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Accelerating Curriculum Design: "A Love It, Don't Leave It"
Approach to Creative Process and Idealized Design

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The experience of curriculum change or development varies widely and can span the course of two to five years. To reduce the lengthy process and ensure faculty capacity, the Co-chairs selected a core team of nine faculty members to manage the change. This initial team was selected to ensure the involvement of key stakeholders such as directors, committee chairpersons, health care consumers, community leaders, alumni, students, and faculty members. A core team member's role included providing an external perspective in support of the vision and ensuring that the core team provided timely feedback.

The team was led by Dr. Deb Washington, who is an experienced educational leader and project manager. The team's composition included representatives from the school's various programs and a diverse range of expertise to ensure comprehensive and inclusive planning. The team was tasked with identifying and addressing the unique challenges faced by each program to ensure a cohesive and educationally sound curriculum development process.

The team recognized the importance of clearly defining roles and responsibilities to ensure effective communication and decision-making processes. This was achieved through regular meetings and the establishment of clear timelines and milestones.

The team's work was aligned with key national and global initiatives such as the Institute of Medicine's (IOM) report on the "Future of Nursing," which emphasized the need for nurses to lead health care change. The report highlighted the importance of a diverse and well-prepared nursing workforce to meet the evolving needs of the health care system.

The team worked collaboratively to develop a curriculum framework that included key themes, objectives, and competencies. This framework was designed to be flexible and adaptable to the changing needs of the health care environment. The team also utilized evidence-based approaches to ensure that the curriculum was grounded in the latest research and best practices.

The team's efforts were recognized and rewarded, as evidenced by the awarding of a grant for their work. This recognition not only acknowledged the team's hard work but also served as a testament to the success of their collaborative approach.