



The Office of Health and Medical Education Scholarship welcomes:



Visiting Professor
Dr. Laura Nimmon
University of British Columbia

The Illusion of Independent Self: Implications for Interprofessional Education

Thursday, March 21, 2024

11:30am-12:50pm

1405B Health Sciences Centre

There is a focus on independent self and autonomy in our health profession training programs. Yet social networks are a cornerstone of effective clinical practice and teamwork. We are enmeshed these webs of interconnectivity that the extent of their influence is almost invisible to us and thus underappreciated in health professions training programs. Because of this invisibility, our health professions education structures, and messages they send, implicitly (or explicitly) drive students towards a goal of autonomy and independence. What would happen if we trained our health care providers to not function independently, but consistently reinforced the importance of social connections practitioners have available to them to support their ability to practice effectively? In this session, I will outline several stories from my research describing the different ways people in health professional learning and practice environments are embedded in their social networks. I will illuminate how I used different theoretical lenses to reveal robust social networking amongst learners and practitioners that might otherwise be invisible to us. In doing so, I hope to widen the scope of our collective vision beyond healthcare providers as independent practitioners with distinct expertise, viewing them instead as individuals deeply embedded in social structures with the skills to notice and adapt fluidly to their interdependence.

Workshop: Demystifying Theory

Integration in Qualitative Research

Friday, March 22, 2024

9:00-11:30am

G643 Health Sciences Centre

This workshop will demonstrate how theory can be thought of as a “mentor” throughout the research process. It will include discussion of how theory is integrated into qualitative research (and why). Dr. Nimmon will describe how she has applied theory in her own work and some of the lessons learned. The workshop will conclude with a hands-on analysis activity where a theoretical lens will be applied to interpret qualitative interview data.

Biography

Dr. Laura Nimmon is a Scientist at the Centre for Health Education Scholarship (CHES) and Associate Professor of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia. She is an Associate Editor for Perspectives on Medical Education. Dr. Nimmon’s primary interest is in making the influence of social networks visible within the educational and clinical practices of the health professions. She is an award-winning researcher and her work is funded by tri-council national funding agencies, hospital foundations, and professional regulatory bodies. Dr. Nimmon is recipient of the UBC Faculty of Medicine Award for Excellence in Mentoring Early Career Faculty (2021). She is also recipient of the Early Career Medical Educators of Canada Champion Award for advocacy, role modeling and mentorship of early career researchers (2020).

RSVP for either/both sessions at ohmes@ucalgary.ca