Planning the Nursing Education Research Network

Pam Ironside, PhD, RN, ANEF, FAAN
Linda Flynn, PhD, RN, FAAN
Christine Tanner, PhD, RN, FAAN
Terry Valiga, EdD, RN, CNE, ANEF, FAAN
Michael Yedidia, PhD, MPH, BA
Conflict of Interest

• No presenters have any conflict of interest related to this presentation or the work reported herein

• Affiliations:
  – Ironside: Indiana University
  – Flynn: University of Colorado
  – Tanner: Oregon Health & Sciences University, Emeritus
  – Valiga: Duke University
  – Yedidia: Rutgers University
Getting Serious about Advancing the Science of Nursing Education

Pam Ironside
Session designed to help you ...

- Identify critical questions facing the discipline in general and academic nursing specifically

- Describe ways a collaborative research network could be used to address those questions

- Identify key data elements needed to address critical questions facing academic nursing
IOM: The Future of Nursing (2011)

- Recommends a transformation of nursing education!
- Calls for ...
  - more active student learning
  - competency-based education
  - development of leaders
  - increased attention to health promotion/wellness/non-acute care
  - more interprofessional learning, teamwork & care coordination
  - better integration of educational technology
  - seamless academic progression
Challenges to Transforming

• Severe faculty shortages
• Inadequate clinical placement opportunities
• Outdated pedagogies
• Nursing education research is underdeveloped
  – Small-samples
  – Single-site studies
  – Inadequately developed & tested outcome measures
  – Limited analysis techniques
Challenges (continued)

• Commitment to evidenced-based practice, but **not** to evidenced-based nursing education!

• Lack of benchmarking opportunities for educational initiatives & outcomes!
Building a Database to Answer Pressing Education Issues

Michael Yedidia
Session designed to help you ...

• Describe how a collaborative data base can provide evidence for pedagogical decision-making

• Demonstrate how data gathering strategies and analytic processes can address pressing educational questions
Status of Nursing Education Data

• Small samples
• Single site
• Non-representative
• Cross sectional
• Inconsistent measures
Distinctive Features of NNERN Data Base

- Large and representative sample of schools
- Core of uniform questionnaire items
- Data on individual students and faculty
- Data collected annually (i.e., longitudinally)
How Those Features Allow us to Address Distinctive and Pressing Issues

• Assessment and planning
• Quality improvement
• Evaluation of innovations
• Addressing research questions and testing hypotheses with confidence in causation
Democratizing Data Access via Web-Based Portals

Linda Flynn
Session designed to help you ...

- Explain how making data widely available via a web-based portal extends & expands the science of nursing education

- Examine potential gains & pitfalls of widely available data & the training needs required for its use
Support for a National Nursing Education Research Network

• NNERN development funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (#72566)

• NNERN endorsed by ...
  – Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI)
  – National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN)
  – National League of Nursing (NLN)
Goals of NNERN

• Develop a large nursing education data base
• Make data available for rigorous research
• Produce sound evidence
• Provide benchmarking opportunities
• Provide longitudinal data that allows schools to trend outcomes over time
Goals (continued)

• Facilitate schools’ quality improvement efforts related to curriculum development, initiatives, faculty / student satisfaction....

• Prepare nursing education scholars and scientists

• Facilitate networking among nursing education scholars & scientists
Structure of NNERN

- Non-Profit / Member School Driven
- Advisory Committee
- Financed through tiered membership fees
- De-Identified data belongs to the Schools!!
- Access to data and benchmarking via an interactive portal
- Data analysis also conducted by NNERN staff
What will NNERN Do?

• Dialogue with member schools to identify key educational outcome/research questions

• Conduct annual/web-based surveys of faculty & of students at each member school

• Core Data....annual items for longitudinal analysis

• Supplemental Data.... some items for most current “hot”/emerging issues
What Else Will NNERN Do?

• Clean & de-identify the data

• Ensure each member school has access to its own data, as well as the entire de-identified data set

• Manage the technology & database

• Collaborate with member schools to produce reports, findings, & recommendations
Getting Serious about Advancing the Science of Nursing Education

Terry Valiga
Session designed to help you ...

- Identify pressing questions the discipline faces regarding how nurses are prepared for practice

- Identify the most pressing questions nursing education faces & the data needed to answer those questions
Potential Research Questions
Potential Research Questions

• What is the impact of IPE hours on students’ competencies ratings on Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (AACN)? How do your school’s IPE hours compare to similar schools?
• Is there a relationship between the percentage of non-acute clinical experiences & student competency ratings & employment patterns?
• Does an innovative teaching strategy, such as flipped classroom, improve student learning outcomes?
• How do your school’s faculty satisfaction scores compare to similar schools? What are the key dissatisfaction factors?
• What are the predictors of faculty dissatisfaction & intent-to-leave the job?
Benefits of NNERN Membership
Benefits of Membership

• Contribute to Advancing the Science of Nursing Education through data sharing & cost-effective research

• Gain access to data quickly and for a fraction of the cost of collecting it on your own.

• Gain access to researchers & data analysts

• Track longitudinal outcomes & trends (CQI)

• Benchmark against selected types of schools on a large range of structure, process, & outcomes questions (e.g. faculty workloads & satisfaction; IPE student outcomes; use & outcomes of innovative teaching strategies)
Benefits of Membership (continued)

• Contribute to the preparation of future nursing education scientists

• Translate data into actionable information!

• Implement evidence-based initiatives / strategies to transform nursing education!
Next Steps

- Visit [www.NNERN.org](http://www.NNERN.org)
- Talk to your deans about NNERN membership
- Consider participating in the pilot study
- Plan your budget to become a NNERN member school in 2016
Let’s Hear from You

What are the key student & faculty outcomes that should be tracked & investigated?
Contact Us

www.nnern.org