Conference Attended: ACHNE (Association of Community Health Nursing Educators) 2022 Annual Institute. Looking Back: Lessons We Carry Forward to Shape the Future of Community and Public Health Nursing.

Date: June 9-11, 2022

Department/Unit: College of Nursing

Award Amount: $1,249

Briefly summarize how your attendance at the conference enhanced your professional development as a teaching in higher education.

Attending this conference was essential to move forward with implementing the new BSN Essentials from the AACN. Attending this conference not only invigorated my passions for teaching Community Health Practicum, but also allowed for collaboration of ideas and techniques in teaching in our current environment. Every educator in the room (approximately 100 attendees) are in similar situation of needing to update curriculum and the design of implementation for education. We were able to share our fears, our dreams, and ideas as we move forward.

There were five objectives to the conference focused on historical community/public health nursing and taking that to the future. The focuses within the community/public health include impacts of COVID-19 pandemic, innovative strategies for education, research/scholarship and practice, policies and programs, social justices, and equitable communities and finally leadership development. The most impactful for me was the focus on social justice and policy work within nursing. I was able to identify a gap within the Community Health Practicum and hear how other programs optimize these areas.

Another amazing thing that happened during the attendance of this conference was that I could identify that our team here at the College of Nursing are doing a really good job! It is so wonderful to see that we are doing things and making connections within the community in innovative ways.

How have you been able to share what you learned about teaching with the campus?

I will list my sharing from the conference in the future tense (due to the timeline of the conference attendance and this summary).
• Within our Community Health teaching team I will share two main ideas. I created a new assignment that is focused on student community work and policy. Secondly, I will share creative ways of connecting students with the community.

• Within the college of Nursing I will share ideas and curricular designs that were presented. The AACN essentials highlight Community/Population Health much more than in the current curriculum. I was able to note ideas and curricular designs that other colleges are using and will use this information to contribute during this tedious process.

• Campus level I have applied and received the designation of Community Engagement Course (CEC). This designation allows me to share changes and updates of the course at a campus level.

Thank you so much for providing me this opportunity to attend the conference. As stated above this conference helped me develop relationships and connections with brilliant people and the inspiration to help carry through the rigorous curriculum redesign.

In gratitude.