U21 Summer School in Substance Misuse Studies: a Harm Reduction Approach

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The summer school

- Focus on the issue of substance misuse and its consequences from a harm reduction perspective

- Students assigned to multiprofessional, international teams for the duration of the Summer School

- Each team developed an intervention which they presented on last day
Selection and scholarship

Two stage process

• Home university selected students
• Forwarded up to 3 to UoA
• UoA team selected students according to application quality and professional grouping

Scholarships available – separate U21 selection panel
Funding

• U21 support $15,000US
• Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences
• Education New Zealand sponsorship
• Student payment $900NZ (subsidised by $500US)
• Students responsible for travel, insurance etc
The students: n=26

- Nursing, medicine, pharmacy, rehab sciences, sports and exercise, nutrition, public health, health sciences, dentistry
- Australia, Canada, China, England, Ireland, Hong Kong, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Scotland, Sweden, USA
Summer School Structure

• Week 1
  – Introduction to harm reduction
  – Introduction to substances and concepts
  – Team building
  – Fact finding for intervention development

• Rotorua weekend

• Week 2
  – Lectures from experts in the field
  – Visits to treatment agencies (experiential learning)
  – Intervention development
  – Presentations
  – Evaluation
Lectures, Workshops, Students as Teachers, Presentations
Social events

- Lots of food!
- Rugby match
- Rotorua weekend
Rating of the U21 Auckland Summer School 2014

- How would you rate the information provided about the U21SS?
- How would you rate the organisation of the U21SS?
- How would you rate U21SS in terms of format?
- How would you rate the length of the U21SS?

*Legend: Excellent, Very Good, Good, Poor, Very poor, N/A*
Responses to course evaluation statements

Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of this course

Overall, the visits to service providers provided were a valuable learning experience

The resources, materials and activities in this course helped me to learn

The course developed my sense of intellectual independence and confidence

The course encouraged me to participate in ways that helped me to learn

N

Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly Disagree
Responses to course evaluation statements

- The teaching facilities were adequate for this course
- I found the course intellectually stimulating
- This course helped deepen my understanding of the subject
- The course resources and materials helped me to learn
- I had a clear idea of what was expected of me in this course
- The course content was structured in a clear and logical manner

(Numerical values represent the number of responses for each category.)
Lessons learned

• Time to plan
• Information to students before the start
• Length of summer school
• Time off
• Social aspects
• Your team
The amazing team

Karen Dorrian
Jo Beattie

Dr David Newcombe
A/P Chris Bullen
A/P Janie Sheridan
A/P Peter Adams
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• Students