

Educational Context: - Internationalisation and Global Challenges to Healthcare Education Abstract:-

Working Across Borders - Nursing Skills for Mobility

Keywords:- International, European, Partnership, Mobility, Skills,

Aim

This paper will outline the work of a lifelong learning (Leonardo) funded project funded by the European Commission, to examine the training requirements and nursing skills needed for mobility (TRaNSforM). The project is a joint work between partners in seven different European countries: England; Belgium; Finland; Germany; Ireland and Portugal. The project aim is to produce a self-assessment tool that can be used by nurses to review their skills for working abroad and will help them to facilitate nurses from other countries to adjust to the different setting. There will be additional guidance for educator and potential employers and links identified with the broader work being conducted by FINE (European Federation of Nurse Educators) and other particularly relevant European projects.

Background

Gaps in student nurses understanding of the challenges of moving to work in other countries and the opportunities for working in Europe (Avis et al, 2008) stimulated further interest in how a better preparation could be produced for nurses as a whole. The work has been carried out over a two year period 2010 to 2012 and has involved using David Cooperider's Appreciative Inquiry method of participation (Watkins & Mohr, 2001) with post-registration students to gather ideas as to how nurses could be better prepared for working in different countries. Sleeping partners from professional and service organisations have been consulted in each country and their role within the scheme will be explained.

The Presentation

The work will be complete in the summer of 2012 and so this September conference will be a good opportunity to present the final product materials. The University of Nottingham team will be eager to share their experiences of working in this international way, we do hope to include other partners, but this has not been confirmed yet. The process itself has been exciting and challenging. Their will be reflection on the following issues and contribute to knowledge development in the following ways:-

- the evolution of a concept of an international nurse for the future;
- international relations and the joys and tribulations of joint working, cultural and practical hurdles and links to other European initiatives;
- using appreciative inquiry as a method and the advantages and disadvantages of this approach for developing educational ideas;

Project Partners

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References

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FINE European Federation of Nurse Educators www.fine-europe.eu

www.leonardo.org.uk

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