Academic Service Partnerships: Building Bridges in a City of Bridges & Beyond to Enhance the Student Experience

Holly Lorenz, RN, MSN
Sandra Rader, DNP, MSA, RN, NEA-BC
Melanie Shatzer, DNP, RN
Objectives

• Identify key elements of a successful regional academic service partnership council including membership, mission, and operational components

• Describe essential assessments, programs and replication opportunities to improve the student experience in community, regional and academic medical center settings
• Global health enterprise headquartered in Pittsburgh, PA
• Integrating more than 20 hospitals, 400 doctors’ offices and outpatient sites, health insurance services division and international & commercial services
Rich Academic Region

- Academic partners represent doctorate, masters, baccalaureate, associate and hospital-based diploma degree programs
- Three UPMC Schools of Nursing
- University of Pittsburgh
- 9 other academic partners
- Over 3000 student experiences at UPMC per semester
UPMC Academic Service Partnership Council (ASPC)

- Co-chaired by Chief Nursing Officer and the Director, Academic Service Partnerships
- Academic representation including deans, program directors and faculty
- Service representation from chief nursing officers, directors of nursing education, program administrators and nurse educators
The mission of the Academic Service Partnership Council is to create systems which support the finest clinical experiences at UPMC, the highest prepared new graduate prior to hire at UPMC, and focus on hiring and retaining the best and the brightest in new graduates, both locally and nationally.
Building Bridges
Bridges Across Challenging Waters

- Increasing patient complexity
- Faculty shortages
- Legislative changes
- Quality metrics & reimbursement implications
- Rapid technological changes
- Preceptor development
Increasing Patient Complexity

• Matching level appropriate learning to student clinical placements
• Linking ASPC to key stakeholders
  – Quality teams
  – Clinical experts
  – Chief Nursing Executive & Chief Nursing Officers
Critical Feedback

- Implemented a 360° student experience evaluation
- Create transparency
- Students, faculty and UPMC staff nurses provide feedback
  - Clinical sites learning environment
  - Collaboration between students, faculty and staff
  - Student reception on a unit
  - Student preparation for clinical
Universal Agreement

• Academic & UPMC Nursing leaders identified opportunity for a universal agreement
• Collaborative journey with ASPC members and legal department
• Students at undergraduate and graduate level
• Beyond nursing programs to include other healthcare disciplines
• Standard clearance process
Faculty Supply Challenges

Clinical Education Models/Pilots
Dedicated Education Unit (DEU)

- Collaboration between RMU and UPMC Passavant
- DEU- a clinical unit in the hospital that is dedicated to the education and development of student nurses by using specially trained staff nurses as clinical instructors
- Enhance student nursing education and prepare the student for working as a future staff nurse on a hospital unit
Faculty Supply

- Educational pilot project with Duquesne University, Mercy Hospital School of Nursing and UPMC Mercy
- Provide an educational opportunity for nursing students from a hospital based program to collaborate in the clinical practicum with baccalaureate nursing students utilizing the clinical teaching associate model (CTA)
- Improve collaborative professional practice and maximize student clinical learning opportunities
Staff nurses received formalized training from academic partners
- Educational philosophy
- Ethical-legal aspects of clinical education
- Teaching-learning strategies
- Clinical evaluation
Legislative Changes

- Quarterly updates from federal and state government relations representatives
- Healthcare reform impact
- Accountable care organization pilot
- Role of mid-level providers
  - Expanded representation
  - PSD link
  - Formalized intake process
  - Mid-level Advisory Committee
  - Job descriptions & My Nursing Career revisions secondary to LACE model
Rapid Technological Changes

- School representative eRecord account request process
- Revised account review process
- eRecord weekly update
- Documentation Optimization
- Meaningful use
Preceptor Development

• Preceptor Academy formation
  – Academic & Service representatives

• The mission of the UPMC Preceptor Academy is to develop, empower and recognize successful preceptors through respectful communication, education and support

• Workgroups
  – Academy structure/governance
  – Curriculum/preceptor development
  – Leadership support
  – Preceptor reward/recognition
ASPC Subgroups- Planning for the Future

• Faculty orientation
  – Streamlining orientation process
  – Consistent competencies
  – Improving access to standard orientation materials

• Capacity
  – Sharing projections
  – Proactive placements
Key Stakeholders for Future Planning

• Historically pre-licensure focused
• Geographical region
• Graduate education
• Physician services department
Phases of Academic Service Partnerships

- Systematic review by Nabavi and associates aimed at retrieving and integrating relevant evidence related to the process of forming and implementing an academic-service partnership with the aim of reforming clinical education.

- 4 phases of ASP formation
  - Mutual potential benefits
  - Moving from being competitors to collaborators
  - Joint practice
  - Beneficial outcomes

Mutual Potential Benefits
• Implementation of Partnership Program

Moving from Competitors to Collaborators
• Stakeholder coalition
• Shared decision making
• Shared structure

Joint Practice
• Clinical education
• Staff development
• EBP

Beneficial Outcomes
References & Acknowledgements


• Special Acknowledgement to the members of the 2010-2011 UPMC Academic Service Partnership Council