

DATE: 1 March 2007

TO: Academic Affairs Committee

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

RE: Executive Summary for Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing, Focus on Aging

This doctor of philosophy degree prepares nurse researchers with expertise in the unique needs of aging populations. The Ph.D. prepared nurse will serve the public health by designing and conducting research on relevant clinical, educational, health systems and/or health policy topics. Graduates of this program may pursue a research career in the academic, business, government, or industrial setting; or they may serve as educators and/or administrators, developing or consulting on health care policy in a variety of settings. This Ph.D. program is based on national expectations and competencies for graduates of research focused doctoral programs in nursing as stated by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. The program responds to acute state and national needs for Ph.D. prepared nurses.

The program is designed to accommodate 7 to 10 students annually. All of the courses for this program are new, and all of the individual proposals have been approved as part of the program package. New resources are being requested for this program, including new hires of additional nursing faculty. Specific budgetary information is presented in the program proposal.