



Facilitating Student Admission to AND-BSN Pathways: The Montgomery College on-going experience

Laurie Williams, MS, Med; Raquel Bertiz, PhD, RN, CNE

The Institute of Medicine Landmark report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, highlighted the need for major changes in the US Health Care System which will equally have profound implications for the education of nurses. Thus, the goal is to increase the number of practicing RNs by the year 2020 to 80%. Collaboration ensued throughout the years after this report by practice leaders, nursing educators and policy makers to realize this goal. Montgomery College is one of the collaborators to increase the number of BSN educated nurses in Maryland/Montgomery County. In its early stages at this point, the ADN to BSN Pathway project currently implements processes and programs based on research and evidence to enhance the academic progression of students in a community college setting. The various initiatives that are currently in progress at Montgomery College include information sessions, transfer events, advising for pre-nursing and nursing students, and Nursing immersion programs. Nursing immersion programs are specifically designed for pre-nursing students or students considering a career in Nursing. These sessions provide interactive workshops, learning activities in the simulation lab, and information on prerequisite coursework needed for BSN programs. Academic opportunities and career exploration within the Nursing field are also discussed. This poster presentation will describe the different initiatives currently underway through the ADN to BSN Pathway office at Montgomery College, whose mission is: to empower students to pursue the best pathway towards their educational advancement in the Nursing profession. The presentation will also discuss the collaborative process necessary to implement outreach activities and the program outcomes recorded thus far.