

Nursing Disciplinary Discussions

- Benchmarking Research
- Education
- Nurse Prescribing
- Exchanges

Issues in Benchmarking Research

Complexities associated with the nature of the discipline:

- Range of research methods and foci; diversity of “scholarship” required by the discipline
- Emphasis on clinical rather than “basic” research
- Inherent interdisciplinarity in much of the knowledge development
- Challenge of articulating disciplinary “gold standard”
- Challenge of identifying top ranked journals, making sense of citation patterns, estimating impact factors etc.

Academic Contexts for Benchmarking

- RAE-driven contexts versus those that are not yet explicitly affected
- Recognition of contextual complexity
- Practicalities and ideals

Ongoing Projects:

Analysis by U21 Nursing academic heads to articulate some of the “global drivers”

- Collaborative research groups and teams
- Interdisciplinarity
- Objective measures
- Problems of impact evaluation
- Programs of research
- Innovation and relevance
- Research environment

- **Template Development:** U21 group experimentation with creating and testing a data base against which we can compare for our individual strategic programs.
- Ongoing discussions with regard to the challenge of articulating disciplinary “gold standard.”

Issues in Education

Sharing Learning Resources

- Decision to shift focus away from creating a U21 database; instead will draw on our member expertise for evaluation of objects etc.
- Identified lead for continuing linkages (Nottingham)

Health Informatics

- Identified lead for the nursing group (McGill)
- Create network between member Schools linking key champions

Clinical Benchmarking

- Template for clinical benchmarking developed at Hong Kong meeting and has evolved with input among member Schools
- Focus of template is the scope and context of clinical education, not yet tackling issues of outcome
- Report of internal testing at U of Melbourne
- Plan for testing among member schools over next 6 months (leads at Auckland and Melbourne)
- Recommend presentation at next U21 meeting to begin to address issues across other practice disciplines.

Nurse Prescribing

- Roundtable discussion of contexts, scopes of practice, implementation challenges
- Highly political and local context precludes discussion of best practice
- Three members will publish combined information
- Mechanisms for sharing resources and frameworks regarding practice models, regulatory issues etc.
- Maintain “watching brief” and discuss next meeting.

Issues related to Student & Staff Exchanges

- Survey of schools: limited exchanges, few within U21, significant complexities
- Discussion of opportunities for using U21 collaboration to expand exchange opportunities.
- Complexities related to the demographic of our discipline, nature of our work, timing etc
- Decision to focus on staff and post-doc as priority for exchanges and create proposals (lead Lund)
- Funding? (U21 Central?)

Summary: Initiatives for 04-05

- Global drivers benchmarking research project
- Research template development
- Gold standards dialogue
- Learning objects evaluation
- Informatics linkage development
- Clinical benchmark testing and analysis
- Proposal re staff/post-doc exchanges