Health Professional Education Newsletter

For people interested in keeping in touch with news from the Education Centre regarding the postgraduate courses in Health Professional Education.

Meet Some of Our Students

Katrina Calvert is currently undertaking the fourth and final unit of the Certificate in Health Professional Education, and hopes to go on to complete the Masters by research.

She trained as a doctor in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and has spent the last three years working as a part-time lecturer in the School of Women’s and Infants’ Health at UWA. When asked why she enrolled in the certificate she replied “I wanted to critique and further develop my own teaching practices, and learn from other educators within the Health Professional setting”. Katrina also said that “the course has really opened my eyes to the enormous amount of theory and research behind current teaching practice. The students are very supportive of each other; this process is greatly assisted by our use of the online discussion boards. A number of the units have utilised online assignments and tasks, and we have worked together in small groups to arrive at consensus opinions and answers. I find this method of learning fits around my own timetable of work and family life”.

Over this time, she was frequently involved with students, and training and education of new therapists. Heather is mid-way through the Master of Health Professional Education and has recently begun the research component after completing four coursework units. She stated that “the course has given me the opportunity to learn and explore the connection between teaching and learning within the specialty practice of hand therapy. There has been valuable opportunity to put into practice ideas from the coursework through the assignment work and evaluate previous project work, plus meet with other health professionals from a diverse background but with a shared interest in education”.

Are you interested in enrolling?

For further information see our webpage: http://www.meddent.uwa.edu.au/teaching/centre/courses/coursework and contact the Director of Post Graduate Studies, A/Prof Sandra Carr (sandra.carr@uwa.edu.au) or Administrative Officer Post Graduate Studies, Caroline Martin (caroline.martin@uwa.edu.au) if you have any questions.

For 2011 International Applicants:

Applicants from overseas should contact the International Centre and complete the application for international students.

International Centre
The University of Western Australia
Nedlands, Perth Western Australia 6009
Phone: +61 8 6488 3939
Fax: +61 8 9382 4071
Email: http://www.ask.uwa.edu.au/app/ask
Scholarships available to cover fees

Half-tuition scholarships are offered to Faculty teaching staff to undertake postgraduate study in Health Professional Education.

For further information please contact Caroline Martin in the Education Centre:

Caroline.Martin@uwa.edu.au or Ph: (08) 9346 2621

Research being conducted within the Masters course

Christine Smith commenced studies in the Master of Health Professional Education in 2007. She has recently submitted her thesis entitled ‘The lived experience of Non English Speaking Background (NESB) Overseas Qualified Nurses (OQNs) working in the Western Australian Metropolitan Hospital Workforce’.

The reason for Christine’s study was driven by the current shortage of nurses worldwide that has taken its toll on the Australian health care system. As a result there is an increased and ongoing migration of OQNs, some of them coming from non English speaking countries. Studies of migrant nurses working abroad have been conducted in other countries and in the eastern states, however there is very little research on their employment experiences in WA. Based on Husserlian transcendental phenomenology the findings from this research highlighted the personal and professional journey of the participants as they integrated into the WA workforce. A feature of the outcomes of this study was the participants’ resilience and agency in terms of their willingness and determination not only to adapt and to learn from the new country and work practice, but also to maintain their integrity as unique professional individuals practising nursing.

Christine will be presenting some of the findings of her research study at the 1st International Conference on Qualitative Research in Nursing and Health in Chiang Rai, Thailand in early December.

Semester 1 2011 Units on Offer

**IMED8801 Principles of Teaching and Learning**
Core unit, Pre/co-requisite for all other units.
(Unit Coordinator: A/Prof Sandra Carr)

**IMED 8803 Introduction to Research in Health Professional Education**
Core unit
(Unit Coordinator: Asst/Prof Sue Miller)

**IMED 8805 Innovation and Contemporary Issues in Health Professional Education**
Elective unit. 
(Unit Coordinator: Asst/Prof Sue Miller)

**IMED 8811 Professional Portfolio**
Elective unit.
(Unit Coordinator: A/Prof Diana Jonas-Dwyer)

**IMED8802 Principles of Assessment and Evaluation**
Core unit
(Unit Coordinator: Asst/Prof Zarrin Siddiqui)

**IMED 8804 Clinical Teaching and Supervision**
Elective unit.
(Unit Coordinator: A/Prof Sandra Carr)

**IMED 8806 Simulation in Health Professional Education.**
Elective unit.
(Unit Coordinator: A/Prof Sandra Carr)

*Please note: Some units are subject to minimum quotas.*