'Of Tribes and Territories': The Interprofessional Student-Health Graduate for the 21st Century?

Dr Nicola Andrew Dr Nichola McLarnon

Glasgow Caledonian University



Professional Identity

The majority of academics in traditional disciplines construct their identity through their disciplinary communities which includes colleagues, students and other professional and social networks. These partners act as communities of reference for academic disciplines.

Kreber (2010)



Professional Identity

Formation of professional identity is influenced by the relationship of the individual with their immediate professional community.

Lave and Wenger (1991)



Professional Identity

Work place communities promote a sense of identity and allow professionals a space in which to define their place in the world, and through this process continue to evolve.

Wenger et al (2002)

Andrew et al (2008)



Changing Identity

Identity is forged through collaboration with peers, students and increasingly through public involvement. These can be described as communities of reference.

Students will now forge their identity in collaboration with allied health peers.



Changing Identity

Through the development of this wider community we have the opportunity to redefine our role as professionals



Changing Identity

We are using our new communities of reference to reflect on our sense of identity

Re-defining who we are will help to better articulate what we do.



Ethos of Interprofessional Education(IPE)

Definition: IPE occurs when members of two or more professions learn with, from and about one another to improve collaboration and the quality of care (CAIPE, 2011)

IPE is not designed to replace, but rather complement and enrich the curriculum

Evidence suggests a need for comprehensive IPE education for health and social care students – "on the job" is almost too late to begin to develop the necessary team building skills required for practice



IPE should form a coherent and integrated component of professional education. It should work to improve the quality of care; focus on the needs of service users and carers; involve service users and carers; promote interprofessional collaboration; encourage professionals to learn with, from and about one another; enhance practice within professions; respect the integrity and contribution of each profession and increase professional satisfaction.

Barr and Waterton (1996)



Glasgow Caledonian University: School of Health and Life Sciences and Interprofessional Education (IPE)

A proven track record of success in the field of IPE over the past decade

A driving force in pioneering key IPE initiatives within the University:

- Interprofessional Education Framework (undergraduate)
- MSc IPE modules
- Professional Doctorate for Health & Social Care Professionals (postgraduate)



Development of the Undergraduate IPE Framework

Responding to an identified service need, government policy drivers and a growing international lobby (UK, Canada, USA) plans for delivering IPE at GCU began

2004 Following a 2 year planning and approval process all health and social care programmes at GCU/ University of Strathclyde were invited to participate in the first IPE module - Interprofessional Studies in Health and Social Care:

- Level 1
- Long thin module delivered over Trimesters 1 and 2
- Key note lectures followed by small group tutorial sessions (multidisciplinary)
- Delivered by a group of approximately 22 staff (multidisciplinary).



Foundations of Practice Syllabus

- Teamwork
- Partnership working
- Interprofessional teams and agencies
- Communication
- Reflective learning/ writing/ practice
- Ethics
- Policy
- Role of Carers and Service Users
- Equality and Diversity
- Lifelong Learning and CPD
- Professional/ regulatory bodies; Codes of Conduct



Development of the Undergraduate IPE Framework

8 programmes participated in academic session 2004/5:

- 7 GCU programmes Nursing (Honours programme), Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Radiography (Diagnostic & Therapy) and Social Work
- + Prosthetics and Orthotics (University of Strathclyde) = ~400 students in total
- 2005 Dietetics programme joined the module
- Module renamed following reapproval of the Allied Health and Social Work programmes = Foundations of Practice in Health and Social Care; became part of a larger suite of new IPE modules (undergraduate IPE framework)



Foundations for Practice in Heath and Social Care Module

2009	Speech and Language Therapy programme (University of Strathclyde)
2010	Oral Health Science programme (Glasgow Dental Hospital and School)
2011	BN Nursing Programme (all branches – Child, Adult, Learning Disability, Mental Health) = an additional 400 students

= 12 programmes (15 incl the BN branches); ~900 students in total



Undergraduate IPE Framework

	Trimester 1				Trimester 2			
University Semester	12 wks	1 wk	2 wks	3 wk	12 wks	1 wk	3 wks	1 wk
Structure		SL	457,4	IB		Н	A 35/3	IB
	Introductory Psychology and				Introductory Psychology and			
	Sociology for Health and Social				Sociology for Health and Social			
	Care Practitioners (R)				Care Practitioners (R)			
Year 1	20 Credit points	SL	4	IB	20 Credit points	H	435.5	IB
	Foundations for Practice in				Foundations for Practice in Heath			
	Heath and Social Care (R)				and Social Care (R)			
Year 1	20 Credit points	SL		IB	20 Credit points	H	3.55.55	IB
					Research in Health and Social			
					Care Practice			
Year 2		SL	3553	IB	20 Credit points	Н	3553	IB
	Investigating Effective Practice				Investigating Effective Practice			
	(R)				(R)			
Year 3	20 Credit points	SL	7.57	IB	20 Credit points	Н		IB
	Organisations Policy and							
	Professional Practice							
Year 4	20 Credit points	SL	15.55	IB		Н		IB
	Honours Project (R)				Honours Project (R)			
Year 4	40 Credit points	SL	185518	IB	40 Credit points	Н	2000	IB

Key SL – Study Leave

IB – Intertrimester Break

R – Module delivered in Trimester 1 and repeated in Trimester 2

Ass – Assessment period H – Holiday



Further Developments: Foundations for Practice in Heath and Social Care Module

Key note lectures followed by small group tutorial sessions (multidisciplinary)

Logistical challenges: now condensed and delivered in Trimester 1 and repeated in Trimester 2

Delivered by a group of approximately 22 staff (multidisciplinary) per trimester

Mobile technology e.g. Text walls

Assessment – online, self, peer, tutor led

2012 Orthoptics and Operating Department Practice programmes will be joining in September 2012





