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Building sustainable academic partnerships globally

Nursing education in China has been in a process of transformation since early 1990s evidenced by advancing nursing education from Diploma to AND programs to BSN, MSN and PhD programs, increasing academic and scholarly exchange between Chinese nursing and nursing globally, and making efforts to use international as well as evidence-based standards for academic nursing amid changing political and social contexts. Nurse scholars, educators, leaders, and clinicians in China have, to some extent, adopted American and other countries Academic Nursing models such as American Associations of Colleges of Nursing essentials for BSN and MSN programs. Nursing scholars, educators, leaders, and clinicians from other countries have been invited to lecture, consult, and help design programs, resulting in many meaningful collaborations between Chinese and American academic nursing. Transforming Chinese nursing education requires a paradigm shift from a traditionally medical model based education to nursing discipline specific education. Meantime, developing nursing faculty is needed to build faculty capacity to educate nurses of the future. Social and political contexts in China have been changing toward high demands for better educated health care professionals including nursing to meet needs of individuals, groups, and populations. For over two decades, the author has been a visiting professor for more than 10 Chinese universities, helped established the first PhD program in China. The author has initiated and sustained productive partnerships with Chinese nursing programs. For this presentation, the authors will draw experiences and evidence-based practice to articulate workable strategies for building productive partnerships in global academic nursing. Examples of successful partnerships and tips and insight will be shared as how to build a sustainable partnership between Chinese and American nursing programs. Productive academic nursing partnership supports promoting global nursing education with mutually respectful standards and competencies, and ultimately preparing future nurses that meet ever-changing needs of healthcare at home and on a global scale.

Biography

Lin Zhan is the Dean and Professor at the Loewenberg College of Nursing, University of Memphis, TN. Prior to this, she worked as the Dean of School of Nursing at Mass College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Boston; Director of PhD Program in Nursing and Health Promotion at UMass Lowell, and tenure Nursing Professor at UMass Boston, MA. She has published over 100 articles and edited six books related to health promotion for vulnerable populations, diversity and innovation in higher education, and global nursing. She has conducted funded research near $5M (PI, Co-PI, and consultant) and serves on the AACN Board of Directors (2017-2019).

Shirleatha Lee is an Associate Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Programs at the Loewenberg College of Nursing, University of Memphis, TN. She is a Certified Nurse Educator, received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from The University of Tennessee at Martin, Master of Science in Nursing Education from Union University, and PhD in Nursing from The University of Tennessee Health Science Center Memphis. She serves as a Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) On-site Evaluator and also serves on additional college, university, and national committees that contribute to advancements in nursing research, education, and practice. She is a Southern Regional Education Board Doctoral Scholar and her research focuses on the early detection and prevention of cardiovascular risk factors in overweight and obese youth. She has served as a visiting faculty to Jining Medical University in Shangdong Province, China.

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