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About the CHCP

The Centre serves as a hub for linking students, faculty and the community in interdisciplinary service - learning, community-based research and health promotion projects. The goal of the Centre is to develop partnerships that promote healthy communities. The Centre is expanding its reach to the entire College community over the next year. Currently all Faculties are directly involved in projects or project plans.

To share our work, we will publish six newsletters per year.

For more information visit our website at www.douglascollege.ca/chcp

Fall Fair

CHCP is looking forward to participating in the 2nd Annual Douglas College Fall Fair on September 18th 2010 at the David Lam Campus, and is currently planning two activities to engage both college programs and community members.

A “**Health Promotion Passport Bingo**” is in the works, where community participants will be able to answer questions related to the **social determinants of health (SDoH)** that affect the health of our citizens through interactions with the various programs and agencies represented at the Fair. Our goal is to increase awareness of how health is impacted by many factors where we live, work and play, and to encourage interaction of community members with the various programs represented at the Fair. If your booth has a particular connection with a SDoH and you want to let us know, please contact either Julie Olson at olsonj@douglas.bc.ca or Dan Nagel at nageld@douglas.bc.ca.

The “**Fish Bowl Dialogue**” is a unique interactive forum where community members will have the opportunity to observe and engage in a discussion on homelessness in the Tri Cities area with a variety of representatives from agencies and government. Siobhan Ashe, from the Department of Sociology, will facilitate this dialogue which will focus on the challenges of addressing the need for shelters and housing for vulnerable people in our community. The event is planned for 12:00 noon on September 18, and more details will be coming soon.



2010 Health Literacy Roundtable

On June 11, 54 people attended the 2nd Health Literacy Roundtable at the New Westminster Campus of Douglas College. They represented 34 organizations from the health and literacy sectors, some from government, NGO's and higher education organizations.

The Roundtable focused on collaboration and knowledge sharing with a goal of gaining broad support for a health literacy strategy and a model to sustain health literacy actions in BC. Hazel Postma, Douglas College VP External Relations, provided opening remarks to what proved to be a day of rich exchange of ideas and possibilities for shared work.

Douglas College faculty and students attended the gathering. Here are some of their reflections about their experiences during the Roundtable:



I was so excited to see how the representatives from various professions, agencies and areas of government seemed so passionate about Health Literacy. I was glad to see the theory I am learning in class come alive. Also, the concept of implementing this initiative is embedded in changing policy, and is definitely a part of our responsibility as future nurses. Jerika Sta. Maria, BSN Student

It has been a great honour to attend the Roundtable. As a senior nursing student, it provided me with an excellent learning opportunity to integrate my class theories such as change, leadership, team building and research theories into practice which helps me to deepen my understanding of the profession. As a future health practitioner, I agree with the importance of Health Literacy and do feel the urgency of bringing the concept into our practice. Stella Jiang, BSN Student

Being at the roundtable was an excellent experience as we were able to be part of 'change' and collaborate with an interdisciplinary team to make the change happen for one whole purpose: to build stronger and health literate communities. It was also a learning experience because we could relate it to what we are learning in theory classes. Thank you to the agency for providing us with that opportunity. Aida Herrera, BSN Student

The Health Literacy Roundtable was the best experience I've had thus far in my career as a student nurse. It was very inspiring to see such great teamwork and collaboration amongst a group of motivated professionals in hopes of achieving a common goal. It was also an effective way for us to relate our theory into practice, and most importantly, the food was phenomenal!!

Ravi Uppal, BSN Student

"I left the day having made important connections both inside and outside of Douglas College. These connections will help me integrate the concept of health literacy throughout my teaching and professional practice. I also hope to work together with my new connections to bring an awareness of health literacy to all health sciences programs. Thank you once again for this incredible learning opportunity."
Susan Hammond,
Faculty Member, BSN Program

For a full report on the Roundtable see
www.douglascollege.ca/chcp

Multicultural input into Alzheimer's Screening Tool

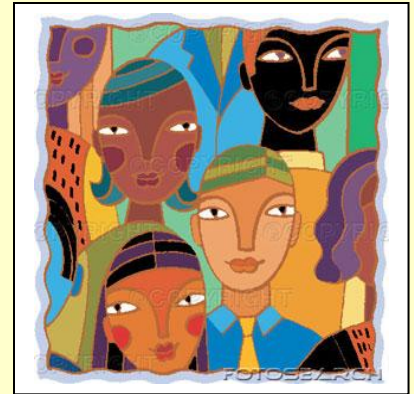
On May 27 the Cultural Advisory Committee met for the first of three sessions to provide feedback on the C-TOC, a computer based assessment tool of memory and cognition developed by a UBC team led by Dr. Claudia Jacova (Faculty of Medicine). This group was recruited and convened by Kymberley Bontinen and Patricia Juvik, Health Science Faculty members. Sai Roshni (Priya) Raju, a BSN student, also provided support during the day. The panel gathered at the Centre for Health and Community Partnerships (CHCP) to learn more about the project and the tool being developed. We then moved to a computer lab where each member had an opportunity to test the tool and provide individualized and detailed feedback on each item. We returned to the Centre to have a focused group discussion of different aspects related to the tool.

Dr. Jacova wrote about this experience. Here is an excerpt from her submission:

We chose the target communities, assigned to Kymberley and Patricia the lead on identifying suitable advisors from these communities, decided on the methodology for consulting our future advisors, and sealed it all with scheduling dates for the consultations with the panel, and designating the CHCP boardroom as the location for the meetings. I recall the drive back from the visit at Douglas College CHCP where I saw my vague notions of cultural validation grow into meaningful, concrete and focused ideas. I recall announcing at our weekly UBC-based Alzheimer research unit meeting that the 'cultural advisory panel for C-TOC is going to become a reality!'

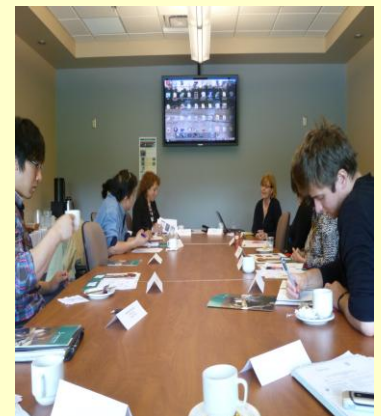
In my routine academic life I do not often interact with the community, and when I do it is to educate the public. But in this particular community interaction I had to be the learner. When our advisors began to examine the C-TOC tasks, I second-guessed the rationale for C-TOC, the task content, the merits of the tool in the same way I second-guessed my PhD dissertation at the university defense. I felt all the excitement and anxiety of someone whose work is being judged. Had I even made the goals clear? Would they survive this scrutiny? Every time I saw a frown, a new round of second-guessing began. By the time we reconvened in the boardroom, I was ready to destroy my work, whereas the advisors were doing their job, each judging the work constructively from the unique perspective of his/her cultural group. Marina facilitated a round of discussions that brought to light the key issues in further developing C-TOC: Who is the tool really for? Can we reduce the tool's demands on education and computer literacy? What is the best setting for people to take C-TOC? What message do we leave the prospective test-taker with? We could not have hoped for better directions to inform our further development of C-TOC. There is now more work than ever for the UBC team, but it has just become more meaningful, more feasible, and more real. Thank you, Marina, Kymberley, and Patricia! Thank you, panel members! See you all in October.

The second meeting of the Cultural Advisory Committee will take place in the Fall. To read Dr. Jacova's full article, please visit our website at www.douglascollege.ca/chcp.



It only took two meetings to feel certain that Patricia, Kymberley and Marina were serious about collaborating with us; had an excellent understanding of the goals of our project; understood our need for community-based cultural input better than we did; and knew the communities we needed to hear from.

Dr. Claudia Jacova



CHCP Interdisciplinary Work Group

In April and May, two work group sessions involving instructors from a number of Faculties across Douglas College were held to explore ways in which interdisciplinary collaboration might occur for Community Service Learning and Community Based Research initiatives through CHCP. These sessions revealed various potential opportunities that can bring both students and instructors together, and it also sparked many great connections and ideas for both short-term and long-term projects.

The immediate focus of the work group was planning for the Douglas College Fall Fair on September 18. The two main collaborative activities that will occur is the “Health Promotion Passport Bingo” and a “Fish Bowl Dialogue” on homelessness in the Tri Cities area. Potential opportunities that have been identified for more exploration and consideration include collaboration on assignments across various Douglas College programs, development of interdisciplinary electives, and conducting field school activities for BC communities.

We will be planning for another work group session early in Fall 2010, and welcome any interested instructors to join us. If you would like to participate, please contact either Julie Olson at olsonj@douglas.bc.ca or Dan Nagel at nageld@douglas.bc.ca.

More CHCP Projects: Homelessness in the Tri Cities

Faculty and students are engaging in several CHCP projects around the topic of homelessness. **There are opportunities for student CSL projects with Tri Cities agencies.** See www.douglascollege/chcp for details and contact us.

Some examples of planned projects for this Fall/Winter:

As part of their fall and winter courses, **Print Futures students** will develop a communication strategy and educational campaign to reduce stigma of homeless people living with mental health and addictions issues.

On October 11, 2010, the Tri Cities Homelessness Task Group is hosting the Connect Day at Grace Church on Kingsway in Port Coquitlam. **Health Sciences students** will assist with greeting, registration, escort duties, assist nurse practitioners with health screening and provide vision screening with an ophthalmologist.

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