

**TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (IPE)
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL NURSING STUDENTS**

SUBMITTED BY: Board of Directors, Iowa Association of Nursing Students (IANS)

AUTHORS: Molly Meyer and Raven Niles

WHEREAS, One of the major recommendations of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) in *The Future of Nursing* (2011) was the “Nurses... must act as full partners with physicians and other health professionals, and must be accountable for their own contributions to delivering high-quality care while working collaboratively with leaders... (p. 7-8); and

WHEREAS, An additional recommendation from the IOM included, “All health care organizations and schools of nursing should... provide resources for interprofessional continuing competency programs,” (p. 14); and

WHEREAS, The Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) in the 2011 *Core Competences for Interprofessional Collaborative Practice* noted that interprofessional collaborative practice is the key to the safe, high quality accessible, patient-centered care desired by all, (p. i); and

WHEREAS, An interprofessional team is defined as “a team of individuals from different professional background who work together in an integrated way and share their contribution to client care”, (Caldwell, et.al, 2006, p. 1252; and

WHEREAS The IPEC also noted that Interprofessional Education (IPE) “requires moving beyond profession-specific education efforts to engage students of different professions in interactive learning with each other” (p. i); and

WHEREAS, Cronenwett, et.al, (2007) identified one of the competencies for quality and safety education in nursing as “Teamwork and Collaboration” which is defined as “Function effectively with in nursing and inter-professional teams, fostering open communication, mutual respect, and shared decision-making to achieve quality patient care”, (p. 125); and

WHEREAS Atwal and Caldwell (2002) noted that “there is evidence to suggest that interprofessional learning enhances interprofessional collaboration” (p. 148); and

WHEREAS Caldwell, et al. (2006) also noted, “working in an interprofessional team requires effective communication, as well as an understanding of the roles of other professions”; and

- WHEREAS “A sense of mutual response and shared values must be matched with an accurate understanding of students’ own roles and that of other professions in order to achieve the positive outcomes that IPE can produce” (Sullivan & Godfrey, 2012, p.59); and
- WHEREAS Curran, Sharpe, Forristall, & Flynn (2008) noted that “interprofessional collaboration is touted as a significant strategy for reforming and renewing health systems, and as such, it is important that students are provided with the opportunity to develop competencies which will enable them to be contributing members of these teams” (p. 155), therefore be it
- RESOLVED, that Iowa Association of Nursing Students (IANS) promotes awareness of Interprofessional Education by publishing an article on the IANS website if feasible; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that IANS encourages all nursing programs at colleges and universities in Iowa to support and facilitate Interprofessional Education; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that IANS encourages nursing students to be proactive and advocate for IPE; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that IANS Board of Directors explores having Interprofessional Education activities at the 2014 IANS convention; and be it further
- RESOLVED that IANS send a copy of this resolution to Iowa Board of Nursing, the Iowa Nurses Association, Iowa Association of Colleges of Nursing and any other organization the board deems appropriate.