

Sigma's 29th International Nursing Research Congress

Transforming Nursing Education to be Relevant for a Global Community

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Purpose:

With nurses and midwives providing the majority of health care globally, nursing education needs to prepare students with competencies for broader responsibilities to move forward for equitable care and universal health coverage. Following guidelines in World Health Organization's Global Strategic Directions for Nursing and Midwifery 2016-2020, XXSON reviewed its approach to teaching through a global lens and concluded that its global activities were siloed, with faculty often working independently on global projects and no shared vision for the work nor coordinated involvement of students. The Office of Global Initiatives was established in 2012 to centralize and expand its global health priorities as a strong pillar of the education, practice and research of future nurses. XXSON developed and implemented a vibrant approach to curriculum transformation that included a new didactic global health equity course complemented with a program of global clinical experiences to expand students' learning environments.

Methods:

Processes involved implementing a new required course, *Global Health Equity and the Responsibility of the Nursing Profession*, for all new students; establishing criteria and identifying appropriate clinical sites; mobilizing support within the school; recruiting and preparing students; coordinating preceptorship; evaluation; and developing reciprocal activities with and defined by each site, such as research capacity building, curriculum development, program development.

Results:

Between 2014 -2017, 596 students completed a new course that generated new perspectives on health as a human right. Sixty-four students participated in global clinical integration in eight countries by Spring 2018; fifty-five students have submitted applications for Spring 2018 global clinical experiences, more than doubling the number from 2017. Global health disparities became real as did examples on provision of care with minimal resources. All students indicated choosing such an experience again.

Conclusion: Curricula transformation to prepare students for global challenges as they enter the profession is a dynamic one. Global sites welcomed collaborations which expanded to include curricular development, research capacity building, and exchange programs. Students expressed deepened understanding of disparities, nursing roles with challenged infrastructures, and commitment to nursing's responsibility to advocate for health justice. Critical to building a new approach to global health responsibility is collaboration that embraces reciprocity and commitment to what partnering host institutions define as priority needs, maximizing equity of exchange. We recommend that nursing and midwifery educational institutions expand curriculum to the larger global focus as a path that embodies new clinical realities for our profession.

Title:

Transforming Nursing Education to be Relevant for a Global Community

Keywords:

clinical experiences, global health and global nursing

References:

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Abstract Summary:

Following guidelines in WHO's Global Strategic Directions for Nursing and Midwifery 2016-2020, Columbia University School of Nursing (CUSON) developed and implemented a vibrant approach to curriculum transformation with a new didactic global health equity course complemented with a program of global clinical experiences to expand students' learning environments.

Content Outline:

Building a model to expand nursing and midwifery clinical research globally

1. Background
 1. WHO Strategic Directions for Nursing and Midwifery 2016-2020: Guideline emphasis on making nursing education relevant to attaining Sustainable Development Goals and Universal health
 2. XXSON reviewed its curriculum and found that global activities were siloed
 3. XXSON had no strategic plan for transforming its global program
2. Aim: Develop and implement a plan for didactic and clinical changes to establish a vigorous global nursing program
 1. *Create a didactic course on global health equity*
 1. A new didactic course, *Assessing Population Health Needs on a Global Scale*, developed and implemented in 2014, recognizes the changing needs and global demands for healthcare and replaced the former *Community Health*, with the goal of addressing current critical issues of global health equity and nursing

models that provide solutions. The course content changes annually, based on current global health crises or emerging issues.

2. *Expand clinical and field experiences*
 1. Develop criteria for clinical sites
 2. Identify appropriate sites and obtain consensus with sites
 1. Clinical experiences
 2. Preceptorship
 3. Reciprocity: What XXSON agrees to do for site, as defined by site
- *Mobilizing support within the School's community*
 1. *Recruitment of Students*
 1. Application and interview process
 2. *Recruitment of Students*
 3. *Overseeing students while at sites*
 - *Debriefing*
 - *Evaluation with site*
 1. *Internal evaluation*
 2. *Development of ongoing work with site*

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Professional Experience: Jennifer Dohrn DNP, CNM, FAAN, is Associate Professor and Director of the Office of Global Initiatives (OGI) and its WHO Collaborating Center for Advanced Practice Nursing at Columbia University School of Nursing. She was the Project Director for the United States/PEPFAR-funded Global Nursing Capacity Building Program which provides technical assistance to build nursing and midwifery capacity in ten Sub-Saharan African countries in response to the HIV pandemic. Dr. Dohrn has worked with Ministries of Health to provide mentorship for nurses/midwives in HIV care since 2003. She is principal investigator for a Columbia University funded grant to assess nursing and midwifery research network building capacity in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East. Dr. Dohrn serves on the Global Committee for the Association of Nurses in AIDS Care, the WHO Committee to develop guidelines for health professional education and training and is involved in the International Council of Nurses HIV/AIDS Network.

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