

## Building Capacity in Student and Emerging Nursing Informatics Professionals Through Participation in an International Community of Practice

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### Abstract

In nursing, a community of practice have been recognized as an important construct to build capacity and support knowledge dissemination activities. The purpose of this poster is to use a community of practice framework to describe the collaborative work of an international nursing informatics, graduate student and emerging professional group.

### Keywords:

Nursing Informatics, Capacity Building, Students

### Introduction

In nursing, a community of practice has been recognized as an important construct to build capacity and support knowledge dissemination<sup>1, 2</sup>. It is the foundation of a perspective on knowing and learning that inform efforts to create learning systems. The International Medical Informatics Association, Nursing Informatics Special Interest Group, Student and Emerging Professional (IMIA-NISIG SEP) collaborative, has been working to advance the discipline of nursing informatics. Using Wenger, McDermott, and Snyder's seven principles for cultivating a community of practice<sup>3</sup>, activities of this group are proposed as capacity building strategies.

### Methods

Principles for cultivating a community of practice were used as a conceptual framework to guide the interpretation and categorization of the work completed by the IMIA-NISIG SEP group. Data was obtained through analysis of committee documents, social media content, and published research. Researchers determined how these fit (or not) into conceptualizations of a community of practice. Any content which resulted in disagreement was discussed amongst the research members until consensus was obtained.

### Results

The activities of the IMIA-NISIG SEP aligned with principles for cultivating a community of practice. These included 1) Design for Evolution (e.g.: international network of members); 2) Open Dialogue between Inside and Outside Members (e.g.:

regular executive, country representative, and general membership meetings); 3) Invite Different Levels of Participation (e.g.: different membership opportunities); 4) Develop both Public and Private Community Spaces (e.g.: social media presence; language options); 5) Focus on Value (e.g.: Mission, Vision, and Values document); 6) Combine Familiarity and Excitement (e.g.: collaboration on international studies); 7) Create a Rhythm for Community (e.g.: ongoing sub-activities).

### Discussion

Using Wenger, McDermott, and Snyder's principles, this work showed that it is possible to link the IMIA-NISIG SEP work as capacity building strategies and construct new opportunities for nursing informatics leadership worldwide.

### Conclusions

Community of practice can be used as a framework to guide innovative strategies for the next generation of nursing informatics professionals, worldwide.

### References

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