Interprofessional Education (IPE) Newsletter

What is IPE?
“When students from two or more professions learn about, from and with each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes” (WHO, 2010).

What do we have scheduled?
Below are activities that will take place this spring. If you are interested in having your class participate, please contact the person noted for the activity.

Spring 2022 IPE Activities:

Emergency Preparedness in Communities (E.P.I.C.) Day
Date: February 25th 830am-1pm
Format: Online synchronous
Focus: Students will learn about teamwork and communication as it relates to responding to a disaster. This IPE is help with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
Disciplines involved: Nursing, public health, medical students, athletic training, pharmacy,
Contact person: Tracy Orwig

UNTHSC-Teams and Teamwork-Escape Room
Date: January 26th and February 2nd (1p-250pm and 3p-450pm both days); students attend one session
Format: In person at UNTHSC in Ft. Worth
Focus: This session addresses the basic elements of effective teams. The activities allow students to address the complexities of public health and healthcare to understand the necessity that team members rely on one another’s expertise to promote optimal health outcomes. Students explore the 7 Drivers of Effective Teams by Eduardo Salas and Scott Tannenbaum, apply them to case vignettes, and coach one another on actions for ideal team members. This activity would be better for MSW or Advanced Standing students.
Disciplines involved: Nursing, public health, medical students, athletic training, pharmacy, speech language pathology
Contact person: Tracy Orwig
UNTHSC-Interprofessional Roles and Responsibilities
Date: April 6th and 13th (1p-250pm and 3p-450pm both days); students attend one session
Format: In person at UNTHSC in Ft. Worth
Focus: In this session, students learn foundational knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of common health professions. Students discuss the drivers that influence the selection of their profession and what others may not know about their profession. The activities leave students better equipped to advocate for and define their own profession, as well as others. This activity is a better beginner IPE activity.
Disciplines involved: Nursing, public health, medical students, athletic training, pharmacy, speech language pathology
Contact person: Tracy Orwig

UTSW Discharge Planning
Date: End of February/beginning of March; evening
Format: Synchronous Online
Focus: Students will work with an interprofessional team in a discharge planning scenario related to long term care. Students will then be able to practice their skills in a simulated exchange with a patient’s family member (actor).
Disciplines involved: Undergrad and graduate nursing, medical students, occupational therapy, physical therapy
Contact person: Tracy Orwig

Common Reading- The Other Wes Moore
Date: February
Format: Asynchronous Online
Focus: Students will be reading the book, The Other Wes Moore. Students will be given a reading guide with prompts leading up to the event to promote engagement with the material and each other. Students will discuss various factors that impacted the lives of each Wes Moore.
Disciplines involved: Nursing, public health, speech language pathology, athletic training, dietitians
Contact person: Tracy Orwig
Cultural Sensitivity  
**Date:** April 22, 2022 (9am-12pm)  
**Format:** Synchronous Online  
**Focus:** Students will examine their own bias and hear from individuals of various backgrounds that have been impacted by bias/stigma as they have accessed services.  
**Disciplines involved:** Pharmacy and physician assistant  
**Contact person:** Tracy Orwig

IPE Domestic Violence Simulation-"Escalation"  
**Date:** February 10th, 7pm-9pm  
**Format:** In Person (LoneStar Auditorium) and Asynchronous Online  
**Focus:** This 38-minute film follows the story of a college couple from the sweet beginnings of their relationship to the tragic end. The film examines the warning signs of an abusive relationship. Students will be debriefed after the activity and supportive resources are provided.  
**Disciplines involved:** Open to all disciplines  
**Contact person:** Karla Arenas-Itotia

IPE Screening, Risk Assessment, and Safety Planning for Domestic Violence Simulation  
**Date:** April, exact dates to TBD  
**Format:** Asynchronous Online  
**Focus:** Simulation experience to allow students to integrate IPV knowledge and develop a safety plan (intervention plan) grounded on evidence-based research. Students will screen, assess, and develop a safety plan for IPV survivors.  
**Disciplines involved:** Nursing and social work  
**Contact person:** Karla Arenas-Itotia

Mental Health IPE  
**Date:** TBD  
**Format:** Asynchronous Online and synchronous online  
**Focus:** Social work students will engage with athletic training students to learn about each other’s roles and responsibilities. In the synchronous online activity, they will be in small groups and be given a case study that involves a veteran and student athlete who has suicidal ideation and examine how an interdisciplinary team could have helped the individual.  
**Disciplines involved:** Athletic Training and social work  
**Contact person:** Tracy Orwig

What IPE activities did our students participate in this fall?  
**UTSW Convergence Day**  
**Format:** Synchronous Online
Focus: Recognize roles, responsibilities and professional training for disciplines engaged in health care. Work to solve a problem in a team whose members have a variety of behavioral styles. Practice communication and maintaining patient safety.

Disciplines involved: Undergrad and graduate nursing, medical students, physical therapy, occupational therapy, pharmacy

Contact person: Tracy Orwig

Common Reading- The Other Wes Moore
Date: October 21st 3:30-4:50pm
Format: Synchronous Online
Focus: Students will be reading the book, The Other Wes Moore. Students will be given a reading guide with prompts leading up to the event to promote engagement with the material and each other. Students will discuss various factors that impacted the lives of each Wes Moore.
Disciplines involved: Nursing, public health, speech language pathology, athletic training, dietitians

Contact person: Tracy Orwig

UNTHSC-Interprofessional Communication
Date: October 20th and 27th (1p-2:50pm and 3p-4:50pm both days)
Format: In person at UNTHSC in Ft. Worth
Focus: Communication failures have been cited as the leading root cause for medical errors (The Joint Commission, 2015). Clear, accurate, and timely communication positively influences team interactions, organizations, and functioning (Essens et al., 2009 as cited by IPEC, 2011, page 23). Health and healthcare professionals must communicate with a wide variety of people each day and the nature of their communications are complex in both content and method of delivery or transfer. In this session, students reflect on the practice of clear, accurate, and timely communication within and between interprofessional teams to improve team performance and health outcomes.

Disciplines involved: Nursing, public health, medical students, athletic training, pharmacy, speech language pathology

Contact person: Tracy Orwig

IPE Domestic Violence Simulation- “In Her Shoes”
Date: October 4th-18th
Format: Asynchronous Online
Focus: In Her Shoes series is designed for experiential learning about domestic violence. Participants move, act, think, and make choices as a person experiencing an abusive relationship. Students will be debriefed after the activity and supportive resources are provided.

Disciplines involved: Nursing, criminal justice and public health

Contact person: Karla Arenas-Itotia
What are students saying?

“As I am in my current internship, the IPEs are the reality in healthcare, and I had no idea.”

“Participating in an IPE was one of the most challenging yet beneficial activities as a graduate social work student. It pushed me to get out of my comfort zone and advocate for myself & profession. These types of activities allow us as students to network with students from other professions.”

“Interdisciplinary teamwork is essential for the best patient outcome. One must fully engage in the activities; doing so removes the angst of the unknown.”

“My IPE experiences helped to prepare me for internships and work in the real world. In addition, my IPE experiences also helped me become more competent in specific areas I have had less exposure to.”

“Working with teams is not optional in healthcare today - it is imperative. IPE simulations provide healthcare students with the opportunity to learn, practice, and develop these critical skills.”

“IPE prepares healthcare students for the realities of an interdisciplinary approach to patient centered care. It is a vital aspect of our education equipping us with tools and experiences that will only benefit our future patients.”

“No social worker will only interact with other social workers, especially in healthcare settings. IPEs allow us to start understanding how to work with other professions and also what they do. We may think we know what nurses or doctors do, but IPEs not only allow us to further this understanding but learn about other professions, such as athletic training, that we may not encounter as often but still need to know their responsibilities as it relates to our patients and their needs and goals.”

“IPE events offer a unique opportunity for students in multiple fields of study to meet, interact, and learn from each other in an environment that calls for each of them to bring
their respective field’s education, perspective and thought-process to a shared objective that requires them to think as a team while highlighting their strengths and areas needing further growth.”

“IPEs are fun tools used to interact and role play within interdisciplinary teams. IPE’s will prepare you for real social worker roles in healthcare settings.”

“I felt that this exercise gave me an opportunity to be more reflective and to understand maybe at times [the] experience [of DV survivors] a bit better. So yeah, I think that’s what the added value of this exercise was for me, was to give me a glimpse into the experience and the challenges that a survivor might encounter.”