Reviewer’s report

Title: The Critical Elements of Effective Academic-Practice Partnerships: A Framework Derived from a Case Study of the Launch Year of the Department of Veterans Affairs Nursing Academy

Version: 4 Date: 17 July 2014

Reviewer: Carole Kenner

Reviewer’s report:

1. Is the question posed by the authors well defined? The question is well defined. The article is clear and concise. Well written.
2. Are the methods appropriate and well described? The methods are appropriate and well described.
3. Are the data sound? The systematic evaluation and reported data are sound.
4. Does the manuscript adhere to the relevant standards for reporting and data deposition? Yes
5. Are the discussion and conclusions well balanced and adequately supported by the data? Yes
6. Are limitations of the work clearly stated? Yes
7. Do the authors clearly acknowledge any work upon which they are building, both published and unpublished? Yes
8. Do the title and abstract accurately convey what has been found? Yes
9. Is the writing acceptable? Yes

Having been involved in two VANA projects I can attest that their portrayal of the blending of cultures, the student experiences, and the discussion about the partnership are on target. This manuscript adds to the literature. The authors cite appropriate literature. No revisions are suggested.

Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.