

Debra Simons, Ph.D.

Dean, School of Nursing and Health Sciences at Manhattanville College

Purchase, NY, US

Fellow, New York Academy of Medicine

Biography

Dr. Debra Simons became the Dean of the School of Nursing and Health Sciences in May 2019. With Dr. Simon's visionary leadership, the School of Nursing and Health Sciences offers programs that advance the preparation of well-educated health care professionals. Dr. Simon's leadership is grounded in the Caritas process and advancement of the philosophy, theories and practices of Human Caring. Prior to coming to Manhattanville, Dr. Simons served as the Dean of the School of Nursing and Healthcare Professions at the College of New Rochelle. Her leadership influenced the College of New Rochelle School of Nursing and Healthcare Professions to receiving the first in the country academic affiliation with the Watson Caring Science Institute. Her experience in creating clinical simulation environments for several academic institutions including Norwalk Community College and the University of Connecticut, allowed for the expansion of this active learning strategy and the development of a "hospital like" environment for the students. Before the College of New Rochelle, Dr. Simons served as the Director of the University of Connecticut second degree accelerated program expanding a campus. In addition, she was a tenured professor of nursing at Norwalk Community College. Prior to her academic career, Dr. Simons participated in the expansion of a corporation formally known as Franklin Health Inc. which provided complex care management services to employees in indemnified corporations and insurance company policy holders. She served in many key executive roles advancing the expansion of partnerships and net revenue of the organization. Dr. Simons contributes to many scholarly publications and her piece on the use of simulation in nursing was included in the book, "The New Nurse Educator: Mastering Academe," She is also passionate about mentoring providing a reflective response in seeking lifelong mentorship in the book, Role Development for Doctoral Prepared Nursing Practice. She has also developed a Quality and Safety Self-Efficacy Scale © Measuring Self-Efficacy during Inter-Professional Clinical Simulation, She has been inducted as a Fellow into the New York Academy of Medicine, serves as a board member for a non-profit organization, Under One Roof, which addresses urgent and complex needs facing older adults, affordable housing, and intergenerational living. Simons is a Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine.

Areas of Expertise

COVID-19 Effects on Seniors, COVID-19 (Coronavirus), Higher Education, Nursing, Health Science, Mental and Emotional Health, Advising

Affiliations

New York Academy of Medicine

Education

Capella University

Ph.D. Leadership in Higher Education

The College of New Rochelle

B.S. Nursing

University of Phoenix

M.A. Nursing

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