Being and Working Together: Collaboration to Expand Social Work with Groups in Beijing, China

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Introductions and Overview

• Welcome to the Paper Presentation
• Collaborating Partners
• History of the Project
• Purpose of the Project
• Structure and Content
• Evaluation Design and Findings
• Implications and Future Directions
Structure, Process and Content

• Being Together and Doing Together

• Proposed Contents, Finalized through Discussion:
  – Concerns about teaching and learning groupwork
  – Features of effective group work learning strategies across the curriculum in classroom and field.
  – Challenges and opportunities for learning groupwork practice through assignments in agency or organizational environments.
  – Strategies for helping students learn key group work skills and work through challenges.
  – Similarities and differences between groupwork assignments and other assignments for students.
  – Strengths and weaknesses in teaching social work with groups in classroom and field and develop plans to continue to build skills and collaboration in this area
Building Bridges

• As Metaphor for Collaboration
• Metaphor for the Workshop
• Metaphor for Groupwork

. Activity
. Purpose
. Structure
. Process
. Outcomes
The Bridges

Our bridge is a fun-filled yet unrealistic. Its structure is green color. The bridge is strong enough, but has problems carrying the two cars and people in both directions. There are two birds, a flower and an airplane.

We have two ends and three structures in the middle for its structure. The materials we used make this bridge strong and reliable. It is a single bridge, because it is supposed to be a highway, an express highway.
Building Bridges Discussion

Reflecting on your small group experience, please consider the following questions after each small group meeting:

– What were some of the highlights of your small group experience?
– How did the composition of the members affect the group?
– How did the specific tasks you were given affect the group?
– What types of decision making did you use in the group?
– What were some of your group norms for communication?
– What stages did the group go through during course of your work?
– How would you evaluate the work of the group?
– What are some predictions about this group in the future?
– How might you use this type of activity in your teaching and training?
Workshop Evaluation Themes

• Being and Learning In a Group
• Groupwork Practice in Beijing
• Groupwork’s Role in Social Work Education
• Relationship of the Organizers with the Participants
• Diversity within the Members
• Relationships with Members’ Organizations
• Strategies and Structures used in Social Work Education
• Transitions from Social Work Practice to Social Work Education
• Transitions from University Teaching to Social Work Education
• Supervision of Students in Field Education
• Opportunities for Networking and Support
Workshop Follow-up Evaluation

• Design
• Limitations
• Responses
• Findings
• Discussion
Analysis and Reflections

Evaluative Findings from Workshop Participants
• Groupwork Related Themes
• Academy Related Themes
• Individually Related Themes

Evaluative Findings from Organizers
• Nature of International/Cross Cultural Collaboration
• Ongoing Roles and Strategies
Implications and Future Directions

• For Social Work Practice with Groups
• For Social Work Education for Groupwork
  – Curriculum
  – Field Education
  – Classroom Education
  – Faculty Development
• For Social Work Research
• For International Collaboration
Resources

• International Association for Social Work with Groups (IASWG) Formerly Association for the Advancement of Social Work with Groups (AASWG): www.iaswg.org

• Global Group Work Project: www.globalgroupworkproject.com

• Special Interest Group on Social Work with Groups: Joining Together TOMORROW! Friday, 11 July, 15:20-16:30 Room 220 (Listed as Session 8H, on Page 25 of the Program)

Sharima Ruwaida Abbas (Malaysia), Carol Irizarry (Australia) and I (US), will convene the discussion. As in the past, this session is an important opportunity for networking, support, and advancing our work together. Numerous research and educational innovations have come from these sessions.
Thank You

We look forward to continuing this conversation!

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