

# Case Study

## GroupSystems Success Story: Wright State University- Miami Valley

### *College of Nursing and Health*

The Wright State University- Miami Valley College of Nursing and Health is located in Dayton, Ohio and provides both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Nursing.

Training nursing professionals is more than just a matter of technology; it is also about people and profound moral issues. In addition to teaching them the techniques of their trade a crucial task facing Wright State University's College of Nursing and Health is preparing its students to think about and deal with difficult issues such as euthanasia.

### **GroupSystems in Action**

Graduate nursing students are presented with a case that challenges them to resolve an ethical dilemma involving the implementation of euthanasia policy. Students use the categorizer feature first to identify stakeholders who would be affected by the policy, and then to consider the psychological and economic impact of the policy on the stakeholders. The anonymity of GroupSystems collaboration software is essential for an open sharing of feelings and beliefs about this emotionally charged subject — feelings and beliefs that might otherwise be withheld for fear of adverse reactions from others.

At the conclusion of this exercise, the student group was given the opportunity to rewrite or retain the euthanasia policy. They then use the vote tool to express their comfort level with the policy.

This educational technique has been so successful that it is repeated each quarter. Students are asked to complete an anonymous written evaluation of the experience. These evaluations were overwhelmingly positive: over 90% of the students responded with a satisfaction rating of 4 or 5 on a scale of zero to five.

The faculty uses GroupSystems in combination with an interactive video program dealing with end-of-life decisions on the undergraduate level. Based on the experiences with the euthanasia case study, they believe that GroupSystems can help students confront their beliefs, attitudes and fears about this sensitive area of nursing.

### **Customer**

Wright State University-  
Miami Valley

### **Business Benefits of GroupSystems**

- Generate and identify key factors and subject matter for stakeholders
- Student were able to contribute beliefs without potential ridicule from opposing students
- Qualitative and quantitative data is collected and reported with ease
- Ability to repeat the session for different classes