Western Governors University: A National Educational Partner

If you are having challenges meeting education capacity while implementing nursing education models, reviewing this presentation will assist you.
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Consultant, Center to Champion Nursing in America
Need Education for Campaign to Succeed!

Practice

Education

Diversity

Data

Collaboration

Leadership
Advancing Education Transformation at CCNA

CCNA’s 31 State Teams focused on education capacity

IOM report calls for education transformation

Education Learning Collaborative

Four Promising Models

Strategic Activation

APIN and SIP

Higher Educated Nursing Workforce
Four models emerged as most successful:

- RN to BSN awarded by the community college
- Shared state or regional curriculum
- RN to MSN
- Competency-based state or regional programs
How can a National Educational Partner assist in achieving IOM Goals?

- Capacity and Access
- Affordable and Accessible
- Scalable and Flexible
Qualified Applications Turned Away from Entry-Level Baccalaureate Nursing Programs: 2002-2012

SOURCE: American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Research and Data Center, 2002-2012

AACN is not responsible for reporting errors by respondent institutions.

*2012 Preliminary Survey Data*
Currently, 646 RN to BSN programs are available nationwide, including more than 400 offered at least partially online.

2010 to 2011, enrollments increased by 15.8 percent, marking the ninth consecutive year of increases in RN to BSN programs.

2012 preliminary data shows a 13.4 percent increase in RN to BSN enrollments, slightly down from the prior year.
Capacity and Access: A National Partner

- Non-Profit
- National University
- Fully accredited
- Online
- Competency Based
- Mentor Guided
- Designed for working adults
Western Governors University

• National Scope
  – Students in all 50 states

• Prerequisites
  – Regionally accredited University
  – “Prerequisites” can be taken after enrollment

• Alternative faculty model
  – Faculty roles allow for better scalability
  – Asynchronous learning
Top 10 states with WGU RN to BSN enrollments

- California
- Indiana
- Utah
- Texas
- Washington
- Florida
- Georgia
- New York
- North Carolina
- Minnesota

States with 100 or more WGU nursing students
Outcomes – Graduates as of October 2012

- RN to BSN – 2,265
- MSN – 458
- BSN (Prelicensure) – 46

Total contribution to date toward 80% by 2020

2,769

Enrollment – 400/month

2013 RN to BSN enrollment projection = 4,800
National enrollments help move the needle toward 80 by 20

WGU Educational Collaboratives

- HCA Hospital System experienced a 64% increase in RN to BSN enrollments in 7 months
- Cedars Sinai Medical Center had a 223% increase in RN to BSN enrollments in the same 7 months

All hospital and community college partners report that multiple options are needed to change the culture by creating a critical mass of enrolled RNs
Access challenges for working nurses

1. Cost 65% (N=298)
2. Doesn't fit my schedule 38% (N=176)
3. Don't have time 33% (N=153)

Working nurses surveyed about barriers to returning to school
TX, FL & CA (N= 456)
Affordable and Accessible

- Affordability
  - Low tuition, no increases in five years
  - Fixed fees for books etc.
- Financial access
  - FFA access
- Physical access
  - Online
  - Asynchronous
Self pacing and asynchronous = flexible
Monthly enrollment = flexible and scalable

I have been a WGU student since May 2010. I love it because it fits my schedule, I can study at ANY time. I love the price, and the fact you can accelerate in any term without paying for additional units/credits! And, it is self-paced within each term.

It has taken me 18 months to complete my BSN. I work full time, take call in a busy surgery department and have a family and a life. The reality of finishing the degree for me was to take my time, work on the classes as I could and finish one task at a time. Not everyone will be able to complete the program early, though I’m impressed by those who do! It took all of the time I had available to complete by degree in 18 months.
## Student satisfaction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall, how satisfied are you with your WGU Experience?</th>
<th>BSNU*</th>
<th>All WGU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N =</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>11,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Satisfied</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfied/Very Satisfied</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neutral/no Opinion</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dissatisfied/Very Dissatisfied</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Student Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Questions</th>
<th>College of Health Professions percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am a member of an ethnic minority</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My annual household income is less than $35,000.</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I live in a rural community</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neither of my parents attended a Community College,</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior College, College or University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am currently employed Full-time</td>
<td>81.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am currently employed Part-time</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am not currently employed</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Challenges from a National University’s perspective

- **State Action Coalitions**
  - Involved in WA, TX, UT, IN
  - Not organized with state-specific resources

- **Data sharing**
  - Data is collected and organized by program, not state
  - Ability to contribute data to each state is resource-intensive

- ** Meaningful engagement**
  - State relationships aren’t possible for 50 states
  - Contributing to the solution with graduates is!!
Contact Information

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Campaign Resources

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