NLN Research Priorities in Nursing Education
2012 - 2015

I. Leading Reform in Nursing Education

A. Education-Practice Linkages

- Identification and evaluation of education models focused on delivery of team-based, patient-centered care to diverse patient populations in a variety of clinical settings
- Evaluation of new curriculum models related to inter-professional education and practice
- Evaluation of effectiveness of education-practice academic progression models
- Identification of education-practice partnerships designed to relate innovative teaching models to quality patient care outcomes
- Identification of the effectiveness of clinical residency programs in facilitating transitions in practice
- Analysis of the effectiveness of various faculty/staff/student partnership models in affecting instruction and knowledge acquisition
- Testing of evidence-based teaching innovations to support learner acquisition of quality and safety competencies (QSEN)
- Examination of teaching approaches that affect patient care delivery systems

B. Domain Specific Knowledge

- Identification of the effectiveness of various creative teaching-learning approaches to foster development of clinical reasoning in situated patient care contexts
- Development and evaluation of teaching-learning approaches that relate knowledge acquisition and evidence-based practice to the patient’s actual care experience
- Evaluation of the use of situated coaching in a variety of clinical education settings

C. Technology in Nursing Education

- Identification and evaluation of effectiveness of emerging technologies in the teaching of nursing decision-making skills
- Development and evaluation of partnerships for studies linking simulated learning experiences with program outcomes and graduate competencies
- Measurement of the cost-effectiveness of technologies, i.e., on-line, simulation, tele-health, used to expand capacity in nursing education

II. Advancing the Science of Nursing Education

A. Robust Research Designs

- Promote development of multi-site, multi-method research studies to determine suitable measures for the assessment of learning outcomes, particularly those relevant for a practice discipline
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- Encourage replication of studies in varied educational and practice settings
- Conduct systematic reviews and meta-analyses of literature related to teaching methods, evaluation protocols and other pertinent issues in nursing education
- Identification and testing of models of ethical codes of conduct for research in nursing education

B. Educational Measurement and Evaluation

- Determination of the quality of and exposure to educational interventions that aim to achieve desired learning outcomes
- Identification of ways to measure the link between educational innovations and practice outcomes
- Examination of innovative program evaluation models
- Identification and testing of valid and reliable instruments for educational research

C. Research Scholar Development

- Evaluation of effectiveness of new and existing doctoral education models that have been designed to ensure that graduates acquire competency in evidence-based pedagogy
- Exploration of effectiveness of career development models for research scholars in nursing education
- Identification of organizational culture and environmental strategies to support faculty developing programs of research in nursing education

III. Developing National and International Leaders in Nursing Education

A. Nursing Education Workforce Diversity

- Identification of institutional characteristics that best contribute to the success of diverse national and international educators in academic settings
- Evaluation of methods to recruit, retain, and graduate diverse students in both undergraduate and graduate programs
- Examination of global partnerships to build a robust international nursing education workforce experienced in educational research

B. Building Capacity

- Identification of the personal and professional characteristics most essential to fostering the success of nursing education program leaders
- Identification and testing of educational innovations that have the potential to increase leadership competencies of faculty in a variety of practice settings
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- Examination of innovative professional development programs in order to increase funding for mid-career scholars engaged in nursing education research.
- Identification of creative approaches to enhance nursing faculty competency in health and education advocacy and public policy development
- Identification of the characteristics of mentors who are most successful in recruiting and training scholars to develop sustained programs of research in nursing education