

TO: Academic Affairs Committee

FROM: Denise Wilson, Chair, Graduate Curriculum Committee
Kimberly Nance, Associate Director Graduate Studies

RE: Executive Summary – Doctor of Nursing Practice

DATE: April 12, 2012

The doctor of nursing practice (DNP) degree prepares nurses with a blend of clinical, organizational, economic, health care improvement, and leadership skills to serve as clinical and/or administrative leaders in healthcare systems. DNP prepared nurses may also serve as educators in a variety of settings. Applicants to the DNP program must be certified and licensed as advanced practice nurses or have completed a master's degree program in nursing administration. The DNP is offered in an online format with scheduled on-campus intensives throughout the program. The program consists of 34 semester hours beyond the master's degree in nursing distributed among core courses (18 semester hours), applied data analysis and management (3 semester hours), clinical residency (6 semester hours), and the scholarly project (7 semester hours). A student with a master's of science in nursing degree will be able to complete the DNP degree within 2 years of full-time study or 3 years of part-time study. The DNP program will be resourced through the Full-cost Recovery Model authorized by the Office of the Provost, with the cost of the program, including replacement costs for the hiring of doctorally prepared NTT to support program requirements, fully-funded through student enrollment. It is anticipated that 15 students will be admitted to the DNP program annually. The assistant dean for faculty and student support, graduate program coordinator, and graduate advisor already in place for the PhD program will also support DNP students.