

Bridging the Gap between EGP and EMP- A Collaborative Project between the University and the Hospital

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Abstract

This paper examines the effectiveness of the collaboration between the university and the local hospital, particularly in the area of English for Specific Purposes (ESP). As a language teacher, it is always problematic to seek the possibilities working with the subject teachers in terms of the cost and time (Kenney & Bolitho, 1984). ESP teachers are struggling between language teaching and the knowledge of special subjects. Thus, it is essential to help language teachers become an effective ESP practitioner by reaching out to local industries. Teachers may use their language skills to help those who have professional knowledge but lack language skills which maybe of immediate needs at work. At the meanwhile, language teachers can be self-trained as an effective ESP practitioner by working with professionals.

The project was initiated with a workplace English training program to improve the English language proficiency of the hospital nurses and administrative personnel. The study focuses on a need-based course design, tailor-made teaching materials and teacher's self-training. The findings drawn from the data obtained through the needs analysis and learners' perception questionnaires, interviews with the learners and the head of the training department were discussed. The results show that in general, the course has met the needs of the hospital and the nurses and administrative personnel, though there are some discrepancies between learners' needs and employer's expectation. The issues were raised and suggestions were made to offer significant implications for similar projects of industry-university collaboration.

Keywords: ESP, industry-university collaboration, needs analysis, teacher's self- training

以產學合作的模式跨越專業英語的鴻溝

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摘要

本研究旨在藉由與當地一所醫院的合作案例，調查大學與產業界有效合作模式的可能性，尤其是在專業英文的領域裡。由於經費、時間、教材內容與取材等的限制，英語文教師常不容易與專業教師合作。專業英語教師亦經常困擾於英語文與專業之間擇一之不足的窘境。如何協助英語教師藉由與業界的合作成為有效能的專業英語教師，以幫助具有專業知識但英語文能力不足，工作上又需此一語言技能的專業人士。

此合作案例起源於一所醫院的醫護及行政人員作職場英文的訓練計畫。此研究著重於需求分析為基礎的課程設計，為學習者量身訂作的教材及教師專業自我訓練。經由需求分析，學習者的認知問卷，與學習者、教研部主任的訪談等方式收集資料所得的研究結果發現雖學習者的需求與院方的期望有些落差，此課程有符合該醫院的醫護及行政人員的需求。結論中並針對研究所引發的議題給予建議，以作為日後有相似產學合作案為參考。

關鍵詞：專業英文，產學合作，需求分析，教師自我訓練