Dr. Ann M. Mayo kindly gave us a lecture on Multi-Center Research as a means to bridge education, research and practice based on her valuable experience. Dr. Mayo went on to introduce the concept of Multi-Center Research and the overview of the actual research programs, as well as the well-developed scientific fields as the benefit of it. In other words, the more participants we have, the wider we can generalize our research results and the sooner we can reflect them to our clinical practice. Since the broadly applicable research results are required in the US, Multi-Center Research will become necessary in terms of securing the funds, she mentioned. She also presented two approaches, i.e., Co-operative Multi-Center Research and Coordinated Multi-Center Research, and indicated that the latter would become the mainstream of the research. As an example, she introduced a case study which demonstrated that 29 research institutes of Alzheimer’s disease in the US participated in the same longitudinal study and that each institute successfully built a universal data set collected from the participants utilizing their assessment on the same scale. Finally, Dr. Mayo mentioned about the possibility of Multi-Center Research for dementia care in Japan because dementia care is her own research theme and has become a critical issue in Japan as well.
There were two questions from the audience. The first question was about the study agreement of Coordinated Multi-Center Research, and the second one was about the knack of getting the nurses in clinical practice involved into the study. She answered that regarding Coordinated Multi-Center Research, the additional agreement would be very easy to obtain because the system for processing the agreement was already established, and she went on to comment that it was important to build a trustful relationship with nurse managers patiently and let them know our study to receive introductions of nurses with potential interest in the theme.


Dr. Yashiko Wazumi

■Development of a Reflective Framework that Makes the Uniqueness and Professionalism of Nursing Visual

The Center for Education and Research in Nursing Practice provides special training programs for the staff in nursing management position with the key focus on the project execution-based programs to solve problems in the nursing management practice in their organization. We have found that the nursing management staff is less likely to become aware that they have uniqueness and professionalism of nursing as the ground of their nursing management practice, and which is disturbing the development of their abilities as nursing management personnel. This study was inspired by these findings and is now aiming for the development of the reflective framework to support the thinking of the nursing management personnel in the process of the organizational reform project.

The targets of this study are 7 middle-class nursing staff, 10 ward nursing managers, 8 upper-class nursing managers, who took the organizational reform project execution-based program.

The data were qualitatively analyzed using the reports prepared by the targets during the training as well as the data obtained by the semi-structural interview research on the project execution. As a result, the following five points were induced from the analysis done by the upper-class nursing managers as the structural factors of the reflective framework, namely, “direct experience which leads the organizational reform issues”, “fluctuations of feelings based on direct experience”, “consciousness of the role of our organization in the changing society”, “awareness of our positions and roles in our organization”, “awareness of the uniqueness and professionalism of nursing as compared with the other sections”. In addition to these constituent elements, we further would like to discuss the content of “external stimulus” that had an influence on both the contents and the conversions of the “uniqueness and professionalism of nursing” and develop the tools that would support the thinking of the nursing managers in order to further fulfill the organization reform project execution-based programs.

■Development of Tools for the Diagnosis and Evaluation of Collaboration between Nursing Education and Practice for the Japanese Contexts

Currently in Japan, it is becoming harder to secure the appropriate training facilities/teachers as the result of the rapid establishment of highly sophisticated nursing education. The medical facilities providing with trainings are diversifying while the fields of education have become diversified. Accordingly, the problems in the fields of education and medical practice have become considerably diversified. Under the circumstances, it is essential to diagnose/evaluate the status of collaboration in the field of education and medical practice in order to deal with these needs for collaboration. But there are no such tools currently. Thus, this study aims to develop a diagnosis/evaluation tool for the diagnosis of the status of collaboration in nursing universities and nursing institutions in the field of medical practice.

A total of 42 persons are the targets of this study, namely, dean, professor and assistant professor of the seven nursing universities that agreed with study, as well as director of nursing, ward manager and leader nurse of the training hospital.

We collected data by conducting a semi-structured interview with the participants and qualitatively analyzed the data that were recorded word for word. Currently, we are proceeding with the analysis of each case focusing on the collaboration between dean and director of nursing. From now on, we will push forward the total analysis once the case analysis is over, and move on to building a conceptual model based on the result and further to developing and verifying the diagnosis/evaluation tool (a trial version) based on the conceptual model.
3. Report of the group discussion by theme: Bridging Education, Research and Practice:

■ Group Discussion 1

“Leadership of the top management who drove the fulfillment of the clinical practice by the collaboration of hospital and university”

In Group Discussion 1, Ms. Takako Naka-hata of the Kyushu University Hospital and Dr. Rieko Kawamoto of Kyushu University reported on the actual approaches taken in the collaboration with hospital and university and the key points of promoting fulfillment of the leadership and the clinical practice.

In the group discussion, part of the process and the operation of the collaboration based on the university reform promotion project of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology that Kyushu University is working on were introduced. Specifically, explanations were given on the practical training leaders’ meeting consisting of members in the clinical site and university, as well as on the practical teaching guidelines that were made in the meeting along with the result of the application of the guidelines, and on the systematic leader workshop in the past one year. In addition, as a part of the personnel exchange program, the leader nurse, who had a master’s degree and was expected to assume an educational role for the whole hospital, was selected to study at a training course of university for one year and studied at a seminar of the graduate school and at actual educational sites. She reported what she learned about the ideal organization for university and the way how they were deepening the understanding of education and research.

In the discussion, they exchanged their views on the knack and the driving force of the activities to share the goal and expand the information within the organization. The followings were confirmed as important for the promotion of the activities in the collaboration with hospital and university: sharing the vision and the goal of top management, the mutual understanding by mutual interchange, not the way of how to do it but of how to think about it, providing experimental understanding, preparing places and structures, all of which were confirmed to lead to the realization of the goal of each organization.

■ Group Discussion 2

“The mutual understanding of university and hospital through the personnel exchange of an assistant professor and the leader nurse”

In Group Discussion 2, Prof. Kazuko Otani and Ms. Shio Sato of Yamagata University and Ms. Atsuko Kuge of the Yamagata University Hospital reported from each of their point of views on their work on the personnel exchange program of an assistant professor and the leader nurse in Yamagata University. Specifically, they shared their experience as a founder of the program and as a nominee of the program.

In the group discussion, Prof. Otani, who worked on the acceptance system of teachers as a director of nursing in those days, made an explanation of the process of the personnel exchange program. As the benefit of the personnel exchange program, Prof. Otani pointed out the contribution to nursing and education utilizing the knowledge and experience obtained at both university and hospital. Ms. Sato and Ms. Kuge shared their learnings gained from the personnel exchange program. Ms. Sato mentioned that it took time to get accustomed to the system of the hospital which made it impossible to accomplish the original goal although she clarified the significance of her own study through the personnel exchange program. Ms. Kuge mentioned that she felt the deepening of the understanding of the students by actually attending the educational sites.

From the audience, some questions were raised regarding how to support the learnings gained by the personnel exchange program as well as the future prospects of the study. It was confirmed from each report that mutual understanding would be important to build a favorable relationship with the educational site and practice site united together, and that the personnel exchange program would make a contribution to the process.
Group Discussion 3

"Development of learnings of both students and staff by the realization of clinical training involving all the staff."

In Group Discussion 3, Ms. Saori Ozaki of the Jikei University Hospital and Dr. Naomi Takashima of Jikei University reported about the development of learnings of both students and staff through improvement of the clinical training.

In the group discussion, Ms. Ozaki, who took the training course of the center in 2011, reported that the current status of the operating room training improvement project which started when Ms. Ozaki consulted Dr. Takashima because she wanted to work on the improvement of the clinical training with an aim to further fulfill the training. The learnings of both students and staff were also shared in the discussion.

From the audience, some questions were raised regarding the burden upon the clinical side when proceeding with these kinds of reforms. Ms. Ozaki replied that it would be possible to expand the reforms if we could find even a short period of time like a morning meeting in our busy days, and that it would become a rather good opportunity for more than 100 staff members to get united together and would result in a good nursing care in the operation room. Dr. Takashima commented that there was a possibility that the clinical training was promoting the reflection of the nurses in the operation room and that the development of learnings of students and staff could be expected. We seem to have confirmed that we can expect the development of both the educational site and the practical site by getting connected with each other sharing visions of the on-the-job training institutes and universities after the training.

The 30th Anniversary Memorial Exchange Party for The Center for Education and Research in Nursing Practice

On Saturday, June 30, 2012, the 30th Anniversary Memorial Exchange Party was held at Keisei Hotel Mira Male after the 30th Anniversary Memorial Lecture.

The exchange party was held with an aim to extend our gratitude to those who are associated with our center for their daily supports and services and to promote exchange of the trainees of our center.

A total of 32 guests participated on the day including Dr. Ann Mayo and Dr. Connie Currun from San Diego University. From our guests we received a lot of thoughtful words that were filled with passion for nursing education. We reconfirmed the importance of the role of our center when we realized the importance of “bridging education, research and practice” in the nursing education in the future and the need for “place” to share concerns of our respective positions in the nursing education to get hints for solving those problems.

The Activity of the Center for Education and Research in Nursing Practice and the Future Plan

- The 5th FD Network Convention (at Kyoto University)
  On last September 5, 2012, the 5th FD network convention was held in Kyoto University and a total of 15 schools participated from all over the country. Mr. Kitaikke, Director, reported on “the present situations and issues of the center of collaboration for nursing education and research”.

- 2012 The Center for Education and Research in Nursing Practice Business Report Meeting
  Time: The middle of March, 2013, Place: TBD

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