

Friday, Jun 15, 2018

Oakland University Board of Trustees approves Ph.D. in Nursing program

The Oakland University Board of Trustees has approved a Ph.D. in Nursing program.

This new program will be offered online to attract prospective candidates from a variety of locations throughout the state and provide the flexibility that adult scholars require to complete their degree. It will offer three options for study: BSN-Ph.D., MSN-Ph.D. and a unique DNP-Ph.D.

Laura Pittiglio Ph.D., R.N. who was one of the lead program developers, believes that the program is critical for preparing nurse researchers to provide evidence that becomes the basis for nursing practice and improvement of patient care.

“The demand for further advancement in health care knowledge continues to increase dramatically,” Pittiglio said. “Ph.D. prepared nurse scholars are crucial to benefiting the health needs of society as well as generate new knowledge,”

Oakland University’s Ph.D. in Nursing program addresses the 2010 Institute of Medicine Future of Nursing report recommendation that nursing schools double the number of nurses with a doctorate by 2020.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing reports an insufficient number of nurse faculty, which negatively affects the acceptance rate qualified nursing students. Additionally, the vacancy rate for nursing faculty positions in the U.S. is 7.9 percent and over 92 percent of these positions require a doctoral degree in nursing.

The new Ph.D. in Nursing program at Oakland University will provide a fresh pipeline to develop additional nurse researchers and nursing faculty to address the demand.

This unique program will foster student success through faculty-student mentoring in an online community. The program will have annual residency opportunities where students will come to the Oakland University campus to meet in an enriched environment of research contributes to basic and applied knowledge in nursing and prepares transformational leaders for key health care positions locally, national, a globally.

“The School of Nursing is eager to offer a Ph.D. (research doctorate) and feels it will complement the DNP (clinical doctorate) that we currently offer to the nursing community,” said Judy Didion, Ph.D. RN, dean of the School of Nursing.

Oakland University is looking for students who are interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in Nursing which will begin in 2019. The Ph.D. program is housed in Oakland University’s School of Nursing which currently offers three BSN tracks and four graduate degree programs, including the News and World Report No. 18-ranked Doctor of Nursing Practice in Nurse Anesthesia in conjunction with Beaumont Health System.

For more information on the Ph.D. in Nursing program, contact the School of Nursing at (248) 370-4253 or nrsinfo@oakland.edu.



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