AACN-AONE TASK FORCE ON ACADEMIC-PRACTICE PARTNERSHIPS

Summary of Academic-Practice Partnerships Survey Results

Members from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (N=654), the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE) (N= 1,450), and the Association of State and Territorial Directors of Public Health Nursing were surveyed by email using Survey Monkey. Those surveyed were asked to think about a partnership that they viewed as successful. They were then asked specific questions related to that partnership. Responses were received from 45% or 295 of deans; or 111 of the Nurse Executives; and 32 leaders in Public Health Nursing. The majority of respondents indicated that they met with their partners on a regular basis ranging from monthly to 1-2 times per year. The top partnership activity cited by all participants was student clinical placements followed by joint research committees, joint memberships on other committees, consultation, and clinical projects. More than 60% of participants did not collect data on outcomes of their partnerships. Data that were collected included: NCLEX-RN pass rates, hiring of students, retention rates of graduate hires, graduates pursuing advanced degrees, and staff teaching in the academic setting. The majority (more than 50%) did not have written goals or objectives for their partnership and for those who did, these goals focused on clinical education of students. The top three barriers to academic-service partnerships consistently cited included: lack of time, lack of resources, and lack of communication. The top three facilitators included: shared vision with mutual goals and objectives, clear communication, and regular contact and engagement.