Request to Combine Two Graduate Certificates and Re-Title

Combined:
Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist
and
Critical Care Clinical Nurse Specialist

New Graduate Certificate:
Adult Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist

Approved by the Graduate School
August 2013
The focus of this request is to change the names of two currently existing post-master’s certificates and to collapse them into one. The current post-master’s certificates affected are Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist and Critical Care Clinical Nurse Specialist. The name for both of these certificates needs to become: Adult-Gerontology Clinical Nurse Specialist.

The reason for making this change is to meet new requirements for advanced practice nursing regulation and to ensure that our graduates are eligible to sit for certification exams. According to the new regulatory framework (APRN Consensus Workgroup, 2008), advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) are educated and certified according to their role and population. The APRN consensus group recognized four distinct populations for practice. The population that corresponds with our programs is “Adult-Gerontology.” Certification bodies will examine transcripts, school websites, course descriptions and syllabi to ensure that graduates of clinical nurse specialist programs matching this population have indeed graduated with an adult-gerontology focus. The titles of the certification exams have changed to reflect the adult-gerontology population and university documents must have matching language.

Focus of the post-master’s certificate program: This proposed title change does not change the focus of the currently approved areas of concentration.

Participating faculty: The title change does not affect participating faculty: faculty will remain the same.

Required courses: The courses required for this post-master’s certificate will continue to have the same pattern as the current core courses. Current Adult Health clinical nurse specialist post-master’s certificate students take:

- NUR 60000, Adult Health CNS I
- NUR 60100, Adult Health CNS Practicum I,
- NUR 61800, Adult Health CNS II
- NUR 62000, Adult Health CNS Practicum II
- NUR 65800, Adult Health CNS Practicum III: Clinical Synthesis

Similarly, current Critical Care clinical nurse specialist post-master’s certificate students take:

- NUR 60200, Critical Care CNS I
- NUR 60300, Critical Care CNS Practicum I
- NUR 63000, Critical Care CNS II
- NUR 63500, Critical Care CNS Practicum II
- NUR 65900, Critical Care CNS Practicum III: Clinical Synthesis
With the title change, students will continue to take the same sequence of courses. Specifically, they will take NUR 60000, NUR 60100, NUR 61800, NUR 62000 and NUR 65800. However, we will send a request to the Graduate School to change the current titles and course descriptions of these courses to match the Adult-Gerontology population.

- Learning outcomes: There will be no changes to the currently existing learning outcomes.

Reference: