

'Point of Need' Library Support for Blended MScN Program

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Topics Covered Today:

BACKGROUND:

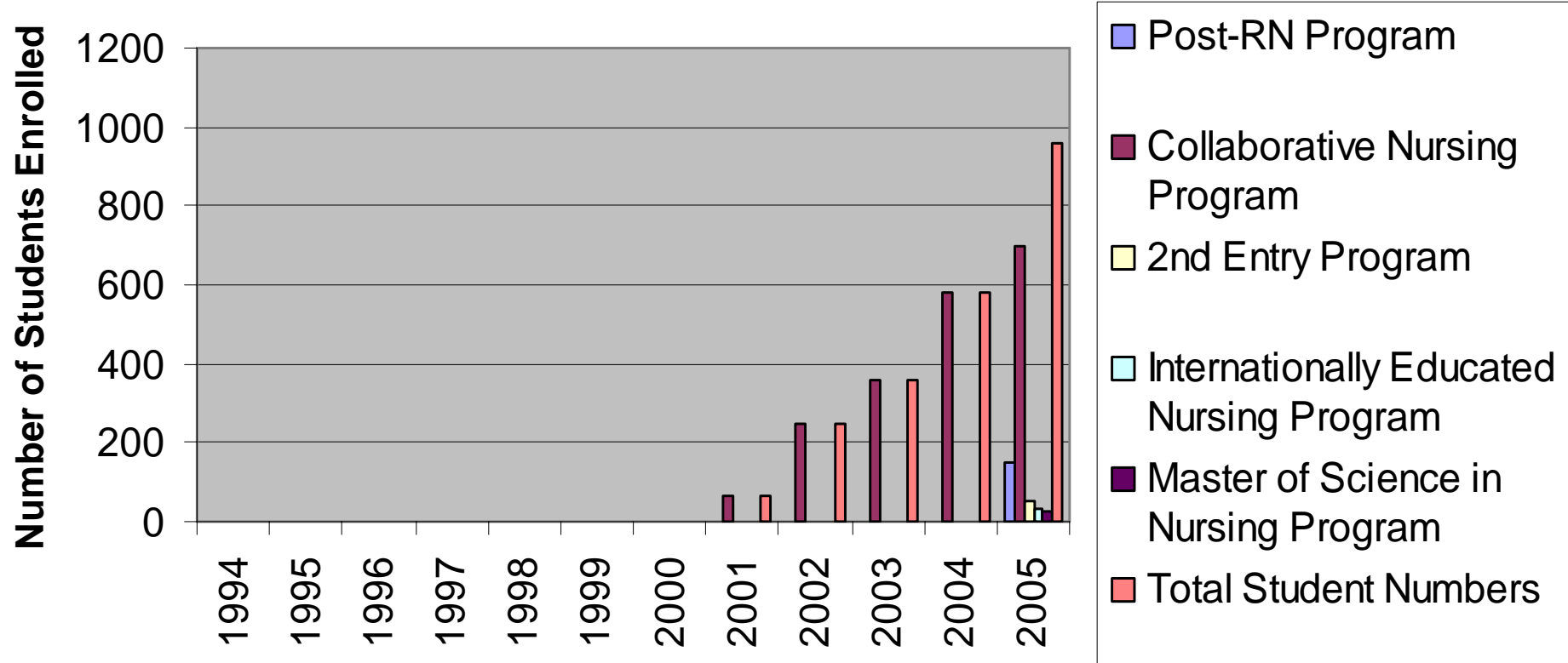
- Growth of the Nursing Program at York
- Information needs of nursing students
- Library support for the UG program
- Information needs of MScN students
- Knowles' Adult Learning theory

THE PROJECT- a work in progress:

- Instructional filmclips
- How they address student learning needs
- Future research

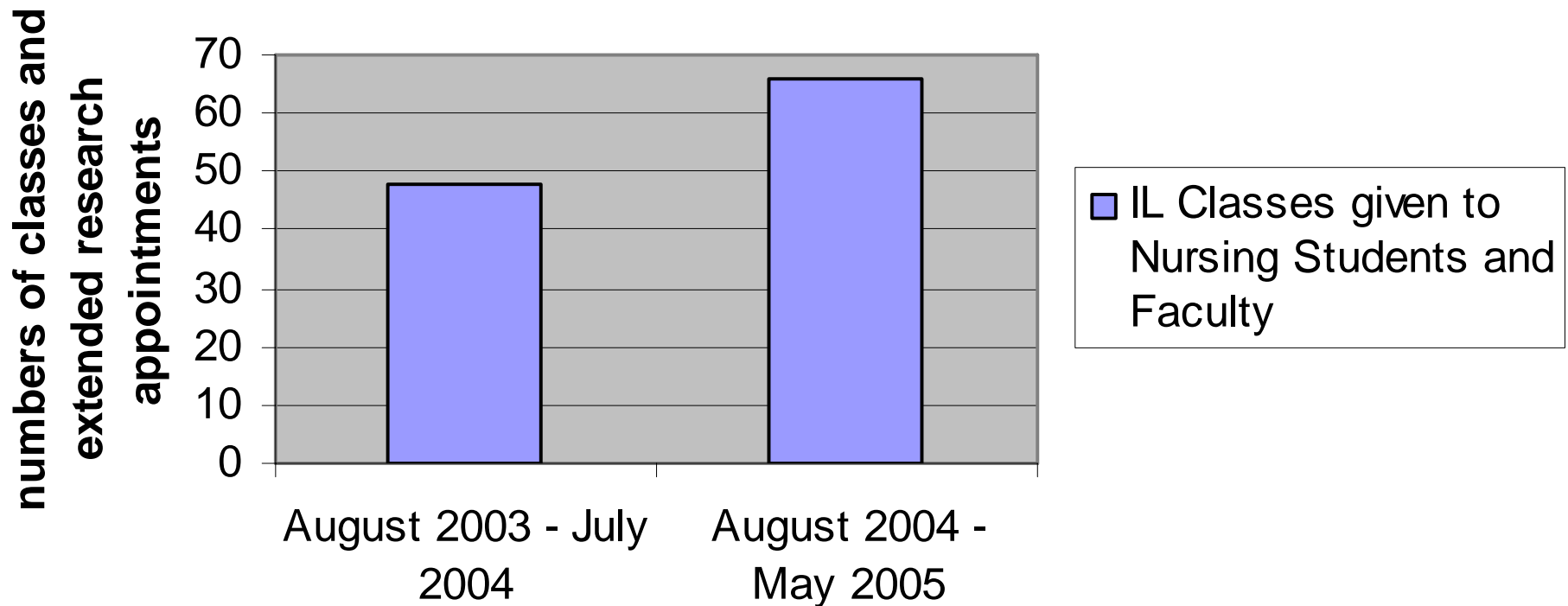
Growth of the SoN at York – Student Numbers

Increase in Number of Students enrolled in all Nursing programs 1994-2005



Information Literacy Classes given August 2003 - May 2005

Information Literacy Classes given to Nursing Students and Faculty



Undergraduate Nursing Students

- Post-RN program
- Nurse-Practitioner program
- Collaborative BScN program
- IEN program
- 2nd Entry program

MScN students

- The students
- Nature and needs of the students as adult learners
- What are their IL needs?

We know that:

- Information Literacy skills contribute to and are crucial to informed decision-making
- They take time to learn
- They require practice to hone

ACRL Guidelines for Distance Learning Library Services

- Access to **adequate library services** and resources is essential for attaining superior academic skills
- Instilling **lifelong learning skills through bibliographic and information literacy instruction** is a primary outcome of higher education

ACRL continued

- Library has primary responsibility for **identifying, developing, coordinating, providing, and assessing** the value and effectiveness of resources and services designed to meet both the **standard** and the **unique** informational and skills development **needs of the distance learning community.**
- Services for distance learning communities may **differ** from **but be equivalent** to those services offered on a traditional campus

Information needs of nurses

- Need broad range of information from a variety of sources to meet their clinical and educational needs
- Available nursing literature is underutilized
- Nurses must be given adequate IL training to be able to pursue their information needs

Dee et al (2005)

- These observations led to the idea to produce instructional film clips that provide this training

Adult Learning Theory

Malcolm Knowles (1990), characterized adult learners as being

- Motivated to learn when there is a specific need
- They need to know why something is necessary before learning it, and how it will fit in with their life experience
- Adult learners have a need to be self-directed, responsible and autonomous

The Project – How it began

- Dec 2004, we decided to create the set of videos for providing IL assistance to distance learners enrolled in the MScN program.
- Received a library research grant to hire a student assistant to develop and produce these instructional film clips

Goals of an Information Literacy Program:

- To assist students to identify and articulate the need for information
 - To develop their skills in locating and evaluating information
 - To enable them to use information in critical thinking and problem solving
- Lynne et al (1996)
- To produce students who are confident, independent learners who learn to take responsibility for their own learning in their courses and later transfer this attitude to the workplace

Design

- Overall design
 - Short clips
 - One clip – one piece of the process
 - Combine to form a package
- Benefits of modular delivery
 - 24/7 assistance
 - Point-of-need instruction
 - Lends itself to independent learning

The process

- Meaning – clarity – brevity
- Editing to streamline – simplify
- Sequence:
 - Wrote script for screen shots and callouts
 - Reworked script for consistency and clarity
 - Recording screen sequences
 - Revised the script and the recordings based on feedback from fellow library staff.
 - Rerecorded

Content

- Where are we now?
 - **Writing and recording**
 - Adding the voice-over
- Content:
 - Index of filmclips
 - Demos:

Evaluation:

- Feedback questionnaire from MScN students
- Testing them in 2 sections of a course with 3rd year students

Observations to date:

- Created for MScN students but usable for all the other groups as well
- Facilitate adult learning based on Knowles
- Support ACRL Guidelines for Distance Education
- Supplement face-to-face hands-on sessions that are in increasing demand as student numbers rise

Expected Major Benefits

- This technique should allow nursing students to access the literature at the point-of-need effectively and efficiently
- Will facilitate the acquisition of lifelong learning skills