

HECPCP *focus*

Collaborating for Education and Practice:
An Interprofessional Education Strategy for Newfoundland and Labrador
Project Newsletter

Centre for Collaborative Health Professional Education (CCHPE)
Memorial University of Newfoundland

Interprofessional Education Modules Offered During the Winter Semester

Three interprofessional education modules were offered during the 2006 Winter semester:

- ▶ Health and Wellbeing of Children;
- ▶ HIV/AIDS; and
- ▶ Geriatric Care.

Participating students included those of the Faculty of Medicine and Schools of Nursing, Pharmacy, and Social Work. Curriculum development teams, comprised of faculty from the participating schools and faculties, representatives from community service agencies, and other health professionals, designed the learning activities based on a blended learning model. Activities included e-learning, online and face-to-face small-group case study discussions, and a plenary session with a panel discussion. Small groups were comprised of students from each of the participating professions.



Students from Western Regional School of Nursing in Corner Brook took part in the Geriatric Care Forum by videoconference



A small-group discussion
in St. John's

Distance learning technology was used to enable the participation of students from the west coast. Students from the Western Regional School of Nursing participated in the e-learning and online discussion groups through Web-CT and were able to view the plenary session and participate in the panel discussions by videoconference.

Student feedback indicated that they enjoyed the opportunity to "interact with other professionals" (medical student), and learn how "they approach situations compared to their own field" (social work student). A nursing student commented, "Excellent approach! Loved hearing views of people from other disciplines."

For more information about the implementation of these modules, see:

- ▶ Facilitators for Small-Group Discussions (*Page 2*)
- ▶ Standardized Patients for Interprofessional Education (*Page 3*)
- ▶ Interprofessional Education Panel Discussions (*Page 4*)

RURAL MENTAL HEALTH CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM

LYNDA YOUNGHUSBAND

The overall purpose of the Rural Mental Health Interprofessional Training Program (RMHITP) is to enhance the mental health competencies of primary health care and other community-based professionals and to foster the development of collaborative mental health attitudes and skills. The specific goals of this program are to:

- ▶ Enhance awareness of mental health issues for health professionals in rural communities;
- ▶ Develop knowledge of, and skills in, mental health intervention for health professionals in rural communities;
- ▶ Enhance participants' confidence in addressing mental health issues in rural communities;
- ▶ Raise awareness of collaborative approaches to mental health intervention in rural communities; and
- ▶ Develop interprofessional teamwork skills.

The RMHITP was first piloted in Twillingate in 2002 and Bonavista in 2005. These studies, led by Dr. Peter Cornish of Memorial's Counseling Centre, demonstrated that a number of strategies were useful for building community mental health capacity. Participants in the two pilot studies reported expanded knowledge and skills related to mental health issues, heightened sensitivity to mental health issues in practice, enhanced knowledge of other disciplines' roles and expertise, increased interdisciplinary connections and referrals, and greater cohesion and support among mental health professionals. Training programs in a further six rural communities will begin in September 2006.

Preceptor Orientation Sessions ▶

Collaborative Practice Learning Experiences
Brenda Head

The overall intent of the project Collaborating for Education and Practice: An Interprofessional Education Strategy for Newfoundland and Labrador is to develop and promote interprofessional education for health science students including those studying medicine, pharmacy, nursing, social work, and other allied health professions. A key component of this project is to foster and develop Collaborative Practice Learning Experiences at various practice sites in the Province.

The purpose of this component of the project is to immerse learners in collaborative practice settings and expose them to principles and values of collaboration.

A number of sites and clinical programs within the province have been identified as potential sites for introducing collaborative practice learning placements and during the 2006 Winter semester we initiated a series of preceptor orientation sessions. The orientation sessions are designed to orient preceptors to the project and explore interprofessional learning opportunities within each practice site or program.

The orientation sessions include a PowerPoint presentation on the project Collaborating for Education and Practice: An Interprofessional Education Strategy for Newfoundland and Labrador followed by a discussion to explore: (1) the challenges or barriers to introducing a collaborative learning experience; (2) types of supports required to plan and implement a collaborative learning experience practice; and (3) examples of how a collaborative practice learning experience could be structured for learners from different professions at the practice site. Preceptors generated an extensive list of possible learning activities. Future sessions are planned for the spring and summer. If you are interested in participating in an orientation session, please contact Brenda Kirby at bkirby@mun.ca or 709-777-8809.

Facilitators for Small-Group Discussions ▶

Brenda Kirby

The Centre for Collaborative Health Professional Education recruited and trained 20 facilitators for the interprofessional education small-group discussions. Facilitators were recruited from graduate programs of the participating schools and faculties including Education.

Training included an orientation to the project, an overview of interprofessional education concepts and principles, and a review of the role of the small-group facilitator. Included in the training were faculty who were facilitating the online discussion groups, and faculty from the Western Regional School of Nursing who were facilitating the small-group discussions of their students.

After facilitating the modules implemented during the 2006 Winter semester, facilitators reported that they found the experience to be very rewarding; the students were well-prepared and all contributed to the discussion. One facilitator commented that it was a great learning experience and the students were a joy to work with. These facilitators are looking forward to the learning blocks and modules scheduled for the fall semester.



Standardized Patients for Interprofessional Education ►

Madge Pottle, Liz Ohle

For the HIV/AIDS module, 12 standardized patients were recruited and trained to portray the role of "Steve," the case study patient.

Standardized patients are healthy lay people who have been carefully coached to portray an actual patient. A standardized patient can present the history, body language, physical findings and the emotional and personality characteristics of the patient they are representing.

Participating students from Memorial's Schools of Nursing, Pharmacy, and Faculty of Medicine were divided into 12 interprofessional discussion groups. The task of each group was to review a brief history for "Steve", determine the additional information required, plan and conduct the patient interview, develop an interprofessional care plan based on the patient's responses, and present/discuss the care plan to the patient. "Steve" then provided the students with feedback on their interview and presentation skills.



Liz Ohle with the 12 "Steves":
Front Row: Rodney Wall, Liz Ohle, Josh Squires, James Callanan
Second Row: Michael Phillips, Patrick Callanan, Peter Madden, Ben Jackson, Gerard Murphy, Chad Griffiths, Peter Duchemin, David Mercer
Missing: Brad Cheeseman

Newfoundland & Labrador Health Sciences Student Association Formed ►

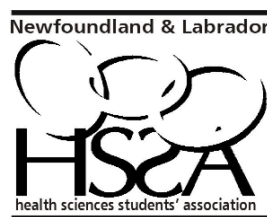
The Newfoundland and Labrador Health Sciences Student Association (NLHSSA) is proof that 'together we're better'. The winter semester was very busy for all committee members - yet incredibly rewarding. Great strides have been made and the members of our steering committee look forward to continuing work on our various interprofessional education initiatives.

In January four members of our committee attended the National HSSA (NaHSSA) conference in Vancouver, BC. We returned home with a renewed sense of teamwork and vigor for the tasks ahead. Of paramount importance is a desire to cement a strong foundation for the NLHSSA. We had several social events to foster interprofessional awareness. We believe that the seeds are planted to take our association to new heights in the coming year.

Currently we are updating and expanding our Terms of Reference, with the goal of developing a constitution outlining how NLHSSA is structured. This document will include the selection criteria for new steering committee members. This action will allow us to be officially recognized by the MUN Student Union (MUNSU) with ratification to follow. Our next initiative is the development of a 'High School Outreach' program. This will include training volunteer facilitators from our association to present the program to high school students.

It will take a concerted effort to establish an effective link between the association and the professional schools in St. John's and Corner Brook. However, we are on our way!

Keep an eye open for our link on the CCHPE website. We hope that all students in nursing, social work, pharmacy and medicine will become involved in the NLHSSA: building toward professional collaboration in patient centered care.



NLHSSA Committee members:

Nursing: Steve Quigley and Melissa George

Pharmacy: Sheldon Baines and Erin Schwenger

Social Work: Jean Pike and Crystalynn Jackson

Medicine: Dave Thomas and Ryan Snelgrove



Interprofessional Education Panel Discussions ►

Brenda Kirby

Students participating in interprofessional education modules during the 2006 Winter semester appreciated the opportunity to discuss health and interprofessional practice issues with health professionals through a panel discussion.

Panels were comprised of faculty members from the participating schools and faculties, patient representatives, and community service agencies such as the AIDS Society of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Seniors Resource

Centre. Students posed questions to the panel based on content introduced in the module and issues emerging from case study discussions.

Photo - above left: panel discussion for the Geriatric Care Module: (L-R) Scott Edwards, School of Pharmacy; Sue Ann Anstey, Centre for Nursing Studies; Lorraine Best, Seniors Resource Centre; Anne Sclater, Faculty of Medicine.

Evaluation Progress Report ►

Spring 2006

Jennifer Forristall

General Evaluation:

In the fall of 2005, surveys were administered to students and faculty within medicine, nursing, pharmacy and social work to gather baseline data on attitudes towards interprofessional education and interprofessional health care teams. A total of 194 faculty and 1179 students from the four professions completed this assessment. The project evaluation team met with project consultants to plan and guide survey analyses. Results have revealed overall positive attitudes towards interprofessional health care teams and interprofessional education for both faculty and student participants. Analyses and dissemination of the data are currently ongoing and presentations were made at conferences in London, United Kingdom in April and in London, Ontario in May of this year.

Curriculum Evaluation:

Three interprofessional education learning modules were implemented in February and March of 2006. The three included: Health and Wellbeing of Children; HIV/AIDS; and Geriatric Care. Following each module, students were given the opportunity to evaluate their experience by completing a survey. These surveys assessed student satisfaction, student perception of their small group activity with students from other disciplines, and student opinions of interprofessional team work. Survey analysis and dissemination of the data is currently ongoing.



STEERING COMMITTEE

A project steering committee has been formed to guide the planning, implementation and evaluation of the overall project. Membership includes representatives of the academic and service setting partnership, as well as patients, practitioners, educators and learners. The Committee has met on several occasions to date.

Co-Chairs:

Dr. Dennis Sharpe
Faculty of Edu., Co-Director, CCHPE

Dr. Vernon Curran
Faculty of Medicine, Co-Director, CCHPE

Members:

Ms. Juanita Barrett
Team Leader, Office of Primary Health Care, Gov. of NL

Dr. Shelly Birnie-Lefcovitch
Director, School of Social Work

Dr. Khalid Aziz
Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Susan MacDonald
Faculty of Medicine

Dr. Linda Hensman
Director, School of Pharmacy

Ms. Cathy Gogan
Patient Representative

Mr. John Peddle
Exec. Director, NL Health Boards Ass.

Dr. Sandra Lefort
Director, School of Nursing

Dr. Peter Cornish
Director, Counseling Centre

Mr. David Thomas
Medical Student

Mr. Michael Godsell
Pharmacy Student

Ms. Jean Pike
Social Work Student

Ms. Pam Ledrew
Nursing Student

Ms. Jacqueline Turner
Patient Representative

LEARNING BLOCKS
AND MODULES
TENTATIVELY
SCHEDULED FOR FALL
2006:

- ▶ Health Promotion & Illness/Disease Prevention
- ▶ Professionalism
- ▶ Service Learning Project
- ▶ Newborn Care
- ▶ Rehabilitative Care
- ▶ Mental Health Care



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A Look Ahead to Fall, 2006 ▶

Interprofessional Health Education Symposium

Brenda Kirby

In October 2006, the Centre will be hosting a one-day symposium at the Fairmont Newfoundland Hotel. The purpose of the symposium is to promote interprofessional education for collaborative patient-centred practice (IECPCP), share the experiences of faculty and students who have participated in IECPCP activities to date, and develop principles and strategies for expanding and growing IECPCP initiatives and enhancing awareness of interprofessionalism.

Participants will include faculty and preceptors, representatives from student organizations, Regional Health Authorities, professional associations, Department of Education, Department of Health and Community Services, and members of the Governing Council and Steering Committee.

Two plenary speakers who have an extensive background in interprofessional education have been confirmed:

- ▶ John Gilbert, Principal of the College of Health Disciplines, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.
- ▶ Marilyn Hammick, Education and Research Consultant and Associate Editor of the *Journal of Interprofessional Care*, United Kingdom

Further information will be posted on the Centre's web site as it becomes available.

Committee on Collaborative Health Professional Education and Research established

Duncan G. Sinclair, President's Committee on Collaborative Health Professional Education and Research

As many of you will know, in the late fall President Meisen established a Committee to follow up on the recommendation in the Government's White Paper on Post-Secondary Education that Memorial examine the feasibility of establishing a Faculty of Health Sciences. In recognition of the fact that such an organization change was, in effect, "putting the cart before the horse", the Committee was charged with the broader purpose of proposing ways and means of optimizing the capacity of the relevant Faculty and Schools in Memorial to offer collaborative inter-professional education to students and to facilitate collaborative research among faculty and professional staff members.

The Committee is chaired by Dr. Duncan Sinclair, one-time Dean of Medicine and Vice-Principal for Health Sciences in Queen's University. Its members are: Dr. Wayne Ludlow (Vice-Chair), President's facilitator; Sister Elizabeth Davis, previously CEO of St. John's Health Care Corporation; Dr. Jim Rourke, Dean of Medicine; Dr. Sandra LeFort, Director of Nursing; Dr. Linda Hensman, Director of Pharmacy; Dr. Shelly Birnie-Lefcovich, Director of Social Work; Dr. Mary Bluehardt, Director of Human Kinetics and Recreation; Dr. Shirley Solberg, School of Nursing; and Dr. Roy West, Faculty of Medicine; Dr. Bob Miller and Dr. James Connor have served as alternates from the Faculty of Medicine as has Dr.

T.A. Loeffler from the School of Human Kinetics and Recreation.

The Committee has met monthly since November. The Chair and Vice-chair have engaged in extensive discussions with many individuals within the potentially involved Faculty and Schools and elsewhere within the University. They have also consulted widely with others in and outside of Government with interests in its mandate. The Committee is now in the process of finalizing a report for submission to President Meisen in June, 2006, containing a strategic plan of action to optimize the University's capacity to offer inter-professional education in the health and community service professions and to conduct collaborative research in the relevant professional Faculty, Schools and programs. If accepted, it is expected that the President and Vice-President Academic will then proceed to release the report and initiate the consultations and steps normally undertaken in Memorial University for its consideration.

During the course of its work, the Committee has drawn heavily on the resources and expertise of Drs. Vernon Curran and Dennis Sharpe, Co-directors of CCHPE, and very much appreciates the generous assistance it has received from them.



Useful Internet Links about Interprofessional Education ►

IECPCP project page on the CCHPE website

<http://www.med.mun.ca/cchpe/pages/activities/iepcp.htm>

IECPCP Health Canada site

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hcs-sss/hhr-rhs/strateg/interprof/index_e.html

IECPCP brochure (pdf)

http://www.med.mun.ca/cchpe/pubs/IECPCP_Pamphlet.pdf

IECPCP curriculum framework handout

http://www.med.mun.ca/cchpe/pubs/IECPCP_Curriculum.pdf

IECPCP backgrounder handout

http://www.med.mun.ca/cchpe/pubs/Interprofessional_backgrounder.pdf

Health Canada video

<http://www.healthcouncilcanada.ca/splash.htm>

Links for interprofessional health education

<http://www.med.mun.ca/cchpe/pages/resources/IPE.htm>

Contact Us ►

Centre for Collaborative Health
Professional Education
Room 2901, Health Sciences Centre,
St. John's, NF, A1B 3V6
Phone: (709)777-6912 Fax: (709)777-6576
E-mail : cchpe@mun.ca

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The Editor ►

Diana R. Deacon
Health Professional Education Specialist
Centre for Collaborative Health
Professional Education
Phone: (709)777-7077 Fax: (709)777-6576
E-mail : ddeacon@mun.ca

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