



## **“News Notes” on Interprofessional Education and Practice**

*By Madeline Schmitt - Nursing Academy*

There is much happening in the US in interdisciplinary (interprofessional) education (IPE) and practice (IPP). There is only space in this issue of the newsletter to highlight some “News Notes” at the regional, national and international levels.

**Major Reports:** Early in 2007 the World Health Organization invited the assistance of the International Association for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (InterEd) in establishing the Who Study Group on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice. This international group of 24 experts prepared a technical report on the subject to update WHO Technical Report 769, published in 1988. Two Group members were from the US: Denise Holmes and Madeline Schmitt. This group completed its work in late 2008, and the report is expected to be approved for release by WHO in the near future.

### **IPE Meetings: Past and Future**

**IP Health Care Design:** In March, 2009, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation supported an invited conference to consider a grant-supported draft curriculum for Interprofessional Education in Health Care Design. Interprofessional teams of 2 or more from a health discipline and “design” discipline from 8 universities where such work is already underway were invited to network and critique the draft curriculum. Gerri Lamb, PhD, RN of Emory University and Craig Zimring, PhD of Georgia Institute of Technology co-organized the meeting, held at the Georgia Tech Health Systems Institute. A publication describing the curriculum work is under review.

**CAB II & III:** Several hundred people attended the second Collaborating Across Borders (CAB) II Conference to promote dialogue between the US and Canada on IPE and IPP in Halifax, Nova Scotia in May, 2009. A local planning committee worked with an international advisory group and US-based Co-Chair, Robin Harvan, EdD, to plan the meeting. US plenary speakers included: Dr Carol Aschenbrenner, Executive Vice President of AAMC; Stephen Wilson, PhD, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary, Community-based Linkages, BHP, HRSA; and Ruth B. Purtilo, PhD, Director, Ethics Initiative, MGH Institute of Health Professions. Abstracts and presentations given at the conference can be accessed online at [http://www.cabhalifax2009.dal.ca/Abstract\\_Directory.php](http://www.cabhalifax2009.dal.ca/Abstract_Directory.php). The CAB III conference will be hosted by the Arizona Telemedicine Program (ATP) under the leadership of Ronald Weinstein MD, Director. The local host in Phoenix, AZ will be the ATP's Phoenix division, the new T-Health Institute, which will be officially dedicated in October, 2009. The Chair of the local arrangements committee is Sue Sisley, MD, who is ATP's Assistant Director for Interprofessional Education.

**Regional IPE Conference in Philly March 12-13, 2010:** Jefferson InterProfessional Education Center (JCIPE) invites educators, health and social service professionals, policy makers, researchers, and interested stakeholders to their second Annual Conference *Interprofessional Care for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Redefining Education and Care* at Thomas Jefferson University's main campus. The goal of this conference is to inform and improve individual education and/or clinical practices and identify specific strategies to implement as part of a continuing improvement process for clinical practices.

Keynote speakers are Joan Weiss PhD, RN, CRNP, Director, Division of Diversity and Interdisciplinary Education, Bureau of Health Professions, HRSA and Madeline Schmitt, PhD, RN, FAAN, FNAP, Professor Emerita, University of Rochester SON. For more details soon see <http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/jcipe>. You can view details of JCIPE's first annual conference at: <http://jeffline.jefferson.edu/jcipe/conf2008/>

**ATBH V:** The fifth international conference, All Together, Better Health V, focused on IPE and IPP will be held in Sydney, Australia, April 6-9, 2010 – details about the conference and the call for abstracts, due November 6, 2009 can be found at <http://www.atbh5.com.au/>

**Regional IPE Networks:** You can join a blog on IPE and IPP hosted at the University of Minnesota for the newly forming American Interprofessional Health Collaborative <http://blog.lib.umn.edu/cipe/aihc/2009/08/> . This developing collaborative is the newest addition to a number of country-based or regional IPE networking groups including CIHC <http://www.cihc.ca/> , CAIPE <http://www.caipe.org.uk/> , NIPNET <http://www.nipnet.org/> , EIPEN <http://www.eipen.org/> , AIPPEN <http://www.aippen.net/>

**Pathways Into Health:** Pathways Into Health is a nationwide collaboration of tribes, the Indian Health Service, and numerous universities to increase the number of Native American and Alaska Native health professionals and health care workers and improve the health and health care of these populations. PIH' three thematic threads are: cultural attunement, interprofessional education, and distance learning/telehealth technologies. More information, including about its annual conference in Big Sky, Montana on October 7-9, 2009, can be found at <http://www.pathwaysintohealth.org/>

#### **IPE and Publications:**

**Journals:** Until recently, the Journal of Interprofessional Care <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713431856> was the only journal whose mission was explicitly to focus on IPE/IPP. Information about a new open access electronic journal, Journal of Research in Interprofessional Practice and Education, is available at <http://www.jripe.org/index.php/journal>

**New U.S. Books:** Relevant to IPE and IPE include:

Freshman, B., Rubino, L., & Chassiakos, Y.R. (2010). Collaboration Across the Disciplines in Health Care. Boston: Jones and Bartlett.

Gittell, J.H. (2009). High Performance Healthcare. New York: McGraw Hill.

Royeen, C.B., Jensen, G.M., & Harvan, R.A. (2009). Boston: Jones and Bartlett.

**IPE Funding and Conference Support:** The Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation is one of the organizations providing leadership for funding grants and conferences to improve medical and health professional education in the context of the changing health care system or that demonstrate or encourage ways to increase teamwork between and among health care professionals. The Foundation is currently supporting several innovative IPE grants, conferences and associated reports. To read the 2008 Annual Report, and to find out more about Macy-funded IPE and IPP activities see [http://www.josiahmacyfoundation.org/index.php?section=annual\\_reports](http://www.josiahmacyfoundation.org/index.php?section=annual_reports)

#### **Interprofessional Teamwork Training Modules:**

**TeamSTEPPS** is an AHRQ/DOD developed " **evidence-based teamwork system** to improve communication and teamwork skills among health care professionals" available free on the Internet at <http://teamstepps.ahrq.gov/> Although first developed for use in practice, several universities are now adapting the components of this program to health professions education.

**Institute for Health Improvement Open School** offers online courses in quality improvement, patient safety and communication/teamwork to address gaps in health professions education, See <http://www.ihl.org/IHI/Programs/IHIOpenSchool/WhatstheIHIOpenSchool.htm>

#### **Professional Association Engagement with IPE:**

As reported by Dr Carol Aschenbrenner at CAB II, six professional associations-- AACN, AAMC, AACOM, AACP, ASPH, ADEA-- have agreed to work together to "foster a common vision for team-based care, promote efforts to reform health care delivery and financing consonant with that vision, and contribute to the development of leaders and resources for substantive IP learning. See [http://www.cabhalifax2009.dal.ca/Files/Presentations\\_by\\_Sur/Aschenbrener%2C\\_Carol\\_-\\_Clearing\\_a\\_Path\\_Ahead\\_for\\_Interprofess.pdf](http://www.cabhalifax2009.dal.ca/Files/Presentations_by_Sur/Aschenbrener%2C_Carol_-_Clearing_a_Path_Ahead_for_Interprofess.pdf)

AAHC invited meeting October 22, 2009: Dr Steve Wartman has extended invitations to a group of academic health center leaders and interprofessional educators to a 5-hour meeting at AAHC headquarters to discuss the development of a group to move interprofessionalism into the educational mainstream in academic health centers. The AAHC has a history of past support of IPE through programs like GOMPE.

#### **IPE and the Federal Government:**

**HRSA, BHPR:** This year the HRSA Interdisciplinary, Community-based Programs Advisory Committee at BHPR, HRSA has met with other BHM Committees to collectively consider their relationship to IPE and IPP; The Advisory Committee has been inviting guest speakers to its sessions this year to inform them of the latest developments in IPE and IPP as they develop recommendations.

**IPE and Healthcare Reform:** Numerous organizations, including NAP, have been working to suggest wording related to improving IPE and IPP to the various healthcare reform bills being considered. A review of these various efforts is beyond the scope of this News Notes piece.