




Interprofessional Learning as a Student Engagement Strategy


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Presentation Outline

The following presentation will include:

- Define Interprofessional Education (IPE) and Student engagement as it relates to our presentation.
- Detail some of the background and drivers for implementing IPE
- Discuss the IPE module
- Detail the link between the IPE module and student engagement.




Defining IPE and Student Engagement

Interprofessional Education

'Interprofessional education occurs when two or more professionals learn with, from and about each other to improve collaboration and the quality of care'
(UK Centre for Interprofessional Education – CAIPE 2002)

Student Engagement

The term student engagement is understood in many ways but generally relates to the level of student involvement in activities likely to generate effective learning outcomes
(ACER, 2008)



Why IPE ?

Drivers for IPE in Australia

Productivity Commission 2005 Health Workforce Review
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality 2006 Measurements for Improvements Toolkit

Universities and industry


Complexities of health care and the health workplace (Devonshire and Wozniak 2006, Hall and Weaver 2001)

Health Outcomes and IPE

Interprofessional Education = Interprofessional Practice = Improved Health Outcomes
(Hall and Weaver 2001, Stone 2006)


Uni SA and IPE

Engaging with Students - Making it Real (CIPeL 2007)



UniSA IPE Developments

- UniSA T&L Conference November 2006
- UniSA Teaching and Learning Grant 2007
 - 3 IPE Leads
 - Explore literature and visited UK Universities
 - Proposed plan for IPE implementation
- UniSA support for initiative 2008 and beyond
 - Three phase model
 - Phase 1 in 2009
 - Phase 2 & 3 to be developed



Phase 1 - IPE Module

Module Expectations

- All students will undertake the IPE module in year 1 after the mid semester break.
- IPE will be imbedded into common courses across the division
- Focus is on teamwork and collaboration
- IPE module will run over two weeks
- Students will be allocated into mixed tutorial groups.
- Assessment will be identical across all programs
- Each school to provide online facilitators
- Module will account for 10% of student effort in a 4.5 unit course and 5% of student effort in a 9 unit course.

Student Numbers and Disciplines

Three schools, 13 programs, approximately 1200 students



Online Student Engagement

Why is IPE online Engaging?

- A large percentage of students are already engaged in web communication through Facebook, MySpace etc
- Enables flexible engagement opportunity for students/staff regardless of their schedules
- Enables equal access - All external students have internet prior to enrolment. Internal students have computers on campus
- Motivation to engage in online interaction through assessment focused on participation
- Student will have choice regarding the scenario (learning object) they work on
- Online is safe place for many students to interact

Online teaching materials include: online text, hyperlinks, readings, assessments, visual/ pictorial learning objects and discussion boards.



IPE Learning Objects

Online Learning Objects

- Prisoner Scenario
- Clinical Placement Scenario
- Jenny's Encounter
- Carl's Story



IPE - Weekly Activities

Week 1

Evidence of introduction and response

Evidence of working group regarding learning object choice

Evidence of access to student survey (1)

Week 2

Evidence of students detailing their responses to key questions for the scenario.

Evidence of access to student survey (2)



Strategies for Engaging Students Online

Student Engagement Strategy

- Topic relevant to student and their discipline
- Online materials provided in a range of formats
- Online information provides a framework to determine boundaries and ensure safety
- Information provided in a manner that enables time and space for reflection
- Guided reflective process to meet 1st Yr student needs
- Online discussions and interaction are asynchronous providing flexibility
- The lecturer takes on the role of facilitator supporting the group process



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