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Improving Healthcare Outcomes in Chronic Disease – Enhancing the Curriculum at Masters Level

*Notes on Dublin Study Tour
20th March 2018 to 22nd March 2018*

Opening session - (Tuesday a.m.)

The session opened at 0845 with welcome and introduction to UCD by Prof. Mary Casey and Prof. Cecily Kelleher, College Principal.

Prof. Gerard Fealy, Dean and Head of School then introduced the School of Nursing Midwifery and Health Systems followed by an outline of the Erasmus project by Prof. Mary Casey and Mr David Campbell. The first part of the morning ended with a presentation given by entrepreneurial specialist Dr Coleman Farrell on “Working Together”.

For the second part of that session, two presentations were given on current curricula on Masters Level 9 programmes by Prof. Mary Codd, Associate Prof. of Epidemiology & Biostatistics on “Masters in Public Health” followed by Prof. Amanda Phelan, Associate Dean for Global Engagement on “Masters in Person Centred Care”.

The session continued with a talk on “Professional and Personal Views on Educational Requirements to Enable Improved Treatment and Care for People with Chronic Illness in General Practice” by Prof. Walter Cullen.

Prof. Mary Codd then talked on EU accreditation and UCD regulations governing masters’ programmes.

The session ended with a smorgasbord of current curricula on Graduate Diplomas Level 9 programmes: Graduate Diploma Chronic Illness Management, Graduate Diploma Diabetes Care, Graduate Diploma Rheumatology Nursing and Graduate Diploma in Public Health Nursing.



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Second session - (Tuesday p.m.)

The session opened with a talk by Dr Aine Carroll, HSE National Director of Clinical Strategy and Programmes on the frailty's new meaning, issues and controversies".

Followed by Prof. Amanda Phelan discussing "Making People Centred Care a Reality".

Ms Judith Foley, Chief Education Office, talked about the role of the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Ireland in relation to education and international registration.

The session ended with a tour of UCD's library at 1600.

A project dinner was held in the evening.

Third session - (Wednesday a.m.)

At 0900, the delegation went to visit St Vincent's University Hospital Education and Research Centre, Health Systems in Ireland and Chronic Disease Management. Meeting with Prof. Patricia Fitzpatrick Consultant in Preventative Medicine, Prof. of Epidemiology & Biomedical Statistics & Dr Ailsa Lyons, Head of Department of Preventive Medicine & Health Promotion.

Educational technologist Orla Daly then gave a talk in UCD on the contribution of blended learning to the development of an international masters' programme.

Workshops were facilitated to get feedback on Needs Analysis from each organisation totaling 8 presentations.

The session went on with a reflection on a comparison of Masters' programmes in each university by Prof. Amanda Phelan and Mr Peter Dickenson.

Fourth session - (Wednesday p.m.)

The session started with discussions on methods of testing and assessing student's knowledge and on experience of teaching medical and nursing graduate students.

The participants met with current/previous students on these programmes and feedback on study tour was given by Prof. Mary Casey.

The session ended at 1600 after Aine Galvin, Director of Teaching & Learning, discussed how university lecturers improve their level of knowledge and skills.

Project coordinator: Dr Mary Casey, UCD School of Nursing, Midwifery & Health Systems, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland.
In-country Project manager: David Campbell, erasmusihod@gmail.com +79164172166



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Fifth session - (Thursday a.m.)

The session started at 0845 with a talk on innovative approaches to embedding chronic disease management in the context of a curriculum for Physiotherapists given by Prof. Catriona Cunningham, Associate Dean for Teaching and Learning, School of Public Health, Physiotherapy and Sports Sciences. Then followed by Mr Julien Goodman, Director of Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation on EU Accreditation of Programmes.

Prof. Mary Casey and David Campbell then discussed on Developing a Master Programme for Chronic Disease and aligning Grading Systems Facilitated discussion.

The session ended with a workshop on Principles for the Development of the Current Programme facilitated by Prof. Mary Casey and Prof. Amanda Phelan.

Sixth session - (Thursday p.m.)

The afternoon started with a workshop facilitated by Prof. Mary Casey on attempting to outline the Master's programme then followed by an evaluation of the study tour by Prof. Amanda Phelan and finally a summary and closure at 1600 by Prof. Mary Casey and David Campbell.

