

2018

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2018 Research & Innovation Day Program

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RESEARCH & INNOVATION DAY

Wednesday, March 21, 2018
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
James A. Colvin Atrium

**RESEARCH &
INNOVATION DAY** 



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Student Projects on Display

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Feature: SafeSpace Art Exhibit

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Presentation of Awards and Wrap up

STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECTS



1. Emily Chard, Mackenzie Corbett, Jack Hayward, Nathan McIntyre, Joey Renaud, Rayne Crosetta, Amanda Kuiack, Chris Meier - Ability of Paramedic Students to Correctly Identify a 3-Lead, Lead II Rhythm

Our overall goal is to help improve the delivery method of ECG teaching by faculty and improve the learning experience for the student.



2. Lianne Foxcroft - The Affects of the Physical Environment on Early Childhood Education

The overall goal of this project is to get children to learn through play and experiences through the physical environment.

Collaborators - Professor Angela Bourne, Nancy Klassen (external advisor)



3. Yaxin Xiang, Jiarui Liu - Creative Curriculum Development in Asia: A Specific Cross-Cultural Analysis of Early Childhood Education in China

Designing and implementing Western play-based creative curriculum to adapt to the Chinese early childhood education system.



4. Kaitlyn Dresser - Effectiveness of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Children with Anxiety Disorders

Examining the efficacy of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy on anxiety disorders in school aged children, to assist in creating the best possible treatments.

Collaborator - Ursula Goniarski, Academic Coordinator - Child and Youth Care - Fanshawe College, St. Thomas/Elgin Regional Campus



5. Lucy Kus, Taylor Wilson, Cassidy Gosling - Empathy Levels Among Fanshawe Paramedic Students: A Cross-Sectional Survey

Determining empathy levels in first and second year paramedic students at Fanshawe College through the completion of a previously validated tool, the Medical Condition Regard Scale.

Collaborator - Alan M. Batt, Faculty, Paramedic Programs



6. Jennifer James - Literature Review on Animal Assisted Therapy in Youth with Substance Use Disorder

This research shows that AAT is an affective form of therapy for youth with SUD. Showing them a different way to express their feelings and emotions, and giving them hope.

Collaborators - Ursula Goniarski - Child and Youth Care Professor, Jennifer Martino - Child and Youth Care Professor, Charis Perrineau - Child and Youth Care Professor



7. Rayne Crosetta, Presley Smith, Jenalyn Cundy-Jones, Lisa Henderson - Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Education for Paramedics: Practicing What We Preach

At the time of writing, the Primary Care Paramedic Program at Fanshawe College is the only paramedic education program to have integrated the IHI Open School Courses into the curriculum. The authors hope to see this change in the very near future.

Collaborator - Alan M. Batt, Faculty, Paramedic Programs



8. Jessica Bosazzi, Ashley Brandon - Special Education Training and Self-Efficacy

Through our questionnaire study sampling local educators, we are attempting to add valuable knowledge regarding London educators' special needs training and level of self-efficacy within the field of education.

Collaborator - Sandra Lackenbauer (faculty supervisor)



9. Isabelle Love, Mikaila Boon, Jessica Knoop, Emma Frigault - The Effect of Environmental Fidelity on the Performance of First-Year Paramedic Students at Fanshawe College

We hope to provide the Fanshawe Paramedic Program faculty with reliable data that they can use to make changes to the way lab scenarios are delivered. We also plan to make this data open access for other paramedic programs to use accordingly.

Collaborator - Alan Batt

 **10. Laura Herbert - The Impact of In-School Supports on Improving Outcomes for LGBTQ Students: A Literature Review**

This project aims to review the current scholarly literature in order to identify which evidence-based in-school supports are effective on improving outcomes such as school engagement, suicidality, and victimization for LGBTQ students.

Collaborator - Ursula Goniarski, Academic Coordinator - Child and Youth Care - Fanshawe College, St. Thomas/Elgin Regional Campus

 **11. Morgan Benner - Accommodating the Use of Marijuana in the Canadian Workplace**

The overall goals of the project are to predict and explain the challenges employers will face with the legalization of marijuana.

Collaborator - Professor Shannon Webb

 **12. Amanda Manship-Knight, Ryan Campbell, Ryan Savoie, Kristen Hajpe - controlPlay Playlist Research**

By improving controlPlay's knowledge of the customer's customer, we will allow them to better serve their own clients and enhance their success.

Collaborators - Kristen Cadotte, Professor; Adam Melrose, controlPlay

 **13. Clara Marshall, Barbara Franco Bombachini, Mauricio Machado Silveira - Digital Supervisor: A Customized Dashboard and Instruction System for J/E Bearing and Machine Ltd.**

Developing a Web-based system for workplace documentation and training presented to employees via a workstation tablet. Organizing content into one searchable interface that will increase productivity by eliminating current downtime factors.

Collaborators - JE Bearing team - Jamie Tutt, Robert Haaf, John Bennett, Natalia Aguillon

 **14. Adrian (Yizhao) Zhao, Nicholas Lediet, Julliana de Bica Bauer - Educational Training Tool for Dental Strategy**

Developing a custom learning management system for onboarding new employees in dental practices. Current content will be organized into lesson modules with user tracking and feedback throughout the framework.

Collaborators - Dental Strategy team - Jamie Tutt, Robert Haaf, John Bennett, Natalia Aguillon

 **15. Natalie Mastracci, Nicholas J.D. Ireland, Ryan Michael White - HR Downloads - Time and Attendance**

Developing a suite of absence management and time-tracking tools that will be integrated into a larger existing base of digital HR tools currently marketed by the client partner.

Collaborators - HR Downloads team - Jeremy McIvor, Robert Haaf, John Bennett, Marco Deluca, Natalia Aguillon

 **16. Matthew Gauthier, Gregory Strybosch, Jeffery Lowe, Brandon Donkersgoed, Jordan Jarvis, Mason Tybring - Palasid Naming Research**

By refining the North location to cater to a new target audience, we will know what name will help clarify their new offering. Becoming more relevant (or sticking with their proven name) with help enhance their success.

Collaborators - Kristen Cadotte, Professor; Rob Szabo, Palasid

 **17. Ryan Kelly - The Next Generation of Fire Detection**

The goal of this project is to save more lives and try to prevent families from losing their house due to a fire. Target audience: Homeowners with young children. Seniors with houses in London, Ontario (to start).

 **18. Ryan Kelly - Web Accessibility with the WCAG 2.0**

We hope to make the web a more accessible place for everyone. We target small to medium sized businesses (in London right now).

 **19. Jordan Salisbury - A Qualitative Analysis of Applications for Recycled Materials in Concrete**

The materials identified in my research will be the basis for several years of research that will lead to new methods and products that improve the way we recycle consumer products.

Collaborators - Professor Amneh Kalloush, Dr. Solomon Asantey

 **20. Megan Jackson - Affordable Housing for Millennials as First Time Homebuyers**

The goal is to design an affordable, functional, and sustainable house for millennials in London, Ontario in order to provide them with their first-time home.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Bonnie Pierotti



21. Nicholas Koehler - Building an Indoor Aeroponic Data-Based Vertical Farm in a Closed-Loop Sustainable System to Grow Vegetables More Efficiently

This project aims to prove that people from Ontario want to buy locally-grown, environmentally friendly, pesticide-free produce that can be grown year-round through Aeroponic indoor vertical farming technology.

Collaborators - LEAP Junction and the associated staff (attended a pitch workshop and will likely work/seek consultation on the project idea)



22. Trevor Whitehead, Allison Gray, Laura Swyers - Caledon Sand and Gravel - An Innovative Approach to Environmental and Economic Compromise

Ecologically and economically restore a quarry in Caledon, Ontario by innovating a design strategy for ecosite connectivity, ash renewal Ontario wide, and economic continuation for the site and surrounding community.

Collaborators - Eli Paddle, Wil Pol, Rick Oskirko, Sara Bellaire



23. Trisha Tran - Development of an In-Process Test for the Determination of Ethanol in Kombucha Fermentation Samples

Developing an economical in-process test method which would allow producers to measure the alcohol content in their product before final testing in order to decide whether or not to alter fermentation conditions to produce a saleable batch, or make a decision to abandon a batch and save time and resources. The test method could also be used as a product development tool and potentially be marketed in a kit format for sale to kombucha producers.

Collaborators - Professor Karen Buchholz



24. Leah Ernst - Designing Inclusive Dog Kennels that Provide Comfort and Consider the Well-being of All Users — Dogs, Caregivers, and Owners

The goal of this study was to design a facility that gave voice to the dogs that are near and dear to our lives, since often spaces that they primarily inhabit are not designed adequately for them.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Faculty of Design; Craig Crane, Faculty of Design



25. Hannah Bacro - Fourth Year Bachelor of Interior Design Thesis - Bacro

Creating and designing healthcare exam rooms that promote user well-being and increase patient-physician interactions. Overall this research can influence future design of healthcare exam room spaces.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Lindsey Webber, London Health Science Centre



26. Xiaochen Cui - Fourth Year Bachelor of Interior Design Thesis - Cui

Goal of the research is to find a solution of reduce patient anxiety, give patient a better waiting experience in long waiting time in emergency department.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Zhong Yan (chief engineer)



27. Kaitlin Dyck - Fourth Year Bachelor of Interior Design Thesis - Dyck

The goal is to contribute to the research towards contemporary food court spaces, and encourage future designs of these spaces to meet the needs of today's user groups.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Lisa Bandman



28. Siobhan Latimer - Holistic Residential Environments to Generate Well-being in Households of Sighted and Non-Sighted Cohabitants

The main aim of this project is to outline a new standard for residential design in Canada, and demonstrate that designing for a challenge such as blindness can be healthy and beautiful for those who are sighted as well.



29. Lida Sobhani - How Can the Design of the Student Centre in Universities and Colleges, Enhance Student's Learning?

Students need to have an area where they can feel comfortable and engaged with the environment at Fanshawe College; which promotes space that is flexible and multifunctional for all learning styles. In achieving these requirements students are likely to succeed in their academic and social learning.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Jeni Pawluch (external advisor)



30. Natalie Krzeminski - Interior Design Factors to Guide Modern Day Design of Youth Hostels

To design a modern-day hostel that is first of its kind in London Ontario, that will benefit young travellers through the innovation of motivating and inviting design implications.

Collaborators - May Ali, Kristina Victoria



31. Kirsty Bell, Sasha Owens - Investigating the Wound Treatment Potential of Ontario Honey

Identifying the correlation between apiary conditions and honey which has properties that could be effective for wound treatment. The outcomes of this project would result in the creation of a new honey product with a much higher price-point for Ontario's beekeepers.

Collaborators - Dr. Cheryl Ketola; Dr. Michael Jennings, Ontario Beekeeping Association



32. William Jones - Mixed-Species Geobacter Biofilms as a Standalone Power Source

To create a new model microbial fuel cell which is able to charge a battery through consumption of nothing but reducible organic matter within soil.

Collaborators - Amy Turnbull, Chris Talbot



33. Liam Johnstone, Zachary Simao, Liam Ricci - OSSGA Rehabilitation: Living Laboratories

To facilitate a connection in urban fabric between Caledon village and the James Dick quarry by introducing eco-tourism.



34. Joanna Korvemaker - Practically Designed Net Zero Single Family Houses that Don't Sacrifice Comfort or Convenience for the Average Family Household

To design a Net Zero model single family home for the average family in Sarnia, Ontario by researching the mechanical systems, building construction, and energy systems and applying that to a practical, appealing design.

Collaborator - Dr. Angela Bourne



35. Nicole Leak - Repurposing and Preserving Heritage Structures Through Adaptive Reuse

To give the Elgin County Railway Museum a new purpose/function to prevent it from being demolished. Providing a new design to convince others why this building is still important and engage the community.

Collaborators - Dr. Laura Dent - City of London Heritage Planner, Dr. Angela Bourne, Ed van der Maarel - a+LiNK Architecture



36. Emily Mitchell - Tiny Home: As an Enabler for Enhanced Family Communication

This project hopes to achieve successful findings on the benefits of the Tiny House Movement and appeal to families looking to strengthen their family communication and overall dynamic. This movement gives families the opportunity to live life the way they want, with less financial stress. This study hopes to change the mind of people who believe bigger is better, and identify how living in a tiny home can bring family members together.

Collaborator - Professor Angela Bourne, Greg Nakonecznyj



37. Fadwa EL-naid - What Elements of Interior Design, Characteristics and Features Should Support Future Needs for People with Alzheimer Disease in Strathmere Lodge Long-Term Care?

The design of future Alzheimer's facility at the Stathmere Long-Term Care resident need to adhere to assisted living atmospheres that can provide emotional satisfaction and support.

Collaborator - Dr. Angela Bourne



38. Olga Tkachenko - What Qualities of "Ontario" Cottage Can Keep a Family Together

To change interior design of cottages for promoting better living and family cohesion. The proposed cottage will be designed for a family, proposed location is Muskoka Lakes.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Lorraine Franklin



39. Jessica Burton - An Inquiry into the Design of Group Homes for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The goal for this project is to provide an understanding of how the design of physical spaces can affect individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, and how we can improve the designs of spaces in the future to better their daily lives.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne, Heather Tessier (external advisor)



40. Madelyn Allen, Bianca La Marra, Ashley Clarke - Community Interprofessional Hub: A New Club at Fanshawe to Enhance Interprofessional Collaboration with a Community Context

Healthcare programs here at Fanshawe will include more learning and practical experience with interprofessionalism; and community mental health and well-being. Students will be attaining experiential learning while making connections with the community.

Collaborators - Helen Harrison, Anne Lamesse



41. Taylee Jackson, Leah Sullivan - Evolve: A Non-Profit Organization Bringing Together Members of the Community and Students in Nursing and other Healthcare Programs

To lessen the effects of inequity through collaboration of the community and students in nursing (and in the health field), creating positive change and making a meaningful impact.

Collaborators - Helen Harrison (RN, BSc, BScN, BEd, MScN, PHCNP (cert)), Lorena Bonilla (RN, BA, BSN, MN, EdD)



42. Julia Gilmour - How Implementing Inclusive Design Techniques Within Elementary Schools Can Positively Enhance the Learning Outcomes of Primary Students

The overall goal of this research study is to promote the use of inclusive design techniques within elementary schools to positively impact the learning outcomes of primary aged students.

Collaborators - Dr. Angela Bourne



43. Tamara Nelson, Abbey Parkinson - RECN-3017: Special Event and Governance - Community Event

The “Power of Play” event provides children and their families an opportunity to immerse themselves in their school community through collaborative, community-based play, focused on healthy child and family development.

Collaborators - Allison Menegoni, Professor, Recreation and Leisure Services Program, Fanshawe College; Dr. Celine Bourbonnais-MacDonald, Professor, Early Childhood Leadership Program, Fanshawe College; Liz Moore, Vice Principal, Eagle Heights Public School; Ashley Thorne, Community Impact Coordinator, Youth United Division, United Way Elgin Middlesex. All students in, RECN-3017 Special Events and Governance (Section B)



44. Elizabeth Mathe, Rebecca Smith - Resources Available for Sexual Assault on College Campuses

We hope to bring more awareness and prevention when it comes to sexual assaults at college. Making the lives better and more comfortable if an assault is to occur by helping them find resources to cope and recover.

Collaborator - Leah Marshall, SVPA of Fanshawe



45. Cayley Angell, Allan Tessier - Trauma Informed Transitional Housing

Overall, this project hopes to achieve a solution to homelessness by looking at the issue from a compassionate, trauma-based lens to innovate a new solution to addressing homelessness in a broader view.



46. Maria Cristina Riano - What Type of Interior Physical Design Considerations Enhance the Student Learning Experience in Technology-driven Academic Libraries?

To redefine Fanshawe’s library as the new learning commons on campus that supports both social and educational patterns of education among technology-driven students.

Collaborator - Dr. Angela Bourne

SAFESPACE EXHIBIT

“Technology is an abyss – you dip into nothing”:
Marginalized women’s experiences with
information and communication technologies.

This art exhibition is an extension of the research project “Women’s Empowerment through Collaborative Learning in Community” (WeCLiC), a longstanding research partnership between researchers and members from Fanshawe College, Western University, and SafeSpace. WeCLiC has received funding through SSHRC’s Community and College Social Innovation Fund.

The goal of this exhibition is to reduce stigma by providing space for sex workers to share their experiences, needs, and challenges regarding accessibility to information and communication technologies (ICTs). The works showcased in this exhibition are created by women guided by the questions “how does technology make you feel?” and “how would you like to experience a digital learning space?”

Without experience in the use and opportunities to access ICTs, marginalized women experience newer forms of social exclusion, alienation, and inequity, and older forms become exacerbated. Given the ubiquity of ICTs, serious concerns about the bifurcation of information “haves” and information “have-nots” are growing, and the gender divide regarding the barriers to women’s participation with ICTs risks exacerbating further inequalities between women and men. Thus, through their work, women remind us how easy it is for people to be left behind in conversations that inform the design of virtual and social spaces.



STAFF/FACULTY RESEARCH PROJECTS

Title: Analysis of Re-Engineering for Garment Micro-Manufacturing

Researchers: Jennifer Wright, Professor of Fashion Design, Art and Design; Meredith Jones, Professor of Fashion Design, Art and Design

CY Apparel is a local garment micro-manufacturing enterprise. As a result of no standard process and technology for garment micro-manufacturing in the London area, the company is currently unable to meet the production demands of an emerging client base of new designers and small to medium sized fashion enterprises. As such, the CY Apparel's opportunity as a manufacturer of garment quantities is challenged with fiscal sustainability, and is currently not scalable. This research project and ensuing report will enable the company's manufacturing facility to produce small lots (ranging from 25 units to 150+ units) efficiently, helping designers create a new and viable garment and fashion sector in the Southwestern Ontario region. The research has observed the need of standardized methods using technical knowledge to track and improve efficiencies, acquire accurate costing skills, and develop essential employee process templates for application. The project has determined information and technology required to maintain an efficient and balanced material output, through the study and analysis of apparel engineering and workflow. Now that the project is complete, the results have led to recommendations which will enable the company to expand its garment micro-manufacturing production services to other SMEs that want to produce small lots of fashion designs. The four fashion design students involved in this project have actively researched best practices to work towards the creation of an efficient production line that provides the scalability and sustainability needed.

Title: Celebrate Cycling Maps; Fish and Paddle Guide, City of London

Researchers: William Pol, Professor, School of Design; Russell Schnurr, Professor, School of Design; James Todd, Student, GIS and Urban Planning; Geraldo Pinto Junion, Student, GIS and Urban Planning

Faculty and summer students partnered with the City of London in the summer of 2017, to research, create and design, four cycling route maps to for the City's June Celebrate Cycling event and the first Fish and Paddle Guide for the Thames River London. Students conducted field studies on cycling routes, safety, historical points of interest and created four digital cycling route maps. Students undertook research, completed field studies, met with stakeholders and created information and mapping to promote fishing and paddling on the Thames River in London. Faculty provided the technical, policy and supervision expertise for both the cycling mapping and fish/paddle guide. We received strong positive feedback from our partners, map users and the stakeholders for both mapping projects. As a result of the 2017 work, the City of London is partnering with the GIS and Urban Planning program on two digital mapping research projects for the summer of 2018.

Title: Intelligent Eco-Driven Urban Shelter

Researchers: May A.Malek Ali, Associate Professor, School of Design, Honours Bachelor of Interior Design, Faculty of Fine Arts, Alexandria University, Egypt; Mohamed Sedky, Senior Lecturer, School of Computing and Digital Technologies, Staffordshire University, UK; Ahmed Elsherif, Graduate Research Assistant, Sustainable Environments, Iowa State University, USA; Aly Magdy Ibrahim, Graduate Research Assistant, Architecture, American University in Cairo, Egypt

Throughout diverse ecological extrapolations, buildings are harshly subjected towards a massive extent of climatic divergences. They are strenuously exposed to an extravagant magnitude of falling snow and rain within cold climates. On the other hand, warm climates enable a drastic amount of radiant heat transfer which detrimentally affects architectural entities and overhangs inhabitants' safety. Correspondingly, our study addresses climatic challenges facing buildings' systems, within the province of Ontario, Canada. The project introduces a novel smart sustainable envelope into urban shelters, as public architectural platforms, so as to foster a series of kinetic interactions acclimating with the surrounding environment. With a view to instigate intelligence, relying on real-time data gathering throughout the Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The envelope's intelligence would deliver a sensory-based adaptive response providing diverse heating scenarios within the shelter while simultaneously maintaining a balanced framework among functional ergonomics and aesthetics. Furthermore, the envelope would be decidedly relying on renewable energy platforms that are self-generated out of embedded wind turbines and solar panels among the shelter's layering. Hence, the project is highly emphasizing the functional integration among sustainable and interactive computational platforms as an approach for addressing diverse climatic challenges within an adaptively environmental manner.

Title: Interactive Adaptive Smart Home Simulator

Researcheress: May A.Malek Ali, Associate Professor, School of Design, Honours Bachelor of Interior Design, Faculty of Fine Arts, Alexandria University, Egypt; Mohamed Sedky, Senior Lecturer, School of Computing and Digital Technologies, Staffordshire University, UK; Ahmed Elsherif, Graduate Research Assistant, Sustainable Environments, Iowa State University, USA

Within the light of the information age and digital ideologies, a multidisciplinary collaborative framework among computer scientists, interior designers and game programmers is required to efficaciously address changing needs within the realms of "Smart Home" environments. A smart home programs itself throughout the constant observation for the occupants' daily activities. It further learns to anticipate and accommodate their needs while interacting constantly in real-time. Our project develops an adaptive smart home simulation tool that fosters an eminent opportunity for researchers within the fields of interior design and machine learning to test and visualize their customized models within an interactive virtual environment. The aforementioned process provides both computer scientists and interior designers with the potentials for developing a highly performative space that exhibits signs of autonomy, adaptation and multi-functionality. Our tool performs within three distinct and sequential phases embracing design, visualization and testing. The proposed tool will accelerate the development of adaptive smart home environments. A notable example of a cohort who could primarily rely on such environment is those suffering from cognitive impairments. The technological integration within their lives would decidedly promote their capacities to pursue daily activities which they previously would have relied upon from external support.

Title: International Examination and Synthesis of the Primary and Secondary Surveys in Paramedicine

Researchers: Alan M. Batt, Professor, Paramedic Programs, Fanshawe College; Marc Colbeck (Principal Investigator), Senior Lecturer, Australian Catholic University; Sonja Maria, Lecturer, Charles Sturt University; Georgette Eaton, Senior Lecturer, Oxford Brookes University; Craig Campbell, Senior Lecturer, University of Tasmania; Matthew Caffey, Assistant Professor, Loma Linda University Medical Center; Matt Hunter, Lecturer, Australian Catholic University

Background: To guide their care paramedics routinely rely upon two assessment and treatment algorithms, known as the primary survey and the secondary survey. No clear consensus of the concepts (assessments and interventions) that are, or should be, included in these algorithms exist internationally. **Methods:** This paper evaluated all Australasian state and New Zealand paramedic clinical practice guidelines (CPGs), as well as six other international paramedic CPGs (USA, Republic of Ireland, UK, South Africa, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates), as well as current teachings in Canada, in order to identify which concepts are currently described in best-practice recommendations for paramedics. The authors also contributed concepts that they felt were important additions based on their experience as veteran paramedics and paramedic educators. **Results:** The resulting amalgamation of concepts identified in each term was then formed into two mnemonics which, together sequentially list approximately 100 specific clinical concepts that paramedics routinely consider in their care of patients. We describe these as the “International Paramedic Primary and Secondary Surveys”. **Conclusion:** The primary and secondary surveys presented represent an evidence-based guide to the best practice in conducting a primary and secondary survey in the paramedic context. Findings will be of use to paramedics, paramedic students, and other clinicians working in remote or isolated practices.

Title: Legal Use of Cannabis; A Glance at the History, Current Trends, Opportunities and Challenges

Researcher: Seyed A. Goosheh, Professor, Kinlin School of Business

While recreational and medicinal cannabis have been used in other continents for nearly four millennia and in America for only four centuries, Canadians were not exposed to it until 1930s. In nearly nine decades, however, cannabis use has evolved in Canada and United States and has been the subject of much debate, particularly in recent years. In Canada the medical use of cannabis has been federally legal since 2001 and recreational use is to be legalized in July of this year. While the legitimacy of cannabis as a recreational drug and or its medicinal value remains in debate, their legalization introduces economic, technical and social challenges as well as opportunities. This author has been studying economic aspects of such legalization by engaging undergraduate business students in micro-research activities and recently invited to supervise similar research for undergraduate engineering students. This looked at a brief history, evolutions, trends, opportunities and challenges of cannabis use in Canada and United States.

Title: Nursing Practice During a Mission in Nepal: Ethics and Leadership

Researcher: Dr. Lorena Bonilla, Faculty, School of Nursing

The purpose of this doctorate dissertation research was to explore nursing practice and the contextual factors that affect a nurse’s ability to practice in a safe, competent, ethical, caring, and compassionate manner during a mission in a developing country. Using an exploratory case study to investigate nurses’ (n=9) view of their practice during a 15-day mission in Nepal, semi-structured interviews, perusal of documents, archival records, physical artifacts, and observation contributed to understanding the experience of nursing in the mission. A modified version of constant comparative analysis was employed to examine, code, and triangulate data into themes. Benner’s (2001) novice-to-expert levels of proficiency and an ethics of care provided the conceptual frameworks to support and facilitate the research through an Interpretivist lens. The findings demonstrate the impact of individual, group, and situational factors on the participants’ nursing practice in the mission. Given that nurses and student nurses may volunteer in these experiences with little or no formal preparation, it is imperative to critically examine the impact of professional standards of practice, legal guidelines, ethical frameworks, as well as ethical and effective leadership on nursing practice, which focuses on helping people achieve wellness and quality of life in developing countries.

Title: Syrian Refugees’ Experiences of Health, Housing Stability and Social Inclusion

Researchers: Sarah Benbow, Professor, School of Nursing; Abe Oudshoorn, Associate Professor, UWO, School of Nursing; Michael Meyers, Adjunct-Professor, UWO

The purpose of this study was to better understand the social inclusion and housing experiences of Syrian refugees in an urban area in Canada. Housing stability is an important contributor to health and well-being for all. However, establishing safe, secure, and affordable housing has proven to be more difficult for particular populations, including refugees to Canada (Murdie, 2008). In addition to the potential for stress and trauma associated with leaving one’s home country, newcomers to Canada often face cultural and social barriers such as language challenges, financial stress, and social isolation (Hulchanski, 1997). These exclusionary barriers can translate directly to housing instability (Miralftab, 2000). To better understand this experience, we employed qualitative methods to better understand participants’ experiences of housing and social inclusion. We met with 17 families, who had been in the resettlement process of an average of 4 years. All participants were recruited through a local resettlement assistance program. Data was analyzed using simple thematic analysis (Lincoln & Guba, 1985) by two researchers. Based on the study purpose and data analysis, we have identified four overarching themes: (a) “Thank God”: Faith and gratitude, (b) Isolation, integration, and seeking Canadian connections, (c) Unsafe and under-housed conditions, and (d) “It was worth it”: For the family. Findings support the strong relationship between housing and social inclusion and highlight important implications for support and settlement programs and future research.

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