Providing Meaningful Practice Experience in an Online RN to BSN Program

Implementation of Recommendations from the AACN's White Paper

Stephen D. Heglund, PhD, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Joellen Edwards, PhD, RN, FAAN

UCF **Stands For Opportunity**

Objective

Attendees will be able to synthesize appropriate and innovative opportunities for online RN to BSN students to gain BSN-level clinical practice experiences that meet the expectations of the AACN's Baccalaureate Essentials.

Create and Innovate

Image By Rambling Geek via Creative Commons

Why This Now?
Do Nurses Really Need More Education?

Explosive demand has spawned a large number of new programs.

How might this (rather dated) photograph illustrate the need for a higher level of expertise in the nursing profession?

Does such rapid growth outpace the ability to provide quality educational opportunities?

Image by National Institute of Health

We Wished, We Got

- White Paper cites a 288% increase in nine years
- 646 programs in 2011
  - 400 fully or partly online
- 747 programs in 2017
  - 600 fully or partly online
- Growth continues

Plenty More in Need

2017

US Educated First Time NCLEX

81,685

Diploma or Associate Degree Prepared
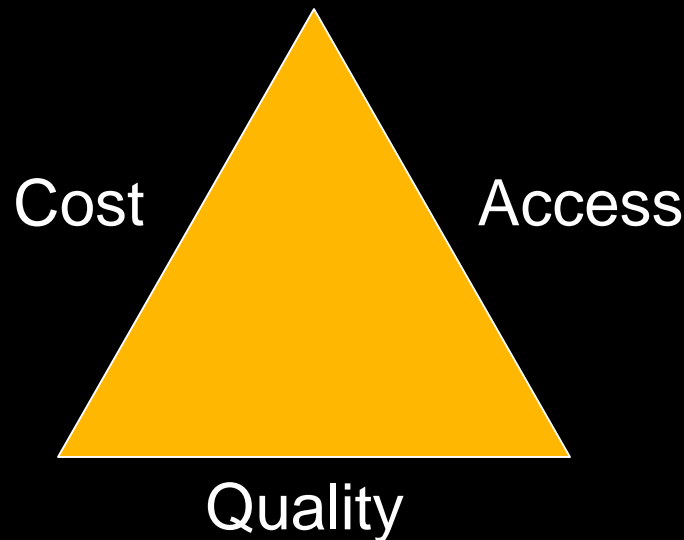
75,977

Baccalaureate Prepared

UCF **Stands For Opportunity**

How Do We…?

Accommodate the demand?

Contain the expense?

Assure quality?

The Iron Triangle of Education

Cost

Access

Quality

Apple for Teacher?

What makes the education we provide high quality?

Quality as Called for…

The Baccalaureate Essentials call for several outcomes of a BSN program.

- RN to BSN programs must deliver:
  - Leadership for Quality Care and Patient Safety
  - Interprofessional Collaboration
  - Health Promotion/Disease Prevention
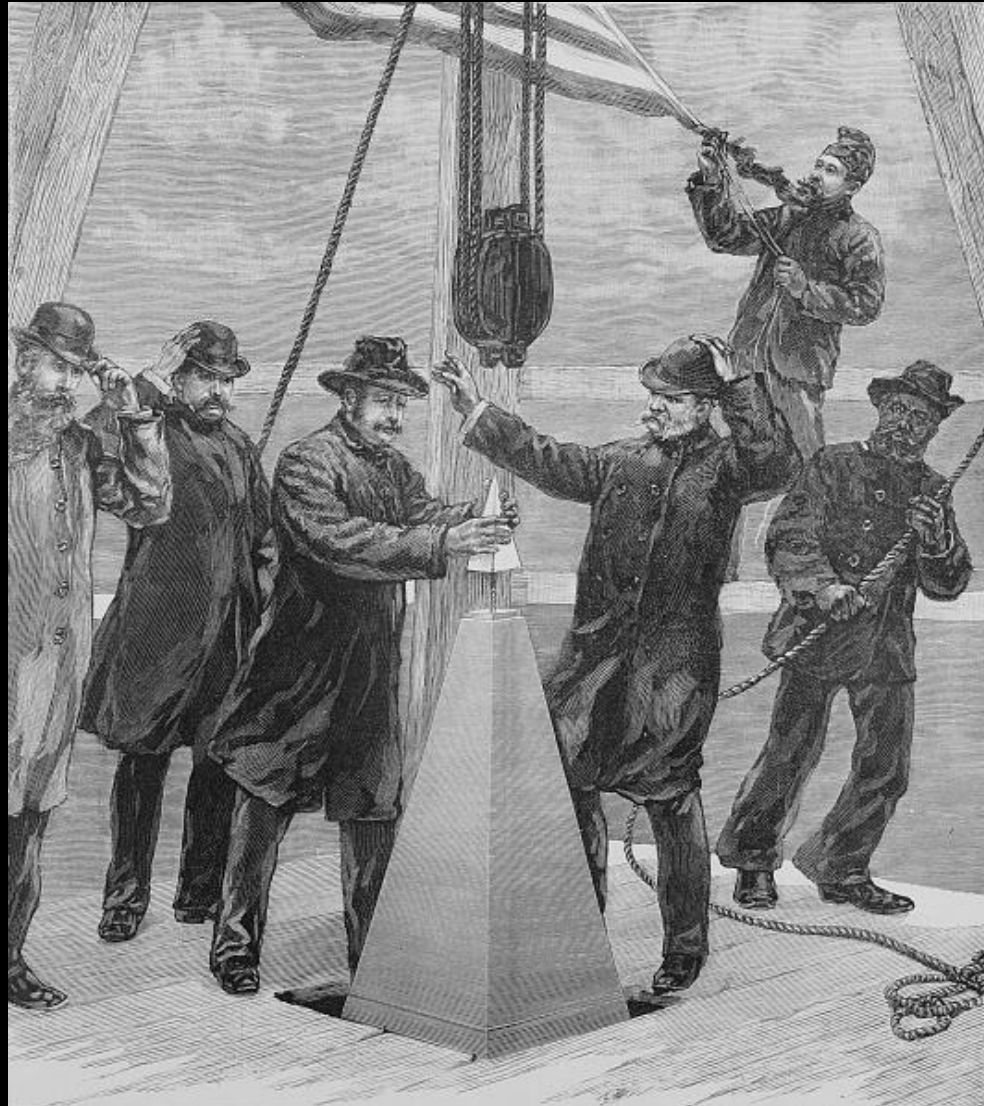 - Professionalism

Quality as Called for…

The White Paper Specifies

- Meaningful Experience
- Faculty Oversight
  - Preceptor?
- Areas of Practice
  - Settings
  - Community/Populations
  - Policy

Do it. Do it right. Do it right now.

- Health Assessment
  - Remember the NIH Nurse????
- Research Use
  - Recognizing a problem
  - Using the data
- Policy Making
  - Interacting with legislators
  - Making proposals

UCF **Stands For Opportunity**

Capstone

Practicum for Registered Nurses

- Distinctly Different
- Demands Gained Knowledge
- Encompassing Foci
  - Accumulated Experiences
  - Assessing Experiences
  - Peer Interaction
  - Innovation Experience

Accumulated Experiences

Students complete an Academic ePortfolio.

- Documents works
- Showcases experiences across the curriculum
- Displays student growth
- Permanent
- Portable

Assessing Experiences

Is this the future of professional participation?

Students complete activities that show their ability to assess the community and the profession.

- Civic Meeting
  - Report on the actions of government
  - Recognize impact on health
  - Analyze the effect

- Professional Meeting
  - Report on the activities of a professional organization
  - Recognize impact on the profession locally
  - Analyze the effect
  - Assess personal participation

UCF Stands For Opportunity

Peer Interaction

UCF **Stands For Opportunity**

Innovation Experience

UCF **Stands For Opportunity**

Conclusion & Discussion

UCF **Stands For Opportunity**