

School of Pharmacy and
Health Professions

LEADERS IN RURAL HEALTH GATHER

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Above: Leadership Conference participant, Terry Crowe, from the University of New Mexico

In September 2006, 40 leaders in interprofessional rural health education & practice gathered at the Nighthorse Campbell Native Health Building in Denver, Colorado on the campus of the University of Colorado at Denver & Health Sciences to discuss the future of rural health care. The Leadership in Rural Health Interprofessional Education & Practice: A Working Conference for Leaders in Rural Health Care Conference included participants from across the US from a wide variety of health disciplines including medicine, nursing, pharmacy, public health, physical therapy, psychology, & occupational therapy.

Participants, including both academicians & practitioners, were invited based on their experiences & success with interprofessional education & practice in rural settings.

The working conference included both formal presentations by experts in these areas & workgroups

based upon four key areas of practice: Community Context, Practice Context, Educational Context & Rural Health Practice & Education.

In an effort to disseminate the strengths & challenges of interprofessional education & practice in rural settings, a book contract was garnered from Jones & Bartlett Publishers, which will outline the conference outcomes. Conference participants were required to develop an abstract prior to the conference based on one of the four key areas of practice which will be developed into a full manuscript for publication. The workgroups acted as forums for providing feedback to participants on their abstracts for development into a formal book chapter.

Five speakers engaged the participants in reflection & preparation for the work groups. The conference was opened by Hilda Heady, MSW, the Program Director for the West Virginia Area Health Education Center (AHEC) & former president of the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) with her presentation on entitled Myths, Magic & the Real McCoy: Health Professions Education in Rural Communities. Hilda addressed the positive aspects of rural life &

encouraged participants to move away from only identifying the "needs" of rural residents.

Dr. Ruth Purtilo from the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions engaged the crowd with her proposed Goodness Curriculum which provided insight into working with rural, underserved communities. Dr. Amy Haddad, of the Creighton University Center for Health Policy & Ethics discussed Teaching & Learning in Interprofessional Education & Drs. Barbara Brandt & Gwen Halaas from the University of Minnesota discussed lessons learned from rural health interprofessional education in their presentation entitled 30,000 Feet: View of Rural Interprofessional Education at the Academic Health Center Level.

Overall, the Leadership in Rural Health Interprofessional Education & Practice: A Working Conference for Leaders in Rural Health Care Conference provided a forum for leaders focused on interprofessional rural health education to discuss, reflect, & plan for the future of both health care providers & residents in rural areas. For more on this conference, visit <http://oisse.creighton.edu/institute.asp> Funded by HRSA Grant 1D36HP03158

BRAIN BASH

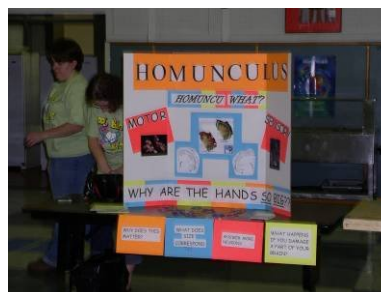
In partnership with the Omaha Urban Area Health Education Center (AHEC), OISSE offered Brain Bash, an interactive interprofessional educational fair targeted at youth aged 11 & up providing education about the brain & the impact of substance use & abuse on brain function.

On July 10, 44 DPT students provided 14 interactive booths at Girls INC hosting 91 girls from both the North & South Omaha campuses. Brain Bash activities were

also implemented at a variety of community events hosted by the AHEC including the Cinco de Mayo Festival, during school screenings at the South Omaha Creighton Clinic in partnership with the Magis Clinic & at the 8th Annual Health Extravaganza.

Overall, the Brain Bash activities reached over 800 young people in the greater Omaha area regarding substance abuse prevention & education. Funding for this project was provided by Urban AHEC grant #5 U76HP00595.

Below: DPT students set up Brain Bash booth at Girls INC.



Above: Nighthorse Campbell Native Health Building at CU-Denver.

RX STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT

In July 2006 Pharmacy student **Danielle Beaudette** completed a community-based research project with 25 youth from the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska assessing the educational relevance of Diabetes Bingo as a tool to educate youth about diabetes prevention & treatment. Danielle conducted a pre-test, then engaged Omaha Tribal youth ages 5-14 in Diabetes Bingo followed by a post-test. Results showed that Diabetes Bingo can be a fun & culturally relevant tool for discussing diabetes & its health related issues. OISSE Core Faculty Dr. Ann Ryan Haddad acted as her mentor.



Above: Nurse Practitioners students & faculty at Acanthosis screenings. Below: Pharmacy student Danielle Beaudette with assistance from Dr. Ann Ryan Haddad host Diabetes Bingo for Omaha Tribal youth.



ACANTHOSIS NIGRICANS COMMUNITY PROJECT

Nursing faculty members **Drs. Marlene Wilken & Mary Kay Anderson** are currently supervising 4 Nurse Practitioner students & 1 NP Alumni in analysis of health data gathered by the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska. The group plans to develop a Health Report Card which will be a tool used by health care professionals to educate both Tribal youth & their families regarding diabetes education & prevention. For the past 15 years, the Omaha Tribe has performed a school screening of the youth

looking for Acanthosis Nigricans. Children also receive screenings for blood pressure, weight, waist & hip circumference, & vision. The faculty & students are looking at health trends, body mass index & the best culturally relevant way to present this data to youth & parents as a tool for education & promotion of prevention of diabetes.



Above: Christine DiMasi, NP Graduate, assists with a vision screen.

NATIVE AMERICAN OUTREACH

OISSE offers multiple opportunities for students to immerse themselves in the Native American Culture through Native American Immersions (3-days), Long Term Clinicals (3-12 weeks), & Classroom Projects. **Short Term Training** 9 students from nursing, pharmacy, occupational & physical therapy participated in the short term Native American Immersions during Fall 2006. During these 3-day experiences students participate in a variety of activities on both the Omaha & Winnebago Indian Reservations including clinical observation, interprofessional case studies, interaction with Tribal Members & touring the facilities. On the third day, the students participate in an interprofessional service project.

Long Term Training During August 2006, **Deanna Polle**, PT student completed a

3-week clinical experience at the Winnebago Public Service Hospital under the supervision of **Dr. Sophia Chao, PT.**

Classroom Projects

As part of their service requirement physical therapy students are going weekly to both the Winnebago Public Service Hospital on the Winnebago Reservation & the Fred LeRoy Health & Wellness Center which serves the Ponca Tribe. **Dr. Sophia Chao, PT**, has supervised 11 students each Friday across the semester in exercise & education for pregnant women. **Dr. Kirk Peck, PT**, has supervised 12 students at the Fred LeRoy Health & Wellness Center in delivery of services.

Four pharmacy students participated in PHA 341: Learning through Reflective Service: Native American Experience which includes a site visit to

the Omaha & Winnebago Reservations on October 25th. The pharmacy students along with Drs. Victoria Roche & Joy Voltz also participated in a service learning trip to the Navajo Reservation in Chinle, AZ over Fall Break.

Organization Outreach

Led by pharmacy students **Christina Trachte & Jocelyn Suchor** from APhA-ASP & under the supervision of **Dr. Jenny Tilleman**, 9 pharmacy students manned a Heartburn Awareness Booth at the 15th Annual Metro Omaha Powwow on the Fort Omaha Campus of Metro Community College in September. The Native American Special Interest Group has had its initial meeting & is working to organize some outreach & cultural activities for the 2006-2007 school year. For more on this group, visit: <http://oisse.creighton.edu/local/NAGroup.asp>



Above: OISSE Coordinator, Joy Voltz, along with pharmacy students Cara Walkup, Valerie Williams & Minh Nguyen after hiking Canyon de Chelly on the Navajo Reservation. Below: OTD student Rachael Goldsmith assists Carl T. Curtis Nursing Home residents Wilma & Emmaline during Bingo.





Above: Shannon Lau talks to a participant at Family Safety Day. Below: Tori Royle, PT student, provides a therapy ball massage at the north Omaha Boys & Girls Club Family Health Fair.



SPAHP Assists Boys & Girls Club

On September 21st & 28th, the SPAHP reached out to assist with the Boys & Girls Club Annual Family Health Fair. These events took place at both the north & south Omaha locations of the Boys & Girls Club reaching out to a diverse group of families.

Physical therapy students provided therapy ball massages, balance activities & education on both stretching prior to exercise & bike ergonomics. Occupational therapy & pharmacy students acted as guides during the health fair taking the participants through the wide variety of health booths.

ASP & Phi Delta Chi provided educational booths on heartburn awareness & acne education, respectively.

Approximately 250 people attended both health fairs with help from around 50 students from across the disciplines in the SPAHP.

PT STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Physical therapy students participated in a wide variety of outreach activities in order to meet their service requirement in the greater metro Omaha area. These activities ranged from activities with either the Omaha, Winnebago or Ponca Tribes to

working with children with disabilities to assisting with the Omaha Corporate Cup Run.

Physical therapy student Marlena Culver organized 3 wheelchair cleanings for patients of ProCare 3 & 8 students were able to clean 10 wheelchairs overall.

Twenty PT students participated in a variety of activities for Family Safety Day sponsored by the Nebraska Chapter of the National Safety Council. Students taught young kids Stop-Drop & Roll and how to call 911 in case of an emergency.

A variety of students participated in activities with the Ollie Webb Center which provides services to people with development delays.

OISSE would like to acknowledge the following community agencies for their assistance with making

these outreach opportunities possible:

- Omaha Tribe of Nebraska
- Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
- Fred LeRoy Health & Wellness Center (serves Ponca Tribe)
- Blackburn Alternative High School
- Boys & Girls Club
- National Safety Council
- Christ Child Society
- Ollie Webb Center
- ProCare 3
- American Lung Association of Nebraska

INTERPROFESSIONAL OUTREACH TO BLACKBURN HIGH SCHOOL

Students from OT, PT & nursing are combining their energy & skills to empower at-risk youth through the Occupations Empowering Youth program (OEY), through a grant received by OT faculty member Dr. Heather Goertz.

This program is centered on health promotion & career planning for at-risk youth from Blackburn Alternative High School. As part of the program, students from Blackburn participate in dual-credit courses earning credit from both Blackburn & Metropolitan Community College. Program activities include field trips to explore career opportunities, tours of college campuses, & career-focused guest speakers. A group of OT students serve as mentors to the high school students to assist them.

Special events through OEY thus far included a kick-ball game hosted by PT students; health promotion activities by nursing students on first aid & nutrition; & ongoing health promotion activities by the OT students including an interactive presentation on OT as a career choice.

Project coordinators are Dr. Heather Goertz, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy & Melissa Munter, a 4th year OTD student on her professional rotation.

This program is made possible through funding by the Nebraska Crime Commission.



Above: OT & PT Students engaged the kids at Blackburn in a kickball game.

Below: Sasha Robinson received her certificate at the HS-MACA Research Colloquium.



RESEARCH INTERN AWARDED

Sasha Robinson, an HS-MACA Summer Research Institute Intern paired with OISSE, was awarded second place at the HS-MACA Research Colloquium on August 3, 2006. Sasha's presentation entitled, Exploring the Impact of Early Health Care Experiences in Rural Settings on Graduate Career Choices with either Rural or Underserved Communities explored the impact of the OISSE Native American Immersions played on alumni career choice.

The research conducted by Sasha which included a survey to alumni about current practice settings revealed that over 1/3 of SPAHP graduates who participated in the Native American Immersions are currently working with rural or underserved populations.

Sasha is a junior at Florida State University studying dietetics. Sasha's poster was chosen to be presented at Temple University's Minority Forum in Florida in early September.

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NATIVE AMERICAN CLINIC UPDATE

- **Dr. Patrick Cross** recently accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the Physical Therapy Department at University of South Dakota. Dr. Cross continues to provide PT services at the Four Hills of Life Wellness Center one day a week.
- **Dr. Audrey Cross** has recently come on board as the PRN OT providing services at both the Four Hills of Life Wellness Center in Macy & the Winnebago Hospital Public Service Hospital.

NEW PARTNERSHIP EMERGES

The Office of Interprofessional Scholarship, Service & Education & the Department of Physical Therapy have forged a new partnership with the Healthy Family Series. This is a grant project managed by Deb Raven, RN, from the Creighton Pediatric Clinic in partnership with the UNMC Physicians Pediatric Clinic & brings exercise & nutrition education to young children & their families identified at-risk for chronic disease.

The Healthy Family Series is a weekly program offered every Thursday from 6:30-8 pm at the Spring Lake Magnet Elementary School. The program is free to children who have been identified as obese &

their families hoping to teach them the skills to prevent future chronic health problems. Most of the participants are Latino with interpreters on site to help with language barriers.

In September 2006, PT students & faculty began providing the exercise portion to the group twice a month.

The program has been a huge success with a great response from participants & has led to increased efforts by the PT Department to meet the community needs. Under the direction of Drs. Jen Furze & Lisa Black the PT Pediatric Club will take over providing the exercise for the month of November.

Scholarship Update

Cochran, TM., Jensen, GM., Gale, JR., Voltz, JD., Coppard, BM., Ryan-Haddad, A., Cross, P., & Parker, D. (2006, May). Practice and educational innovation: Revision of rehabilitation roles to extend scarce resources in a rural community. National Rural Health Conference. Reno, Nevada.

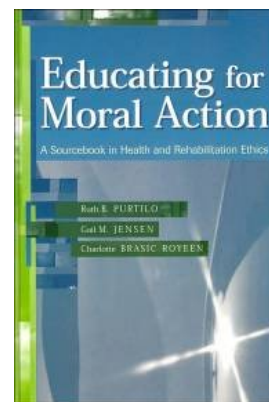
Cochran, TM., Jensen, GM., VanLeit, B., Daniels, Z., Cummings, D., & Voltz, JD. (2006, May). Educating health professionals for the 21st century. National Rural Health Conference. Reno, Nevada.

Cross, P., Voltz, JD., Parker, D., Jensen, GM., Cochran, TM., Coppard, B., & Ryan-Haddad, A. (2006, May). Defeating Diabetes and Transforming Students into Caring Professionals. Centers for Disease Control Diabetes and Obesity Conference. Denver, Colorado.

Goulet, C. (2006, April). International Child Care Education: Positioning for Children. Second Annual Scientific Day at Grace Children's Hospital. Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Book Wins Award

In October 2006, Educating for Moral Action: A Sourcebook for Health & Rehabilitation Ethics published by F.A. Davis was awarded the 2006 Alpha Sigma Nu Book Award for the health sciences. This book is based on the 2003 Leadership in Ethics Education Conference sponsored by the Center for Health Policy & Ethics & OISSE. Drs. Ruth Purtilo, **Gail Jensen**, & Charlotte Royeen are the editors & the book is focused on ethics teaching & learning in OT & PT.



Above: Pharmacy student Cara Walkup mentors a student at Chinle High School.

Below: Sara Johnson, Valerie Williams, Minh Nguyen, & Cara Walkup talk to students for the Gates Millennium.

STUDENTS VISIT NAVAJO RESERVATION

Over Fall Break, Pharmacy students **Sara Johnson, Minh Nyugen, Cara Walkup & Valerie Williams** traveled to the Navajo Reservation in Arizona as part of a course entitled Learning Through Reflective Service: The Native American Experience taught by Drs. Victoria Roche & Rhonda Jones. During their week, the students spent time in the pharmacy at both Chinle Hospital & Pinon Clinic, participated in home visits with the public health nurses & mentored 41 students at the Chinle High School for the Gates Millennium Scholarship with help from Tami Buffalohead-McGill. This course is offered annually to pharmacy students with an interest in Indian Health Service providing them with an opportunity to immerse themselves in the Navajo culture & receive exposure from pharmacists working in IHS.

