

Patricia Woods

Patricia Woods is currently Assistant Chair, International, with the School of Nursing at Langara College in Vancouver. She began her nursing career in 1988 with a diploma in nursing, and worked at a number of hospitals in Canada and internationally before beginning her teaching career in 1998, when she joined BCIT to teach emergency nursing. She earned her BSN from UBC in 1999, and her MSN in 2006.

In 2003, Patricia became a faculty member at Langara College School of Nursing, where she taught project management, leadership, and change management courses for fourth-year BSN students. Her nursing interests include smoking prevention in adolescent females, global nurse leadership, health promotion and humanitarian standards in disaster management. Her expertise in nursing education has led to contract positions with Capilano University and Vancouver Community College nursing and health care programs.

From 1985 to 1990, Patricia's nursing career moved to the Virgin Islands, where her experiences established a conviction that nursing and particularly nursing education needed to include a global perspective. Since then, she has been a strong advocate for nursing globalism and a volunteer for the Internationally Educated Nurse (IEN) within the Canadian health care system. She regularly tutors internationally educated nurses for the Canadian Registered Nurse Exam and has worked tirelessly to support the plight of these nurses to prevent de-skilling as they navigate the registration process.

Patricia's interest in global nursing has informed her nursing teaching as well. In 2007 she initiated a Langara change project with a student group which was aimed at obtaining membership in the Canadian Nursing Students Association for Langara students, in order to ensure that nursing students at Langara had the opportunity to view their education and profession from a local to national level.

Patricia's work for nursing globalism has led to a unique and innovative program that is being emulated across Canada, and influencing the accreditation process for internationally educated nurses. She has presented her work at numerous conferences. Her advocacy and her teaching resulted in her receiving the Excellence in Nursing Advocacy Award from the Association of Registered Nurses of British Columbia in November 2015.

