



Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium

Preparing Nursing Students to Care for Older Adults: Enhancing Gerontology in Senior-level Undergraduate Courses

Toronto, Canada

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THE JOHN A. HARTFORD FOUNDATION
INSTITUTE FOR GERIATRIC NURSING
New York University, College of Nursing

www.aacn.nche.edu/gnec.htm

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History of AACN and the GNEC Project

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN): is the national voice for America's baccalaureate- and higher-degree nursing education programs.
- Works to establish quality standards for bachelor's- and graduate-degree nursing education.
- Assists deans and directors to implement standards.
- Influences the nursing profession to improve health care.
- Promotes public support of baccalaureate and graduate education, research, and practice.

AACN's Commitment To Geriatric Education

- AACN Board of Directors has recently made a long-term commitment to advancing geriatric nursing education.
- The **AACN Statement of Support for Geriatric Nursing Education** was presented at AACN's 2008 Spring Annual meeting in Washington DC and was approved.

GNEC Project Overview

- *Preparing Nursing Students to Care for Older Adults: Enhancing Gerontology in Senior-level Undergraduate Courses*
- AACN administered project generously funded by the John A. Hartford Foundation through a \$2.6 million grant.
- GNEC: Titled the Geriatric Nursing Education Consortium to highlight the collaborative nature of the initiative.

GNEC Project Overview

- This project builds on a previous Hartford Foundation/AACN effort to stimulate the creation of geriatric-focused curricula for baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs.
- Faculty development is a necessary precursor to successfully implementing enhancements in nursing education.
- Designed to use a train the trainer approach, successfully modeled by End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium (ELNEC).

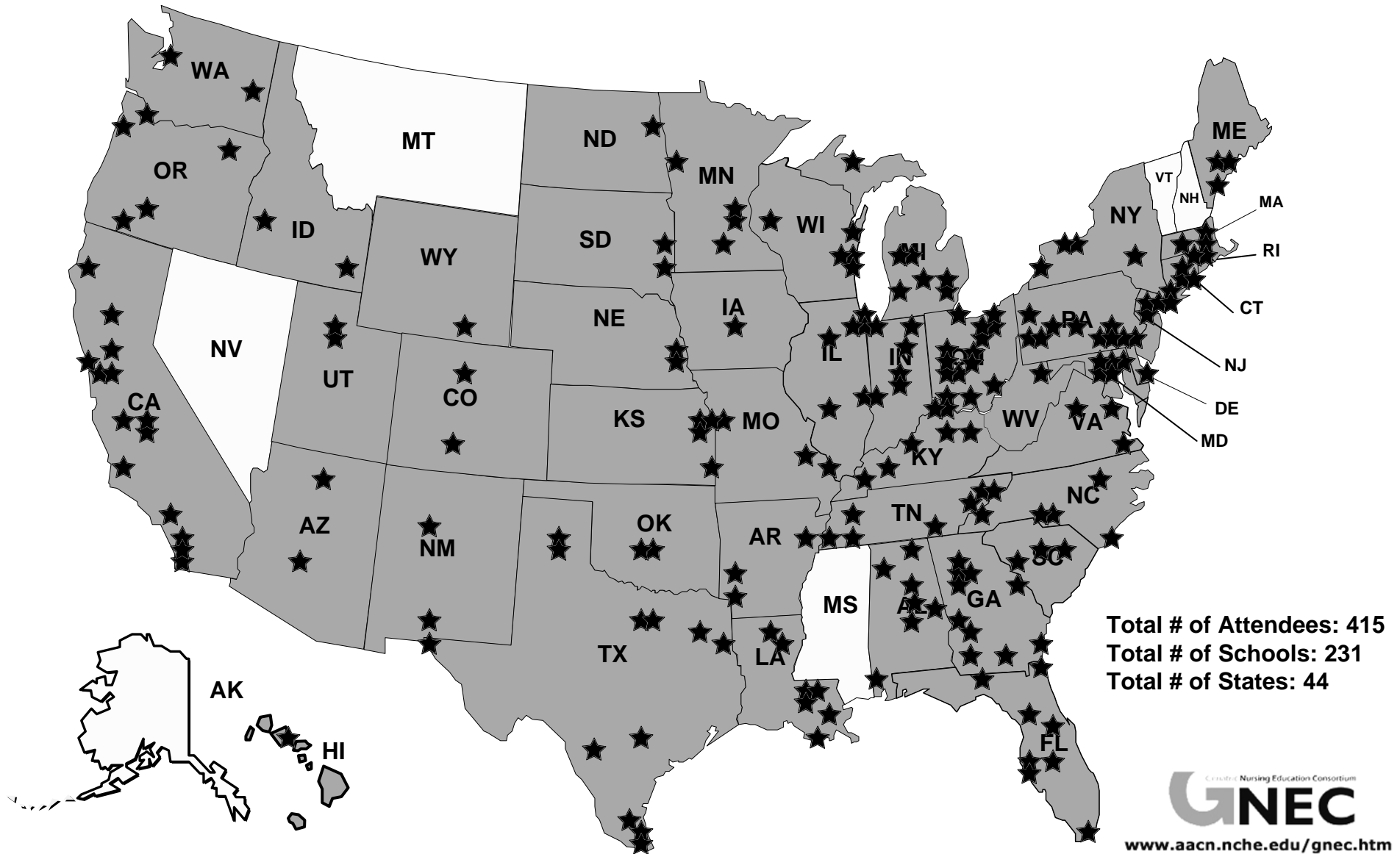
GNEC Collaborative Efforts

- **John A. Hartford Foundation Institute For Geriatric Nursing**
<http://www.hartfordign.org/>
 - ◆ Mathy Mezey, EdD, RN, FAAN, Director
- Worked closely with AACN to plan all phases of the grant.
- Identified outside collaborators (advisory board, curriculum committee, expert curriculum module authors, Institute speakers).
- Developed and provided modules of evidence-based curriculum content.

GNEC Project Objectives

- Objective: Educate faculty at a majority of the baccalaureate schools of nursing across the country in the fundamentals of geriatric nursing and the use of geriatric curriculum resources
- After the first three Institutes:
 - ◆ 415 faculty have been trained
 - ◆ Representing 231 schools of nursing
 - ◆ From 44 states
 - ◆ Two International schools of nursing
 - > Monterrey, Mexico and Ontario, Canada

Representation at the First Three GNEC Institutes



GNEC Project Objectives

- Increase gerontology content in senior-level undergraduate nursing courses;
- Support and empower “trained” faculty as they champion geriatric education, train other faculty, and oversee curriculum revision at their home institutions; and
- Provide faculty with an array of innovative resources to prepare baccalaureate- educated nurses with the expertise and enthusiasm to care for older adults.

Overview Of Content

- Topic areas covered during institute as they relate to care of older adults with complex illnesses:
 - Critical Thinking
 - Atypical Presentations with incontinence as an example
 - Dementia/Delirium
 - Interdisciplinary Care
 - Heart Disease
 - Type 2 Diabetes
 - Cancer
 - Critical Care
 - Mental Health
 - Special Session: Making your case, a dialogue with your Dean/Chair

GNEC Resources Overview

- **CD:** Word, PowerPoint and PDF documents
 - ◆ Disk includes: Project overview and educational Blueprint, state of the science paper, library of content slides, case studies, and resource lists.
 - ◆ Attendees may reproduce and modify to use in curriculum with proper attribution to the GNEC Program.
 - ◆ May not be used for any commercial or other purpose

- **DVD:** Evidence Based Process

- **Binder**

- **Additional teaching resources added and continued revision: listserv, share strategies**

GNEC Evaluation: One year

- Evaluation Consultant
- Development of an electronic survey and data base
 - ◆ Variables for individual and organizational level
- Personal Goals
- Overall impact on curriculum and revisions to senior-level courses
 - ◆ Mapping of competencies and content
- Successes and challenges, Support systems
- Long-term impact, 2-year

Upcoming GNEC Institutes

- Remaining 3 institutes are scheduled for:
 - ◆ October 14-16, 2008 in St. Louis, MO
 - ◆ April 1-3, 2009 in San Diego, CA
 - ◆ June 24-26, 2009 in Philadelphia, PA
- For more information see:
<http://www.aacn.nche.edu/gnec.htm>

AACN Geriatric Education Resources

- American Association of Colleges of Nursing. (2000). *Older Adults: Recommended Baccalaureate Competencies and Curricular Guidelines for Geriatric Nursing Care.*
- *Caring for an Aging America: A Guide for Nursing Faculty*
 - ◆ 56 page "how-to" guide, culmination of the Enhancing Curriculum grantees' achievements
 - ◆ Great resource for nursing faculty who want to increase gerontology content in their school's curricula
- The Geriatric Nursing Education Project [Special Issue]. (2006). *Journal of Professional Nursing.* 22(2)



AACN Geriatric Education Resources

- <http://www.aacn.nche.edu/Education/Hartford/resources.htm>
- Competency Documents
- Curriculum Development
- Curriculum Mapping Tool: Geriatric Competencies
- Self Assessment of Geriatric Knowledge
- End-of-Life Core Curriculum
- Other helpful resources

GNEC Contact Information

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