

# The Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Workshop on Scholarship, May 7, 2012




As the national voice for nursing education in Canada, the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) is committed to leadership in nursing scholarship.

CASN's position on scholarship is based on the model developed by Ernst Boyer, and is comprised of 5 areas:

- Discovery: Building a scientific body of nursing knowledge
- Teaching: Inquiry that supports the transfer of knowledge to learners
- Application: Advancement of nursing knowledge through expert practice
- Integration: Development of new insights as a result of interdisciplinary work
- Service: Generation and use of nursing knowledge

Scholarship in nursing encompasses a full range of intellectual and creative activities that may include the generation, validation, synthesis, and/or application of knowledge to advance the teaching, research and practice of nursing. It is associated with achievement of excellence, rigorous inquiry, reflective thought, expert knowledge, openness to criticism, peer review, and new ways of viewing phenomena of concern to nursing.

On May 7, 2012, CASN hosted its first Workshop on Scholarship in Toronto as a pre-conference event; the day was organized in response to requests from member schools for further information and support regarding Scholarship development. After receiving positive feedback on the event, CASN will be offering similar scholarship workshops in other areas of the country in the future.



The following emerged from the Knowledge Café sessions of the Workshop, where participants were asked to consider their own contributions to scholarship, and how their institutions support scholarship.

Participants suggested the following events to help develop faculty scholarship:

Research Tables	Discussion Forums
Lunch and Learns	Scholarship Showcases
Journal Clubs	Newsletter Conference
Research and Innovation Days	

Participants also recommended the following for colleagues in the nursing community who are working towards developing their personal scholarship:

- Encourage administration to create and/or appoint research and scholarship support position (i.e., Research and Scholarship Committees, Research Coordinators, Senior Scholars, etc.)
- Develop partnership within your own faculty, your own school, other professional schools, and other institutions; the era of insulated research is over
- Identify priorities and align them with the goals of your institution in order to secure resources
- Encourage administration to support release time for faculty undertaking scholarly activities
- Create mentorship opportunities to improve scholarship within institutions
- Recognize that nursing faculty are often engaged in scholarly activities, but do not identify it as such
- Encourage nurses to play a role on the hiring/tenure committees at their institutions; do not let the standard practice of other disciplines within an institution dictate how Nursing is treated by administration
- Value non-funded research, and celebrate the final products
- Adopt a goal of sharing of resources across institutions
- Increase the profile of nursing research within the institutions