

SUMMARY

Master's education at the University of Maryland School of Nursing is a vital component of the school's mission and vision. The School of Nursing, one of the largest in the nation, has pioneered Master's education and graduated advanced practice nurses who hold key leadership positions in nursing and healthcare. Through this review process, many strengths of the Master's program have been identified. These include:

- Strong institutional support for master's education at the campus level, the Graduate School, and the School of Nursing.
- The administrator for the Master's program is a doctorally prepared nurse practitioner and seasoned educator who is a member of the American Academy of Nursing
- An excellent pool of applicants for master's education that represent a diverse group of highly qualified nurses
- A highly qualified faculty who are leaders in research, teaching, and practice. Many of these highly productive scholars are certified as advanced practice nurses and nurse practitioner who maintain active clinical practices.
- A curriculum that builds on the strengths of undergraduate education and incorporates national standards and guidelines. The plans of study reflect a blend of core and specialty courses specific to the specialty.
- Superb physical facilities in a new state-of-the art building that houses the Clinical Simulation Laboratories and the Clinical and Evaluation Laboratories.
- An outstanding Health Sciences and Human Services Library with an extensive online and paper based collection.
- The location of the School of Nursing that provides excellent access to a wealth of clinical sites for students.
- A Clinical Enterprise operated by the School of Nursing that offers students unparalleled opportunities to practice under the direction of nursing faculty.
- A large group of highly qualified clinical preceptors who are committed to master's education

- The fiscal strength of the School of Nursing. Although the funding from the State of Maryland has declined recently, the School of Nursing remains fiscally strong and has increased its source of revenue from grants and contracts.

Concerns and Plans for the Future

As we look to the future of master's education, we face many challenges. There is clearly a need to increase the supply of advanced practice nurses. The challenge is to know what will be the role of the advanced practice nurse of the future and what knowledge and skills will be needed to meet the demand. Some of the issues and concerns that were identified through this self study process include:

- Determining a realistic length of study for each specialty track. The challenge is to maintain quality, meet certification requirements, and remain competitive in the market.
- Devising an efficient recruitment and marketing plan that is cost effective and yields results.
- Recruiting a larger number of full-time students that can move through the program in a timely fashion and enter the workforce as rapidly as possible.
- Providing adequate resources to support the unique needs of international students.
- Expanding sources of scholarships and financial aid so that these funds can be used as a recruitment tool to increase the numbers of full time students.
- Recruiting and maintaining a cadre of qualified faculty as we face an era of faculty shortage.
- Determining an appropriate balance between the number of students in a specialty and the appropriate number of faculty to teach the specialty.
- Deciding what specialties are needed for the future, what specialty tracks could be re-configured to meet the needs of the healthcare system, and what new specialty tracks should be offered. What specialties are viable and marketable? For example, should the Master's specialty in education be re-instituted? Should we add a nurse anesthesia specialty track? The Administrative Council of the School of Nursing approved the Criteria for Initiating, Continuing, and Closing of Specialty Majors Tracks in the Master's Program that serves as a guide for these decisions. See Appendix G.
- What is the future of the clinical nurse specialist role? How should the competencies of the clinical nurse specialist role be integrated into Master's education?

- Determining which specialty tracks are appropriate for web-based education and which specialty can be delivered via the web. How can the resources of the School of Nursing be allocated to meet the demand for web-based education?
- Deciding the role of the Master's Specialty Coordinator. Currently, the role is a "quasi administrative role" without clear definition. The role does not appear on the SON organizational chart and exists without any written job description. Should the role continue, how it should be configured?
- Exploring ways to encourage more qualified RN to BSN applicants to seek the RN to MS option.
- Determining the feasibility of changing from a BSN to an MS option for highly qualified second degree students. Preliminary discussions with this group of applicants indicate that these students would prefer to earn a Master's degree rather than a second baccalaureate degree.
- Finding ways to encourage more of our highly qualified Master's applicants to change to the BSN-PhD option as well as exploring ways to encourage more of the Master's graduates to continue with doctoral study rather than waiting for a number of years before they return to school.

As the School of Nursing moves forward in keeping apace with the nursing industry and its new technologies and changing educational needs, these questions must be addressed. As one of the foremost leaders in nursing education, it is the responsibility of the School of Nursing to not only address these important questions and concerns, but to remain a leader in Master's education.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

Campus Wide Enrollment Data

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Fall 2002 Enrollment Report

Table 1. Headcount History by School, 1998-2002

School	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	Change			
						1 - YR		5 - YR	
						No.	%	No.	%
Dental	554	550	542	546	536	-10	-2%	-18	-3%
Law	854	893	849	958	878	-80	-8%	24	3%
Medicine	1,211	1,171	1,092	1,113	1,139	26	2%	-72	-6%
Nursing	1,417	1,344	1,300	1,383	1,430	47	3%	13	1%
Pharmacy	705	634	621	635	646	11	2%	-59	-9%
Social Work	962	961	933	841	841	0	0%	-121	-14%
Total School	5,703	5,553	5,337	5,476	5,470	-6	0%	-233	-4%
Graduate School	1,261	1,227	1,124	1,149	1,060	-89	-8%	-201	-17%

Note: Graduate students are counted in the Schools and are also totaled separately.

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Table 2. Headcount Change by Program

Level	Program	2001	2002	No. Change	% Change
Undergraduate					
	Nursing (BSN)	711	828	117	16%
	Dental Hygiene (BS)	60	59	-1	-2%
	Medical and Research Technology (BS)	46	39	-7	-15%
	Sub Total	817	926	109	13%
Graduate School					
	Dental (MS and PhD)	31	30	-1	-3%
	Medicine (MS and PhD)	321	309	-12	-4%
	Nursing (MS and PhD)	672	602	-70	-10%
	Pharmacy (PhD)	81	75	-6	-7%
	Social Work (PhD)	44	44	0	0%
	Sub Total	1,149	1,060	-89	-8%
Other Graduate					
	Genetic Counseling (MGC)	9	8	-1	-11%
	Physical Therapy (MPT)	151	91	-60	-40%
	Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	0	42	42	
	Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	0	37	37	
	Physical Therapy (DScPT)	17	31	14	82%
	Social Work (MSW)	797	797	0	0%
	Sub Total	974	1,006	32	3%
First Professional					
	Dental (DDS)	387	380	-7	-2%
	Law - Day (JD)	719	670	-49	-7%
	Law - Evening (JD)	239	208	-31	-13%
	Medicine (MD)	569	582	13	2%
	Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	419	449	30	7%
	Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	135	122	-13	-10%
	Sub Total	2,468	2,411	-57	-2%
Certificate					
	Dental Post Graduate	68	67	-1	-1%
	Sub Total	68	67	-1	-1%
Grand Total All Programs					
		5,476	5,470	-6	0%

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Table 3. Projected vs. Actual Headcount by Program

Level	Projected	Actual	Difference	% Difference
Undergraduate				
Nursing (BSN)	725	828	103	14%
Dental Hygiene (BS)	64	59	-5	-8%
Medical and Research Technology (BS)	41	39	-2	-5%
Sub Total	830	926	96	12%
Graduate School				
Dental (MS and PhD)	35	30	-5	-14%
Medicine (MS and PhD)	323	309	-14	-4%
Nursing (MS and PhD)	690	602	-88	-13%
Pharmacy (PhD)	89	75	-14	-16%
Social Work (PhD)	36	44	8	22%
Sub Total	1,173	1,060	-113	-10%
Other Graduate				
Genetic Counseling (MGC)	8	8	0	0%
Physical Therapy (MPT and DPT)	149	170	21	14%
Physical Therapy (DScPT)	17	31	14	82%
Social Work (MSW)	776	797	21	3%
Sub Total	950	1,006	56	6%
First Professional				
Dental (DDS)	389	380	-9	-2%
Law -Day (JD)	600	670	70	12%
Law - Evening (JD)	240	208	-23	-12%
Medicine (MD)	584	582	-2	0%
Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	445	449	4	1%
Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	101	122	21	21%
Sub Total	2,359	2,411	52	2%
Certificate				
Dental Post Graduate	67	67	0	0%
Sub Total	67	67	0	0%
Grand Total All Programs	5,379	5,470	91	2%

Projections are final August 1, 2002 enrollment projections coordinated by UMB Institutional Research and Planning

University of Maryland, Baltimore

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Table 4. FTES Change by Program

Level	2001	2002	No. Change	% Change
Undergraduate				
Nursing (BSN)	546	652	106	19%
Dental Hygiene (BS)	52	50	-2	-4%
Medical and Research Technology (BS)	45	38	-7	-16%
Sub Total	643	740	97	15%
Graduate School				
Dental (MS and PhD)	18	18	0	0%
Medicine (MS and PhD)	243	233	-10	-4%
Nursing (MS and PhD)	365	324	-41	-11%
Pharmacy (PhD)	68	65	-3	-4%
Social Work (PhD)	24	30	6	25%
Sub Total	718	670	-48	-7%
Other Graduate				
Genetic Counseling (MGC)	11	8	-3	-27%
Physical Therapy (MPT)	161	100	-61	-38%
Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	0	42	42	
Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	0	15	15	
Physical Therapy (DScPT)	8	15	7	88%
Social Work (MSW)	768	759	-9	-1%
Sub Total	948	939	-9	-1%
First Professional				
Dental (DDS)	415	404	-11	-3%
Law -Day (JD)	856	803	-53	-6%
Law - Evening (JD)	200	177		
Medicine (MD)	569	582	13	2%
Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	427	461	34	8%
Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	26	27	1	4%
Sub Total	2,493	2,454	-39	-2%
Certificate				
Dental Post Graduate	129	133	4	3%
Sub Total	129	133	4	3%
Grand Total All Programs	4,931	4,936	5	0%

Note: FTE = Full Time Equivalent

Prepared by UMB Institutional Research and Planning

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Table 5. Headcount by Gender

Level	Program	Male	%	Female	%	Total
Undergraduate						
	Nursing (BSN)	83	10%	745	90%	828
	Dental Hygiene (BS)	2	3%	57	97%	59
	Medical and Research Technology (BS)	6	15%	33	85%	39
	Sub Total	91	10%	835	90%	926
Graduate School						
	Dental (MS and PhD)	6	20%	24	80%	30
	Medicine (MS and PhD)	124	40%	185	60%	309
	Nursing (MS and PhD)	57	9%	545	91%	602
	Pharmacy (PhD)	39	52%	36	48%	75
	Social Work (PhD)	8	18%	36	82%	44
	Sub Total	234	22%	826	78%	1,060
Other Graduate						
	Genetic Counseling (MGC)	1	13%	7	88%	8
	Physical Therapy (MPT)	19	21%	72	79%	91
	Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	19	45%	23	55%	42
	Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	10	27%	27	73%	37
	Physical Therapy (DScPT)	10	32%	21	68%	31
	Social Work (MSW)	95	12%	702	88%	797
	Sub Total	154	15%	852	85%	1,006
First Professional						
	Dental (DDS)	206	54%	174	46%	380
	Law - Day (JD)	284	42%	386	58%	670
	Law - Evening (JD)	110	53%	98	47%	208
	Medicine (MD)	258	44%	324	56%	582
	Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	132	29%	317	71%	449
	Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	42	34%	80	66%	122
	Sub Total	1,032	43%	1,379	57%	2,411
Certificate						
	Dental Post Graduate	47	70%	20	30%	67
	Sub Total	47	70%	20	30%	67
Grand Total All Programs		1,558	28%	3,912	72%	5,470

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Table 6. Headcount by Attendance Status

Level	Program	Full-Time	%	Part-Time	%	Total
Undergraduate						
	Nursing (BSN)	527	64%	301	36%	828
	Dental Hygiene (BS)	38	64%	21	36%	59
	Medical and Research Technology (BS)	34	87%	5	13%	39
	Sub Total	599	65%	327	35%	926
Graduate School						
	Dental (MS and PhD)	15	50%	15	50%	30
	Medicine (MS and PhD)	227	73%	82	27%	309
	Nursing (MS and PhD)	187	31%	415	69%	602
	Pharmacy (PhD)	64	85%	11	15%	75
	Social Work (PhD)	28	64%	16	36%	44
	Sub Total	521	49%	539	51%	1,060
Other Graduate						
	Genetic Counseling (MGC)	8	100%	0	0%	8
	Physical Therapy (MPT)	90	99%	1	1%	91
	Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	42	100%	0	0%	42
	Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	0		37	100%	37
	Physical Therapy (DScPT)	7	23%	24	77%	31
	Social Work (MSW)	606	76%	191	24%	797
	Sub Total	753	75%	253	25%	1,006
First Professional						
	Dental (DDS)	372	98%	8	2%	380
	Law - Day (JD)	658	98%	12	2%	670
	Law - Evening (JD)	200	96%	8	4%	208
	Medicine (MD)	580	100%	2	0%	582
	Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	446	99%	3	1%	449
	Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	0		122	100%	122
	Sub Total	2,256	94%	155	6%	2,411
Certificate						
	Dental Post Graduate	66	99%	1	1%	67
	Sub Total	66	99%	1	1%	67
Grand Total All Programs		4,195	77%	1,275	23%	5,470

University of Maryland, Baltimore
Spring 2003 Enrollment
Headcount by Attendance Status

Level	Program	Full-Time	%	Part-Time	%	Total
Undergraduate						
	Nursing (BSN)	483	64%	266	36%	749
	Dental Hygiene (BS)	37	64%	21	36%	58
	Medical and Research Technology (BS)	25	60%	17	40%	42
	Sub Total	545	64%	304	36%	849
Graduate School						
	Dental (MS and PhD)	18	62%	11	38%	29
	Medicine (MS and PhD)	223	75%	76	25%	299
	Nursing (MS and PhD)	165	31%	373	69%	538
	Pharmacy (PhD)	64	88%	9	12%	73
	Social Work (PhD)	26	68%	12	32%	38
	Sub Total	496	51%	481	49%	977
Other Graduate						
	Genetic Counseling (MGC)	8	100%	0	0%	8
	Physical Therapy (MPT)	86	97%	3	3%	89
	Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	39	100%	0	0%	39
	Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	0		41	100%	41
	Physical Therapy (DScPT)	6	16%	31	84%	37
	Social Work (MSW)	576	69%	257	31%	833
	Sub Total	715	68%	332	32%	1,047
First Professional						
	Dental (DDS)	373	99%	3	1%	376
	Law - Day (JD)	635	98%	14	2%	649
	Law - Evening (JD)	178	91%	18	9%	196
	Medicine (MD)	572	99%	4	1%	576
	Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	435	100%	2	0%	437
	Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	0		95	100%	95
	Sub Total	2,193	94%	136	6%	2,329
Certificate						
	Dental Post Graduate	65	100%	0	0%	65
	Sub Total	65	100%			65
Grand Total All Programs		4,014	76%	1,253	24%	5,267

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Table 7. Headcount by Race

Level Program	Nat Am	Afr Am	%	Asian	%	Hisp	Cauc	%	For	%	NR	Total Students	Total Minority	% Minority
Undergraduate														
Nursing (BSN)	6	245	30%	55	7%	23	471	57%	19	2%	9	828	329	40%
Dental Hygiene (BS)	0	8	14%	8	14%	5	37	63%	1	2%	0	59	21	36%
Medical and Research Technology (B	0	11	28%	4	10%	1	21	54%	2	5%	0	39	16	41%
Sub Total	6	264	29%	67	7%	29	529	57%	22	2%	9	926	366	40%
Graduate School														
Dental (MS and PhD)	0	4	13%	2	7%	0	14	47%	10	33%	0	30	6	20%
Medicine (MS and PhD)	0	23	7%	32	10%	7	175	57%	66	21%	6	309	62	20%
Nursing (MS and PhD)	3	87	14%	37	6%	10	427	71%	20	3%	18	602	137	23%
Pharmacy (PhD)	0	9	12%	3	4%	1	12	16%	49	65%	1	75	13	17%
Social Work (PhD)	0	9	20%	5	11%	0	28	64%	2	5%	0	44	14	32%
Sub Total	3	132	12%	79	7%	18	656	62%	147	14%	25	1,060	232	22%
Other Graduate														
Genetic Counseling (MGC)	0	0	0%	0	0%	0	8	100%	0	0%	0	8	0	0%
Physical Therapy (MPT)	0	8	9%	20	22%	4	58	64%	0	0%	1	91	32	35%
Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	0	5	12%	5	12%	1	28	67%	0	0%	3	42	11	26%
Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	0	5	14%	1	3%	2	28	76%	1	3%	0	37	8	22%
Physical Therapy (DScPT)	1	4	13%	2	6%	2	22	71%	0	0%	0	31	9	29%
Social Work (MSW)	5	259	32%	14	2%	26	490	61%	3	0%	0	797	304	38%
Sub Total	6	281	28%	42	4%	35	634	63%	4	0%	4	1,006	364	36%
First Professional														
Dental (DDS)	0	19	5%	83	22%	13	240	63%	12	3%	13	380	115	30%
Law - Day (JD)	1	55	8%	64	10%	18	515	77%	6	1%	11	670	138	21%
Law - Evening (JD)	0	45	22%	12	6%	4	139	67%	2	1%	6	208	61	29%
Medicine (MD)	0	61	10%	127	22%	9	370	64%	1	0%	14	582	197	34%
Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	1	76	17%	162	36%	7	172	38%	31	7%	0	449	246	55%
Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmI	0	35	29%	18	15%	3	66	54%	0	0%	0	122	56	46%
Sub Total	2	291	12%	466	19%	54	1,502	62%	52	2%	44	2,411	813	34%
Certificate														
Dental Post Graduate	0	0	0%	19	28%	5	35	52%	8	12%	0	67	24	36%
Sub Total	0	0	0%	19	28%	5	35	52%	8	12%	0	67	24	36%
Grand Total All Programs	17	968	18%	673	12%	141	3,356	61%	233	4%	82	5,470	1,799	33%

Notes: Percentages are not shown for categories representing less than 4% of students.
 Total Minority is the sum of the following: Native American, African American, Asian, Hispanic.
 Percent Minority = $\frac{\text{Total Minority}}{\text{Total Students}}$
 Percent Minority calculated by dividing Total Minority by Total Students.
 (Native American + African American + Asian + Hispanic + Foreign + Not Reported)

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Table 8. Headcount by Residency

Level	Program	Resident	%	Non-resident	%	Total
Undergraduate						
	Nursing (BSN)	741	89%	87	11%	828
	Dental Hygiene (BS)	56	95%	3	5%	59
	Medical and Research Technology (BS)	34	87%	5	13%	39
	Sub Total	831	90%	95	10%	926
Graduate School						
	Dental (MS and PhD)	9	30%	21	70%	30
	Medicine (MS and PhD)	136	44%	173	56%	309
	Nursing (MS and PhD)	495	82%	107	18%	602
	Pharmacy (PhD)	12	16%	63	84%	75
	Social Work (PhD)	33	75%	11	25%	44
	Sub Total	685	65%	375	35%	1,060
Other Graduate						
	Genetic Counseling (MGC)	4	50%	4	50%	8
	Physical Therapy (MPT)	86	95%	5	5%	91
	Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	36	86%	6	14%	42
	Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	32	86%	5	14%	37
	Physical Therapy (DScPT)	16	52%	15	48%	31
	Social Work (MSW)	694	87%	103	13%	797
	Sub Total	868	86%	138	14%	1,006
First Professional						
	Dental (DDS)	231	61%	149	39%	380
	Law - Day (JD)	441	66%	229	34%	670
	Law - Evening (JD)	181	87%	27	13%	208
	Medicine (MD)	505	87%	77	13%	582
	Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	302	67%	147	33%	449
	Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	96	79%	26	21%	122
	Sub Total	1,756	73%	655	27%	2,411
Certificate						
	Dental Post Graduate	26	39%	41	61%	67
	Sub Total	26	39%	41	61%	67
Grand Total All Programs		4,166	76%	1,304	24%	5,470

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Table 9. Headcount by Degree Status

Level	Program	Degree	%	Non-degree	%	Total
Undergraduate						
	Nursing (BSN)	794	96%	34	4%	828
	Dental Hygiene (BS)	59	100%	0	0%	59
	Medical and Research Technology (BS)	33	85%	6	15%	39
	Sub Total	886	96%	40	4%	926
Graduate School						
	Dental (MS and PhD)	30	100%	0	0%	30
	Medicine (MS and PhD)	289	94%	20	6%	309
	Nursing (MS and PhD)	512	85%	90	15%	602
	Pharmacy (PhD)	74	99%	1	1%	75
	Social Work (PhD)	44	100%	0	0%	44
	Sub Total	949	90%	111	10%	1,060
Other Graduate						
	Genetic Counseling (MGC)	8	100%	0	0%	8
	Physical Therapy (MPT)	91	100%	0	0%	91
	Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	42	100%	0	0%	42
	Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	37	100%	0	0%	37
	Physical Therapy (DScPT)	31	100%	0	0%	31
	Social Work (MSW)	793	99%	4	1%	797
	Sub Total	1,002	100%	4	0%	1,006
First Professional						
	Dental (DDS)	380	100%	0	0%	380
	Law - Day (JD)	667	100%	3	0%	670
	Law - Evening (JD)	206	99%	2	1%	208
	Medicine (MD)	582	100%	0	0%	582
	Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	449	100%	0	0%	449
	Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	122	100%	0	0%	122
	Sub Total	2,406	100%	5	0%	2,411
Certificate						
	Dental Post Graduate	67	100%	0	0%	67
	Sub Total	67	100%	0	0%	67
Grand Total All Programs		5,310	97%	160	3%	5,470

University of Maryland, Baltimore
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Table 10. Undergraduate Programs by Class

Program	Class	Total	% by Class
Nursing (BSN)			
	First Year	301	36%
	Second Year	493	60%
	Non-Degree	34	4%
	Sub Total	828	100%
Dental Hygiene (BS)			
	First Year	24	41%
	Second Year	20	34%
	Continuing	15	25%
	Sub Total	59	100%
Medical and Research Technology (BS)			
	First Year	14	36%
	Second Year	19	49%
	Non-Degree	6	15%
	Sub Total	39	100%
Total Undergraduate		926	

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Table 11. Graduate School Headcount by Major

Level	Major	Total
Non-Degree Graduate Studies	Dental (DD)	1
	Medical (MD)	20
	Nursing (NS)	90
	Pharmacy (PH)	1
	Social Work (SW)	0
	Sub Total	112
Master's Programs	Anatomy & Neurobiology (MD-MANA)	0
	Biochemistry (MD-MBIC)	2
	Dental Hygiene (DD-DHYG)	10
	Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine (MD-PREV)	12
	Human Genetics (MD-HGEN)	2
	Marine-Estuarine-Env.-Science (DD-MEES)	0
	Medical & Research Technology (MD-MEDT)	14
	Nursing (NS-NURS)	444
	Oral Biology (DD-DOBI)	2
	Oral & Craniofacial Biological Sciences (DD-DOCB)	0
	Oral Pathology (DD-DPAT)	0
	Pathology (MD-PATH)	16
	Pharmaceutical Sciences (PH-PHAR)	0
	Pharmacology & Exper. Therapeutics (MD-MPET)	3
	Physiology (MD-MPHY)	4
	Toxicology (MD-TOXI)	4
	Sub Total	513
Doctoral Programs	Anatomy (DD-DANA)	0
	Anatomy & Neurobiology (MD-MANA)	7
	Biochemistry (DD-DBIC)	0
	Biochemistry (MD-MBIC)	29
	Biomedical Chemistry (PH-BMCH)	0
	Epidemiology & Preventive Medicine (MD-EPID)	18
	Gerontology - w/UMBC (MD-GERO)	4
	Human Genetics (MD-HGEN)	6
	Marine-Estuarine-Env.-Science (DD-MEES)	1
	Microbiology & Immunology (MD-MMIC)	38
	Molecular & Cell Biology (MD-MMCB)	22
	Neuroscience & Cognitive Science (MD-NACS)	27
	Nursing (NS-NURS)	68
	Oral & Craniofacial Biological Sciences (DD-DOCB)	15
	Oral Pathology (DD-DPAT)	1
	Pathology (MD-PATH)	14
	Pharmaceutical Sciences (PH-PHAR)	56
	Pharmacology & Exper. Therapeutics (MD-MPET)	20
	Pharmacology & Toxicology (PH-PCOL)	0
	Pharmacy Administration (PH-PHSR)	18
	Physical & Rehabilitation Science (MD-PTRS)	11
	Physiology (MD-MPHY)	17
	Social Work (SW-SOWK)	44
	Toxicology (MD-TOXI)	19
	Sub Total	435
Grand Total Graduate School		1,060

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Table 12. First Professional Programs by Class

Program	Class	Total	% by Class
Dental (DDS)			
	First Year	102	27%
	Second Year	106	28%
	Third Year	85	22%
	Fourth Year	87	23%
	Sub Total	380	100%
Law - Day (JD)			
	First Year	168	25%
	Second Year	292	44%
	Third Year	191	29%
	Non-Degree	3	0%
	First Year - PT	5	1%
	Second Year - PT	1	0%
	Third Year - PT	2	0%
	Fourth Year - PT	8	1%
	Sub Total	670	100%
Law - Evening (JD)			
	First Year	50	24%
	Second Year	48	23%
	Third Year	49	24%
	Fourth Year	59	28%
	Non-Degree	2	1%
	Sub Total	208	100%
Medicine (MD)			
	First Year	155	27%
	Second Year	145	25%
	Third Year	146	25%
	Fourth Year	136	23%
	Sub Total	582	100%
Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)			
	First Year	122	27%
	Second Year	131	29%
	Third Year	98	22%
	Fourth Year	98	22%
	Sub Total	449	100%
Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)			
	First Year	53	43%
	Second Year	69	57%
	Sub Total	122	100%
Total First Professional		2,411	

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Table 13. Enrollment by Region and Maryland County*

Region	County	No. Students	% MD Students by Region	% MD Students within Region
Baltimore Region	Anne Arundel County	371		16%
	Baltimore City	532		22%
	Baltimore County	942		39%
	Carroll County	87		4%
	Harford County	126		5%
	Howard County	330		14%
	Total	2,388	58%	100%
Washington Region	Frederick County	132		9%
	Montgomery County	884		62%
	Prince George's County	416		29%
	Total	1,432	35%	100%
Southern Maryland	Calvert County	20		22%
	Charles County	44		47%
	St. Mary's County	29		31%
	Total	93	2%	100%
Western Maryland	Allegany County	28		32%
	Garrett County	6		7%
	Washington County	53		61%
	Total	87	2%	100%
Upper Eastern Shore	Caroline County	9		13%
	Cecil County	24		33%
	Kent County	6		8%
	Queen Anne's County	13		18%
	Talbot County	20		28%
	Total	72	2%	100%
Lower Eastern Shore	Dorchester County	9		14%
	Somerset County	2		3%
	Wicomico County	34		54%
	Worcester County	18		29%
	Total	63	2%	100%
Total MD County		4,135	100%	
Non MD County		1,335		
Total UMB		5,470		

* Refers to students residing in Maryland at time of application. Does not indicate residency for determining tuition.
Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

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Table 14. Enrollment by State*

Alabama	6	New Jersey	71
Alaska	2	New Mexico	4
Arizona	11	New York	93
Arkansas	3	North Carolina	35
California	110	North Dakota	3
Colorado	13	Ohio	25
Connecticut	20	Oklahoma	3
Delaware	37	Oregon	11
District of Columbia	49	Pennsylvania	162
Florida	71	Rhode Island	3
Georgia	13	South Carolina	8
Hawaii	7	South Dakota	0
Idaho	3	Tennessee	9
Illinois	20	Texas	30
Indiana	11	Utah	32
Iowa	3	Vermont	2
Kansas	5	Virginia	140
Kentucky	11	Washington	15
Louisiana	2	West Virginia	14
Maine	3	Wisconsin	7
Maryland	4,135	Wyoming	1
Massachusetts	37	Total US States and DC	5,303
Michigan	18	Total US States and DC less Maryland	1,168
Minnesota	12		
Mississippi	5	Military - Europe	5
Missouri	5	Military - Pacific	4
Montana	1	Guam	3
Nebraska	3	Puerto Rico	6
Nevada	8	Total Other US	18
New Hampshire	11	Total US	5,321

* Refers to students residing in a US State (or DC) at time of application. Does not indicate residency for determining tuition.

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Table 15. International Student Enrollment by Program*

Level	Program	No. International	Total Students	% International
Undergraduate				
	Nursing (BSN)	13	828	2%
	Dental Hygiene (BS)	1	59	2%
	Medical and Research Technology (BS)	2	39	5%
	Sub Total	16	926	2%
Graduate School				
	Dental (MS and PhD)	10	30	33%
	Medicine (MS and PhD)	67	309	22%
	Nursing (MS and PhD)	20	602	3%
	Pharmacy (PhD)	49	75	65%
	Social Work (PhD)	2	44	5%
	Sub Total	148	1,060	14%
Other Graduate				
	Genetic Counseling (MGC)	0	8	0%
	Physical Therapy (MPT)	0	91	0%
	Physical Therapy - Entry Level (DPT)	1	42	2%
	Physical Therapy - Transitional (DPT)	1	37	3%
	Physical Therapy (DScPT)	0	31	0%
	Social Work (MSW)	9	797	1%
	Sub Total	11	1,006	1%
First Professional				
	Dental (DDS)	12	380	3%
	Law -Day (JD)	13	670	2%
	Law - Evening (JD)	2	208	1%
	Medicine (MD)	4	582	1%
	Pharmacy - Entry Level (PharmD)	34	449	8%
	Pharmacy - Non-Traditional (PharmD)	1	122	1%
	Sub Total	66	2,411	3%
Certificate				
	Dental Post Graduate	10	67	15%
	Sub Total	10	67	15%
Grand Total All Programs		251	5,470	5%

* International students are those students who are not U.S. Citizens, U.S. Permanent Residents, and Refugees/Parolees

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Table 16. International Student Enrollment by Country*

Albania	1	Ireland	1
Argentina	1	Israel	1
Australia	2	Jamaica	1
Bahamas	1	Japan	6
Belgium	1	Jordan	4
Bermuda	1	Kenya	5
Botswana	1	Korea, South	31
Brazil	3	Liberia	1
Cameroon	3	Malaysia	1
Canada	20	New Zealand	1
Chile	1	Nigeria	7
China, People's Republic of	43	Pakistan	1
China, Republic of (Taiwan)	8	Panama	1
Cyprus	1	Peru	3
Denmark	2	Philippines	4
Egypt	6	Poland	1
Ethiopia	2	Romania	2
France	2	Russia	1
Gaza Strip	1	Saudi Arabia	3
Germany	1	Sri Lanka	1
Ghana	5	Tanzania	4
Greece	1	Thailand	9
Grenada	1	Uganda	1
Hungary	1	Ukraine	2
India	46	United Kingdom	1
Iran	3	Total International	251

* International students are those students who are not U.S. Citizens, U.S. Permanent Residents, or Refugee/Parolees

Appendix B
Campus Wide Faculty Data

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Fall 2002 Faculty Headcount and FTE

	Headcount	FTE
Dental School	216	143
School of Law	69	67
School of Medicine	1,097	1,024
School of Nursing	149	90
School of Pharmacy	68	65
School of Social Work	86	79
Academic Affairs	27	26
Other	5	5
Total UMB	1,717	1,498

Note: Other refers to Faculty from the National Study Center

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Fall 2002 Faculty by School, Rank, Tenure and Status

	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Dental School			
PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	26	0	26
Not Tenured	0	5	5
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	39	1	40
Not Tenured	9	17	26
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	17	0	17
Not Tenured	21	42	63
INSTRUCTOR			
Not Tenured	2	36	38
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE			
Not Tenured	1	0	1
Total Dental School	115	101	216
School of Law			
PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	31	1	32
Not Tenured	5	0	5
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	4	1	5
Not Tenured	3	0	3
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	6	0	6
Not Tenured	5	0	5
LECTURER			
Not Tenured	0	2	2
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE			
Not Tenured	1	0	1
LIBRARIANS			
Not Tenured	10	0	10
Total School of Law	65	4	69
School of Medicine			
PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	146	18	164
Not Tenured	43	12	55
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR			

	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Tenured/Tenure Track	81	10	91
Not Tenured	97	19	116
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	164	16	180
Not Tenured	238	68	306
INSTRUCTOR			
Not Tenured	66	22	88
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE			
Tenured/Tenure Track	1	0	1
Not Tenured	51	9	60
FACULTY RESEARCH ASSISTANT			
Not Tenured	33	2	35
ACA ADMIN. WITHOUT RANK			
Not Tenured	1	0	1
Total School of Medicine	921	176	1,097

School of Nursing

PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	4	0	4
Not Tenured	2	0	2
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	8	1	9
Not Tenured	12	1	13
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	7	0	7
Not Tenured	25	2	27
INSTRUCTOR			
Not Tenured	29	58	87
Total School of Nursing	87	62	149

School of Pharmacy

PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	12	0	12
Not Tenured	3	0	3
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	14	4	18
Not Tenured	8	1	9
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	6	2	8
Not Tenured	16	2	18
Total School of Pharmacy	59	9	68

School of Social Work

PROFESSOR

	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Tenured/Tenure Track	10	2	12
Not Tenured	0	1	1
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	13	1	14
Not Tenured	4	0	4
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	15	0	15
Not Tenured	2	1	3
INSTRUCTOR			
Not Tenured	30	6	36
LIBRARIANS			
Not Tenured	0	1	1
Total School of Social Work	74	12	86
Academic Affairs			
LIBRARIANS			
Not Tenured	25	2	27
Total Academic Affairs	25	2	27
Other			
PROFESSOR			
Tenured/Tenure Track	0	1	1
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR			
Not Tenured	1	1	2
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR			
Not Tenured	1	0	1
INSTRUCTOR			
Not Tenured	1	0	1
Total Other	3	2	5
Total UMB	1,349	368	1,717

Note: Other refers to Faculty from the National Study Center

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Fall 2002 Faculty by School, Rank and Tenure Status

	Tenured/ Tenure Track	Not Tenured	Total
Dental School			
PROFESSOR	26	5	31
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	40	26	66
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	17	63	80
INSTRUCTOR	0	38	38
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	0	1	1
Total Dental School	83	133	216
School of Law			
PROFESSOR	32	5	37
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	5	3	8
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	6	5	11
LECTURER	0	2	2
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	0	1	1
LIBRARIANS	0	10	10
Total School of Law	43	26	69
School of Medicine			
PROFESSOR	164	55	219
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	91	116	207
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	180	306	486
INSTRUCTOR	0	88	88
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	1	60	61
FACULTY RESEARCH ASSISTANT	0	35	35
ACA ADMIN. WITHOUT RANK	0	1	1
Total School of Medicine	436	661	1,097
School of Nursing			
PROFESSOR	4	2	6
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	9	13	22
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	7	27	34
INSTRUCTOR	0	87	87
Total School of Nursing	20	129	149

	Tenured/ Tenure Track	Not Tenured	Total
School of Pharmacy			
PROFESSOR	12	3	15
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	18	9	27
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	8	18	26
Total School of Pharmacy	38	30	68
School of Social Work			
PROFESSOR	12	1	13
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	14	4	18
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	15	3	18
INSTRUCTOR	0	36	36
LIBRARIANS	0	1	1
Total School of Social Work	41	45	86
Academic Affairs			
LIBRARIANS	0	27	27
Total Academic Affairs	0	27	27
Other			
PROFESSOR	1	0	1
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	0	2	2
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	0	1	1
INSTRUCTOR	0	1	1
Total Other	1	4	5
Total UMB	662	1,055	1,717

Note: Other refers to Faculty from the National Study Center

University of Maryland, Baltimore

Fall 2002 Faculty by School, Rank and Status

	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Dental School			
PROFESSOR	26	5	31
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	48	18	66
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	38	42	80
INSTRUCTOR	2	36	38
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	1	0	1
Total Dental School	115	101	216
School of Law			
PROFESSOR	36	1	37
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	7	1	8
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	11	0	11
LECTURER	0	2	2
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	1	0	1
LIBRARIANS	10	0	10
Total School of Law	65	4	69
School of Medicine			
PROFESSOR	189	30	219
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	178	29	207
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	402	84	486
INSTRUCTOR	66	22	88
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE	52	9	61
FACULTY RESEARCH ASSISTANT	33	2	35
ACA ADMIN. WITHOUT RANK	1	0	1
Total School of Medicine	921	176	1,097
School of Nursing			
PROFESSOR	6	0	6
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	20	2	22
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	32	2	34
INSTRUCTOR	29	58	87
Total School of Nursing	87	62	149

	Full Time	Part Time	Total
School of Pharmacy			
PROFESSOR	15	0	15
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	22	5	27
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	22	4	26
Total School of Pharmacy	<u>59</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>68</u>
School of Social Work			
PROFESSOR	10	3	13
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	17	1	18
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	17	1	18
INSTRUCTOR	30	6	36
LIBRARIANS	0	1	1
Total School of Social Work	<u>74</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>86</u>
Academic Affairs			
LIBRARIANS	25	2	27
Total Academic Affairs	<u>25</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>27</u>
Other			
PROFESSOR	0	1	1
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR	1	1	2
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR	1	0	1
INSTRUCTOR	1	0	1
Total Other	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>
Total UMB	1,349	368	1,717

Note: Other refers to Faculty from the National Study Center

Appendix C
Summary of
Individual Master's Specialty Track

**GERONTOLOGICAL
NURSE PRACTITIONER**

GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE PRACTITIONER

Background

The Gerontological Nurse Practitioner specialty was established in 1995 to respond to the needs of an increasing aging population. At the same time, employer demands also increased when two organizations were established in Maryland to provide managed care to older adults in long-term care settings. The 39-credit plan of study includes 540 clinical hours. Recently, two combined tracks have been developed. These include the GNP/Oncology option and the GNP/Managed Care option. Students work with faculty and nurse practitioner and physician preceptors in a variety of clinical sites including the Geriatric Center at Bayview, Continuing care retirement communities such as Erikson and Roland Park, ambulatory care facilities, long term care facilities, acute care and private practices throughout the Baltimore-Washington area. A post-master's option is available.

Students

The students who seek admission to the GNP specialty have made a commitment to work with older adults and therefore the track has attracted a small but consistent number of students. Currently 22 students are enrolled. In order to gain this specialty information, they have come from many varied clinical backgrounds from shock trauma units, intensive care units, acute care, psychiatry, rehabilitation, and long-term care settings. One of the unique features of the specialty has been in the student's opportunity to develop an advanced practice role where traditionally there has not been one such as in home care, assisted living and hospice. For some students, they are able to combine an acute care background with the GNP specialty and return to acute care as a member of the medical team that provide services to older adults. The GNP track has also peaked the interest of graduates from other nurse practitioner specialties and they have returned to complete the post master's plan of study in order to sit for the gerontological nurse practitioner examination. The GNP specialty has been recognized nationally by receiving a ranking of 6th place among comparable programs by US News and World reports in 2000. A recent proposal (2002) for scholarship funding by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing and the John A. Hartford Foundation Grant "Creating Careers in Geriatric Advanced Practice Nursing" was successful in obtaining full scholarships for 7 students to complete the GNP program over the next two years. One of the unique features of the award was for the implementation of two new combined specialties, that of GNP/oncology and GNP/Managed Care. The combined specialties allow students to expand their gerontological expertise with either an additional clinical specialty as with oncology or to gain an administrative focus as with Managed Care.

Employment

Graduates of the program are eligible for certification as a Gerontological Nurse Practitioner through the American Nurses' Credentialing Center.

The job market for the GNP has been excellent in Maryland since the program's inception in 1995. With managed care organizations such as EverCare and Elderhealth impacting long term care, these organizations have become consistent employers and the graduates have assumed leadership positions in the long term care arena. In addition to long term care, the GNP graduates have been leaders in establishing the role in a variety of settings such as home care, retirement communities, assisted living and within specialty areas such as rehabilitation, cardiology and urology. This trend is likely to continue given the recent projections that due to the aging of the "baby boomers" the older adult population is predicted to reach 25% by the middle of the century.

Faculty

The GNP program is implemented by outstanding and nationally recognized faculty. The GNP program is coordinated by a doctorally prepared faculty with expertise in gerontology. A full time doctorally prepared gerontologic nurse practitioner, a part time doctorally prepared gerontologic nurse practitioner and a full time master's gerontological nurse practitioner are responsible for implementing the program. There are more than adequate numbers of GNP's who serve as preceptors and provide a 1:1 clinical supervision for the students.

Future Projections

The gerontological nurse practitioner track anticipates a continuing demand for competent nurse practitioners who can serve the needs of the older adult population. The faculty is highly qualified in the gerontology field to continue to prepare such graduates and with increasing demographics towards an aging population, the demand from employers will continue.

**TRAUMA, CRITICAL CARE
& EMERGENCY NURSING:
A BLENDED CLINICAL NURSE
SPECIALIST & ACUTE CARE
NURSE PRACTITIONER**

TRAUMA, CRITICAL CARE, AND EMERGENCY NURSING: A BLENDED CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST AND ACUTE CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER TRACK

Background

The trauma, critical care, and emergency specialty track was established in 1982 and focused on the preparation of clinical nurse specialists. In the fall of 1996, the specialty was revised to include preparation for the role of the acute care nurse practitioner as well as the clinical nurse specialist. The 42-credit plan of study includes 540 clinical hours. Students have opportunities for clinical experiences in excellent facilities such as: the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center, the University of Maryland Hospital, the clinical Center of the National Institutes of Health, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Bethesda Naval Medical Hospital, and many communities hospitals in the Baltimore-Washington area. A post-master's option is available.

Students

The specialty track has consistently attracted large numbers of students and currently nearly 70 students are enrolled. The track has always been popular with army, air force, and navy nurses because of the military's mission of readiness for war. The specialty has an excellent reputation nationally and internationally and as a result, student from through out the United States and from several other countries have completed the program.

Employment

Graduates of the program are eligible for certification as an acute care nurse practitioner through the American Nurses' Credentialing Center and as a critical care clinical nurse specialist through the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

Graduates of the track hold key leadership positions in the area of trauma, critical care, and emergency nursing. These include positions as clinical nurse specialists, staff development specialists, academic educators, and managers. Since the expansion of the program to include preparation for the acute care nurse practitioner role, most graduates have taken positions as acute care nurse practitioners. The job market for acute care nurse practitioners is excellent in the Mid-Atlantic and this is the region where most of our graduates take their first position. The demand for acute care nurse practitioners is expected to continue to rise dramatically as hospitals try and cope with the new federal regulation that limits work hours for residents. Positions for clinical nurse specialists have varied throughout the twenty years of the specialty track. Currently, there seems to be an increased demand for the role in the Mid-Atlantic area.

Faculty

Throughout the history of the specialty track, outstanding faculty has taught in the program. Currently, the program is coordinated by a doctorally prepared acute care nurse practitioner. A full-time doctorally prepared clinical nurse specialist and a full-time master's prepared acute care nurse practitioner are also part of the faculty team. In

addition, two master's prepared part-time faculty are involved in the program. We are fortunate to have a large number of preceptors who provide one-on-one clinical supervision for the students.

Future Projections

The trauma, critical care, and emergency track anticipates continued success with increasing demand from highly qualified , superb faculty, and excellent career opportunities for the graduates.

**ADULT PRIMARY CARE
NURSE PRACTITIONER**

ADULT PRIMARY CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER

Background Information

The adult primary care nurse practitioner specialty was the first nurse practitioner program at the University of Maryland. The program started as a certificate program in 1971 and transitioned into the Masters' program in the mid 1970's. In the 1980's two combination specialty tracks were started, the adult primary care/women's health and the adult primary care/gerontological nurse practitioner (GNP). The GNP became a separate specialty track in the 1990s. To meet the primary care needs of the chronically mentally ill, an adult primary care/psych-mental health combination specialty track was started in the late 1990s. The combination of oncology/adult primary care was started in 2000. We offer the complete course of study at the University of Maryland, Shady Grove campus. The adult primary care specialty track is currently ranked in the top 5 nationally.

Students

The adult primary care nurse practitioner specialty attracts students from the mid-atlantic region.. Students generally have some experience as registered nurses, although that is not an admission requirement. A significant number of applicants come from acute care settings and transition into primary care for a variety of reasons. One of the most frequently stated reasons is to provide continuity of care over long periods of time, which they are not able to do in acute care settings. We also have a number of applicants who are employed in primary care settings and want to increase their scope of practice to be a primary care provider.

Employment

Graduates of our program generally work in primary care or specialty primary care settings. In the past graduates were hired for acute care positions, although this is no longer a significant employment opportunity because there are now acute care nurse practitioners in these roles. Although there is increasing demand for adult nurse practitioners in primary care settings, a growth area for our graduates is ambulatory specialty care such as diabetes, gastroenterology, dermatology, and urology.

There will continue to be a demand for our graduates, although the number will probably not increase significantly over the next 3 years. The number of positions available is starting to increase but the number of graduates competing for the same positions has held steady. Hopkins also produces adult primary care nurse practitioner. Many of the early graduates of our program will be nearing retirement age in the next 5 years and demand for new graduates is expected to increase at that time.

ADVANCED PRACTICE ONCOLOGY NURSING

ADVANCED PRACTICE ONCOLOGY NURSING

Background and Plan of Study

The oncology specialty track was started in the late 1980s and prepared graduates as clinical nurse specialists. In recent years, the specialty track expanded and students now select from one of three options. Students can opt for: oncology clinical nurse specialist/acute care nurse practitioner; oncology clinical nurse specialist/adult primary care nurse practitioner; or oncology clinical nurse specialist/gerontologic nurse practitioner. Each blended track prepares the students to take the corresponding nurse practitioner certification examination. Graduates are also eligible to sit for the Advanced Oncology Certified Nurse exam (AOCN). The availability of a choice of 3 blended programs and preparation in both nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist roles has increased interest in the specialty track and attracted students with diverse backgrounds.

Students

For the most part, students in all 3 blended oncology masters options come to the track after working as staff nurses in oncology settings, either outpatient or inpatient. A few students come directly from undergraduate programs in which they received some sort of training in an oncology setting. In addition, some students' interest in the oncology specialty stems from cancer in a family member. We find that what these students lack in numbers, they make up in passion for the subject. They love cancer! However, with the recent curriculum revision, the addition of various blended options, and increased recruitment, the enrollment in the oncology specialty track has increased substantially.

Employment

Our graduates do not have difficulty getting positions. In fact, recruiters often call with specific requirements for advanced practice nurses trained in oncology. The graduates from the blended acute care option often find work in bone marrow transplant units or in large institutions that have dedicated oncology inpatient floors. The graduates of the adult primary care and gerontology options are more typically found in outpatient settings. The vast majority of adult cancer patients are treated as outpatients, so this represents a large job market. Advanced practice positions in many institutions' cancer settings are currently filled with masters' graduates with no cancer-specific training. Therefore, our graduates enjoy a distinct advantage in competing for these positions. Graduates have also found work in pain management practices or hospice settings.

Future Projections

The projected future need for advanced practice nurses trained in oncology is very great. It is anticipated that cancer prevalence will approximately double by 2050 because of our aging population. In addition, death from cancer will probably become the leading cause of death in adults in the United States, replacing heart disease. Moreover, because of the increasing development of biologically targeted therapies in cancer treatment, advanced practice nurses with cancer-specific training will have knowledge that enables them to fill these positions to a greater advantage.