



CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORIES: SIMULATION LEARNING SYSTEM

SCHOOL NAME: South Florida Community College

INSTRUCTOR: Michele Heston

SLS improves college's learning environment and saves time for faculty

Background: South Florida Community College in Avon Park offers ADN, LPN to RN, practical nursing, and nurse assistant programs.

Issue: Faculty found that building scenarios for simulations was taking too much of their time.

Approach: South Florida Community College starting using Elsevier's SLS (Simulation Learning System) in 2010. Faculty report that the scenarios in SLS were very similar to those they had been creating. In addition, the system has allowed them to create a more organized simulation experience.

Each simulation is presented in three steps (preparation, scenario, and debriefing) and includes supporting tools such as Staging Instructions, Quality and Safety Education for Nurses (QSEN)-based Performance Objectives, Patient Reports, and Response Guides. Faculty find the debriefing tools particularly useful because they help faculty target their questions and eliminate the need to formulate their own questions and rationales.

SLS is used in the middle of the college's curriculum between lecture and clinical, which allows students to more easily link what they have learned in the classroom to what they experience in the clinical setting. The nursing school uses SLS in Fundamentals, Medical-Surgical, Maternity, and Pediatric Nursing courses. Students access resources such as reading assignments and other pre-simulation prep tools to enhance learning.

Faculty use many SLS resources, such as the Concept Map Creator, Scripting, Participant Guide, Reports, QSEN-based Performance Checklists, Quizzes, Activities, and journaling, which helps students develop reflective practice.

Instructors mentor each other to enhance their ability to run a scenario and to be sure they are fully using SLS tools and resources.

The college also uses SLS for its two-day Mega SIM Experience, held about three weeks into each semester. Both registered nurse and practical nurse faculty participate, and teams are composed of students from each year and program, which promotes collaboration and mentorship.

Results: Using SLS has saved faculty significant amounts of time, allowing them to be more creative in their simulations. SLS has enabled the faculty to demonstrate to accrediting bodies how they are meeting the QSEN competencies, including how students are evaluated on the competencies.

Benefits: SLS focuses on evidence-based practice and provides an electronic health record, which gives students the opportunity to learn how to document in this type of record. Simulation experiences help students feel more comfortable caring for complex patients in the clinical setting.