



**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

**Strategies for Increasing Online Graduate
Nursing Student Engagement and Decreasing
Attrition**

Dr. Danielle Beasley, PhD, RN, RNC-OB, CNE

Department Chair, School of Nursing, CNHS

Presentation Overview

Introduction

Strategies

Final Thoughts

Q&A



**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

NWC 2023

7th Nursing World
Conference



7th Edition of

**Nursing World
Conference**

Strategies for Increasing Online Graduate Nursing Student Engagement and Decreasing Attrition



**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Clear Communication and Orientation

- Begin by providing a comprehensive orientation for new students to familiarize them with the online platform, course structure, and expectations.
- Establish a clear and easily accessible communication channel for students to reach out for questions and support.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Transparency and Consistency

- Maintain clear and consistent course policies, grading criteria, and communication methods.
- Ongoing evaluation and adaptation are key to ensuring the effectiveness of these efforts.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Flexible Scheduling

- Recognize that many online nursing students may be working professionals.
- Provide flexible scheduling options to accommodate their work-life balance.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Faculty Engagement

- Encourage faculty to actively participate in online discussions, provide timely feedback, and be available for virtual office hours.
- Foster a supportive and responsive instructor-student relationship.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Interactive Learning

- Incorporate interactive elements into online courses, such as virtual labs, simulations, case studies, and group projects.
- Use multimedia, including videos, podcasts, and interactive quizzes, to keep students engaged.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Engage with Technology

- Utilize modern learning management systems (LMS) with user-friendly interfaces and mobile compatibility.
- Stay updated with technological advances and leverage them for better engagement.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Collaborative Learning

- Promote peer-to-peer interaction through discussion boards, group assignments, and online study groups.
- Facilitate opportunities for networking and building a sense of community among students.





Regular Assessments and Feedback

- Implement regular formative assessments and quizzes to help students gauge their understanding.
- Provide constructive feedback on assignments and exams to guide their improvement.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Access to Resources

- Ensure that online students have easy access to library resources, research materials, and technical support.
- Offer resources for time management and study skills to help students succeed.



owl.excelsior.edu



**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Personalized Support

- Offer academic advising and counseling services specifically tailored to online students' needs.
- Identify struggling students early and provide targeted support and resources.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Mentorship Programs

- Establish mentorship programs where experienced students or alumni can provide guidance and support to newcomers.
- Allows for reverse mentoring.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Wellness and Mental Health Support

- Recognize the importance of mental health and well-being.
- Offer resources and support for managing stress and maintaining a healthy work-life balance.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Celebrate Achievements

- Acknowledge and celebrate students' milestones and achievements to boost motivation and morale.
- Faculty should role model.





**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**

Continuous Improvement

- Regularly collect feedback from students about their learning experiences and make improvements based on their suggestions.
- Analyze attrition data to identify trends and adjust strategies accordingly.



FINAL THOUGHTS



**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**



QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU



**EXCELSIOR
UNIVERSITY**



References

Ghasemi, M. R., Moonaghi, H. K., & Heydari, A. (2020). Strategies for sustaining and enhancing nursing students' engagement in academic and clinical settings: a narrative review. *Korean journal of medical education*, 32(2), 103–117. <https://doi.org/10.3946/kjme.2020.159>

Henderson, D., Sewell, K. A., & Wei, H. (2019). The impacts of faculty caring on nursing students' intent to graduate: A systematic literature review. *International journal of nursing sciences*, 7(1), 105–111. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijnss.2019.12.009>

Montague, Janet; Haghiri-Vijeh, Roya; Tsui, Joyce; Connell, Michelle; and Atack, Lynda (2023) "Nursing Students Desire to Belong in Online Learning Environments. Part 1: A Mixed- Methods Study," *Quality Advancement in Nursing Education - Avancées en formation infirmière*: Vol. 9: Iss. 2, Article 3. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.17483/2368-6669.1379>

Ren, X. Investigating the Experiences of Online Instructors while engaging and empowering non-traditional learners in eCampus. *Educ Inf Technol* 28, 237–253 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10639-022-11153-x>

Seery, K., Barreda, A. A., Hein, S. G., & Hiller, J. L. (2021). Retention strategies for online students: A systematic literature review. *Journal of Global Education and Research*, 5(1), 72-84. <https://doi.org/10.5038/2577-509X.5.1.1105>