

UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing Student Innovator Award

UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing in collaboration with the UPMC Center for Quality Improvement and Innovation has developed a Student Innovator Award to recognize Professional Role Transition students who demonstrate a commitment to improving the quality and safety of patient care. The awardee(s) will be chosen at the completion of the N400 Professional Role Transitions Course and will be recognized during either the June or December graduation ceremonies.

UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing has transformed clinical and classroom educational methods by integrating the Transforming Care at the Bedside (TCAB) quality improvement concepts into the organizing framework. Students are exposed to TCAB concepts and real-world adaptations as they progress through all levels of the curriculum. As a capstone course, N400 facilitates the student's transition into professional practice. At this level students are required to complete a TCAB test of change project by collaborating with the clinical instructor, improvement specialist, unit director, and other members of the health care team to identify system-based vulnerabilities and develop strategies for making sustainable improvements.

Process for Test of Change Projects

- The clinical instructor conducts a brainstorming session for creating a Test of Change using the TCAB methodologies during the scheduled third class. Students are instructed on how to identify clinical implications for improving safety and quality of patient care and how to create work redesign initiatives for improving the practice environment.
- The students submit a Test of Change to the clinical instructor on the TCAB Test of Change Record, and after approval, collaborate with the Unit Director, unit staff, other departmental personnel, and improvement specialist for project implementation and evaluation.
- During the scheduled seventh class, the students present Test of Change projects in the form of a poster for pass/fail grade as per course requirements.

Nomination and selection process

- Faculty will be asked to nominate student(s) who demonstrate outstanding initiative and leadership qualities in the development and evaluation of their identified test of change projects based on the following criteria:
 - Demonstration of a complete understanding of process improvement concepts
 - Identification of areas for improvement while maintaining a safe, effective care environment
 - Ability to function as a change agent while working within an active collaborative
 - Communication behaviors strengthen teamwork and promote patient safety
- Faculty will submit an application of nomination to the course coordinator following the scheduled class presentations.
- Student(s) will then be asked to present projects to the selection committee.
- Each presentation will be scheduled for a maximum of 10 minutes.
- Student(s) are to bring documentation for presentation for the panel.
- Winners will be announced during the final class and recognized at the appropriate graduation ceremony

**UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing
Student Innovator Award
Application for Nomination**

Title of Project _____

Hospital/Unit _____

Nominee(s) _____

Faculty Submitting _____

Faculty will complete this form to nominate student(s) who demonstrate outstanding initiative and leadership qualities in the development and evaluation of their identified test of change projects. Nominations should be based on the student(s) meeting the following criteria:

- Demonstrating a complete understanding of process improvement concepts
- Identifying areas for improvement while maintaining a safe, effective care environment
- Functioning as a change agent while working within an active collaborative
- Communicating to strengthen teamwork and promote patient safety

Please attach a copy of the completed Test of Change Record.

UPMC Shadyside School of Nursing Student Innovator Award Project Presentation Evaluation

Title of Project: _____

Score _____

Students _____

Faculty _____

Selection process

The selection committee will consist of five members: two N400 course coordinators, two unit directors from designated TCAB units, and one improvement specialists from UPMC Center for Quality Improvement and Innovation. These members will choose the awardee(s) based upon the established criteria/guidelines as listed.

- 1 = strongly disagree
- 2 = disagree
- 3 = neutral
- 4 = agree
- 5 = strongly agree

| Evaluative Item | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. The student(s) demonstrated a full description and understanding of the current state of practice. | | | | | |
| 2. The student(s) collected comprehensive baseline data. | | | | | |
| 3. The implemented test of change appropriately addresses identified problem. | | | | | |
| 4. The test of change project involves collaboration with affected departments and personnel. | | | | | |
| 5. The test of change outcomes were measured using post-change data for evaluation. | | | | | |
| 6. The implemented test of change will be sustainable. | | | | | |
| 7. Student(s) showed engagement with enthusiasm in the test of change project and presentation. | | | | | |
| 8. Presentation of project was organized and orderly. | | | | | |
| 9. The student(s) showed a substantial understanding of the improvement process. | | | | | |
| 10. The student(s) work demonstrated creativity and originality. | | | | | |
| 11. The student(s) demonstrated ability to carry process improvement initiatives into professional practice. | | | | | |

Comments: