

# IF2- Investment Fund for the Future - Entry #130 2018-2019

## PROPOSAL SUMMARY

**Title:** The College at Brockport Graduate Nursing (FNP) Program Start-Up Needs

**Project Lead Name:** Elizabeth Heavey

**Project Lead eMail Address:** eheavey@brockport.edu

**Project Lead Department:** Nursing

**Project Lead School/Division:** School of Education, Health, & Human Services

**Total Amount Requested:** \$34,598.00

**Name of Sponsor 1:** Thomas Hernandez

## A. PROPOSAL DESCRIPTION & IMPACT

### A-1. Description of the Initiative.

A proposal to reinstate the Master's Program in Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner) has been approved and registered by NYSED. It is a hybrid executive program, with graduate students coming to campus five weekends a year. Many of the courses will be 100% asynchronous. Curriculum has been designed for this program, but the courses will need to be built in Blackboard. We currently have a large number of faculty consistently teaching overload for fall and spring. In addition, our faculty are actively teaching in both winter and summer sessions. We do not have the option to provide course release time for the courses to be developed and built. The courses that need to be built are highly interactive online graduate courses that are required to meet the state mandates as well as accreditation standards for the FNP program. They must be up to date with current treatment guidelines to provide the best primary care for patients throughout the lifespan. Being awarded the amount requested will provide, already overloaded faculty who will build these courses, some compensation for the time and energy being asked of them in addition to their regular responsibilities.

In addition, additional equipment needs to be purchased for use by nurse practitioner students in the simulation lab for courses such as Advanced Diagnostics and Procedures. Our laboratory facilities are currently only being used by undergraduate students who do not perform the same level of assessment and diagnostics as nurse practitioner students.

Last, money is being requested to send the graduate coordinator and graduate clinical coordinator to a national conference to insure a high quality program that meets accreditation standards.

### A-2. Impact Statement: What change will this project deliver in the short term? What are the expected longer-term impacts?

The impact of the graduate program is substantial for the college and even statewide. First, it will benefit our greater Rochester Community. The Masters of Science in Nursing program prepares practicing registered nurses for advanced practice roles as nurse practitioners who are able to meet the increasingly complex health needs of diverse populations within the Rochester area and beyond. This two-year, full-time program has approximately 42 post bachelor's credits and 750 total post-bachelor's

clinical hours. It is anticipated that the program will be accredited by the AACN. This program directly impacts the number of primary care providers that will be available within our rural community and beyond.

The high quality and much in demand graduate program will also have a significant positive impact on the campus by admitting an additional 25 graduate students each year of the two-year program. This will bring in a substantial amount of graduate tuition during the academic year as well as the summer session. In addition, the Master's program is the first step in the strategic plan for graduate level nursing programs at the college. The Department of Nursing has written a proposal for a master plan amendment that would allow The College at Brockport to award a clinical doctorate (Doctor of Nursing Practice). The SUNY Board of Trustees passed the proposal with a unanimous vote on 1/22/18 sending the DNP program to SED for approval. Once the proposed master plan amendment is in place, a clinical doctoral program (DNP) will be awarded by the Department of Nursing making us the first comprehensive college in the SUNY system to award clinical doctorates. The work behind achieving this statewide change has been and continues to be completed by faculty in the department in addition to their regular teaching, scholarship and service responsibilities. Securing this master plan amendment also allows other departments on campus to propose additional clinical doctoral programs. Further, the graduate tuition rate charged by SUNY for DNP programs is almost double the standard graduate tuition rate. This will eventually generate even larger tuition revenues for the campus. The impact of the work involved in developing this graduate program will be felt state wide.

## **B. STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT**

B-1. Outline the ways in which the proposed investment will contribute to the College Strategic Plan Goals, and if appropriate, their Measures of Success.

The primary strategic goal is to be a great college at which to learn.

Funding is requested to purchase the needed simulation and lab equipment that our graduate students need in order to learn life-saving diagnostic and treatment skills in an appropriately equipped environment. Our lab is currently well equipped to meet the needs of undergraduate students and is in need of additional models and supplies to ensure the teaching needs of graduate FNP students are met.

Funding will also provide faculty members the time and support needed to build well designed courses required in the first year of the graduate program. Faculty will do so using Librarian Support as well as Instructional Designer Support. Nursing faculty teach year round and frequently carry overload instructional credits even in the summer months. Developing high quality online courses that engage students with subject content, their peers, their professors and their community takes time and innovation. Several of our nursing faculty members are recognized on campus and throughout the state for their online course delivery skills and mentorship. Awarding the requested funds would allow faculty to build online and hybrid courses that encourage outstanding student and faculty engagement. All of the faculty will continue to carry their full contractual teaching load while developing of these courses. Fairly compensating faculty members for the large amount of work that needs to be done is an essential step in ensuring high quality online course builds that meet accreditation standards.

Funding is being requested to send the graduate director and the clinical coordinator to attend two critical national conferences (one each) to insure a high quality program that meets accreditation

standards. The department is has begun the graduate program accreditation process and anticipates hosting an accreditation on-site evaluation in the fall of 2019.

This Master's program will provide excellent Family Nurse Practitioners to practice within our community of the great Rochester area and New York State. This will have direct impact of the health outcomes of the individuals and families our Family Nurse Practitioner graduates will serve. There is a shortage of primary care providers throughout the state of New York; particularly in the rural areas of upstate New York. This program will provide graduates to fill this void.

The addition of the graduate nursing program will also transform the Department of Nursing and provide additional opportunities for our current undergraduate students who want to continue in a SUNY graduate program. This master's program will provide feeder students into our clinical doctorate program (DNP) which will begin in the fall of 2020. Our department and others throughout the campus will be eligible to award practice doctorates. The College at Brockport will become a leader and an example of transformation within the SUNY system. Awarding the funds requested in this proposal will allow the graduate program to be built well and to take the next step towards realizing the DNP program. The Masters in Nursing program needs to be up and running before beginning the DNP.

## **C. SUSTAINABILITY**

C-1. How will this initiative become self-sustaining beyond the initial funding period? The funds requested are for one time costs associated with starting the first year of the graduate program and are not recurring first year expenses.

## **D. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

D-1. Identify the specific activities to be funded from the Investment Fund. Provide an estimated timeline for implementation and for activities anticipated to be ongoing. The purchase of equipment and supplies will occur in the spring and summer of 2018.

Conference travel will occur in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Seven courses will be fully built and operational within the Blackboard content management system by the 2018-2019 academic year when the graduate program will begin.

## **E. CONSULTATION**

E-1. For requests involving technology. Has the Chief Information Officer (Bob Cushman or his designee) reviewed this proposal and verified potential costs as it relates to technology: Not Applicable

E-2. For requests involving facilities. Has the Director of Facilities & Planning (John Osowski or his designee) reviewed this proposal and verified potential costs as it relates to facilities: Not Applicable

E-3. The Project Lead has confirmed other required resources with the appropriate supervisor:

## F. BUDGET & OTHER FUNDING SOURCES

F-1. Itemized Budget (Excel format ONLY): [On file]

F-2. Total Amount Requested: \$34,598.00

F-3. This proposal includes: Cost sharing. A faculty stipend.

F-4. Other funding sources\* for this proposal? Not applicable.

F-5. Is the success of the project contingent on receipt of funds from any additional funding source(s)? No

## G. ASSESSMENT PLAN

G-1. How will you assess/measure the effectiveness of this initiative? Provide anticipated outcomes and specific measurements for success.

Seven courses will be fully built and operational within the Blackboard content management system by the 2018-2019 academic year when the graduate program will begin. Courses will be assessed using the Open SUNY OSCQR rubric by the program director.

Assessment of the program once instituted will include admission rates, retention rates, graduation rates, certification pass rates, student satisfaction and comparisons with national norms and competencies.

## H. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

H-1. Please provide any additional information to assist in the review of the proposal, including why the initiative cannot be funded from divisional resources.

Upload up to three supplemental files here (not required): [On file]

**Signature of Project Lead:** [on file]

**Project Lead Email:** eheavey@brockport.edu

***Signatures of sponsors are on file in the Administration and Finance Division.***