A process of promoting the publication of research in academic journals among the Faculty of Nursing

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Abstract

This research and development were conducted to promote the publication of research in academic journals of the Faculty of Nursing in 2019. The research process was divided up into three parts: the current situation, the developmental process and promotion of the research publications of the Faculty of Nursing, and the responses to this research upon national publication. There were 50 key participants, including the administrator and faculty members from the Faculty of Nursing, educational and health experts, the head nurse, and registered nurses. The research was conducted with quantitative and qualitative methods. All quantitative results were reviewed by the educational and health experts for a consistency of 0.76. The reliability of the results was measured using Cronbach's alpha coefficient of 0.8. The qualitative method used was data analysis; the percentage frequency, mean, and standard deviation were observed and interpreted.

The results indicated that the research publications in academic journals from the Faculty of Nursing of Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University exceeded the standard rates by 103.29%. During the process of promoting the research publications, the researchers have allowed to exchange ideas and discussions with registered nurses. It has also resulted in 13 total research publications of national and international caliber. These successes can be attributed to three main causes: using networking as a means to learn and implement nursing techniques, encouraging good budgetary management and efficiently delivering the research publications, and verifying information with experts in the field for accurate presentation of research findings upon publication.

Keywords: Process of promoting, publication of research, faculty of nursing

1. Introduction

Since the nursing sciences is progressive in nature, the publication of new researches is required to reflect these constantly growing changes. Researchers in this field have a role in sharing their research findings with broader audiences, their fellow peers, and funding sources. The knowledge from these research publications can complement the field of nursing and develop the sciences even further. However, the problem is that there are limitations in the way that they are interpreted and understood. There have also been problems within the organization about the submission reviews for the research publications [1]. Also, research funding sources, appropriate environments for research conduct, convenient research facilities, and research members that are fit for the job are problems that the organization has still not been able to address [2].

Additionally, the research publications that are included in academic journals are important indicators of the quality of the education system [3]. This is reflective on a syllabus level to a degree level and all the way to an institutional level. Obtaining new understandings and applications to the field of nursing is crucial to have deeper knowledge in this area, and with this in mind, it is very important when thinking about the classroom setting [4]. Under the care of faculty instructors, students can familiarize themselves with the ways that clinical settings are run, such as in the ways they can be furthered, protected, and cared for [5]. Utilizing this method of practical learning can allow students to be better equipped when faced with real–world clinical situations in the future [6]. Significantly, the Faculty of Nursing at Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University offers students the ability to practice their nursing skills at Nakhon Pathom Hospital and Ratchaburi Hospital. Both of these hospitals are very important places in which capable and promising graduating nursing students are produced and put forth

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towards their roles in the future.

Ever since the foundation of the nursing program 10 years ago, there have been continuing problems with the progression of academic work and research publications. Specifically, the amount of academic and research journals published on a national and international basis is decreasing. In part, this can be related to the small number of lecturers available in the faculty compared with a large amount of work that needs to be done in order to make greater development in the field of nursing. Additionally, many lecturers lack the experience and motivation to make advances in their lessons and research, which causes the university to extend the contracts of two of these individuals. Researchers, therefore, have concluded that promoting the publication of research in academic journals is an important process in addressing these problems. To begin the process, there has to be growth in the thought processes of the lecturers to be ready to commit to their work. Once they are ready, they must be equipped with the knowledge and methods that are important in research paper writing. These should all be done under the guidance of experts in writing research on the field of nursing. All in all, lecturers should take active measures in developing their research papers based on the feedback given and foster an environment that encourages one another in times of discouragement.

Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University has a policy regarding research development to promote and support the lecturers in the university. This encourages more production of research publications and creates academic cooperation between the lecturers and the university. As a result, the university is more willing to endorse monetary funds into publishing research papers, leading to more efficacy of the research. This strengthens the outcome of high–quality published works at a faster rate at both national and international levels. Since the results of assessments of the university and Faculty of Nursing standards are still below the criterion, it is necessary to encourage more publication of research.

2. Research Objectives

2.1 To promote the publication of research in academic journals of the Faculty of Nursing.

2.2 To encourage lecturers to create research that can be published in academic journals and accepted by the public.

3. Research Methods

Research and development are ways to involve both the Faculty of Nursing and registered nurses in curriculum improvement. With the help of these health partners, the quality of the nursing curriculum can be enhanced by the knowledge and experience that they can offer. In particular, the students can receive practice on the theoretical and practical aspects of the curriculum. With the experiences that each party brings to the table, they can help collaborate, plan, and evaluate the process of promoting the publication of research in academic journals together. This academic and research development plan can be credited to their collaboration, with the help of nursing experts in giving feedback and suggestions in the research production process.

3.1 Population and Study Samples

Informants: The informants is divided into three groups. The first group of informants consists of the administrator, heads of the program, lecturers from five main areas of study, and supporting staff members of the Faculty of Nursing. The second group of informants consists of the head of the nursing department, the head of the academic department, the head nurse, and registered nurses from the hospital. The final group is experts knowledgeable in the field of nursing.

3.2 Study Sample Selection

The method for selecting study samples began by going through information of faculty members and staff of the Faculty of Nursing. Their preparedness to engage in activities involving Nakhon Pathom Hospital and Ratchaburi Hospital were also noted. Another method for selecting research samples was through word of mouth, using the Snowball technique. This method involved the recommendations from the head of the nursing department at Nakhon Pathom Hospital and Ratchaburi Hospital to select hospital staff and specific sample groups. The criteria for the selection was pertaining to the time collected the information. Overall, 50 key informants, consisting of experts in the fields of nursing, research, and hospital care, were gathered.

3.3 Research Location

The research was conducted at Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University's Faculty of Nursing, Nakhon Pathom Hospital, Ratchaburi Hospital, and a hotel conference in Petchaburi.

3.4 Research Tools

The research tools used were included quantitative and qualitative methods.

3.4.1 Quantitative Method: Evaluation of the Progression of the Activity or Project

This method applied a questionnaire that was divided into 2 parts. **The first part consisted of 8 personal questions** about age, gender, religion, occupation, marital status, income adequacy, and education. **The second part consisted of 10 questions on the**

evaluation of project activities. These included questions about the lecturer, the satisfaction of the activities, the application received relating to the research and the academic curriculum, as well as the level of self-development.

3.4.2 Qualitative Method: Analytical Tools

This method was used to observe and record the situation, experience, and competency of the lecturers in conducting research as a context to compare and analyze with the content. The attitude of the lecturers when participating in organizational activities was also observed and recorded using the matrix content table in relation to the goal of the research created by the researcher. The tools used were a focus group guideline, an interview guideline, a participation guideline, and an audio–tape recorder.

3.4.3 Evaluating the Quality of the Tools Used

The quantitative tools used in this research were reviewed for content validity by 3 research experts who are nursing lecturers. They also looked at the index of consistency (IOC) of the questionnaire, which was found to be 0.76. To make improvements, the language of the research was modified to make it easier to read. The reliability of the questionnaire was tested with 30 samples, which revealed a Cronbach's alpha coefficient of 0.8. Moreover, the qualitative tools were checked for credibility. For the information that was provided in the research, it was cross-checked using data triangulation of methodological triangulation. The conformability of the information gathered in the interviews was also determined by checking its accuracy and concordancy with one another.

3.5 Research Procedures

3.5.1 Procedure 1: Studying the System and Layout of the Research

This procedure was done in order to compare the results gathered from the research study with factual information. The competency of the lecturers was also determined. Likewise, this procedure served to involve the participants with problem-solving and making goals for the research. This activity was done at Nakhon Pathom Hospital and Ratchaburi Hospital. The participants were faculty members from the Nakhon Pathom University's Faculty of Nursing, the head nurse and head of the nursing department, and registered nurses with experience in these activities.

3.5.2 Procedure 2: Determining the Process of Promoting Research Articles for Publication and the Outline for Completion

This procedure served to present the results from the first procedure and to determine if they were accurate. This involved the gathering of ideas about the strengths and weaknesses that the research had and any further improvements that the research could take. As a result, the faculty members and registered nurses could plan their research and determine the steps needed to publish their research papers.

3.5.3 Procedure 3: Receiving Guidance from Experts in the Field of Research In Order to Produce Research of High Enough Quality to Be Considered for Publication

A conference was organized to apply the information received from the second procedure, such as the research draft and outline, along with the research and academic articles for publications. The purpose of this procedure was to develop the quality of research and prepare it for publication. All this procedure was done under the guidance of research experts.

3.5.4 Procedure 4: Developing and Improving Upon the Research Articles to Improve Its Quality for Publication

This procedure was conducted to evaluate and prepare for the process of promoting the research publications in academic journals from the Faculty of Nursing.

3.5.5 Procedure 5: Conclusions on the Promotion of Research Publications in Academic Journals

Setting goals to evaluate how to promote the research publications in academic journals.

3.6 The Ethics of Research and Safeguarding Sample Groups

The ethical morals of researchers are very important, especially when it pertains to gathering data from human research. Therefore, in this research study, it was necessary to give clear and sufficient information to the participants on how the data was going to be gathered. These included the main aspects of the research, such as its purpose, gain, reasoning, and procedures chosen. Additionally, questionnaires remained anonymous and permission to record participants' voices was received. Those in the research voluntarily chose to participate and were made clear that they could leave at any stage in the research without causing any damage. The participant anonymity was kept at all times, and their personal information was never revealed.

3.7 Data Collection

The researchers prepared ethical certificates for the sample group throughout every procedure of the research. Letters of permission to conduct research were also sent to Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University, and the directors of Nakhon Pathom Hospital and Ratchaburi Hospital. The data was collected from March 17, 2020, to March 6, 2021, with the observation of participant interviews. The process of gathering data was divided into 4 steps, each taking no longer than 2 hours. Discussions within study circles were collected throughout specific activities given.

3.8 Data Interpretation

The process of data interpretation involved analyzing the quantitative results of the questionnaires with the percent frequency, mean, and standard deviation. The qualitative results were also analyzed alongside. For both the quantitative and qualitative methods, data needed to be recorded throughout the scope of the research. In this particular research study, content analysis was done to explain the objectives and content of the research and how each data collected conveyed a distinctive message. This was done by analyzing the content of the recorded sample group interviews and organizing them based on patterns. It could then be interpreted and corroborated with each other.

4. Study Results

4.1 Part 1: General Information on the Participants

50 participants were asked to answer the provided questionnaires, with the majority being 41–55 years of age (22 individuals). 98% (49 individuals) of the participants were female. All (50 individuals) of the participants were Buddhist. 50% (25 individuals) of the participants were lecturers or assistant Professors. 66% (33 individuals) of the participants were married. 82%(41 individuals) of the participants said that they had sufficient incomes. 94% (47 individuals) of the participants held graduate degrees.

Results of the analysis of the nursing lecturers' experience and capability showed that all lecturers have their work published in one journal in a span of 5 years. 22 of the lecturers have had their work published in 6 national journals (96.66%). Lecturers that have completed or were about to complete their international doctoral degrees have had experience with publishing international research (8.34%). As a result, previous research work has affected on the development of future research work. All the lecturers have goals to publish at least one research paper per year, but many factors are hindering that process. Since many lecturers lack the time, do not have enough guidance, have too much workload, and lack reinforcement at work, workshops can be a way to help them become more motivated to work again. In their own words:

"...I want to write research but I have no time because our faculty doesn't have enough lecturers to teach. I also have shifts at the hospital, so I really don't have the time. Also, since COVID happened, I have even less time because I have to teach online... this has really made me lose motivation to work and find inspiration to write research... having a workshop could be helpful, I guess..." (FG005)

"...the dean has always told us to write at least one research paper per year, but I can't do it. My past experiences haven't been helpful for me. I want

someone to help guide me through it. Of course, I want to write research. The support system here is really good. However, I really don't have the time..." (FG 024)

"...when I was studying for my Ph.D., I had to write my thesis in English, so I kind of know the basic outline of what to do. I've also been doing it continuously. The university has appointed a clinic to help guide me through it, and they have given sufficient funds for it, which has given me the motivation to do research. It's just that my duty of teaching has been taking up much of my time. I barely have any days off... I need to find a time to relax first, which will be able to help me write research of higher quality..." (FG003)

4.2 Part 2: Evaluation of the Project Activities

After the project activities encouraging participants to create research that can be published in journals and accepted by the public, we found these factors include **the lecturer, the satisfactory rates of these activities, the helpfulness of these activities, the research and academic results, and the level of self–development.** The evaluation of the questionnaire results was done to assess the implementation of the activities and projects in Phase 3 of the research. The overall picture shows a very high level (mean of 4.40; standard deviation of 0.60). The participants were overall satisfied with how the activities were planned out (mean of 4.52; standard deviation of 0.60), and the application that they were able to get out of it (mean of 4.580; standard deviation of 0.70).

4.3 Part 3: Assessing a Small Number of the Research Results Based on a Survey of Academic and Research Publications in the Past 4 Years

The Faculty of Nursing at Nakhon Pathom Rajabhat University had a small number of research papers published in the past four years between 2016 and 2019. In 2016, the Faculty of Nursing had 28 lecturers. In 2017, 2018, and 2019, there were 28, 25, and 24 lecturers, accordingly. In those four years, the number of research papers published did not meet the standard for accreditation that the Nursing Committee had put in place. Only 30% met the criteria of the Office of Higher Education Commission. Nevertheless, in the last three years, it is estimated that there has been a 109.23% increase of research publications by the faculty from the standard amount.

Lesson learned from the situations mentioned, the researchers had decided to enact steps in developing and promoting the research publication of the Faculty of Nursing. The conclusion reached was made through the **"learning model to develop and further promote the research publication of the Faculty of Nursing".** Development was made to help tackle the problem and needs of the Faculty of Nursing lecturers. Many have said that they wanted guidance from

Table 1. Shows the percentage of general information from the participants.

General Information	Number of Participants	Percentage
Age		
26 - 40	20	40.00
41 -55	22	44.00
56 years and above	6	16.00
Gender		
Female	49	98.00
Male	1	2.00
Religion		
Buddhist	50	100.00
Occupation		
Register Nurse	25	50.00
Lecturer, Assistant Professor	25	50.00
Marital Status		
Singer	17	34.00
Married	33	66.00
Income		
Sufficient	41	82.00
In sufficient	9	18.00
Education		
Graduate Degree	47	94.00
Bachelor's degree	3	6.00

Table 2. Evaluation of the questionnaire results to assess the development of the activities.

Evaluation of the Project Activities	Mean + SD	Meaning of the Results
1. The Lecturer	4.07+0.68	High
2. The Satisfactory Rates of These Activities	4.52+0.60	Highest
3. The Helpfulness of These Activities	4.58+0.70	Highest
4. The Research and Academic Results	4.38+0.51	High
5. The Level of Self–Development	4.48+0.51	High
Total	4.40+0.60	High

experts and help from fellow lecturers who had similar interests. This would enable them to develop more interest in their work and be able to further their research together. There have been suggestions to call in help from fellow lecturers at different institutions to give advice and help in the process of conducting research. 24 people participated in the workshop provided in the study (85.71%). The participants submitted the drafts of their research, which amounted to 12 papers (50.00%). From the questionnaires, it can be concluded that many lecturers did not have the time and expertise to conduct research. In order to write a research, there are needs of extensive planning and outlining. The ethics of research in humans is a very difficult ground to tread because many experts do not understand what participatory research stands for. For ethical purposes, quantitative methods should be used when submitting research outlines. This will allow the research process to be more easily transpired, and thus, discourage the process of producing academic or research work. Nevertheless, the clear development that has come out of this study is that the lecturers have gained more motivation to create research, along with the collaboration of registered nurses. A sense of pride and a development of a good relationship between the lecturers and registered nurses can bring about a better environment for research production.

The research model for the development and promotion of research publications from the Faculty of Nursing is a process of taking the first draft of the research and making corrections to improve upon it. This is done through applying the knowledge received from the workshop and developing it through the efforts of the Faculty of Nursing. The funds of 50,000 Baht that were allocated for this project can also help to promote and develop the project further.

It has been shown that the desire for academic and research publications from registered nurses under the cooperation of Nakhon Pathom University and Ratchaburi Hospital is high. However, the number of lecturers and expert they have are not in line with the role that they need to take when participating in research. Since they are unable to operate within the faculty, they have to set up the activities at another place and within a specific time limit. This ensures that the activities can be completed in a smoothly manner. It can be concluded that the cooperation between nursing lecturers and registered nurses, and the activities organization outside of the faculty have helped in developing research.

Feedback from the Research Publications in National Journals: 13 research papers were published in total. 6 papers (5 research, 1 academic) have appeared in national conference journals. 2 papers (1 research, 1 academic) have appeared in the national TCI Base 1 journal. 8 papers (9 research, 1 academic) have appeared in the national TCI Base 2 journal. 2 papers (both research) have appeared in international ACI journals.

5. Discussion of the Results

From the research results, the researchers have compiled interesting conclusions. The research publications from the Faculty of Nursing in the year 2019 (funds from 2020) have seen quite an amount of success. This included the use of networking as a means to collaborate on academic work. Additionally, there was also the management of resources to promote and speed up the process of research publication [6]. The resources were also allocated for workshops outside of the faculty that helped to bring together nursing lecturers and nurses working in hospitals. Lastly, the management of resources by qualified research experts has created more trust in making research.

These management concepts were based on the theory of motivation [3, 6], which states that human motivation comes from motivating and supporting factors. Specifically, the motivation factor is a person's response to their internal need for success [7, 8]. To be able to obtain recognition in their work and accept responsibility in the work that they do are the greatest motivations9. Additionally, the supporting factor is an opportunity for a person to gain advancement in life. The policies and ways in which they do their jobs relate back [10, 11]. The process of developing research publications requires the improvement of promoting research and giving equal work to all involved [12]. Rujira Jeamamornrat and Oraachorn Intongpan (2014) stated that the way to improve the process of research production and publication requires 4 components [13]. These include policies and plans on how to promote the research [14], needs to measure how lecturers can create and publish research [15], a system to motivate people to start writing research, and research management that can facilitate more research. In Supaporn Pongpinyo–o–pas, Tuanthong Chaowakeeratiphong and Raykhar Aranyavong's research (2013), they have stated 3 key strategies to enhance the quality of research management. The first strategy is making sure that the information from the research is accurate and includes participation from all particles involved. Research experts should also be available to go over all the information. The second strategy is setting up platforms where the research can be looked over and evaluated for quality. The final strategy is ensuring the research is completed in time and up to date with the latest discoveries of the present and potential future.

This process of research publications promotion has been approved on a national level in the academic year of 2019 at the Faculty of Nursing. This benefits the faculty by offering a learning model for promoting research publications in a variety of subjects in the nursing sciences. Additionally, it also helps to develop a more easily accessed system and improves the quality of nursing care. Nevertheless, in order to develop the field further, applications should be used to communicate with all groups of people, including nursing lecturers, students, and professional nurses. This concept is compliance with Ketkanok Urwongse's study (2017), which states that the strategy to promote the application of research should include improving the quality of the research to be more reliable [16]. Notably, the uses of the research should be highly emphasized. All in all, creating a network to develop the quality of the research, promoting a creative environment, and improving upon the ways that the research can be conveyed to general audiences are very important [14]

From the results of the research, there has been no research paper that has successfully gone through the process of research promotion before. Therefore, the researcher would like to summarize from the experience of creating research from other organizations to produce more academic works in the future.

5.1 Suggestions

1. The concept of preparing for nursing training workshops can help to expand the network of promoting the research publication of the Faculty of Nursing. Particularly, the development of a networking system collaboration of research work can help to promote the research in the future.

2. The lecturers at the Faculty of Nursing should get the opportunity to attend workshops that can promote their research.

3. The hospitals that serve as training centers for nursing students should seek cooperation with nursing institutions to develop and prepare curriculums to promote the research publication. This can enable nurses to move further up in their ranks at a faster rate.

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