



# International Faculty Exchange Program: A unique transcultural nursing experience



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## Introduction

Learning institutions with shared common educational goals and value-based nursing education have established a meaningful and valuable relationship through mostly one directional travel (Transcultural Nursing Capstone Experience). The two nursing programs: The College of Saint Scholastica (CSS) Duluth, Minnesota and Philippine Christian University-Mary Johnston College of Nursing (PCU-MJCN) would like to deepen and strengthen the collaboration through faculty exchange which involves equal exchange of ideas and experiences.

This international experience aims to integrate the vision of inclusive excellence, enhance cultural awareness, and active promotion of several dimensions of diversity, future curriculum collaboration, and establish a long-range vision to use technology to engage students in shared coursework and projects.

## Methods



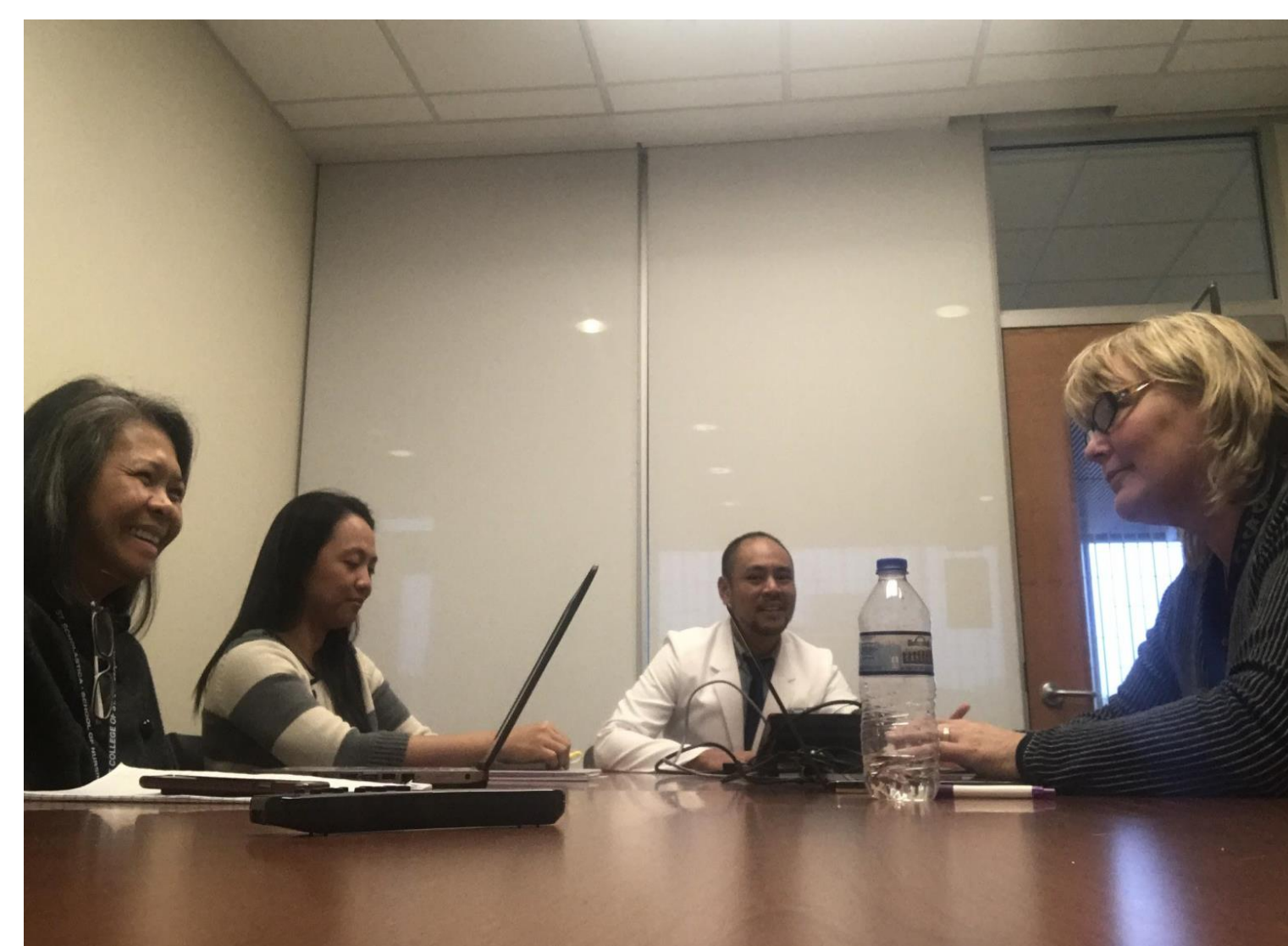
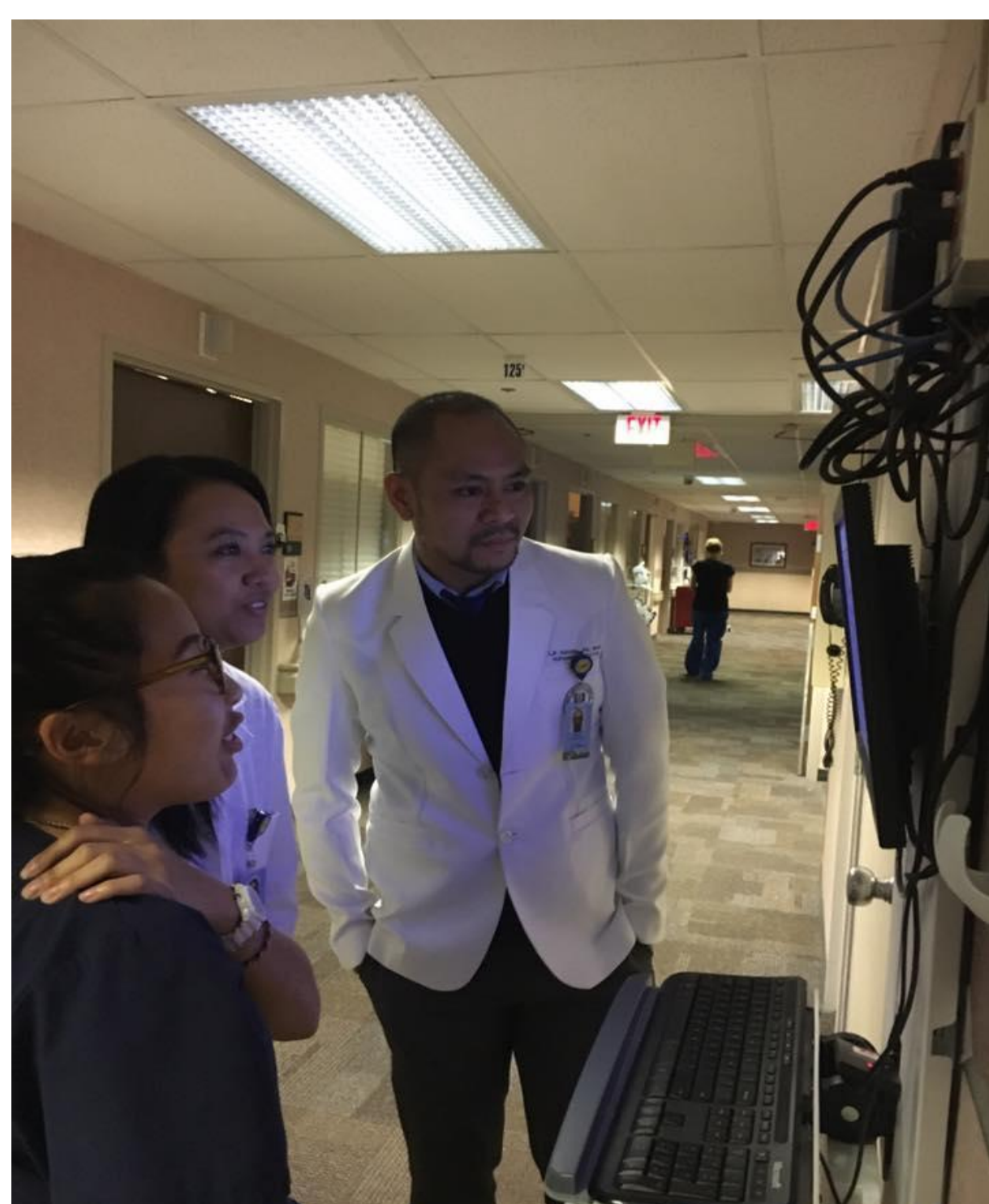
**Visit to The College of Saint Scholastica  
Duluth, Minnesota (Fall, 2018)**



The 3-week international faculty exchange program, provided a culturally varied experience for the visiting faculty from the Philippines. The intercultural experience offered the opportunity to observe, immerse, and exchange ideas related to teaching and student learning strategies between two institutions (CSS and PCU-MJCN).

The intercultural visit aims to provide the visiting faculty the following experiences:

1. Observe and assist in skills/simulation classes and clinical experience.
2. Participate in simulation as diverse patient.
3. Participate in developing culturally sensitive simulation scenarios.
4. Informational presentation of the PCU-MJCN curriculum to CSS nursing faculty.
5. Visit American clinical sites.
6. Participate in planning of future faculty/student exchange for 2019 Capstone experience.
7. Provide feedback/reflections related to the experience.



## Results

1. Observe and assist in skills/simulation classes and clinical experience.  
**MET**-Observed and assisted in Skills Lab, observed clinical rounds with Clinical Coordinator, attended nursing classes (MedSurg, Community Nursing, and Interprofessional Education).
2. Participate in simulation as diverse patient.  
**NOT MET**-No simulation classes during the time of visit.
3. Participate in developing culturally sensitive simulation scenarios.  
**NOT MET**-Simulation scenarios were completed at the time of the visit.
4. Informational presentation of the PCU-MJCN curriculum to CSS nursing faculty.  
**PARTIALLY MET**- met with CSS leadership team and faculty.
5. Visit American clinical sites.  
**MET**- Observed student clinical rotations at St Luke's Hospital, Benedictine Health System, Benet Hall Monastery, and visited Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Illinois.
6. Participate in the planning for future faculty/student exchanges.  
**MET**-Attended and presented at the pre departure orientation for the Philippines Capstone 2019 cohort.
7. Provide feedback/reflections related to the experience.  
**MET**- Submitted reflections of the experience to Dr. Gina Diaz (shared with CSS faculty).
8. Other Activities.  
Visited with Physical Therapy Program, Attended the SNA (Student Nurse Association) meeting, Participated during CSS Community Day (SIGMA Pasties Making-fundraising event).

## Faculty Reflections

- Every culture is unique
- Nursing concepts are universal
- Nursing education is dynamic and complex in its delivery
- Each program has its own strengths and weaknesses
- Adaptation and flexibility is essential
- The experience contributed to professional and personal growth



## Conclusion

The international faculty exchange program provided a once in a lifetime experiential learning and global perspectives for both institutions. New knowledge and ideas gleaned from the experience are essential in enhancing nursing education. Learned teaching strategies can be adapted and implemented in various settings. Utilization of technology in future course development and shared coursework and projects for student engagement. The international faculty exchange program allowed faculty of both institutions to grow as leaders, researchers, and effective collaborators. Strong collaboration and continued support from each institution is essential in the success and sustainability of the program.

## Next Steps

- Implementation of teaching and student learning strategies
- Clinical Preceptorship Program at Mary Johnston Hospital for CSS students
- Interprofessional Education Experience through integration of Doctor of Physical Therapy students from CSS
- Continuous collaboration between CSS and PCU-MJCN

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