



**CENTRAL
UNIVERSITY
GHANA**



**FAIRLEIGH
DICKINSON
UNIVERSITY**

**CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT FOR
MASTERS IN NURSING: COLLABORATION
BETWEEN CENTRAL UNIVERSITY AND
CARNEGIE AFRICAN DIASPORA
FELLOWSHIP**

Developing transformation leader in global health system through excellence
in student-centered graduate nursing education.

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Key authors, institution and country



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BACKGROUND

- A nursing scholar from central university, Ghana and an Africa nurse scholar from Fairleigh Dickson University submitted a proposal to develop a graduate nursing curriculum, to run a masters degree in nursing. The development of the masters curriculum was sponsored by the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship (ADF) and Central University, Ghana.

AIMS

- To develop a robust curriculum through assessment of needs
- To implement a sustainable masters program
- To produce well educated nurses to function as faculty members and nurse administrators
- To expand the educational opportunities for nurses to facilitate delivery of high quality care.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

- The sudden private sector involvement in nursing education in Ghana demands more graduate prepared nurses to take on faculty positions for the programs output.
- Some schools have been given accreditation by the National Accreditation Board to commence nursing programs but cannot roll out the programs due to lack of faculty.
- Graduate nurses are needed to facilitate more evidence-based practice and to conduct practice- related research. Also many nurses are eager to enhance their education in administration.

METHODOLOGY

- The Fellow arrived in Ghana in December 2014. Central University met its obligation in cost – sharing for the collaboration.
- Stakeholders meeting were held involving practicing nurses, students, members of the civil society, Ministry of Health, National Accreditation Board, Nursing and Midwifery council and Ghana Registered Nurses/ Midwives Association.
- The Fellow worked with selected members to produce a robust document for implementation.

Results

- Collaboration between Diaspora and African scholars in accordance with the missions and goals of Fairleigh Dickson University and Central University Ghana, produced a curriculum for implementation soon.
- This collaboration has also led to the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the two institutions covering all departments and faculties with the intends of:
 - Student and faculty exchange
 - Collaborative research

Challenges

- Lack of PhD prepared faculty in Central University
- Lack of funds for the roll out of the program.

Conclusion

- Collaborative work is about learning, adaptation and change at individual and group levels.
- This initiative from the Department of nursing has strengthened relationships across the two universities.

Lessons learned

- It was discovered that collaboration enhances strength and increases the confidence needed to promote innovative changes
- The implementation of the curriculum and the sustainability of the program must be backed by local institution commitments and supports from external collaborators.

References

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