



THE NURSING EDUCATION XCHANGE

www.winnexus.org

NEXUS MEMBERS

ACADEMIC COLLABORATORS

- Arizona State University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Loma Linda University
- Oregon Health & Science University
- The Ohio State University
- The University of Iowa
- The University of Texas at Tyler
- University at Buffalo
- University of California, San Francisco
- University of Colorado
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
- University of Kansas
- University of New Mexico
- University of Nevada Las Vegas
- University of Northern Colorado
- University of Utah
- Virginia Commonwealth University
- Washington State University

ACADEMIC AFFILIATES

- Idaho State University
- The University of Oklahoma

What is NEXus?

NEXus is a partnership among select universities offering doctoral programs in Nursing (PhD and DNP) that provide opportunities for students at one academic collaborating institution to take a course/s or a series of related courses in a cluster, from another academic collaborating institution.

The overall goal of NEXus is to address the nursing shortage by educating well-prepared nurse educators through application of distance accessible delivery methods, enabling rural nurses to remain in their home communities and be employed in rural nursing education programs.

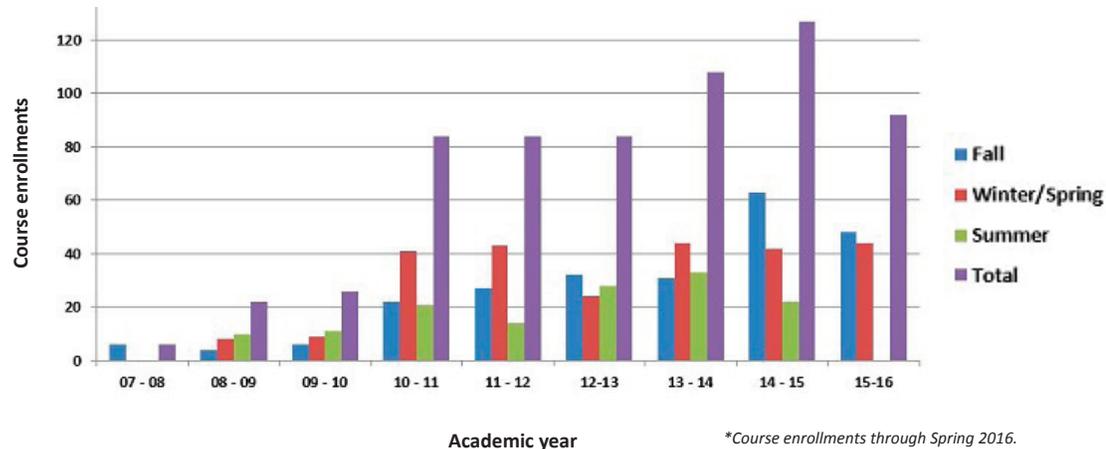
NEXus offers two types of membership, the Academic Collaborator and the Academic Affiliate. An Academic Collaborator is a school/college of nursing that participates in NEXus as both a teaching institution and a home institution. An Academic Affiliate is a school/college of nursing that participates in NEXus solely as a home institution and does not offer shared courses through the exchange.

ANNUAL DUES

- **Academic Collaborators:** \$5,000
 - **Academic Affiliates:** \$6,000
 - **First-year new member premium:** \$1,000
- Add \$1,000 for each additional program per institution.*

NEXus is currently accepting applications for membership.

Proof that NEXus is working



“Because of NEXus and the NEXus courses I’ve been able to take, I’m much more well rounded; I think I have a better resume.”

— Nexus Student

The Course Xchange

Member institutions identify courses to offer through the online course Xchange. Courses are clustered by area of interest to assist students and their advisors in selecting the best match that can serve as an elective in the student's program of study or possibly substitute for a required course for an off-time student. Numerous courses are open to both PhD and DNP students, further enriching the doctoral education experience.

ACTIVE CLUSTERS

- Advanced Nursing Practice*
- Children, Parents and Family
- Chronic and Disabling Conditions and Palliative Care
- Diverse and Vulnerable Populations
- Ethics and Interprofessional Collaboration*
- Gerontology and Geriatric Nursing
- Nursing Education
- Nursing Knowledge: Theory, Philosophy and Science
- Research Methodology
 - Qualitative Research Methods
 - Quantitative Research Methods
 - Mixed Methods
- Scholarship and Writing
- Scientific Underpinnings for Advanced Nursing Practice*
- Systems, Leadership, Informatics and Policy

*DNP Specific

NEXus 3.0: Collaborating on Research

by Barbara Haas

The NEXus consortium was originally created to support and enhance the educational experience of PhD nursing students and later expanded to include Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP students). The 2013 collaborative agreement with the National Hartford Centers of Gerontological Nursing Excellence is often referred to internally as NEXus 2.0 as it marked a new initiative for the organization.



A major focus of PhD education is research. NEXus 3.0, with a focus on research collaboration, signifies another initiative for NEXus. During annual executive committee meetings and through casual conversations, it became apparent that, as members of NEXus, we faced similar research challenges. The impetus for NEXus 3.0 was a conversation between Dr. Suzanne Dickerson, University of Buffalo, and Dr. Barbara Haas, The University of Texas at Tyler. Dr. Haas had a dissertation student whose research focus had shifted from exercise among college age students to sleep. However, Dr. Haas and her colleagues did not have expertise in sleep-related research. Serendipitously, Dr. Dickerson did! And thus a new level of collaboration and collegiality began. The student from Tyler, Texas met Dr. Dickerson, from Buffalo, NY, at the annual SLEEP conference in Seattle. There, they were able to discuss ideas. Dr. Dickerson agreed to serve on the student's dissertation committee. The student, who will defend her dissertation in spring 2016 has submitted an abstract to present at the next SLEEP conference; Dr. Dickerson is a co-author.

This small step signifies a potentially big opportunity for NEXus institutions' faculty and students. Research expertise among faculty can help locate appropriate dissertation committee members who then may become research teams following the student's graduation. Perhaps students of the future will be able to collaborate on teams and form long-term research partnerships. Or perhaps faculty from the different institutions can locate a research partner. It may be that NEXus collaborating institutions will serve as multi-site data collection. Though NEXus 3.0 is in its nascent stage, the hope is that it will offer PhD students and faculty opportunities to reach out to academic collaborators across the country to build research teams, share expertise, and leverage access to multi-site projects.

NEXus Students are graduating

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015*	Total
Phd Degrees Awarded	1	2	7	15	20	24	28	97
DNP Degrees Awarded		2	4	8	6	8	13	41

Students from NEXus member institutions are completing their respective degrees and graduating. Of the 138 graduates, 97 students have received their PhD and 41 have received their DNP.

Here's what students are saying... "I had an opportunity to study with an expert in the field. I would not have had that opportunity without NEXus. Thank you!"

"My school needs NEXus to facilitate electives. It creates a wonderful opportunity and less stress for us to find electives. I can't imagine how electives would be found without NEXus."

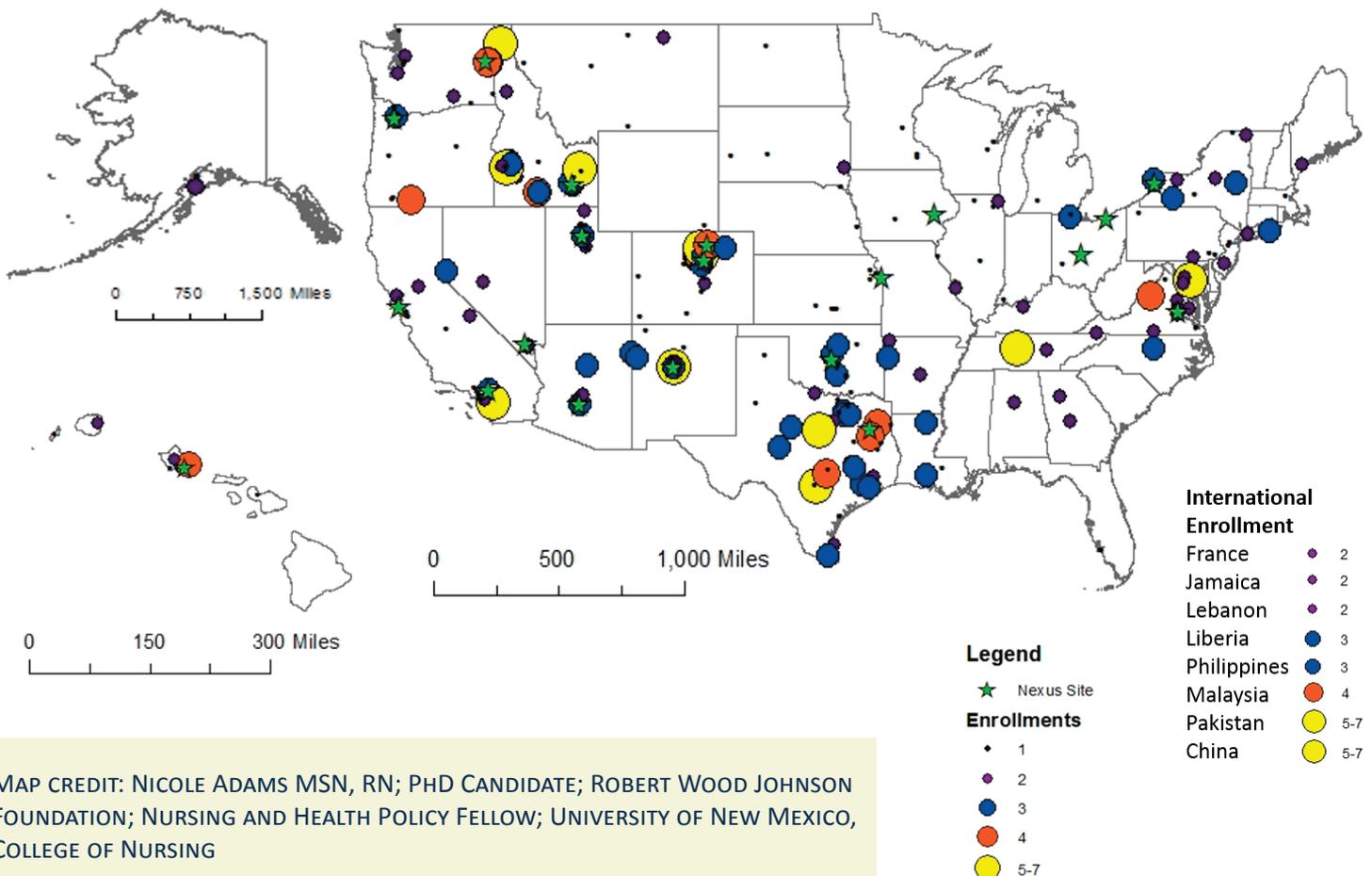
Summer 2016 Courses Open!

Fifteen member institutions are offering 54 different courses. For a complete list of courses and course descriptions along with detailed information on registration and enrollment procedures visit

www.winexus.org

First application **deadline date** is **April 15, 2016**

Reaching beyond the US - member institutions and enrollments



MAP CREDIT: NICOLE ADAMS MSN, RN; PHD CANDIDATE; ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION; NURSING AND HEALTH POLICY FELLOW; UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO, COLLEGE OF NURSING

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Student Feature: Mellisa Dollings



Mellisa is a part time PhD student at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) School of Nursing. She says, "NEXus classes have been an excellent supplement to the PhD offerings at my home institution. Our program at VCU mainly has a biobehavioral focus which is perfect for me but I really appreciated being able to take classes specifically geared toward grant

writing and writing for publication. I know others in my program have also appreciated being able to take classes geared toward teaching and nursing education to supplement their studies. My most recent class was taken with a well known nursing leader and past president of the Texas Nurse's Association. She is well published and really helped me hone my writing skills. We are so fortunate to have this wealth of knowledge and experience from across the country at our fingertips through NEXus."

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