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GMU DSO NEWSLETTER

Inaugural Issue



Welcome to the Doctoral Student Organization!

Welcome to the Doctoral Student Organization (DSO)! The newly elected DSO board members are excited to publish this first issue of the DSO quarterly newsletter. Within the DSO newsletters will be tips and tricks for success in GMU graduate nursing programs (MSN, DNP, PhD), evidence based practice updates, recommendations for achievement of MSN and DNP essentials, Q&A, announcements about upcoming events, and much, much more!

In this issue....

- ❖ Meet the DSO Board Members
- ❖ Summer happenings
- ❖ We want to hear from you!





Meet the 2018-2019 Board Members

Maité Corbin, President

Greetings everyone! I am honored to serve as the DSO President for this academic year. I am excited to collaborate with fellow students through the DSO, as the organization strives to support the professional growth of all graduate students. I am thrilled to be in my final year of the FNP Doctorate program! I successfully passed FNP boards this summer, and started the journey for my DNP project. I will be focusing on screening adolescents for substance abuse in primary care. My nine years of nursing has been in critical care, where I still work part-time. I was fortunate to enjoy Florida's sunshine and Disney for a week with my family this summer. I look forward to meeting you all this year!



Emilyn Wagner, Vice President

Hi everyone! I am looking forward to an amazing year with the DSO! I am in my final year of the DNP Family Nurse Practitioner program and recently passed my boards over summer! I have a background in critical care nursing and I am looking to focus my DNP project on developmental screening in the pediatric population. In my free time I love to travel and spoil my golden retriever! I am excited to serve as the Vice President of the DSO and look forward to meeting you in the coming weeks!

Lindsay Huyer, Treasurer

Hi everyone! I am in my final year of the DNP program and the DSO treasurer for the next year! The majority of my nursing experience is in general medicine but I currently work in an outpatient ear, nose, and throat office. I am really looking forward to this upcoming year with the DSO and all of the potential opportunities to work with the current and new students. We have a lot of ideas for this year both educational and social in the works for everyone to enjoy!



Jessica Dunn, Secretary

Hi all! I am so excited to be a part of this incredible DSO board. I am entering my final year of the DNP program, and just passed my FNP boards this summer- YAY! My RN experience has been primarily in maternal/child healthcare, and my DNP project will focus on postpartum depression screening during well child visits. I am committed to the DSO and positively contributing to not only the organization but also all members' educational experiences. I look forward to meeting all of you and having a great year!



2018-2019 Committee Chairs

Jennifer Rickerby, Education Chair

Hello! I am Jennifer Rickerby and I am super excited to be heading the Mentorship/ Educator chair on the DSO. Being part of the DSO has been an absolute lifesaver in my journey to be a DNP. I have formed strong relationships with amazing classmates that have been a wonderful support to me. My hope is to establish a mentoring community within the MSN and DNP community at GMU. I want to see everyone benefit from being in the DSO with peers mentoring each other.

Sabrina Salem, Funding Chair

My name is Sabrina Salem and I am the DSO Conference Funding Chair for 2018-2019. I am in the BSN-DNP/FNP program and will be graduating in May 2019. I passed my FNP Boards in July. I have been a RN since 2001 and worked mainly in the OR as a circulator. I am looking forward to what this next year brings and to working with the wonderful members of the DSO!

Patricia Obeng, Social Chair

I am Patricia Obeng, and I am the social chair for the DSO board for the 2018-2019 academic year. I am currently in my final year of the FNP DNP program. My nursing experience has been in acute and critical care. I am currently working on using cognitive behavioral therapy as a treatment option for chronic insomnia as my DNP project. It was a pleasure meeting you all in your orientation, and I look forward to working with you all.

Fred Opoku, Health Policy Chair

Hi, I am privileged to serve as a DSO chair for the newly created Health Policy committee. I am in the PMHNP concentration and passed by ANCC certification this summer. I begin the final year of the DNP program this fall and will be working on the use of aromatherapy as a complementary or alternate treatment modality in the management of patients with insomnia. Welcome to the DSO and look forward to meeting all of you at our upcoming events.

Rod Kresge, Webmaster

Hi I am in the psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner concentration. I'm looking forward to getting to know many of you. My DNP project will focus on mentorship as it relates to implementing and sustaining the collaborative care model. If you have any web ideas or suggestions please let me know, thanks!



Summer Happenings....

This summer, DNP students had the opportunity to attend the annual Virginia DNP conference in Richmond, VA. The conference offered students the ability to hear DNPs across Virginia speak on a variety of topics. Students were also able to network with conference speakers and attendees, as well as join special interest groups, which focus on policy, telehealth, and more.

DNP students entering their final year began working on their systematic reviews this summer, which encompassed searching for evidence to support a change in practice. Though this is an overwhelming step in the DNP journey, and many of you probably are not quite sure all that this entails, there is an immense amount of support from faculty and peers to help all students achieve success. In future issues of the newsletter, there will be additional information on DNP projects, including their development and implementation.



We want to hear from you!

Our board and committee members are here to support you throughout your educational journey. We want to provide you with guidance in addition to opportunities to grow as graduate students. We warmly welcome any suggestions you have for ways in which the DSO may enrich your experience at GMU. We also appreciate requests for events and speakers. The DSO will be sending out dates for upcoming events for the fall semester shortly. Please email mcepedaa@masonlive.gmu.edu with your questions, concerns, and suggestions!

Happy fall semester!!!

Sincerely,

THE 2018-2019 DSO BOARD

