

Personal Philosophy Paper

Evelyn Schoenberger

Elmira College

Professor Bocek

NSG 3210.01 Professional Seminar

May 3, 2021

The nursing world was a large part of my life while growing up; my mom earned her bachelor's in nursing (BSN) when I was four years old. I was the child going to the hospital for fun to visit my mom at work, not because I was sick. I remember walking into the pediatric emergency room in Rochester, New York and being in awe of the health care workers each time I visited my mom. From day one, I was destined to have a career in the medical field. Two years ago, when I answered the question, "Why do you want to be a nurse?" my answer was because I wanted to help my community and the people around me. I desire to make a difference in the world, one step at a time.

Personal Beliefs

To me, the word "nurse" means empathy, caring, support and knowledge. Nurses are built to support patients on their worst and best days with a caring and empathetic attitude with the knowledge they have been provided. I want to be this person for so many of those around me, and that is why I wanted to be a nurse two years ago. Today, I want to be a nurse so that I can change lives for the better. Nursing requires so many different hats, but at the end of the day if I can have a positive impact on one's life, then I did my duty for the day. Happiness comes from giving to others around you, and I want to provide happiness and motivation to those I will care for. The values and beliefs I will carry forward into my nursing career include the concept of giving, happiness, motivation, and empathy. Throughout my time in Elmira's nursing program, my values and beliefs have exceeded what my initial expectations were. My level of empathy, determination and giving has surpassed anything I ever imagined.

Nursing Metaparadigm

The nursing metaparadigm appropriately summarizes the career of nursing with the four main aspects: nursing, person, health, and environment. From my perspective, nursing is the sum

of the other three tenants. I envision the metaparadigm as four circles. The person, being the patient, is at the center. Surrounding the patient is health. The patient is being cared for because of their health. Ensuring and encouraging health is crucial to proper patient care. Surrounding health is environment. To provide and encourage health, the environment needs to be welcoming, healthy, and clean. Nursing is the surrounding bubble that includes all 3 of the other tenants of the metaparadigm. Overall, the care of nursing is complex and requires a well-rounded nurse that is capable of meeting the four tenants of the metaparadigm.

Nursing Practice

My aspirations within the nursing field have changed during my time at Elmira College. My aspirations include supporting and treating each patient I encounter equally. As a freshman, I thought that my BSN was my stopping point; but it is not. In the last year of nursing school, I have begun to explore medical school. I am now taking courses required to take the MCAT and further apply to medical school. I am going to accomplish the goals of becoming a Medical Doctor (MD) with a support system behind me, and the same motivation that I hope to provide my patients in my nursing role. This path of nursing school leading to medical school is untraditional but will give me the opportunity to understand and empathize with the two roles in the medical field. I may be taking the long way to my end goal, but I will be well-rounded and educated by the time I have both BSN and MD after my name.

The Future

In the next ten years I believe the nursing world will face severe difficulty with staffing. There will never be enough nurses in the world, but I truly believe that due to the incidences in the past year and a half with COVID-19, nursing numbers will decrease. Additionally, the concept of older nurses eating their young is still present in the practicing world. Between both

the COVID-19 pandemic and nurses eating their young, the profession is destined to decrease. I will be a leader of change in the nursing profession with my positive attitude. By bringing a positive attitude to the work environment I will not eat my young, I will support fellow nurses and encourage younger generations to attend nursing school. I hope that by bringing forth a positive outlook and attitude into the nursing world I will be able to impact others to attend nursing school and resolve the shortage of nurses.

Conclusion

The professional field of nursing has been part of my life since the age of four years old; I was destined to have a career in the medical field. Over the years of my education, I have learned what is important not only in the career of nursing, but life in general. Elmira College has opened my eyes about my goals to be a Medical Doctor. The nursing metaparadigm I will follow and admire throughout my nursing career. I have learned so many lessons from elder generations and will carry that forward in my education and career. I will support, empathize, and care for the hundreds of patients I will encounter. I will carry my positivity and determination throughout my career and life. Because of my personal philosophy of nursing one day, I will be Evelyn Mae Schoenberger, BSN, MD.