Date:    October 26, 2015

To:    Řene De Leeuw, Interim Chair
        UK Health Care Colleges Council

From:    Patrice B. Howard, Academic Dean
        Sheila Melander, MSN/DNP Program Director
        Melanie Hardin-Pierce, Chair, MSN/DNP Curriculum Committee

Subject:    DNP program change proposal/curriculum revision 2016

Enclosed please find a request for change to doctoral degree program for the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. Additionally there are multiple new courses and course changes submitted through the eCATS system to support the curriculum change request.

The UK College of Nursing DNP Program, which was the first program of its kind in the U.S., focuses on development of advanced competencies for complex practice, and research utilization for the improvement of clinical care delivery, patient outcomes and system management. There are two entry points to the DNP Program. The Post Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) entry option is offered for those with an awarded master’s degree in nursing. The Post Baccalaureate of Science in Nursing entry option builds on the BSN degree and prepares individuals for the direct-care provider (advanced practice) roles or non-direct care roles. Both options culminate with the DNP degree. The College admitted the first cohort of post MSN DNP students in 2001 and the first post BSN DNP students in 2009.

The initial post BSN DNP option was implemented 6 years ago thus faculty felt review of the curriculum was warranted. Simultaneously similar programs across the country have continued to be implemented providing additional national data and information related to programs. Course modifications were also needed to maintain compliance with Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and the Criteria for the Evaluation of Nurse Practitioner Programs and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties (NONPF) requirements for a greater emphasis on geriatric content and documenting the specialty focus and course titles on transcripts. These changes will ensure we are in compliance with our accrediting body and providing a competitive, quality curriculum.

New courses:

NUR 905 DNP Seminar
NUR 909 Proposal Development Seminar
NUR 943 Adult Gerontology-Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Clinical Practicum I
NUR 944 Adult Gerontology-Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Clinical Practicum II
NUR 948 Clinical Problems in Acute Care across the Life Span in Advance Practice Nursing
NUR 949 Clinical Problems in Chronic Care across the Life Span in Advance Practice Nursing
NUR 963 Primary Care of Children and Childbearing Families
NUR 968 Clinical Management of Psychiatric Disorders in Adults and Elderly
NUR 969 Clinical Management of Psychiatric Disorders in Children, Adolescents and Young Adults
NUR 980 Special Topics

Course Changes:

NUR 907 Nursing Leadership in Health Care Systems
NUR 903 Applied Biostatistics for Outcomes Evaluation
NUR 910 Clinical Residency
NUR 914 Economic and Financial Aspects of Clinical and Population-Based Health Care Delivery Systems
NUR 915 Foundations of Evidence Based Practice and Program Planning
NUR 916 Evaluation for Improvement of Clinical Practice and Outcomes
NUR 919 Quality and Safety in Nursing and Healthcare
NUR 922 Advanced Pharmacology for Advanced Practice Nurses
NUR 940 Advanced Practice Nursing in Acute Care: The Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
NUR 941 The Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner: Advanced Practice Nursing in Acute Care
of Adults And Geriatric Patients With Acute Illness
NUR 942 The Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner: Care Of Critically Ill Adult And Geriatric
Patients
NUR 945 The Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist in Contemporary Health Care Systems
NUR 946 Advanced Nursing Interventions for Adult Gerontological Clinical Nurse Specialists
NUR 947 Data Analysis And Measurement of Documentation of Nursing Practice
NUR 950 Primary Care Advanced Practice Clinical (Subtitle Required)
NUR 956 PNP-Primary Care: Common Acute Illness Management
NUR 957 PNP-Primary Care: Common Chronic Illness and Special Needs Management
NUR 961 Episodic Health Problems in Adult and Geriatric Primary Care
NUR 966 Diagnosis and Management of Psychiatric Disorders in Adults and Elderly
NUR 967 Diagnosis and Management of Psychiatric Disorders in Children, Adolescents and Young Adults
NUR 981 Independent Study in Nursing

Overview of DNP options and specialties:
The information below is intended to provide insight regarding the specialties of this program. Faculty
are not adding or deleting any options or specialties.

Post BSN – DNP (Direct or non direct care providers)
This option prepares advance practice nurses as direct care providers in the role of nurse
practitioner or clinical nurse specialist in one of the following population specialty foci.
Individuals will sit for national certification exams specific to their role and specialty. There is
also non direct care option for those focusing on population health, management or executive
leadership roles. Students in each specialty complete a series of 5 didactic and clinical courses
related to that particular specialty in addition to the core course work.

Direct Care Provider Specialties:
Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist
Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
Adult Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
Family Nurse Practitioner
Pediatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Non-Direct Care Provider:
Population and Organizational Systems Leadership

Post MSN - DNP
These individuals are already prepared as direct or non direct care providers.

Rationale for Program Change

Content changes to multiple courses will eliminate redundancy, enhance organization of didactic content to improve student learning outcomes consistent with DNP Essentials, specialty core and population specific competencies. Curriculum and content changes will result in increased or decreased course credit hours and a net reduction in credits for the degree.

New courses have been proposed (NUR 905 and NUR 909) to adjust curriculum to address DNP essentials/competencies and to improve learning outcomes in proposal development.

The didactic content increased by one credit hour in most of the clinical specialty courses to adjust for content shifts and cover identified gaps in student learning. All changes strengthen competency based learning outcomes.

Courses with combined didactic and clinical credits have been separated. Clinical content has been moved out of the combined courses into separate courses with clinical credits only. This will more clearly define specialty course didactic and clinical content on the student transcript as required by certification and regulatory agencies.

Sample plans of study

The following sample plans of study related to this program change are attached:

- Current generic sample plan of study for post BSN-DNP (80-84 credits)
- Current post MSN-DNP (40 -44 credits)
- Proposed generic direct care post BSN-DNP (74-78 credits)
- Proposed generic non direct care BSN-DNP (65-66 credits)
- Proposed post MSN-DNP (38 credits)
- Proposed generic direct care post BSN-DNP (74-78 credits), spring start.
### GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College:</th>
<th>Nursing</th>
<th>Department:</th>
<th>Nursing</th>
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<td>Current Formal Option(s):</td>
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<td>Proposed Formal Option(s):</td>
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<td>Current Specialty Fields w/in Formal Option:</td>
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<td>____</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Today's Date:</td>
<td>10/05/2015</td>
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<td>Accrediting agency (if applicable):</td>
<td>Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Requested Effective Date:</td>
<td>☒ Specific Date²:</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept Contact Person:</td>
<td>Melarie Hardin-Pierce</td>
<td>Phone:</td>
<td>323-5658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:melanie.hardin-pierce@uky.edu">melanie.hardin-pierce@uky.edu</a></td>
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### CHANGE(S) IN PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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<th>Number of transfer credits allowed:</th>
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<td>(Maximum is Graduate School limit of total of 9 hours (or 25% of the credit hours needed to fulfill the pre-qualifying residency requirement.)</td>
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<th>Required courses:</th>
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<th>Required distribution of courses within program:</th>
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<th>Minor area or courses outside program required:</th>
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¹ Prior to filling out this form, you MUST contact the Associate Provost for Academic Administration (APAA). If you do not know the CIP code, the APAA can provide you with that during the contact.
² Programs are typically made effective for the semester following approval. No program will be made effective until all approvals are received.

Rev 8/09
10. Qualifying examination requirements: | NA

11. Explain whether the proposed changes to the program (as described in numbers 1 through 10) involve courses offered by another department/program. Routing Signature Log must include approval by faculty of additional department(s).

Proposed program changes do not involve courses offered by another department/program

12. Other requirements not covered above:

Faculty recommended updating DNP program student learning outcomes to mirror the national accreditation standards. Specifically the Essentials of Doctoral Education for Advanced Nursing Practice, determined by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. See attached.

13. What is the rationale for the proposed changes? If the rationale involves accreditation requirements, please include specific references to those requirements.

Initial post-BSN DNP option was implemented 6 years ago (2009) thus faculty felt review of the curriculum was warranted. Similar programs across the country have continued to be implemented providing additional national data and information related to programs. Course modifications were also needed to maintain compliance with American Association of Collegiate Nursing and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculty DNP white papers. These changes will ensure we are providing a competitive, quality curriculum.
CHANGE DOCTORAL DEGREE PROGRAM FORM

Signature Routing Log

General Information:

Proposal Name: DNP program change, spring 2016
Proposal Contact Person Name: Melanie Hardin-Pierce  Phone: 3-5658  Email: melanie.hardin-pierce@uky.edu

INSTRUCTIONS:
Identify the groups or individuals reviewing the proposal; note the date of approval; offer a contact person for each entry; and obtain signature of person authorized to report approval.

Internal College Approvals and Course Cross-listing Approvals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reviewing Group</th>
<th>Date Approved</th>
<th>Contact Person (name/phone/email)</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DNP Program Committee</td>
<td>09/21/2015</td>
<td>Melanie Hardin-Pierce / 3-5658 / <a href="mailto:melanie.hardin-pierce@uky.edu">melanie.hardin-pierce@uky.edu</a></td>
<td>[Signature]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Faculty</td>
<td>10/12/2015</td>
<td>Terry Lennie / 3-6631 / <a href="mailto:terry.lennie@uky.edu">terry.lennie@uky.edu</a></td>
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External-to-College Approvals:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council</th>
<th>Date Approved</th>
<th>Signature</th>
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<td>Health Care Colleges Council</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senate Council Approval</td>
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<td>University Senate Approval</td>
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Comments:

[Signature]

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3 Councils use this space to indicate approval of revisions made subsequent to that council’s approval, if deemed necessary by the revising council.

Rev 8/09
### Current Required Courses post BSN-DNP Curriculum

**80-83 credits - Direct Care**  
**80-81 credits - non direct care**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits (Did:Clin)</th>
<th>Proposed 2016 post BSN-DNP Curriculum</th>
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<tr>
<td>NUR 956/957 (FNP students only)*</td>
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<td>NUR 963 Peds (FNP students ONLY)*</td>
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**TOTAL Credits: Direct Care**  
80-83  
**TOTAL Credits: Non-Direct Care**  
80-81

**TOTAL Credits: Direct Care**  
74-78  
**TOTAL Credits: Non-Direct Care**  
65-66
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<tr>
<th>Current Required Courses post MSN DNP Curriculum (40 credits)</th>
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<th>Proposed 2016 Post MSN-DNP Curriculum (38 credits)</th>
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12. Other requirements not covered above:

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<th>Proposed DNP program outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td>The program will prepare graduates who:</td>
<td>The program will prepare graduates who:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.</strong> Are expert practitioners for diverse populations and systems who engage in leadership to create practice environments that improve health care outcomes.</td>
<td><strong>1.</strong> Integrate nursing science and theory with knowledge from ethics, the biophysical, psychosocial, analytical, and organizational sciences as the basis for nursing practice (AACN Essential I: Scientific Underpinnings for Practice).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.</strong> Promote evidence-based innovations, technologies, and scholarship in nursing and healthcare delivery to improve practice.</td>
<td><strong>2.</strong> Demonstrate advanced organizational and systems leadership that emphasizes practice and the ongoing improvement of health outcomes (AACN Essential II: Organizational and Systems Leadership for Quality Improvement and Systems Thinking).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.</strong> Synthesize scientific, theoretical, and policy data from a variety of disciplines to improve health care systems and health outcomes for individuals and populations.</td>
<td><strong>3.</strong> Generate, translate, apply and evaluate new science/evidence to guide improvements in practice and outcomes of care (AACN Essential III: Clinical Scholarship and Analytical Methods for Evidence-Based Practice).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.</strong> Collaborate in inter/intraprofessional networks that promote diversity and optimize care in complex health care systems.</td>
<td><strong>4.</strong> Demonstrate proficient use of information systems/technology resources to implement quality improvement initiatives and support practice and administrative decision-making (AACN Essential IV: Information Systems/Technology and Patient Care Technology for the Improvement and Transformation of Health Care).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.</strong> Create an environment that supports personal and professional development to enhance health care outcomes and life quality for populations.</td>
<td><strong>5.</strong> Engage proactively in the analysis, development and implementation of health policy at the institutional, local, state, regional, federal, or international level (AACN Essential V: Health Care Policy for Advocacy in Health Care).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6.</strong> Employ consultative and leadership skills with intra- and inter-professional teams to create change in health care and complex healthcare delivery systems (AACN Essential VI: Inter-professional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes).</td>
<td><strong>6.</strong> Employ consultative and leadership skills with intra- and inter-professional teams to create change in health care and complex healthcare delivery systems (AACN Essential VI: Inter-professional Collaboration for Improving Patient and Population Health Outcomes).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.</strong> Analyze, synthesize and evaluate scientific data and concepts related to clinical prevention and population health, and gaps in care of individuals, aggregates, or populations (AACN Essential VII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation’s Health).</td>
<td><strong>7.</strong> Analyze, synthesize and evaluate scientific data and concepts related to clinical prevention and population health, and gaps in care of individuals, aggregates, or populations (AACN Essential VII: Clinical Prevention and Population Health for Improving the Nation’s Health).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8.</strong> Demonstrate foundational practice competencies that cut across specialties (AACN Essential VIII: Advanced Nursing Practice specialties).</td>
<td><strong>8.</strong> Demonstrate foundational practice competencies that cut across specialties (AACN Essential VIII: Advanced Nursing Practice specialties).</td>
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<td>NUR 915 – Evidence Based Prec &amp; Prog Plan</td>
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**Total Clinical hours**: 1020

**Total Program Credits**: 80-84
# CURRENT PLAN

**MSN-DNP sample full time plan of study**

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Spring Course No. - Title</th>
<th>Credits (didactic/clinical)</th>
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<td>NUR 915 Found. of EBP and Program Planning</td>
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**NOTE:** Classes meet on 5 select dates per semester. They do not meet weekly.

*Graduate statistics required within 5 years of NUR 903-Biostatistics

460 clinical practice hours from MSN
### Proposed Plan - 2016
Generic BSN-DNP sample plan of study
(direct care)

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<th>Credits (didactic/clinical)</th>
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<td>NUR 910 - Clinical Residency</td>
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**NOTE:** Classes meet on 5 select dates per semester. They do not meet weekly.

*FNP students require additional 3 credit hours.

Total Clinical hours: 1020
Total Program Credits: 74-78*
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NOTE: classes meet on 5 select dates per semester. They do not meet weekly.

Total Clinical hours: 1020
Total Program Credits: 65-66
## Proposed Plan - 2016

MSN-DNP sample plan of study

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NOTE: classes meet on 5 select dates per semester. They do not meet weekly.
**Proposed Plan - 2016**
Generic BSN-DNP sample plan of study – Spring start
(direct care)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Fall Course No. - Title</th>
<th>Credits (didactic/clinical)</th>
<th>Spring Course No. - Title</th>
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<th>Summer Course No. - Title</th>
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<td>NUR 925 - Research</td>
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<td>NUR 923 - Health Assessment</td>
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<td>NUR 916 - Program Planning &amp; Eval.</td>
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<td>NUR 922 - Adv. Pharmacology w/spec</td>
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<td>NUR 963 - Pediatrics (FNP only)</td>
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