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Nomination Boldic Awards 2014.

The Nursing Programme comprises three years of full-time studies (40 hours per week), which is an equivalent of 180 credits. Included in the programme are both theoretical and clinical studies, which lead to a Professional Qualification as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing. It is the Professional Qualification that forms the basis for your Professional Status Qualification in Nursing that is issued by The National Board of health and welfare (Socialstyrelsen).

Studies take place in an e-learning environment that combines both web-based activities and classroom meetings at Dalarna University's Falun campus. Studying from home enhance flexibility which places special demands in terms of responsibility, structure and discipline. Modern technology and various types of media are used to support students in the management of information and communication and as such students require access to a working Internet connection, computer, webcam and mic.

The Nursing Program has recently joined the E-xcellence Associates in Quality. This means that our program is recognized as operating in a continuous process of improving their e-learning performance. Achieving this label demonstrates that the program offers quality controlled e-learning and keeps up to date with the latest developments.

The Nursing programme has an important role to meet the demand of nurses on both a national as well as on the regional level since hospitals are located pretty much in every mid-size and larger city around the country. This shows when the majority of Swedish universities offer the Nursing programme. Therefore it is important to stand out in the competition of recruiting students, in particular for a smaller university as ours. Offering the programme online is one way to separate ourselves, another is to make sure that we keep current and is always searching for ways to develop the education. By implementing Open Education Resources in the Nursing Programme we prepare our students for what we believe to be, the future of Nursing. More every day technology such as pads and smartphones will be used in the workplace, hospitals being no exception. By using OER in the Nursing Programme and for example recording nursing scenarios, such as hand disinfection, making beds and assisting patients during meal time, the project enables students to develop their competence and knowledge. And the education will not differ whether a student undergoes its education on campus or online.

Marie Elf, Monika Jansson and Maria Neljesjö have shown a great interest and curiosity during the project, something that has rubbed off on other teachers, students and other staff at Dalarna University. The project managers have also travelled to multiple conferences both in Sweden and abroad to present and spread their findings. With all this considered, you will agree with me that the project Implementation of open education resources in the Nursing Programme (IMPOERS) is an excellent nominee for the Boldic Awards 2014.

Sincerely,

Erik Brunnert Walfridsson
Programme leader, NGL programme



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NGL Centre, Dalarna University

Implementation of open education resources in the Nursing Programme

Project manager: Elf, Marie. Jansson, Monika & Neljesjö, Maria

Next Generation Learning (NGL) at Dalarna University has developed into what it is today after many years of work to make education accessible to all and to develop pedagogy in a way that incorporates technological possibilities. Dalarna University understands the term to mean a forward-thinking pedagogy comprising pedagogical development and technological innovation. This definition underpins the ongoing development of our methods and the support it provides both teachers and students in learning and teaching situations. For many years, Dalarna University has worked purposefully and strategically both to develop methods as well as to improve the opportunities for students' learning. This work will continue for many more years so that Dalarna University reaches its goal and establishes its place as leader in the field of Next Generation Learning. As a part of this vision the university funds the NGL Programme. The programme's ambition is to develop pedagogy, as well as the forms and technical aspects of education, so as to enhance the quality of education as a whole. For these purposes the NGL-programme finance a number of teacher-driven projects every year.

The Nursing Programme has recently (in 2012) been assessed by the European Association for Distance Teaching University (EADTU) E-xcellence benchmarking method. In January 2013 the Nursing programme received the award EADTU E-xcellence Associates Label. In the evaluation, a roadmap for continuous development of e-teaching and implementing OER was produced. In addition, Dalarna University's educational strategy said that the university would promote use of OER for enhanced learning. The roadmap for the Nursing Programme states in particular that:

- Open educational resources (OER) is used in > 4 courses
- an investigation of suitable OER application for use in programme courses is made
- Implementation of OER applications in some courses

In the spring of 2013, two project plans were developed that had similar aims in terms of Open Education Resources (OER) and implementation in the Nursing Programme. These two plans have now been merged into one. The project plan outlines the implementation of OER and an evaluation of that implementation.





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The aim of the project is to describe how OER can be implemented and used for learning purposes within the Nursing Programme. An increased visibility for learning processes in an open educational culture can therefore be obtained.

The method will be designed so that a generalization of the implementation is possible even in other Schools at Dalarna University. OER is dependent upon collaboration. In this project, co-production can be interpreted to mean within the course, nationally and internationally, as educational resources will likely be produced, used, and reused by others.

The project has identified the course "Human needs of basic care" as a suitable course for implementation of OER. The course includes different practical skills that are a part of the education, from basic nursing to advanced medical elements. The education is taught at the Competence centre at the County Council hospital in Falun and the students have different needs for practicing and training these skills. The premises at the Competence centre are similar to regular wards and the environment is real with prepared hospital rooms with equipment used in today's healthcare. Instead of real patients the students practice on human sized mannequins.

The project will begin by identifying existing open educational resources within the field that can be used in the Nursing Programme. In those cases that there isn't any existing OER, the project will record different nursing scenarios, such as hand disinfection, making beds and assisting patients during meal time.

There are a lot of goals to achieve with the project, one being to offer students an inviting, accessible and stimulating study environment. Increased teaching resources would be focused on the interaction with students and the course examination, something that today is perceived to be inadequate. By a systematic implementation of OER we believe an open educational culture has the conditions to develop over time. Doing this the students will gain an ownership for their own learning and will be able to take more responsibility for their studies, something that will boost the motivation and the individualized learning. We also believe, by working with OER, that it will give incitement for a research based Nursing programme where the student comes in contact with international researchers within the field. In the long term we hope that students will be a part of international research during their education.