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A day that unites all nurses

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Celebrating International Nurses Day

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International Nurses Day is celebrated around the world every May 12, the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. We are writing this at a time when nursing is in the spotlight as never seen before. Members of the nursing profession globally are providing nursing care in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is generating immense challenges to the way that person-centred care is delivered in those settings that have rapidly changed to meet acutely ill patients' needs.

As the world continues to face the threats and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic nurses have faced these challenges both as global citizens and as part of the global community of nurses. Global citizenship involves a sense of belonging within a broader global community. International Nurse Day 2021 presents a moment for nurses across the world to consider their professional identity and roles in terms of *Nurses: A Voice to Lead* and being part of *A Vision for Future Healthcare (ICN 2021)*. Indeed, at the University of Salford, prior to International Nurses Day we held an online international student nurses' study day as a preparatory step for future nurses in Australia, Bahrain, the Netherlands, Finland, UK and USA. The aim being to create a space where student nurses exchange knowledge, re-connecting after 13 months of disconnection, this reinforcing their value in the global community of nurses, exemplifying their perspectives on the future of nursing beyond 2021.

Through students engaging in a study day like this proves how knowledge is not bound by national borders, rather it is nomadic in nature, reflecting the ongoing exchange of knowledge between practitioners, patients, educators, researchers, students, organisations and communities. The impact of the use of this knowledge is evident in the lives of these same individuals, organisations and communities.

The COVID-19 pandemic has showed the way in which shared, nomadic knowledge is essential for global health. Nomadic knowledge has been described as bound by a community of practice which can be global in nature; requiring the full attention of those involved and used to master a specific situation or condition of importance, reflecting 'disruptions and discontinuities in practice as the knowledge is used in diverse ways and different settings (Saeed, Pipek, Rohde, Reuter, Pinatti de Carvalho and Wulf, 2019). Nomadic knowledge is also essential as nurses across the world contribute to the leadership of healthcare in communities, hospitals and a wide range of organisations. In acquiring, sharing and implementing this knowledge they will be contributing to the future of patient care and health care. International

Nurses Day is just one reminder of the knowledge exchange across the global community nurses.

As the nursing profession focuses on its global role in leading and contributing to the vision of future healthcare, a global approach to the accompanying knowledge exchange must reflect interconnectivity, inclusivity, collaboration, flexibility and sustainability. Interconnectivity requiring nurses to 'connecting with and impacting on global developments and communities'. Inclusivity: ensuring nurses regard for 'the plurality, impact and benefit of cultural, individual and linguistic diversities'.

Collaboration: a call to nurses to 'use collegial approaches, transcending national and international boundaries'

Flexibility: that nurses enable 'agile structures, systems and approaches, and effective use of technology'

Sustainability: nurses' voices to contribute to securing environmental, economic and social development into the future (HEA, 2016).

References:

HEA (2016) Internationalising higher education (online) available at <https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/download/framework-internationalising-higher-education>

International Council of Nurses (ICN 2021) <https://www.icn.ch/what-we-do/campaigns/international-nurses-day>

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