

# 7 Ways My Dissertation Results Apply to Your Life

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## Dissertation Topic

▶ Perceptions of Role Transition among Nurses  
Working in Both Clinical and Faculty Positions

1. Registered Nurses
2. Had transitioned from a clinical setting into academia
3. Held 2 or more jobs  
(1 job as a part-time clinical instructor)

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## Research Question #1

- ▶ How do part-time clinical nurse faculty members perceive the work-role transition from clinical expert to clinical instructor when they continue to maintain their clinical work position in addition to their new academic role?

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## Research Question #2

- ▶ What factors do part-time clinical nurse faculty members who work in both an academic and a clinical environment perceive to be beneficial to the work-role transition from clinical expert to clinical instructor?

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## Committee Members

- ▶ Finding a content expert
  - Required expertise, time investment & a doctoral degree
- ▶ I didn't know anyone who was an ideal match
  - I decided to contact Dr. Anne Schoening, whom I had never met. She had created the Nurse Educator Transition Theory.

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## Lesson #1



- ▶ Don't Ever Be Afraid to Try Something Outrageous
  - It Just Might Work!

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## Barriers Along the Way

- ▶ The best laid plans don't always work out.
- ▶ I had several major obstacles I needed to overcome.
  - A Nursing Specialty Organization refused to allow me to invite members to participate.

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## Lesson #2



- ▶ Expect Obstacles and Plan to Work Through Them
  - There's often a solution around the corner

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## Data Collection

- ▶ Personal characteristics were gathered through a [Survey Monkey “DDQ” questionnaire](#).
- ▶ 1 hour interviews were conducted with 14 nurses online using [GoToMeeting](#).
- ▶ I transcribed the interviews and then analyzed the responses using [Nvivo software](#).

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## Descriptive Data Results

- ▶ **Age Range**
  - 4 individuals from each of the following ranges
    - 30-39
    - 40-49
    - 50-59
  - 1 individual from each of following ranges
    - 20-29
    - 60-69
- ▶ **Gender**
  - 13 Female
  - 1 Male
- ▶ **Marital Status**
  - 11 Married
  - 3 Single, Never Married
- ▶ **Number of Children**
  - 6 reported 1-2
  - 4 reported 3-4
  - 4 reported none

Age Range &amp; Gender

Marital &amp; Children Status

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## Findings – Theme 1

- ▶ Different backgrounds, different experiences
  - 181 coded items
- ▶ 4 Primary Codes
  - Readiness
  - Influence of part-time status
  - Differences in roles
  - Feelings

## Lesson #3



- Work–role transitions are different for everyone.
- Prior experience influences your current situation.

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## Findings – Theme 2

- ▶ Guidance and Support
  - 234 coded items
- ▶ 2 Primary Codes
  - Guidance
  - Helps

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## Findings – Theme 3

- ▶ Challenges along the way
  - 202 coded items
  
- ▶ 2 Primary Codes
  - Challenges
  - Hindrances

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## Lesson #4



- Expect transitions to be challenging for people.
  
- Be proactive & choose to be part of the solution.

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## Findings – Theme 4

- ▶ Maintaining two work-roles
  - 54 coded items
- ▶ 2 Categories
  - Beneficial aspects
  - Unfortunate consequences

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## Lesson #5



- ▶ Appreciate what those juggling multiple job roles are going through.
  - Allow them to share knowledge
  - Help make switching gears easy

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## Findings – Theme 5

- ▶ Influence of prior work experience
  - 41 coded items
  
- ▶ 3 Categories
  - Knowledge-based experiences
  - Interpersonal skills
  - General abilities
    - Example – learning from the mistakes of others

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## Lesson #6



- ▶ Don't repeat the mistakes of others.
  - Choose to be a learner, not to remain a victim.

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## Findings – Theme 6

- ▶ Influence of personal attributes
  - 142 coded items
  
- ▶ 4 Categories
  - Personality
  - Non-modifiable characteristics (can't change)
  - Modifiable characteristics (can change)
  - Motivation

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## Lesson #7



- ▶ When it comes to career choices, keep in mind that personal attributes influence success.

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## Final Take Away



- ▶ Give it everything you've got
- ▶ And don't stop until you reach your destination

Success is a Journey

You Can Do It!

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## References

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- ▶ Schoening, A. M. (2013). From bedside to classroom: The Nurse Educator Transition Model. *Nursing Education Perspectives, 34*(3), 167–172.

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## Notes Available for Download

- ▶ Website link: [www.drterriwenner.com](http://www.drterriwenner.com)
  - Click on Guest Appearances
- ▶ Email: [terri@drterriwenner.com](mailto:terri@drterriwenner.com)
- ▶ Pick up my business card