Results Summary

Unit name: Clinical Nurse Specialist MSN

College/School: Hahn School of Nursing

Assessment Overview
We assess ten learning outcomes on a three-year cycle for the Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist Program. We use our capstone course and a variety of other courses to evaluate overall quality of student work from both a theoretical and practice perspective. Students are evaluated through a variety of methods including participation in classroom lectures, group activities and discussions, scholarly writing, oral presentations, case analysis, simulations, internet activities, and clinical practicums.

Results & Actions
In spring 2016, we assessed the students’ abilities to provide advanced clinical expertise as an adult-gerontology clinical nurse specialist through successful completion of a competency assessment (based on national standards) of all three spheres of influence of the clinical nurse specialist. This competency also assessed the student’s ability to provide innovative care and engage in interprofessional collaboration in the management of culturally diverse individuals and families. All graduating students successfully completed the competency.

We also assessed the student’s ability to integrate research into practice through the successful implementation of an evidence-based practice project in the clinical setting. All students were able to achieve some measure of success with implementation, though timing limited full completion in a few instances. As steps to improve student learning for future students, assignments that target the same competency of integrating research into practice will be introduced in an earlier course. By teaching and implementing this competency earlier, we expect to see improvement in the student’s ability to complete the project in a timely fashion.