Call for Manuscripts: Forty Years of PBL Scholarship: A Tribute to Howard Barrows

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Call for Manuscripts

Forty Years of PBL Scholarship: A Tribute to Howard Barrows

Since the early 1970s, Dr. Howard Barrows has been a pioneer in the area of problem based learning (PBL) as well as a prolific and sustained researcher. His efforts in PBL facilitation, medical education, and simulated patient assessments have inspired several lines of inquiry of interest to an international audience. From laying the groundwork for classifications of PBL (1986), to discussing its application in medical education and other disciplines (1996), to more recent examinations of the role of PBL facilitators (Hmelo-Silver & Barrows, 2006; 2008). Barrows' work is enduring and oft cited by PBL scholars. This special issue will be the first iteration towards a book honoring the many research traditions associated with Howard Barrows. Manuscripts submitted to the special issue and not accepted may be solicited for inclusion in the complete edited book with peer-reviewed chapters.

The special issue will include papers that:
  • As a collection, represents the diversity of fields in which PBL is used.
  • Investigate PBL or particular facets of PBL, such as simulated patient assessments, or facilitation, in one of the following ways:
    o theoretical papers (limited number accepted)
    o empirical investigations (defined broadly as quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-methods)
    o literature reviews (limited number accepted)

For this special issue, PBL will be defined according to Barrows’ own writing (1986; 1996). As Barrows points out, PBL is used as a label for a wide variety of interventions (1986). We want to represent that breadth as part of the special issue but want authors to be clear about how their own variations depart from Barrows’ norms. For example, as one of many possible points of departure, an intervention might employ large tutorial groups (Barrows et al., 1986).


**Important Dates:**
Proposal (1000 words) submission deadline: November 1, 2011
Full paper invitation notice: December 1, 2011
Full papers (3000-5000 words) submission deadline: March 15, 2012

**Proposals:**
The proposal should be a short version of the paper that contains essential information on a completed study or review (or completed data collection and preliminary data analysis).

**The suggested proposal/paper structure:**
Introduction (with clear statement of the research problem)
Literature review
Research questions
Methods (detailed description of the PBL model used—including departures from Barrows, research design, instruments, validity/reliability—or appropriate analogues) Data analysis
Results or conclusions
Discussion (including limitations and future work)

Theoretical papers should be structured around an outline of all salient points and provide enough detail about each that the direction of the full paper is clear.

Electronic Submission only (http://docs.lib.purdue.edu/ijpbl)
When submitting your proposal via the IJPBL Electronic Submission System, please:
- Include the following in your title: “For the special issue: Building on and Honoring Forty Years of PBL Scholarship from Howard Barrows”
- Have identifying information hidden for double-blind review

Thank you very much for considering the submittal of your manuscript to this special is-
Call for Manuscripts

We are looking forward to receiving and reviewing your paper. Should you have any questions regarding the proposals to this special issue, please send us an email and we will be happy to assist you.

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