

**Proposition Number** 27-14/15

**Sponsors** Anita Reinhardt (HSS)

**Committee Assignment** EMERGENCY LEGISLATION

**Title** A Proposition in Support of Graduate Certificates in Family Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner and in Family Nurse Practitioner.

**Effective Date** This legislation will become effective upon approval of the Chancellor and President.

**Revision History<sup>1</sup>** Number: 1 Date: 04/20/2015

**Prior Recommendations** (as needed)

Departmental Faculty	Approved <u>19 March 2015</u>	Not Approved _____
Department Head	Approved <u>19 March 2015</u>	Not Approved _____
College Dean	Approved <u>02 April 2015</u>	Not Approved _____
Graduate School Dean	Approved _____	Not Approved _____
ADAC	Approved <u>13 April 2015</u>	Not Approved _____
ADC	Approved _____	Not Approved _____

NOTE: This legislation is on the agenda for the 27 April ADC meeting and is planned to be on the agenda for the May meeting of the Graduate School Council.

**PROPOSAL**

This proposition is in support of the creation of two post-Master's certificates in the School of Nursing (SON). The certificates would be:

- 1) Post-Masters Certificate Family Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (FPNP)
- 2) Post-Masters Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) (Primary Care)

**RATIONALE**

Attached is the proposal for the establishment of two post-Masters certificates in nursing advanced practice specialties. We are proposing to offer a certificate for the specialty of Family Nurse Practitioner and another certificate for the Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. Both of these certificates will allow certificate graduates to

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<sup>1</sup> The revision history will be updated by the Faculty Senate Recording Secretary as(if) the legislation is amended by the sponsor, Senate committee, or the full Senate.

expand their scope of practice to include family primary care or psychiatric care, two specialties in critical need for New Mexico.

The SON will not require any additional resources to offer these certificates. The certificate plan proposed takes advantage of courses we already offer as part of our nationally accredited DNP education program. These courses are a part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the DNP degree plan therefore advanced practice nurses who are already nationally certified can be admitted to fill empty seats in this final year. Admission to these specialty certificates will be made on a space available basis. To further streamline this certificate, we have developed one course that serves to meet the requirement for educational preparation in health promotion for special populations.

We think these two certificates are timely and relevant to meet the needs of the New Mexico health care workforce since they increase the capacity of the health system to offer primary care and psychiatric care services.

## **APPENDIX I – Proposal for Post-Masters Certifications**

### **Title of Proposed Certificates**

- 1) Post-Masters Certificate Family Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner (FNP)
- 2) Post-Masters Certificate Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) (Primary Care)

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the post-masters family psychiatric/mental health (FPMH-NP) certificate and the post-masters family nurse practitioner (FNP) certificate is to help meet workforce requirements for mental health and primary care providers. These post-masters certificates would allow advanced practice nurses who are already certified in another specialty to obtain additional training in another specialty.

### **Evidence of Need**

The 2014 expansion of New Mexico Medicaid program is expected to result in 170,000 newly insured residents. This raises concerns whether there will be enough mental health and primary care providers to care for the increasing insured population let alone those who are already insured (AARP, 2015). In New Mexico, 32 of 33 counties are designated by the federal government as health professional shortage areas. According to the National Alliance for Mental Illness and Mental Health (NAMI) there are approximately 72,000 adults and 22,000 children in New Mexico living with serious mental illness conditions. Each year in the United States, one in four adults are diagnosed with a mental health issue. With 6% having a serious mental illness, almost half of adults in the U.S. will be diagnosed with some type of a mental health condition in their lifetime (Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, 2011).

It is evident that more primary care and psychiatric/mental health care providers are needed to meet the new and the ongoing demand for these health care services in New Mexico. In a 2014 report from the UNM Health Sciences Center estimates for future health care workforce needs included 271 Certified Nurse Practitioners/Clinical Nurse Specialists to meet the increased demand for health care services in New Mexico (UNMHSC, 2014). This shortage, particularly in rural and impoverished, and underserved areas is common in most states nationally.

### **Prospective Students**

These certificates would be offered to certified nurse practitioners who hold a current Nurse Practitioner license in another specialty. For example a Family Nurse

Practitioner or a Midwife may attend this program to complete a post-masters certificate in Family Psychiatric/Mental Health advanced nursing practice.

**Responsible Department**

The School of Nursing (SON) will deliver all courses (18 credits).

**Program of Study**

These proposed certificates take advantage of existent advanced practice programming and curricula offered by the School of Nursing. Since prospective students will already hold an advanced practice certification they are only required to complete advanced practice education and clinical training in the specialty of interest. The program of study for these certificates will be the courses and clinical training contained in the last year of our 3-year Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) specialties of Family Nurse Practitioner and Family Psychiatric/Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. (See Attachment 1 for Course Sequences and Attachment 2 for Course Descriptions). These are certificate plans that allow an advanced practice nurse to obtain preparation in an additional practice specialty. Total credits for each certificate are limited to 18 credits, including 576 total hours of clinical preparation as required for national certification. Students graduating from these certificate programs would not be obtaining the degree of DNP.

DNP programs are completely on-line so these certificate courses would also be online. Clinical experiences are supervised by NMSU faculty and qualified preceptors in approved locations. Advanced practice graduate students are required to attend a week-long summer seminar on campus in Las Cruces for additional training and advising by graduate faculty. Certificate students would attend this seminar upon acceptance in May and prior to beginning coursework in the fall.

There are no expected additional resources required for providing these two certificates. The certificates, as explained, will use already approved classes offered by the SON. The size of cohort classes is determined by the need to provide faculty supervision for clinical training which is usually a 1:6 faculty/student ratio. Therefore, if there are 3 open seats in a clinical group we would be able to offer admission to 3 advanced practice nurses qualified to pursue this specialty training for certification. Students will be accepted in cohorts and if they are accepted they will have a seat for duration of their cohort's period. They advance in cohorts, so a seat is always available and appropriately funded. In addition, if they need to step out for some reason (illness, etc.) we work them back in. They might be in a different cohort, but they will have the opportunity to continue.

***To meet new accreditation standards, we are dropping three courses from our specialty tracks, NURS674 Primary Care for Childbearing and Childrearing Families (2 cr) NURS 519 Child and Adolescent Health (2 cr), and NURS 669***

***Primary Mental Health Care for the Older Adult (2cr). We will replace those classes with one course entitled "Health Promotion With Special Populations" (2 + (0-2)P cr). This course has variable clinical credits since it is shared with other specialty cohorts. Students pursuing the certificate would not be required to complete a clinical component. This change in courses will not require additional faculty and can be taught by our current advanced practice faculty.***

### **Transferable Graduate Courses**

Graduate courses satisfactorily completed at the NMSU SON are transferable to any accredited graduate nursing program in the country in accordance with the policies of individual institutions.

### **Admission Requirements**

Applicants must submit evidence of

1. Graduate GPA of 3.0 or higher in their prior nursing education.
2. Current national certification as nurse anesthetist, nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist or nurse practitioner. Certifications in other nursing specialties would need consideration and review by the NMSU SON Graduate Committee.
3. Evidence of successful completion of coursework in advanced pharmacology, advanced pathophysiology, and advanced health assessment.

### **Marketing Strategy**

The family nurse practitioner and family psychiatric/mental health specialties are in high demand currently across the country. With the expanding access to health insurance under the ACA, more people are now insured to seek primary care services. Therefore the demand for advanced practice nurses in the primary care specialties is intense. The NMSU SON advertises its nursing education programs at education fairs across the state, in state nursing journals and newsletters and on the NMSU website. Applications for seats in these two specialty programs outnumber the available seats.

To market specifically to active advanced practice nurses these certificates would be announced at meetings of advanced practice nurses in this region and through the professional newsletters/websites targeted to this group of nurses. In addition, we would actively recruit at professional meetings and conferences throughout the state and through our regional clinical partners.

### **Institutional Support**

As indicated by the dates of approval on the cover page, this proposal has been recommended for approval by the SON Faculty, the SON Department Head, the Interim

Dean of HSS, and ADAC. At the time of writing (April 23, 2015) additional recommendations for approval are being requested by the Dean of the Graduate School (scheduled for the May Graduate Council meeting) and ADC (vote scheduled for the April 27 meeting).

### **Evaluation Strategy**

The evaluation of program quality and student outcomes for these certificates is addressed in the SON Master Evaluation Plan and the DNP Learning Outcome evaluation plan. These include measures of student learning outcomes and as well as indicators of program function. Successful completion of expected learning outcomes is tracked through student portfolios documenting measures of learning embedded in each course (example, completion of required clinical hours with satisfactory rating by clinical supervisor). Another closely followed measure of student learning is successful attainment of specialty certification. Data from student evaluations is collected and reviewed annually.

Evaluation outcomes are routinely reported to our national accreditation agency, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) and to the office of University Outcomes Assessment.

### **Statement of Resource Needs**

No additional faculty or administrative support resources are needed to offer these two certificate programs. We do not need additional buildings or rooms, Canvas resources, faculty, support staff, not even extra utilities because these students would fill unused seats that are otherwise wasted. Applicants to these certificates will be admitted space available.

### **Graduate Program Administrators**

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## **Attachment 1 – Course Sequence**

### **Post MSN Certificate: Family Nurse Practitioner**

Total Credits: 18

Clinical Hours: 576 (9 credits X 64 hours/credit)

Fall Course (6 cr total)

NURS 671 Primary Care I, 6 cr {3+3P}

Spring Courses (7 cr total)

NURS 672 Primary Care II, 5 cr {3+2P}

NURS 6XX Health Promotion with Special Populations\*, 2cr {2+(0-2)P}

Summer Course (5 cr total)

NURS 673 Primary Care III, 5 cr {1+4P}

### **Post MSN Certificate: Family Psych/Mental Health**

Total Credits: 18

Clinical Hours: 640 (10 credits X 64 hours/credit)

Fall Course (6 cr total)

NURS 660 Family PMH I, 6 cr {3+3P}

Spring Courses (7 cr total)

NURS 662 Family PMH II, 5 cr {2+3P}

NURS 6XX Health Promotion with Special Populations\*, 2 cr {2+0-2P}

Summer Course (5 cr total)

NURS 664 Family PMH III, 5cr {1+4P}

\*certificate students do not need to complete clinical hours for this course.

## **Attachment 2 – Course Descriptions**

### **NURS 660. Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing I**

6 cr. (3 + 3P)

The first in a three course series in learning and practicing psychotherapy principles using psychodynamics and cognitive behavioral theories within a holistic framework. Personality development concepts are examined and applied to work therapeutically with children, adolescents, young adults, adults and older adults from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to develop intervention strategies. Management of clients with neurobiological disorders and application of current research-based psychotherapy outcomes is emphasized. Course includes supervised clinical practice. Prerequisite(s): Admission to DNP program. NURS 511, NURS 512. Restricted to: NURP majors.

### **NURS 662. Family Psychiatric-Mental Health Nursing II**

5 cr. (2 + 12P)

The second in a three-course series in which students continue to develop skills in the practice of psychotherapy in a variety of settings with both individuals and families. This course focuses on family mental health and family functioning. Family dynamics and processes, theories and research are examined as the student continues to develop a conceptual framework to guide clinical practice. Emphasis is placed on increased understanding of conceptual frameworks and strategies including the role of cultural influences within the family. Course includes supervised clinical practice. Prerequisite(s): Admission to DNP program. NURS 660. Restricted to: NURP majors.

### **NURS 664. Family Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing III**

5cr. (1 + 4P)

The third in a three-course series that assist students in continuing to develop skills to function as a nurse psychotherapist with clients across the lifespan as individuals, families, and groups. This course focuses on an advanced study of dysfunctional processes of communication and interpersonal relationships and the therapeutic use of a variety of groups for children, adolescent, young adult, adult and older adult clients with a diversity of psychiatric problems and psychosocial stressors. Emphasis is placed on critically analyzing models of group interventions, group dynamics and processes, including their relevance to a culturally diverse clientele with a variety of lifestyles. Course includes supervised clinical practice. Prerequisite(s): Admission to DNP program. NURS 662. Restricted to: NURP majors

### **NURS 671. Primary Care in Acute Illness**

6 cr. (3 + 3P)

This course prepares students to use evidence to make clinical judgments which promote, restore, and maintain health of adult/gerontology clients/patients seeking primary care services. Emphasis will be placed on health promotion, disease prevention and common acute health problems of adult/gerontology

clients/patients in diverse populations. Course includes supervised clinical practice in primary care settings with emphasis on care of adult and gerontology clients/patients. Restricted to DNP majors.

**NURS 672. Primary Care in Chronic Illness**

5 cr. (3 + 2P)

Students use an evidence based approach to primary care drawing upon theories, research, clinical knowledge and national standards to develop therapeutic plans for chronic health problems in the adult/gerontology client/patient. Focus is on comprehensive primary care management across settings, as well as evaluation of care approaches to adults and gerontology clients/patients. Students will examine the impact of contextual factors on health care services for adults and older adults with multi-system conditions. Course includes supervised clinical practice in primary care settings with emphasis on care of adult and gerontology clients/patients. Restricted to DNP majors.

**NURS 673. Integrated Primary Care**

5 cr. (1 + 4P)

This course focuses on advanced practice role development and the study of issues in health service delivery related to the practice of primary health care in multiple health care settings. A major component is inter-professional practice within an integrated care setting. Economics, legal, policy, and cultural/ethical aspects of care are discussed. Course includes supervised clinical practice. Restricted to DNP majors

**NURS 6XX. Health Promotion with Special Populations**

2-4 cr {2 + (0-2)P}

This course provides an overview of infant, child, adolescent, adult, and older adult health including conceptual and theoretical foundation for advanced practice. Developmental changes that occur throughout infancy, childhood, adolescence, adults, and older adults will be explored along with an overview of interventions that are used to maintain optimal health. Assessment, knowledge and skills required for the management of acute and chronic conditions in these populations, while incorporating the family. Emphasis is on the role of advanced practice nurses in the implementation of pharmacotherapeutic and integrated bio-psychosocial-spiritual-cultural educational and supportive interventions for diverse populations across continuum of care and settings. A holistic approach which incorporates inter-professional collaboration will be used throughout the course.