27 graduates completed the EPE survey (response rate: 64.3%).

Findings

➤ **Evaluation of the core courses**

DNP students evaluated the course “NMETH 801 Capstone Clinical Investigative Project” is most valuable (Mean = 8.9, SD = 1.5) while the mean score of the course “NSG 597 Synthesis of Advanced Nursing Practice” was 6.8 (SD = 2.4). The mean scores of the Social Justice courses and “NCLIN 798 Tripartite Immersion Practicum” were 8.2 (SD = 1.8) and 7.2 (SD = 2.5), respectively.

➤ **Value of learning experiences**

DNP students evaluated “Capstone Clinical Investigative Project” as the most valuable experience (Mean = 8.9, SD = 1.4), followed by “Final Examination” (Mean = 8.4, SD = 1.4) and “Tripartite Immersion Practicum” (Mean = 7.2, SD = 2.2).

- DNP students rated that the **level of satisfaction as to how well their educational goals were met by the DNP program** as a mean of 7.6 (SD = 1.9, range: 3-10).
- DNP Graduates evaluated that **the program prepared them well to play various roles in a variety of areas**. The area that rated highest is ‘to improve health care quality (Mean = 8.3, SD = 1.7)’ and ‘to collaborate with your colleagues (Mean = 8.3, SD = 1.9),’ while the lowest item is ‘to become a nurse practitioner, nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist, community health advanced practice nurse or enhance your expertise in your role (Mean = 7.6, SD = 2.0).’ In most items, the mean scores were higher than those of last year.
- Among 26 graduates, 4 students were enrolled in the VA Centers of Excellence in Primary Care Education (VA COE PCE) program. VA COE PCE graduates had a higher mean score (Mean = 8.3, SD = 0.5) in **competency in team-based care**, compared to other DNP graduates (Mean = 7.4, SD = 1.6).
- Graduates evaluated their **supervisory committee** and **Academic Services staff** as very helpful (Mean=8.6, SD = 1.8; Mean = 7.9, SD = 2.2).
- **84.6%** of the graduates stated that **they would recommend the UW DNP program** to their colleague. The reasons for recommendation included flexibility, excellence of the program, knowledgeable faculty, and reputation, while high cost of the program and changes made in the program were cited as reasons for not recommending the DNP program.

2. Practice Inquiry Scale (PIS)

A total of 42 faculty members completed the PIS scale for evaluating their DNP students’ competency in practice inquiry (Response rate: 100%).

Findings

- The PIS is designed to evaluate a DNP student’s performance during the Capstone Clinical Investigative Project. The mean scores of student outcomes in nine PIS items ranged from 4.4 to 4.9 (Overall mean = 4.7; 1 = very poorly, 5 = very well)
- The item rated the highest is “Meeting the goals or aims specified in capstone project (Mean = 4.9, SD = 0.4).” The items rated the lowest are “Analyzing results and implications for future research and practice at the local, state, regional and/or national levels” (Mean = 4.6, SD = 0.7) and “Addressing ethical issues that were related to the Capstone Project” (Mean

= 4.6, SD = 0.6).

- Editing by the faculty was required for 38 DNP students (90.5%). Eighteen students needed minor level of editing by faculty (42.9%) while 5 students required an extensive level of editing by faculty (11.9%, Table 3). Two students (4.8%) used an editor for the Capstone project.

3. Alumni Survey (AS)

There were 49 alumni who graduated from the DNP program in 2010 and 2012. The response rate was 28.6% (n = 14).

Findings

- Only three (21.4%) were currently working in a position that requires a doctorate or DNP degree.
- **Involvement in various activities**
 - 6 respondents (42.9%) answered that their **involvement in professional activities has been increased** after attaining a DNP degree.
 - 35.7% involved in evaluation of health care systems and policy issues. 85.7% involved in critiquing and translating evidence to practice.
- **Professional achievements** (multiple response)
 - Nine alumni (64.3%) indicated they experienced professional achievements since completing the DNP program. Specifically, 4 alumni (28.6%) have published peer-reviewed articles. Four alumni responded that they had an opportunity to present their study findings. Also, four alumni have been involved in professional services.
- Respondents rated that the **DNP program prepared them very well** to play a role in various areas, but all scores of this year except for two items are lower than those of last year. The area rated highest is 'to improve your ability to collaborate with your colleagues' (Mean = 7.5, SD = 2.5), while the area rated lowest is 'to evaluate and influence health care systems and policy' (Mean = 6.2, SD = 2.7).
- 12 (85.7%) graduates would **recommend the UW DNP program to their colleagues**.

4. Colleague Evaluation (CE)

Among 4 supervisory colleagues for DNP graduates, 6 colleagues returned the Colleague Evaluation surveys (Response rate: 12.2%)

Findings

- Supervisory colleagues evaluated that our DNP graduates 'improved the quality of health care (100%)', 'contributed to the reduction of health disparities (40%)', 'demonstrated effective leadership skills (100%)', 'participated in inquiry projects (50%)', and 'participated in quality improvement projects (33.3%).'
- All colleagues expressed their **willingness to continue to hire the UW DNP graduates**.
- All colleagues were **satisfied with the DNP graduates' performance** (Mean=4.7, SD = 0.5; 1 = very dissatisfied; 5=very satisfied).