Message from our Associate Dean for Academic Partnerships, Technology & Simulation

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No doubt the implementation of the Affordable Care Act will have a profound effect on near future health care environments as 32 million Americans who are now uninsured will have access to health care. Consequently, our graduates will care for increasingly diverse populations. That diversity will include patients who struggle because of social economic status just on the edge of poverty. This quarter we are piloting a low technology/high fidelity simulation experience to facilitate the development of knowledge and attitudes needed to care for populations in that very circumstance.

We are piloting the Poverty Simulation on the Ashland and Portland campuses. Students participate in a half-day experience that includes immersion in a community positioned at the edge of poverty. Instead of assuming the role of the nurse, students are assigned to play a role in a family and must manage their lives as a variety of events unfold. The families face several common challenges such as an episodic illness without insurance, disruption in employment and difficulty with transportation. The scenario runs over a compressed four week time blocks and students must navigate through work, school, social services, banks and day care. Soon families find themselves living in chaos and many experience many health related problems. Learners quickly find themselves identifying and examining labels, stereotypes and judgments such as “non-compliance” and “laziness”.

I am excited about this project for multiple reasons. First, our faculty have collaborated across campuses to implement an innovative simulated learning activity. They are also conducting a multi-site study to determine if this simulation facilitates development of intended learning and understanding. Students on all campuses are taking a well-designed survey with established reliability and validity that assesses understanding and empathy around low social-economic communities. The study includes a pre/post test design and our Klamath Falls, La Grande, ... continued

and Monmouth students are serving as the control group as only Ashland and Portland students will participate in the simulation. The research team led by Dr. Joanne Noone will analyze the data and disseminate the findings. Faculty intend to establish the value added regarding the intended learning.

This educational research project creates opportunity for scholarship and innovation. It also represents the OHSU School of Nursing’s first systematic study that will contribute to establishing best practices in simulation. Most importantly, the study will inform teaching and learning strategies that will assure our graduates develop the knowledge and understanding needed to competently care for diverse populations in an era of health care reform.

Nurse Midwifery Students “Deliver” at SCLC

At the start of spring term, the nurse-midwifery students come to the SCLC for the day in preparation for their first days in labor and delivery in their new role. It’s an intense and exciting day for them as they begin to practice the specific skills they have waited 22 months in the program to learn. We talk about the role, the clinical scenarios they may experience, and then practice everything from checking model cervixes and pelvises to catching Noelle’s baby (several times each). They begin to learn suturing skills as well. It’s a great mix of task training and clinical judgment, review of anatomy and physiology specific to labor and birth, and ends with an inspiring video of women giving birth in the squatting position in a natural birthing program in Brazil. The students always leave overwhelmed, too excited to sleep that night, and grateful for the chance to begin their learning under the safest possible circumstances. The best of what sim can do. Thank you to all the staff and faculty.

-Lisa Chickadonz, CNM, OHSU SoN Portland Campus

OHSU SON midwifery students with instructors Lisa Chickadonz, CNM, Dr. Carol Howe, & Dr. Jeanne-Marie Guise

Dr. Jeanne-Marie Guise demonstrating delivery technique
SCLC Team Highlight: Christine Clifford

Christine first came to work for Oregon Health and Science University School of Nursing on the Ashland campus in January 2001 where she began as an Administrative Assistant to the Associate Dean, Dr. Saundra Theis. In July of 2004 she transitioned to the FNP, PMHNP, GNP graduate program assisting the graduate students and coordinating video conferencing for the Ashland campus. The following year she began working part-time in both the graduate program and the skills lab, as well as continuing her duties coordinating the video conferencing. Christine became an Administrative Coordinator for the Simulation and Clinical Learning Center in July of 2007 where she has continued to organize, coordinate, and manage the skills and computer labs in addition to providing support to the Simulation team. Throughout this journey, she has coordinated Ashland campus events including Sigma Theta Tau inductions, Convocations, SCLC Open House, and annual lectures including Darby and LaSor.

-Christine Clifford, SCLC Coordinator, SoN Ashland Campus

Teaching Clinical Judgment through Simulation:
An Intensive Workshop for Nurse Educators

**Portland-Clinical Workshop:** June 20-22, 2011
**Portland-Moulage course:** June 23, 2011
**Ashland-Clinical Workshop:** August 1-2, 2011
**Ashland-Moulage course:** August 3, 2011

OSNA 2011 Convention: Simulation Sessions

On March 12, faculty and staff from the OHSU SON Monmouth Campus led two breakout sessions on simulation at the Oregon Student Nurses’ Association Annual Convention in Corvallis, OR.

Most of the students who attended the sim sessions were pre-Nursing students, and for many this was their first introduction to simulation. After watching a Code Day video clip from the Portland SCLC, the attendees were led in a discussion by Monmouth Campus Administrative Director Bret Lyman. Students were readily able to describe the ways that simulation would be beneficial to them as students in a Nursing program.

Following the discussion, students had the opportunity to interact with SimMan. Volunteers took turns caring for patient Pat Simmons, as Pat had begun to experience some pain, difficulty breathing, and dizziness. Students greatly enjoyed providing guided hands-on care for the patient, and also benefitted from having the opportunity to ask questions about Nursing school and the use of simulation at OHSU.

-Adria Gredvig, Academic & Simulation Associate
  OHSU SoN Monmouth Campus

Get more information and register online:
2011 Summer Simulation Workshop
http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-nursing/about/centers/simulation-center/workshops-conferences/index.cfm

Mission Statement: The OHSU Simulation and Clinical Learning Center (SCLC) faculty & staff are members of a learner-centered team providing creative and innovative simulation experiences to prepare nurses to practice excellent patient care.