



2013

Letter from Co-Editors

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Recommended Citation

Nehring, Wendy M. and Smurzynski, Jacek (2013) "Letter from Co-Editors," *International Journal of Health Sciences Education*, 1(1).

Available at: <https://dc.etsu.edu/ijhse/vol1/iss1/1>

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Welcome to the first issue of *The International Journal of Health Sciences Education (IJHSE)*. The mission and scope of *IJHSE* is to provide an open source conduit for timely and innovative articles, videos, and advice on how to improve the ways we are educating the health care professionals and educators of the future across the world. Many factors make this an exciting endeavor. First, health care reform is a constant story in the news, not only in the United States but also worldwide. Second, there is a need to have more health professionals to care for our population. In fact, the shortage of health care professionals is a global issue. Third, health science information is expanding at such a rate that it is difficult for educators to keep pace. Creating an open forum that allows health care professionals to contribute their expertise and innovations across disciplines, national borders, and cultures will hopefully create a community of shared knowledge. The open source journal, *IJHSE*, will provide an interactive platform that will open new doors for acquisition of information, as well as a form of scholarship.

Authors may describe innovations used to instruct students or patients. Health services administrators are also encouraged to submit manuscripts, as they are often faced with finding the funds to purchase the technology that is quickly becoming the norm for health science education. Experts' advice on technology topics covering teaching, research, and clinical practices are welcome.

There is a plan of publishing two issues per year with at least 3-5 articles per issue. Typical guidelines for a peer-review process will be followed and these articles should be acknowledged as qualifying for peer-reviewed publications. Articles may be educational or research-based. A section is also planned for students' submissions. Space will be provided for video articles and video clips supplementing written articles. Often we write manuscripts attempting to put into words what we physically do to perform a task, be it a procedure or surgery. In *IJHSE*, authors have an opportunity to submit videos of them performing a task with models, simulators, or live patients. Those media are subject to a peer-review process too.

The Journal is based on the campus of East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, TN. However, an interdisciplinary team including health professionals from several academic centers has been already involved in making this first issue available to readers across the US and worldwide. We do hope to provide an important contribution to the health sciences education. Please consider *IJHSE* as an open forum for sharing your expertise.

With warm regards,

Wendy Nehring and Jacek Smurzynski

Co-Editors