

**University of Delaware
School of Nursing**

Resolution

WHEREAS, nurse scientists are essential members of interdisciplinary health science research teams that are developing new knowledge to address complex health care needs of society;

WHEREAS, there is a current shortage of PhD-prepared nursing faculty and a predicted large number of faculty retirements by 2015 necessitating programs that prepare faculty for academic positions within schools of nursing.

THEREFORE, this program will meet the urgent need for nursing scholars within the state of Delaware and the surrounding region.

WHEREAS, the proposed Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing Science is in keeping with the University of Delaware's Path to ProminenceTM milestones of becoming a Premier Research and Graduate University with robust programs of graduate research and education. Development of nursing scientists is also in concert with the Delaware Health Science Alliance which combines the priorities and assets of Christiana Care Health System, Nemours/Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children, and Thomas Jefferson University, in addition to University of Delaware, in providing world-class health education, interdisciplinary research, and quality healthcare.

WHEREAS, the proposed Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing Science has been based on a critical review of prominent PhD in Nursing programs nationally and there is no similar program within the state offering a program of this type;

WHEREAS, increasing numbers of master's nursing students and practicing nurses desire to further their formal education and advance the science of nursing through research, scholarship and education of new nurses;

WHEREAS, the faculty of School of Nursing Science have a 30-year history of teaching nursing courses at the graduate level in the areas of advanced nursing practice and healthcare administration;

RESOLVED, that the School of Nursing Faculty within the College of Health Services supports the provisional establishment, for five years, of a new program leading to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing Science, effective October 29, 2009.