

The training and job decisions of nurses

Newsletter 16th April 2010



Where is the project up to? We commenced recruiting students and graduates to the study at the end of 2008. **So far, 1220 nursing students and graduates have joined the research.** The first online survey commenced in September 2009 and has been completed by 427 participants, to date. **Thank you to everyone who**

has participated, so far. We encourage anyone who has not yet completed the survey to do so. If you joined the study and have not received an email about the survey, please let us know at nurses@chere.uts.edu.au.

Your feedback about the first survey.

There have been many positive comments. Several participants said that the job choice questions helped them to think about the things they feel are important in a nursing job. Some participants liked the questions about children, an important consideration for work-life balance.

There have also been a few problems.

Some people were concerned that they could not go back and correct mistakes; we have changed the survey so that it is now possible to go back and change answers before you submit. For those who found it a bit long, we plan to make the next survey shorter.

What will happen next?

The second online survey will begin in September 2010. We will continue analysing the first survey throughout this year and present more results in the next newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you all again in the second survey.

Don't forget to complete the first survey, if you haven't already done so.

Every completed survey, means another \$2 for Médecins Sans Frontières which is contributing to the relief effort in Haiti.

Email nurses@chere.uts.edu.au if you have any problems with the survey.

Some preliminary results from the first survey.

We have done some early analysis on data from the first 220 respondents. **The majority were current students at UTS.** Of the first 220 respondents, 46 were graduates, 173 were current students and one had discontinued nursing studies. There were 169 from UTS, 35 from UNE and 16 from SCU. **The average age of the early survey respondents was 27** but there was a broad range (17-65). Most were female (88%) and were born in Australia (70%). Half commenced the BN following the HSC, while the remainder had another qualification; **16% had a previous nursing qualification.**

Complete the first survey and help disaster relief in Haiti.

If you complete the first survey, the project will donate \$2 to Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) which sends doctors, nurses and other personnel to assist in areas affected by disaster. **Our target of over 600 surveys will**

make a sizeable donation. MSF is one of the organisations contributing to the relief effort in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti.



It is important that we stay in touch for future surveys. If your email address changes, please let us know. Email nurses@chere.uts.edu.au or phone Patsy Kenny 02 95144750