

Advancing Nursing Education in China: Contributions of Foreign Expert Nurse Faculty

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Introduction

Challenge: During later 20th century, professional nursing in China faced diverse challenges including:

- Relative isolation of the country.
- Epidemiologic transition- from infectious disease to non-communicable disease (NCD) & diseases of lifestyle.

Nurses responded by endeavoring to:

- Advance nursing education and practice
- Engage in scholarship
- Advocate for social policy development.

Overall problem: Chinese nursing lacked capacity of qualified nurse educators, clinicians, and researchers to implement change in nursing education and scholarship.

Specific problem: Wuhan University (Hubei Province) aimed to bring nursing education into the 21st century.

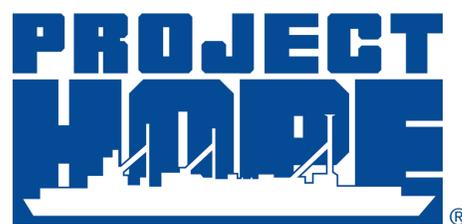
Purpose: Foreign expert nursing faculty will assist to:

- 1) Reform and/or implement the education programs (BSN, Masters, PhD),
- 2) Build capacity of faculty & students,
- 3) Support development of practicing professional nurses.

2002- Wuhan University partnered with Project Hope & HOPE SON endowed by Dr. C. J. Huang.

Activities of Foreign Expert Faculty

- From US, Japan, Australia & other countries (see box)
- **Teach** all graduate nursing-focused courses 2003-present
- **Consult** on curriculum development.
- **Promote & model expansion** of nursing roles in mental-behavioral health, management, gerontology, public health, home care, disaster preparedness (via academic courses & CE workshops)
- **Mentor** masters' students' research & student/faculty scholarship.
- **Facilitate** students' to improve English –speak/read/write
- **Teach core concepts** & skills; facilitate students and faculty to apply them to Chinese culture, health system & nursing practice.
- **Dialogue** about strategies & processes for advancing nursing profession in China.
- **Model** best-practice teaching-learning strategies & community-campus collaboration.
- **Presentations** to nurses in hospitals & education programs.



Challenges

- **Blending** theory & practices from the west overlaid culturally-entrenched educational ideas → implications & risks to future nursing practice capacity building.
- **Differing** perceptions, values, goals & outcomes → challenges in embedding critical scholarship within unique Chinese traditions & circumstances
- **Tailoring** curriculum appropriately & safely to views of nursing, health, health care, policy, & ethics in China.
- **Differences** in national & international publication standards.
- **Understanding** University SON curricula, schedules, policies & processes.
- **Coordination** among multiple foreign & WU faculty

Activities of Dean Marcia Petrini

Marcia Petrini PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean 2003-2017.

- Foreign dean with vision & extensive experience in China
- **Reinvented** BSN curriculum; increased clinical experience.
- **Best practices** in teaching/learning
- **Initiated** Masters & PhD programs
- **Mentored** staff & faculty into senior leadership roles.
- **Developed faculty** as clinicians, educators, researchers
- **ASHA funding:** 1) State-of-art A-V & distance learning facility, 2) Training & research centers for simulation, rehabilitation, disaster preparedness
- **Many CE workshops** for practicing nurses & faculty
- **Recruited** foreign expert nurse faculty
- **Implemented** international exchange programs for students & faculty.

Results-Outcomes

Collaboration- Students & faculty welcoming & enthusiastic to collaborate to advance education, practice & scholarship in China.

Wuhan University HOPE School Nursing (source Project HOPE-2016)

- 26 full-time faculty (10-Ph.D.degrees &16-Master's degrees)
- 36 part-time teaching faculty
- Graduates - 746 students (6-Ph.D. degrees;146-master's)
- Current enrollment: 259 BSN, 48 masters students, 6 PhD)
- > 5,000 continuing education students nationwide.

Publications- 66 by students & foreign faculty (9/2017, PubMed)

SON faculty- increased independence in curriculum development, scholarship, engaged teaching/learning, clinical practice.

Increased capacity and scope of roles of practicing nurses.

Graduates & faculty enrolled in PhD programs -China & abroad.

HOPE SON graduates leading change to expand nursing roles & advance nursing practice & health care throughout China.

HOPE SON is viewed as "one of the preeminent centers of nursing education in China"

Recommendations

- **Foreign faculty experts** can be one effective strategy for other countries seeking to advance nursing practice through reinventing education.
- **Identify** mutually-developed, shared goals
- **Incorporate** principles of change and culturally-relevant practice. **Expect challenges.**
- **Build on** our strengths and shared similarities/values
- **Recognize** change in practice takes time
- **Establish** mechanisms to promote coordination, collaboration, & communication.

Much gratitude to Wuhan University's current foreign expert faculty for their contributions to the school of nursing & this poster.

- Marcia Petrini, PhD, RN, FAAN, Dean Emeritus
- Tracey McDonald PhD, MSc (H), BHA, Dip Ed, RN, RM
- Kristine Qureshi, PhD, RN, CEN, PHNA-BC, FAAN
- Susan Turale RN, DEd, FCNA, FACMHN
- Teresa Stone, RN, RMN, BA, MHM, FACMHN