

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO SUSPEND ADMISSIONS TO THE MASTER IN NURSING  
AND HEALTH CARE PRACTICE PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by the University of Iowa to suspend admissions to the Master in Nursing and Health Care Practice (MNHP) Program.

**Executive Summary:** The request to suspend admissions to the Program is based on the fact that the University is undergoing a transition from its stand-alone MNHP Program to a new Clinical Nurse Leader sub-track, which has been created in the Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Program. This request was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. There are no objections to the proposed suspension of admissions to the program. This request is consistent with the Board of Regents' strategy (4.1.1) to "pursue opportunities to realize greater efficiency in operations, consistent with best practices in the delivery of education and other services."

**Background:**

- ◇ **Creation of MNHP Program.** In 2003, the Board of Regents approved the creation of the MNHP Program at the University of Iowa. The program was created in response to a 1999 recommendation from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) for more effective nursing education programs to meet client care needs in the health care delivery system by preparing clinical nurse leaders. These leaders would be responsible for designing, implementing, and evaluating client care through the coordination, delegation, and supervision of care provided by the health care team of licensed nurses, technicians, and other health professionals.
- ◇ **MSN Program Sub-Track.** In 2004, the AACN updated its curriculum recommendations for preparing clinical nurse leaders and the University concluded that a more effective way to meet the recommendations was through the creation of a Clinical Nurse Leader sub-track in the existing MSN Program which is administered by the Graduate College. Eventually, the Clinical Nurse Leader sub-track in the MSN Program will replace the MNHP Program.
- ◇ **Current enrollment.** Currently, there are 61 students enrolled in the MNHP Program. These students will be offered the option of transferring to the Clinical Nurse Leader MSN sub-track; it is anticipated that the majority of the students will choose to transfer to the new sub-track. Students who choose to complete the MNHP Program will be allowed to do so; however, no new students will be admitted to the MNHP Program.
- ◇ **Future admissions.** If the University's proposal to suspend admissions to the MNHP Program is approved, new students who seek preparation as clinical nurse leaders will be directed to the new Clinical Nurse Leader sub-track in the MSN Program.

Details about the proposed suspension of admissions are available in the Board Office.