

# Research and Research Careers: developing knowledge for healthcare



## Aim:

- To offer U21 doctoral nursing and allied students a participatory international forum to develop research career excellence through:
  - Masterclasses
  - Student presentations
  - Career development workshops
  - Panel Discussion



## Students

- 18 students – f/t and p/t
- 9 countries:
  - England, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Jordan, Saudi, Scotland, Taiwan, USA
- 6 schools of nursing
- Nursing, Statistics, Physio
- Most aspire to clinical academic career
- Mainly between 25-30 with family responsibilities
  - Max – 5 children



## Programme design

3 days – front loaded with Faculty input on day one (Tuesday)

External speakers:

- Elizabeth Fradd – Personal reflections on evidence influencing policy
- Emeritus Professor Jane Robinson – Preparing for Publication

Social events: dinner at Pizza Express (thanks U21)

Research in my country:

- Student presentations: - each appraised by each student
- organisations and systems (medication errors, mental health outreach)
  - nursing profession (eg nurse migration from Jordan)
  - Illness management (ca, diabetes, managing chest pain, fibromyalgia)
  - abuse (child abuse, elder abuse)



## Feedback: a buzzing room

- 11 evaluations (out of 18)
- Was the forum worth your effort
  - yes 11
- Should there be another next year
  - yes 11
- Do you anticipate keeping in touch
  - yes 10



## 3 things I liked:

- Meeting others:
  - Fantastic people, diversity, from around the world
- Learning about other countries
- 'Networking with others who at 1<sup>st</sup> glance you appear to have little in common with'



## 3 things

- Student presentations
  - Preparing, delivering, getting feedback, sharing, getting good ideas, others perspectives, constructive comments, discuss methodology
- Masterclasses
- Presentations (EF and JR)
- Discussions of career development
- Panel discussion
- Finding out similarities of student issues



## 3 things to improve

- Room!
- Longer student presentations and discussions 'to reflect reality'; More time to learn about what is going on in other countries
- More masterclasses (3): masterclasses in smaller groups, didn't like them – everyone should have the same attention (1)
- More Faculty: for all student presentations; 'relate the expert attendants and speakers to the subject of each student', all U21 Faculty to attend all days
- Divide days by methodology not content
- Shorter formal presentations Host students be involved in preparation and accommodation of visiting students
- Specify level of PhD; specify which students can attend



## It worked because:

- Intellectual curiosity – doesn't work for 'completion of project'
- Big School – enough senior Faculty
- International buzz – those wanting to learn from others, regardless of subject
- Integration of theory, methodology and methods, and empirical work
- Range of 'applied'
- Shared aspirations to change practice/have an impact



## Multidisciplinary ?

- What do you think about a multidisciplinary forum?
  - No response – 2
  - Yes – 7 – including 'in terms of equality this would be great'
  - No/caveats – 2 – not comfortable, 'hard to get into the nursing perspective'



## For 2007?

- Yes, depending if enough students (x10 minimum) to make it worthwhile - cost
- Delighted to run multidisciplinary but:
  - Make it clear who will benefit (eg intellectually curious, broader thinking, transferable thinking)
  - ? structure as U21 with shared and discipline specific
  - Happy to help with planning with learning from Nottingham



## Thanks to Faculty Colleagues from U21 and the School of Nursing

Thanks to Profs Davina Porock and Jacqueline Collier, for chairing days

'Just to say many thanks for giving us all an enjoyable experience and one that was extremely worth it educationally. Bearing in mind the workload that doctoral students have, I felt this was a good use of my time.'

