The Fulbrighter Experiences of an Italian Nursing Researcher

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2Fulbright Research Scholar – Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research – University of Pennsylvania (PA)
Nursing Education in Italy
4 nursing education levels

1. Degree in Nursing
   • three-year university course (since 1999)

2. Master’s Degree in Nursing Sciences
   • Two-year university course. Advanced clinical nursing education

3. Masters
   • 12 or 18-month post-graduate specialization courses in the fields of critical care, psychiatry, community medicine, forensic, cancer,…

4. PhD in Nursing Sciences (since 2006)
   • three-year course post Master’s Degree. Advanced education to conduct research
The contribution of nursing doctoral schools to the development of evidence ten years after their establishment in Italy: an exploratory descriptive survey

Source, Dissal Unige 2018
The contribution of nursing doctoral schools to the development of evidence ten years after their establishment in Italy: an exploratory descriptive survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL PAPERS PER EACH PhD SCHOOL</th>
<th>CLINICAL</th>
<th>RESEARCH</th>
<th>EDUCATION</th>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>ETHICS</th>
<th>THEORY</th>
<th>POLICIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total papers</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>%</td>
<td>53.85%</td>
<td>14.68%</td>
<td>10.70%</td>
<td>10.03%</td>
<td>4.35%</td>
<td>3.85%</td>
<td>2.84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source, Dissal Unige 2018
My Italian colleagues at Penn in 2016
My Italian colleagues at Penn in 2016
Fulbright Experience

Gianluca Catania – gianluca.catania@edu.unige.it

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWmIOmMLVCY
Lighthouse

Ducal Palace

Genoa’s harbour
De Ferrari Square

Boccadasse
Fulbright Experience

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San Lorenzo Cathedral

Bigo

Bigo
My Background

1. Oncology and palliative care
2. Master in oncology and palliative
3. PhD program focused on developing and implementing a nurse-led complex intervention focused on quality of life assessment in palliative care inpatient units
The Fulbright Program

- Established in 1946 by Senator J. William Fulbright
- To promote the peace process through cultural exchanges
- It is the oldest governmental program of cultural exchanges in the world
- More than 155 countries
- Since 1946 it awarded 294,000 scholarships
- Every year it awards approximately 7,500 Fulbright scholarships
- US-Italy Fulbright Commission awards 70 scholarships a year
- In Italy the Program is jointly financed by the U.S. Department of State and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Source www.fulbright.it
US Embassy – Milan July 2017
My place and roommates in Philadelphia
- Jean-Luc vs. Gianluca
- Philly

- ESL meeting
- Eagles Super Bowl

- NYC
My US colleagues at Penn
The RN4CAST@IT Study

- Defining Italian nursing added value
- Comparing Italian data at an international level
- Policy makers make informed decisions
  - Safety, quality, costs
- Hospitals managers may offer efficient services
- ...

(Sasso et al., 2015)
Why the Penn University?

RN4CAST@IT – June 10th 2016 Prof. L. Aiken at University of Genoa (IT)
RN4CAST-Ped in Italy

To determine whether nursing staffing and work environments in pediatric hospitals can impact on safety and quality of pediatric care in freestanding Children’s Hospitals and Pediatric Units of General Hospitals that belong to the Italian Association of Pediatric Hospitals
Fulbright Scholar Program Visiting Scholar Application Form

1. Home Country/Country Applying from: Italy
2. Program: Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program
3. Special award name: 
for Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program for Iraq and Faculty Development Programs: Cohort Discipline: 
4. Category of grant: Research
5. Title: Mr. 
6. Gender: Male
7. Family Name/Surname: Catania First: Gianluca Middle: 
8. Country of citizenship: Italy 
9. Country of permanent residence: Italy 
10. Do you have or are you applying for U.S. permanent residency (i.e. green card) or are you a U.S. Citizen? No
11. Date of birth: June 01, 1971 Place of birth: genova Italy
12. U.S. Social Security Number: not shown
13. Current position: Research Fellow Start Date: December / 2014
   Other: ItalianPosition:Ricercatore A
   Department Name: Department of Health Sciences
   Institution Name: Università degli Studi di Genova (University of Genoa)
Why the Penn University?

- CHOPR is the global leader of international nursing outcomes research
- Prof. Linda Aiken co-direct the European Study
- CHOPR team has conducted similar studies in over 30 countries
  - Same study design
  - Methods
  - Measures (most of which developed by CHOPR)
- The RN4CAST-EU generated over 80 publications (EU’s Seventh Framework Programme)
- CHOPR studies published in the highest quality international peer reviewed journals
- Past successfully collaboration with Prof. Loredana Sasso (University of Genoa) for the RN4CAST@IT (adult patients)
Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - June 2017 (Rome - IT)
Abstract Submission Eastern Nursing Research Society (ENRS) Conference

Southern European Countries (SIP) analyses

AAN W. DC

Sept-Dec 2017

CHOPR Seminar Speech about SIP results

Pediatric Safety Paper submission

Abstract submission ONS Conference

Pediatric Paper analyses

ONS Conference

BC Survivors Lancet Oncology

Fulbright Conference

SIP paper

ENRS Conference

Gen-Mar 2018

Fulbright Conference

Apr-Jun 2018

Fulbright Experience

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Fulbright Experience

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Dr Franklin Shaffer
Prof. Dyanne Affonso

AAN Washington DC 2017
Outcomes of In-hospital Resuscitation

- Surveillance is singularly important function of nurses
- Nurse staffing: Each additional patient added to nurses’ workloads is associated with 5% lower survival
- Work environment: Patients experiencing in-hospital resuscitation cared for in hospitals with poor work environments have 22% lower survival than patients in hospitals with good environments (independent of nurse staffing)
“International Nurse Leadership Opportunities and Strategies” Seminar

Dr. Frances Hughes
Immediate past CEO of the International Council of Nurses

Dr. Franklin Shaffer
President of the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools
Expert and international nurse leader in health professions migration, education, regulation

CHOPR – March 2018
Fulbright Experience

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Xmas Party at CHOPR – December 2017
Fulbright Experience

Gianluca Catania – gianluca.catania@edu.unige.it

Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts
The mural arts of Philadelphia
- Weather condition
- Groundhog day 2017
- Ice cubes!
Competencies developed

• Starting using the STATA software
• Improving English as a second language
• LDI seminars
  • How healthcare is organized, financed, managed, and delivered
• Don Berwick’s seminar (November 2017)
  • Better care, better health, lower cost (?)
  • Improvement without cutting costs, but improving healthcare
  • Lack adoption best care, fragmented care, overtreatment,…
  • Lost connections with values
How Fulbright will impact on my academic future

• Applying for EU funding to collect new data to study nursing and patient outcomes in Italy and other EU countries at a multiple points in time
• Implementing an intervention to expand the idea of Magnet hospitals to Italy and the EU more broadly
• Implementing intervention to improve nurse work environments and patient outcomes
Fulbright Experience

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