

21st Global Nursing Education Conference

4th International Conference on

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Holistic Medicine and Nursing Care

March 25-26, 2019 | Orlando, USA

ACCEPTED ABSTRACTS

JOURNAL OF NURSING & CARE, VOLUME: 8 | DOI: 10.4172/2167-1168-C4-104

Bringing the world into the classroom: Active learning in nursing education

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Nurses play a vital role in addressing global health needs. Undergraduate nursing education must prepare nurses that are positioned to assess individuals, communities, and populations around the world, ready to advocate for social justice, work collaboratively with interprofessional partners and community leaders and implement interventions or programs to address identified community needs from a local

to a global level. Unfortunately, it is not feasible to send nursing students around the world to get this experience. To meet this challenge nurse educators must bring the world to the student. One of the greatest challenges in nursing education is preparing students to solve problems and think critically to assure they will be able to provide high-quality care to the individuals and communities they will be serving. Nursing instruction that involves active learning strategies has been proven to be the best method of teaching critical thinking. Research indicates that a person remembers only 5% of the information that is relayed in lecture format and only 10% of what is read. However, when a person actively engages in a

learning activity, 75-90% of the information is remembered. Advances in information technology have provided an opportunity for students to collect assessment data and explore global health topics from the classroom. In this session conference, attendees will have an opportunity to participate in an active learning global health lesson. This classroom experience will include active learning strategies utilizing technology to explore a global community, identify a community need, and utilizing the core public health intervention wheel, develop primary, secondary, and tertiary interventions that the nurse could employ to meet the community need.

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