The Center for ASPIRE thanks our supporters and collaborators for a great 2018. Earlier ASPIRE newsletters featured some of the interprofessional education (IPE) and research happening at our Center. This issue honors other UVA faculty and staff who are implementing innovative IPE collaborations. Best wishes for a Happy New Year!

Nursing and Biomedical Engineering Students Collaborate to Improve Community Health

In Spring 2018, the Schools of Nursing and Engineering & Applied Sciences introduced an innovative interprofessional community health class led by Camille Burnett (SON) and David Chen (SEAS). Nursing and biomedical engineering students collaborated at 2 community sites—Habitat Sunrise and Crescent Hall—to problem-solve community health issues. Many students were struck by how their different training and perspectives, when combined, helped foster new and unique solutions that helped improve the lives of residents and caregivers.

“Working with nursing students at our community site has been one of the highlights of my undergraduate engineering experience... When looking at ways to strengthen community ties, we brought different training and perspectives... our skills complemented each other well.” –Nick Zugris, 4th year SEAS Student

“A cross-disciplinary class was a totally new experience for me. The training of Nursing and BME students is very different...this collaboration was an amazing opportunity to broaden my horizons and have a patient-centered engineering experience.” -Christina Stiebris, 4th year SEAS Student

Advanced Disease Life Support (ADLS) is an innovative interprofessional continuing education program for nurses and physicians in the core skills required to offer compassionate and comprehensive care to patients and their families at the end of life. ADLS focuses on the basics of primary palliative care to include: complex symptom management, core principles of palliative and hospice care, and critical communication skills. ADLS is modeled after other courses that are mandated prior to practicing in a hospital setting, such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) or Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS).

The University of Virginia has increasingly recognized the central role of palliative care in assuring that patients receive the right care at the right place at the right time. Unfortunately, there are critical shortages of physicians, nurse practitioners, and nurses trained in palliative care. To help meet this growing demand, an interprofessional team of Palliative Care experts developed a pilot program introduced in April 2018 to a cohort of 13 medical and nursing students. The team is currently developing a hybrid version of this successful launch, which will have online and in-person interactive elements. Stay tuned for updates in 2019!

Planning Committee Members (left to right): Sarah Borchelt, Tim Short, John Smiley, Ken White and Elizabeth Patterson

To help foster the development of IP training at the Clinical Simulation Learning Center, Bethany Cieslowski, Sarah Craig, and Ryne Ackard (photo at right) recently completed the TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer program. This evidence-based set of teamwork tools optimizes patient outcomes by improving interprofessional communication and teamwork skills among healthcare professionals. To learn more about this nationally recognized program, visit the HHS/AHRQ website.

School of Nursing Simulation Leaders become TeamSTEPPS® Master Trainers

AN INTERPROFESSIONAL APPROACH TO MEDICATION ADHERENCE

A 4-day Medication Adherence Workshop was hosted in November 2018. This interprofessional activity, which brought together medical and nursing students, was led by faculty from the Department of Medicine (Justin Mutter and Andrew Parsons), School of Nursing (Bethany Coyne, Emily Drake and Julie Haizlip), and Department of Pharmacy (Mary Cordon and Jeffrey Tingen).

Interprofessional groups worked though case vignettes to practice simulated medication management, emphasizing recognition and response to common barriers to medication adherence. Participants performed a holistic review and evaluation of a medication list and utilized point-of-care tools to identify medication side effects and drug-drug interactions that affect adherence. Throughout the session, medical and nursing students were asked to compare and contrast their future roles as it relates to medication adherence and identify practical steps they can take to promote teamwork and patient-centered care. This successful workshop will continue on an annual basis.

Send ASPIRE your IP news or ideas! Email aspire@virginia.edu