

Comprehensive Program Review Report

Institution: Middle Georgia State University

Academic Program Name: Master of Science in Nursing with a Major in Adult/Gerontology
Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (MSN)

CIP Code: 51.3801

College or School: School of Health & Natural Sciences

Department: Nursing

Date of Last Internal Review: N/A

Outcome of Previous Program Review (brief narrative statement): N / A

Current Date: 3/5/2020

Provost Response: *Provide a summary related to the program productivity, viability, and quality. If this is the initial review of the program address how the program is/is not meeting the enrollment and credit hour projects contained in the original program proposal. Include a statement of plans for action based on the overall categorical summation contained in the next section.*

With the MSN being one of the first two graduate programs at MGA, it has done excellent job in showing its viability. The MSN has shown steady gradual increase in enrollment growth since it started in 2016. Starting enrollment in Fall 2016 was 18 graduate students. As of Fall 2019, the enrollment was 50 graduate students. The MSN program has shown an excellent growth of 40.57% over the last 4 years, with enrollment increasing every year.

There has been a total of 32 MSN graduates since the program started. Along with increasing graduation numbers from the MSN program, they also continue to have graduates successfully pass the national examination to become Board Certified Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners (AGACNP) through the American Nurse credentialing center. Graduates' pass rates for this national exam have been 91%, 100%, and 100% respectively since 2017.

The MSN program is also accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN).

As stated by Dr. Kevin Cantwell, "Nursing education has always been one of the backbones in MGA's portfolio of academic degrees, and the MSN has added to that reputation." With the increasing need for healthcare providers, this program will steadily grow and continue to help fill the needs in the medical field to help with the world's growing population.

Categorical Summation

Check any of the following to categorically describe action(s) the institution will take concerning this program.

Program MEETS Institution's Criteria

Program is critical to the institutional mission and will be retained.

Program is critical to the institutional mission and is growing or a high demand field and thus will be enhanced.

Program PARTIALLY MEETS Institution's Criteria and will be re-evaluated in _____.

Program DOES NOT MEET Institution's Criteria

Program will be placed on a monitoring status.

Program will undergo substantive curricular revisions.

Program will be deactivated.

Program will be voluntarily terminated.

Other (identify/add text):

Provost or VPAA Signature: Dr. Michael Gibbons on behalf of the Provost, Dr. Jon Anderson

Date: 3/5/2020



Comprehensive Program Review Report

Academic Program Name: Master of Science in Nursing

College or School: School of Health & Natural Sciences

Department: Nursing

Date of Last Internal Review: n/a

Outcome of Previous Program Review (brief narrative statement, if applicable): n/a

Current Date: 3/4/2020

Executive Summary: *Provide a summary related to the program productivity, viability, and quality. If this is the initial review of the program address how the program is/is not meeting the enrollment and credit hour projects contained in the original program proposal. Include a statement of plans for action based on the overall categorical summation contained in the next section.*

The Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration in Adult Gerontology Acute Care was granted initial accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) in the year of 2017. Since its inception, the MSN program has remained a productive and high quality program. The enrollment and graduation rates continue towards an upward trajectory. Specific data is as follows:

Major	Enrollment				Grand Total
	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	
Nursing - MSN	14	6	30	23	73

GRADUATION DATA

Major	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	*2019-2020	Grand Total
Nursing - MSN		17	15	22	54

In addition to the data above, most of our graduates successfully pass the national examination to become Board Certified Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners (AGACNP) through the American Nurse credentialing Center. Pass rates for this national exam for our graduates have been 91%, 100%, and 100% respectively since 2017.

“The MSN program is one of the first two graduate programs at MGA and has been critical in establishing its reputation as a leader in the state university sector in providing graduate nursing education for Nurse Practitioners. Under the direction of excellent leaders and a highly qualified faculty, the program graduates have achieved enviable pass rates on professional benchmarks of 91%, 100%, and 100%. 84% of graduates have passed boards and have secured employment. The dean has discussed new marketing pushes with MarComm and Graduate Studies, and that should be the priority for AY21. Continue to work with Office of Graduate Studies on high-impact learning sessions for its graduate students in writing skills. Nursing education has always been one of the backbones in MGA’s portfolio of academic degrees, and the MSN has added to that reputation.” ~ Dr. Kevin Cantwell, Associate Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies

Handwritten initials "KC" inside an oval.

Categorical Summation

Check any of the following to categorically describe action(s) the institution will take concerning this program.

Program MEETS Institution's Criteria

- Program is critical to the institutional mission and will be retained.
- Program is critical to the institutional mission and is growing or a high demand field and thus will be enhanced.

Program DOES NOT MEET Institution's Criteria

- Program will be placed on a monitoring status.
- Program will undergo substantive curricular revisions.
- Program will be deactivated.
- Program will be voluntarily terminated.
- Other (identify/add text):

Academic Dean Signature:

Dean of Graduate Studies Signature (when applicable):

Date:

3/5/20






Comprehensive Program Review

FY 2019 – 2020

Institution: Middle Georgia State University

Academic Program: MSN

College or School: School of Health & Natural Sciences

Department: Nursing

CIP Code: 513801

Date of Last Internal Review: n/a

Faculty Completing Report: Donna Ingram, Lawanda Greene

Current Date:

5 Year Enrollment by Campus and Graduation Trends

Enrollment

Campus	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019	5 YR Growth
Macon	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Cochran	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Warner Robins	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Dublin	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Eastman	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Online	N/A	18	26	44	50	40.57%
Off Campus	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total	N/A	18	26	44	50	40.57%

Graduates

AY 2015	AY 2016	AY 2017	AY 2018	AY 2019	5 YR Growth
N/A	N/A	11	6	15	16.77%

Program purpose and mission

The purpose of Middle Georgia State University Master of Science in Nursing Program is to equip students with the advanced skills and knowledge necessary to deliver care in acute healthcare environments including emergency rooms, intensive care units, trauma units, and in advanced diagnostic areas.

The mission is to prepare advanced practice nurses to provide care to the entire adult to older adult age population and across the continuum of care, particularly those with acute care needs.

Align of program mission with department, school, and institutional mission

The Department of Nursing, School of Health & Natural Science, and MSN program mission statements align because the overall goal is to prepare competent nursing professionals who will provide healthcare to patients across the lifespan. The mission of the MSN program aligns with the core values and mission/goals of MGA. Common themes and threads among MGA graduates include lifelong learning, cultural facets, leadership, professionalism, informational technology integration, quality, and collaboration. The identified themes are critical components to the foundation of advanced practice and support the alignment of this program with MGA's mission and core values.

Program age, tracks, concentrations

The MSN program began Spring 2016 and currently consists of one concentration, which is the Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.

Accreditation information/status

The program received initial accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing in 2017 for a period of five years. The next site visit is slated for Spring 2022.

Method(s) of delivery

All courses in the program are offered fully online with intensive/immersion sessions held on campus each semester.

Changes since last review- N/A

Benchmarks of progress

- Enrollment has doubled since program inception.
- Student population extending outside the Middle Georgia area. A large percentage of students reside in the Metro Atlanta area.
- There have been 32 graduates since program inception with 23 scheduled to graduate Spring 2020.
- First time pass rate on American Nurse Credentialing Center (ANCC) Adult Gerontology Acute Care Certification Exam:
 - Cohort 1- 91%
 - Cohort 2- 100% (no information available on one student)
 - Cohort 3- 100% (no information available on two students)
- 84% of students that have tested and passed boards have secured employment as Nurse practitioners.

- Graduates are employed in areas such as Atlanta, Macon, Jesup, Athens, Savannah, and Augusta.
- Graduates have secured positions in the following areas: infectious disease, oncology, pulmonary, gastrointestinal, palliative care, pain management, trauma, internal and hospital medicine.
- One graduate is enrolled in a Doctor of Nursing Practice/ Certified Nurse Anesthetist Program (DNP/CRNA).
- 100% of graduates stated they were satisfied with the MSN program.

Plans for action

A review of the Systematic Evaluation Plan lead to the revision of some program outcomes.

Program Completion

ELA: 70% of students who enter the MSN class will complete the MSN program within 3 years.

Program data: The ELA has been met once out of the past two cohorts. Most students withdraw from the program within the first semester due to the inability to manage work and academic demands.

Revision: Voted to decrease the ELA to 65% Fall 2019 based on our student demographics and trends.

Job Placement

ELA: 100% of graduates will be employed in an advanced practice role within 6 to 12 months.

Program data: The ELA has not been met once out of the past three cohorts.

Revision: Voted to change ELA to 75%. Will also increase the response rate by completing phone surveys. Changed survey data collection of May graduates to the following April to allow more time to have tested and gain employment.

Shifting trends and market forces that may impact program demand

Healthcare reform has increased the number of individuals with health insurance, which has increased the need for the healthcare providers.

The older adult population is increasing and is expected to reach over 80 million by 2050. Donaworth (2017) indicated older adults utilize a large portion of service in the critical care setting due to multiple comorbidities (para. 1).

“The growing disparity between the numbers of critical care providers to the numbers of patients has precipitated the increased need for adult-gerontology acute care nurse practitioners (AG-ACNP) in critical care arenas” (Donaworth, 2017, para.4).

“APRNs will be in high demand, particularly in medically underserved areas such as inner cities and rural areas” (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019).

“Overall employment of nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners is projected to grow 26 percent from 2018 to 2028” (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2019).

Hospitals are the primary practice site for Adult -Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioners (AGACNP). Critical care units are where most AGACNP’s work.

References

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. (2019). Occupational outlook handbook, *nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and nurse practitioners*. Retrieved from:

<https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nurse-anesthetists-nurse-midwives-and-nurse-practitioners.htm>

Donaworth, S.L. (2017) Making the Case for Adult-Gerontology Critical Care Nurse Practitioner Fellowships. *The Online Journal of Issues in Nursing*, 22(3). doi: 10.3912/OJIN.Vol22No03PPT54

IERB Comprehensive Program Review Rubric and Evaluation

Date Reviewed: 2/28/2020

Program Reviewed: MS in Nursing

Contextual Notes: Summarize any demographic or environmental factors described in the introduction that might significantly impact assessment of the program

This program seems like a very healthy growing program.

Area of Focus	Exemplary Area	Satisfactory Area	Area of Concern	No Evidence	Notes
Enrollment	<i>This program has significantly positive enrollment trends and robust credit hour production</i>	<i>This program has stable or moderately positive enrollment trends and healthy credit hour production</i>	<i>This program has negative enrollment trends and weak credit hour production</i>		Enrollment is continuously increasing.
Graduation Trends USG benchmark: Bachelor's Degrees: 10 graduates/year Graduate, Associate's or Certificates: 5 graduates/year <small>Programs falling under these benchmarks are designated as "low performing"</small>	<i>Three year rolling average greatly exceeds USG minimum benchmark for degrees conferred</i>	<i>Three year rolling average meets or exceeds USG minimum benchmark for degrees conferred</i>	<i>Three year rolling average does not meet USG minimum benchmark for degrees conferred; the program is "low performing" by USG definition</i>		The graduation rate has never been below 5.

IERB Comprehensive Program Review Rubric and Evaluation

Program Strengths of Note:

- MSN program is doing great in all areas.
- The employment rate of 84% is excellent. Additionally, it is great that the graduates have stayed nearby.

Areas of Concern:

- If there is no information on one or two students, how can you have 100% certification?

Other Comments:

- In “Plans for Action” and “Job Placement” you have the acronym ELA. What is ELA?