

Defining and Supporting Professional Doctorates in Higher Education

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**WALDEN
UNIVERSITY**

A higher degree. A higher purpose.

Background

- **About the Presenting Need**
 - University-wide Effort Around Doctoral Quality
 - Challenge of the Professional Doctorates
- **About the White Paper**
 - What is a Professional Doctorate?
 - *In relation to Ph.D. - distinctions*
 - The Methodology
 - The Outcome
 - *Guidance for Program Development & Evaluation*

Core Ideas

- **Equal but Different**
 - Pro.Doc is not and should not be a "Ph.D. Lite"
 - *Both Should be Doctoral Level*
- ***The Formation of Scholars***
 - **Stewardship**
 - Generation
 - Conservation
 - Transformation
 - Advocacy (our addition)
 - Stewards of the **Discipline vs. Practice**
 - *Applied Disciplines... e.g. Education?*

Core Ideas

- **Beyond a Masters Degree**
 - What allows a student to “practice”
 - *Masters-level credential for admissions.*
- **Research Training**
 - Most Challenging Area
 - Key Assumptions
 - *Knowledge Grounded in Practice-Application*
 - *Practice must be guided by Research*
 - *R & P to Assure Positive Social Change*
 - The Seven Competency Areas

Core Ideas

- **Research Training - cont.**
 - Research Skills vs. Data Literacy
 - The Purpose of Knowledge for Stewards
 - *Involvement of the "industry" leaders*
 - *Data "culture" in the Professions*
- **The Doctoral Capstone**
 - Dissertation vs. Doctoral/Project Studies
 - *Litmus Test for Doctoral Research Question*
 - Justified, Grounded, Original, Researchable
 - 1 Guide vs. 6+ Guides

Core Ideas

- **Faculty Expectations and Training**
 - Who Should Teach Whom?
 - *The Deconstructed Professor*
- **Supplemental Competencies**
 - Specialized Experiences
- **Implementation of Recommendations**
 - Program Development
 - *An Existing Ph.D.?*
 - Program Evaluation
 - *Internal and External (Accreditation)*

Summary and Q&A

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- **Materials**
 - <http://researchcenter.waldenu.edu/Research-Resources.htm>