

STUDENT VOICES MATTER: A MODEL FOR ENGAGING STUDENTS IN CURRICULUM PLANNING

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ABSTRACT: Workshop

Background/Rationale: Best practices in adult Interprofessional Education (IPE) curriculum development highlight the importance of learner input in the creation and revision of learning activities in which they will participate. Historically, IPE at Memorial has used post-event evaluation feedback as an approach to understanding student experience. Although the evaluation feedback has proven to be valuable and has resulted in significant shifts to the structure and content of IPE, the Centre for Collaborative Health Professional Education (CCHPE) has been examining ways to engage IPE students more proactively. In an effort to achieve this goal, we created an Interprofessional Student Advisory Committee (IPSAC) comprised of students representing participating schools and chaired by CCHPE leadership. A committee consisting primarily of students was chosen over a faculty dominated committee with the expectation that it would foster greater feelings of empowerment amongst the students and promote open and honest reflection and discussion. It is anticipated that increasing opportunities for meaningful student input is likely to result in more effective learning experiences.

Learning Objectives: At the end of the workshop participants will be able to:

1. Describe the undergraduate IPE programming for health/social professional schools at Memorial and how student feedback has been incorporated.
2. Explain the andragogy behind the new model of including students in curriculum development and revision.
3. Describe how the Interprofessional Student Advisory Committee was formed, the current makeup of the committee and its Terms of Reference.
4. Summarize the student experience on the committee, how it differs by profession and the student vision for how they can contribute in the future.
5. Explore the potential for this model of student contribution to curriculum development and revision for health and social professional schools.

Teaching Methods: This workshop is interactive with multiple opportunities for questions. There are faculty, staff and student presenters allowing for a 360-degree view of the process and experience of being a part of it. The last 30 minutes are spent exploring the challenges experienced, how they might be addressed and how participants might apply aspects of the process in their own programs.