



Virtual Global Collaboration

BSN Population Health Course
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Virtual Collaboration

Fall Semester: Collaboration
Between Moi University
Nursing Students in Kenya and
KUMC Nursing Students

Spring Semester: Collaboration
between Christian Medical
College (CMC) in India and
KUMC Nursing Students

Multidisciplinary Team

Nursing Faculty from Moi SON and KU SON

OIP

TLT

OIS

Ad Hoc members

Required a strong mindset and agility: not typical teamwork

Work through an atmosphere of cognitive chaos brought on by a pandemic.

Stretch beyond the comfortable dimensions of departmental and cultural boundaries.

Moi and KU Faculty



Aims

1

Aim 1: Sustain relationships with International Partners during the pandemic time period when travel was suspended.

2

Aim 2: Develop a mutually beneficial, sustainable virtual program to facilitate global engagement in the classroom.

3

Aim 3: Create an environment for human connectivity to deepen the understanding of humanity in a global context.

Initial Issues

Technology access,
availability,
affordability.

Timeline differences:
KU SON semester
starts about a month
earlier

Time differences:

Moi University is 8 hours ahead of KS

- Faculty and program meetings were 0800 CST; 1600 EAT(East Africa Time)
- CMC is 10.5 hours ahead of KS
- (0800 CST; 1830 IST (India Standard Time))

Potential language
barriers

Pandemic created an
uncertain
environment.

Final Presentation Structure

Final Presentation: Three Zoom meetings over three weeks

Moi and KU Students shared PPT presentations on a common issue: Covid Impact on Systems and Populations

Agenda: Presentations and Breakout Rooms for discussions



HEALTHCARE OF MIGRANTS WORKERS IN INDIA DURING COVID-19: SCREENING AND FOLLOW UP



Lessons Learned

Overriding student take-away:
human connection.

- Learning about the commonalities of population health issues and challenges create a collegial environment between participants.
 - Students begin to integrate global perspectives into their professional identity.
 - Understanding connection between members of the same profession across the globe.



Student Comments

- "My experience with this class has deepened my understanding of population health on a local to global level. The students from Kenya have shaped the kind of nurse I want to be for the better."
- "My biggest takeaway from the global presentations was the universality of the human experience, particularly amidst times of crisis."
- "Being able to compare the impact of a pandemic in cities on two separate continents opened my eyes to the degree to which individuals living in completely different places can experience the same event and have similar feelings."

"It was nice to find comradery with nursing students so far away. We are all trying our best to get through school during a global pandemic, because in the end, we all want to help people."

Lessons Learned

Leverage the opportunity to develop an ethnographical perspective between higher and lower resource countries by creating a neutral space for interaction and exchange.

Presenting a common theme creates a shared mental model between participants.

Emphasizing the global classroom where all faculty and students were equal-no one was “Hosting”
Virtual collaborations allow more students to engage in global connections than placed-based experiences

In evaluations, students ranked subsequent collaboration higher-possibly scaffolding experiences adds knowledge dimension.



Shift from “SPEAKING” to “SIGN LANGUAGE”



- Tackling communication issues during the COVID-19 pandemic, in health care settings



Future recommendations

Interdisciplinary Collaborations

Develop technology methods to allow student exchange prior to presentation (work on a presentation together)

Use virtual exchange to prepare for place-based visits when travel resumes.

Ongoing Faculty engagement

Roundtable discussions

Lectures to each others' students prior to presentations.



Thank you

