

# Challenging Global Health Perspectives with Nursing Internship Experiences

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# Disclosure

- **Learning Objectives:**

1. Discuss how to establish international clinical opportunities and
2. Describe the development of global clinical nursing internship programs.

- **Conflict of interest statement:**

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.

# Background on Global Opportunities

- Universities worldwide are actively engaged in establishing partnerships.
- Academic push to “Internationalize” the campus.
- Students are seeking global experiences as a component of their higher education curriculum.



# Global Healthcare Opportunities

- Similar yet different:
  - Study abroad programs
  - Service learning programs
  - Clinical nursing internships
- Challenges presented include access to opportunities, language differences, practice differences... and cost!
- Benefits of experiences, as described in the literature as well as employers, are enormous.

# Experiential Learning

- “Hands-on” clinical experiences require a collaborative effort with agreements.
  - University agreements required for research
  - Hospital and government agreements
  - Timeline agreements with clinical partners
- Terms and conditions documents
- Expectations defined
- Learning outcomes and evaluation

# Establishing Partnerships

- International opportunities are waiting for the curious to discover!
- Networking in and around campus is a start – look for programs of research
- International research interests open doors to clinical nursing internship opportunities
- Ask yourself – “What is my vision of a global clinical internship experience?”



# Establishing Partnerships

- Use every opportunity:

Attend meetings & conferences

Travel abroad, taking note of all health related information

Know the healthcare history of the areas you travel

Tour hospitals when you travel, bringing tokens from home

Make global friends a priority

# The Common Plan

- Establish goals for the experience
- Identify benefits and risks, and develop a plan to measure and intervene
- Determine costs from all angles
- Verify stakeholder support and buy-in
- Adopt a curricular plan for the internship
- Timing of experience is critical! Make this work for everyone involved.



# Growing Sustainable Internships

- Build a collaborative program that appeals to students, researchers, and across campus.
- Establish experiences by perceived value indicators of students.
- Manage the costs to make the experience affordable to the broadest group possible.
- Manage the risks from every angle!
- Seek development funds for scholarships.

# Recommendations to Practice

- It all starts with a survey...
- Network with stakeholders, faculty, administrators, and the community.
- Actively attend and build collaborations at international conferences and meetings.
- Follow up with your connections
- Make noise...

# Questions?

**Thank you for your attention!**