This report is being submitted to document achievement of objectives as proposed in the original application. Results of activities will follow each of the original criteria proposed, highlighted by bold font under Responses.

Outline of Proposed Activities

I plan to upgrade my professional knowledge and practice in two primary areas: 1) expand clinical practice as a family nurse practitioner with prescriptive authority and 2) gain exposure to experiences and develop stronger colleague networks in innovative telehealth practice. Both of these areas have direct bearing on supporting the new DNP program for the UH Hilo SON.

Response: I believe the activities undertaken during the sabbatical period were directed toward upgrading my professional knowledge and practice and are described in detail below.

Planned activities could include:

1) Complete a program of study to review the theory of pharmacology and practice principles of medication prescription for Nurse Practitioners.

Response: Two major activities were directed toward upgrading both pharmacology and practice skills. 1) Pharmacology Seminar held in Las Vegas (November 11-17, 2013) and provided by Contemporary Forums. The primary faculty were Alan Agins, PhD and Jody Agins, FNP.GNP. This course provided 45 pharmacology hours that is to be credited for prescriptive authority as a Nurse Practitioner. 2) Primary Care Conference (October 28-30, 2013) sponsored by NPACE (Nurse Practitioners Associates for Continuing Education) provided 15 continuing education hours including 10.5 hours of pharmacology. 3) With qualifying credits from the pharmacology activities described above, an application for Prescriptive Authority from the Hawaii State Board of Nursing was submitted with resultant APRN Prescriptive Authority granted in December, 2013.

2) Collaborative work with HMSA HealthPass on monitoring the quality of care using telehealth applications.

Response: Major efforts were directed toward collaborative work in applying telehealth applications in health care. 1) Work with Dr. Debbie Juarez from the College of Pharmacy and Dan Brown, Director for Research in investigating the feasibility and effectiveness of using mobile technologies to improve medication adherence and lifestyle changes to improve hypertension 2) Initiating work with the newly formed Hilo Primary Clinic with assessment of needs and placement of pre-nursing, nursing, and DNP students to investigate health programs and policies.
3) Attendance at the Connected Health Symposium in 2013 held in Boston MA, which was conducted October 25-26, 2012. The sponsors, the Partners for Connected Health, is headed by Dr. Joseph Kvedar, who was the keynote speaker that I invited to the Pulama I Ke Ola Healthcare Conference for 2011. I will be able to capitalize on our prior association to develop ideas and opportunities for innovative work providing healthcare via technologies, especially in quality and safety, disparities and diversity.

Response: Attendance at the Connected Health Symposium on October 25-26, 2013 in Boston sponsored by Partners Healthcare. This conference provided 12.25 hours of nurse practitioner continuing education credits. The conference provided information of uses of telecommunications applicable to the healthcare industry. A working relationship was developed with mobile systems company, Pelesend, and the research project with Dr. Juarez is in discussion with Pelesend in planning a project to investigate infusion of health monitoring technology into the medical home.

Statement of Financial Renumeration expected from non-University of Hawaii Sources

I will continue clinical practice for a maximum of 8 hours per week, as allowed per UH policy, to maintain professional competence as a nurse practitioner. This activity is aligned with the needs of the School of Nursing in having faculty who maintains current practice and can provide up-to-date guidance for student learning.

Response: I continued to practice an average of approximately 4-5 hours per week at the office of Dr. Kevin Kurohara. My affiliation with Dr. Kurohara provided a personal connection that facilitated the placement of DNP students under the mentorship of Dr. Kurohara.

Summary Statement

I believe I fulfilled my agreement in completing the activities proposed for my sabbatical and thank the University of Hawaii, UH Hilo and the UH Hilo School of Nursing for their support.

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Professor
UH Hilo School of Nursing
January 22, 2014