



Favorite experience as a gerontological nurse expert educator?

When students (undergraduate or postgraduate students) came to me and said, "I like your talk, and this inspired me." Their smiles and blinking eyes would tell me how much they enjoyed the topics (whatever topics related to nursing care in old age). One unforgettable occasion: one PhD student came to me when I was in a conference, and told me that she came to US and studied her PhD programme because of one of the talks I delivered to her many years ago in Hong Kong. She felt touched, and she felt she wanted to be one of the gerontological nursing researcher.

Key words of wisdom for those nurses interested in becoming a distinguished educator in gerontological nursing education?

Be passionate to what you believe, what you have seen, and what you were told. Older adults are there... waiting for us to serve.

What motivated you to become a gerontological nurse educator?

My personal experience in childhood makes me become passionate to become a good gerontological nurse educator, so that more nurses would pay attention to the nursing care needs of older adults. My grandma suffered from stroke and was hemiplegic when I was 11 years old. At that time, I thought there must be some good strategies to put a bedpan under the buttock for a person with hemiplegia. I thought that a good gerontological nurse should be able to care about older adults, not only the continence issues but also other aspects. Only competent gerontological nurses could offer holistic care. That is why I took up training in gerontological nursing over the years. I hope my students 'like older adults', always do the best for older adults, and be supportive to family caregivers.



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Where would you like to see gerontological nursing education to be at 5 years?

I can see gerontological nursing education is the 'most favourable' subject both internationally and locally in Hong Kong. As more people are concern about the care of older adults in the community, gerontological nursing education becomes very important. Technology-based training and flipped classroom method will be used more in the future. Every nurse should possess certain degree of understanding of gerontological nursing, and this should be developed as a speciality.

Who is a key person who supported you in becoming a gerontological nurse educator?

Many good nursing leaders, such as Professor Ruth Anderson, Professor Jane Philips, Professor Alex Molasiotis and Professor Iris Chi, are my mentors in my career. They support me in many ways.

About Angela

Dr. Angela Leung is Director of the Centre for Gerontological Nursing (CGN) / Leader of research theme 'Aging and Health', Associate Professor of the School of Nursing of Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She was the awardee of the Hartford Geriatric Scholars Program at the Johns Hopkins University in 2014. She is an active researcher in health literacy, health promotion, and chronic care, with a wide range of publications in international journals. Her key interest is to reduce health disparity in aging population and caregivers. She developed various interventions addressing the issues of inadequate health literacy and challenges encountered in chronic care. She has a strong belief that technology can help in chronic care and health promotion. Her recent innovations include: a mobile application for assessing diabetic risk and promoting lifestyle modification (which has been used by 13,000 people by now) and an app for supporting caregivers of persons with dementia.