

### WHAT IS INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION?

Interprofessional Education involves health professional program students, faculty and health practitioners **learning how to practice together effectively in collaborative teams.**

- Where all members of teams are respected for their knowledge and skills.
- Where the patient's (client's) views are solicited and valued within the team.
- For those who receive care: enhanced safety, more effective care leading to greater health professional and client satisfaction and improved outcomes.

For more information, please visit the HealthForceOntario's A Blueprint for Action in Ontario: <http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/mon/18000/276214.pdf>



For resources, upcoming events, and links visit: [www.ipe.uwo.ca](http://www.ipe.uwo.ca)

### IPE CHAMPION: Liz Lorusso

Liz Lorusso is a faculty member at Fanshawe College in the Medical Radiation Technology program. As part of the Interprofessional Health Teams: Preparing Future Practitioners project team, Lorusso has implemented projects and advocated for interprofessional education at her institution.

**1. What interprofessional education activities have you implemented?** A team of educators from both Western and Fanshawe collaborated on the **MRT Education Day** to provide second year MRT students with some insight on their respective roles in a patient care in a case scenario centered on a client who had stroke and dysphasia.

With Charlie Gelbard of the Paramedic Program at Fanshawe College a **Vital Signs Lab** was coordinated involving the Paramedic Students and MRT (Medial Radiation Technology) students. Time, equipment and staff constraints were alleviated as we allowed the paramedic students to work with the MRT students to become familiar with these skills.

**2. Why do you think interprofessional education is important?** I feel this process has helped me appreciate and respect the valuable contribution of other professionals, in working together interprofessionally (as one would hope to do in the clinical setting) and helping to use our limited resources (time, equipment, resources) well.

I think we can ease some of the burden on each other if we see and understand the pathways that patients have to travel or what responsibilities other professionals have on the health care team.



I think as technology improves and health care delivery continues to evolve, there may be some roles that are blended and early interprofessional educational experiences may permit future growth with less stress.

### **4. What would you like to do in the future?**

My next interprofessional liaison will hopefully allow us (MRT program) to learn from and with some dental students since we have some overlap in our roles. We also hope to expand our Education day experience; so that students will explain their "roles" to other students (instead of the educators). New and unique possibilities seem to be always presenting themselves, thanks to the organization of Dr Orchard. I hope this spirit of collaboration and understanding will carry into the clinical setting, benefiting future patients and the future healthcare professionals we have the privilege to help educate.

### IPE ONTARIO 2009 CONFERENCE

The Office of Interprofessional Health Education and Research presented 10 oral presentations January 18-20 at the Ontario Collaborative's IPE Ontario 2009 Conference. Faculty from Fanshawe College and health practitioners from the local healthcare institutions also IPE presented their current work in interprofessional collaboration. For more information on upcoming conferences and abstract submissions, visit [www.ipe.uwo.ca/conference/index.html](http://www.ipe.uwo.ca/conference/index.html).

# Office of Interprofessional Health Education and Research

Issue 2: January 2009

## **NEWS UPDATE: New Rehab IPE Series is a hit at Elborn College**

By: Mary Beth Bezzina

**Fact:** The Rehab programs, (Communication Sciences & Disorders, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy) are all grouped in close proximity at Elborn College.

**Reality:** The students from these programs rarely have opportunities to meet and interact with each other, much less learn with and about one another.

**Solution:** You guessed it - a group of faculty at Elborn College formed in the fall term to plan a series of IPE sessions! The group included Ann MacPhail and Janet Brown from PT, Susan Schurr and Taz Moosa from CSD, Ann Bossers, Mary Beth Bezzina and Sandra Hobson from OT.

The primary purpose of the sessions is to provide educational events that bring students from the 3 Rehab programs together to learn about each other's roles through case discussions in small groups. Students from other health and social programs are also extended a warm invitation to attend and, as we discovered in our first session, add a great deal to the depth of the discussions. A secondary objective is to address topics that are challenging, controversial or sensitive and perhaps not covered in much depth in the curricula of the programs.

Our first topic was presented twice in November/December with a total of 140 participants. The topic was "Dealing with the Death of a Client" and was presented in the form of a case. Students were divided into interprofessional groups to discuss questions such as "How much emotion can I express in front of my client's family members?" "How can I support and seek support from my team members for the grief that we are feeling?" The response to the sessions was positive. According to one student, the best thing about the session was "meeting people in other programs and getting some helpful tips on how to deal with grief".

Planning is under way for the next sessions which will be held in February. This time students will be presented with a case that is representative of a "typical" rehab scenario and will share with one another in small groups how each discipline would approach the case. Watch for the poster invitation in the coming weeks!

## **NEW PROJECT: Interprofessional Team in Diabetes Foot Ulceration Management: IP-DFUT**

A project has been funded by Health Force Ontario to create an Interprofessional Client-centred Diabetic Foot Ulcer Team (IP-DFUT). Rajna Ogrin and Dr. Pamela Houghton from the School of Physical Therapy, in collaboration with Dr. Irene Hramiaks in the Diabetes Education Centre of St. Joseph's Health Care will bring together 10 different health professions to form an IP team to prevent and manage diabetes foot ulcers in diabetic patients. Team building will be guided by workshops provided by Dr. Carole Orchard and the Office of Interprofessional Education and Research. Furthermore, interprofessional groups of students will be provided with practice placements with the IP-DFUT. The aim of this project is to provide a fully IP, patient-centred approach to the care of PWD with FU.

**For more information, please contact [rogrin@uwo.ca](mailto:rogrin@uwo.ca)**

### **Upcoming Events:**

**February 9, 2009 12:30-1:30pm**

IPE Graduate Knowledge Exchange: Lunch and Learn

CONTACT: Robyn McArthur at [rmcarth5@uwo.ca](mailto:rmcarth5@uwo.ca)  
519-661-2111 x87835 or visit [www.ipe.uwo.ca](http://www.ipe.uwo.ca)

**February 25, 2009 5-7pm Great Hall, University of Western Ontario**

HFO workshop: Health Professional Roles

RSVP: Joanne Gribbon [jgribbo2@uwo.ca](mailto:jgribbo2@uwo.ca) 519-661-2111 x82234

**March 18, 2009 5-7pm Great Hall, University of Western Ontario**

HFO workshop: Respect

RSVP: Joanne Gribbon [jgribbo2@uwo.ca](mailto:jgribbo2@uwo.ca) 519-661-2111 x82234

**April 8, 2009 5-7pm Great Hall, University of Western Ontario**

HFO workshop: Understanding Each Other

RSVP: Joanne Gribbon [jgribbo2@uwo.ca](mailto:jgribbo2@uwo.ca) 519-661-2111 x82234

### **Spring 2009**

Interprofessional Practice Placements begin

CONTACT: Robyn McArthur at [rmcarth5@uwo.ca](mailto:rmcarth5@uwo.ca)

519-661-2111 x87835

or visit [www.ipe.uwo.ca/Administration/practice.html](http://www.ipe.uwo.ca/Administration/practice.html)

### **May/June 2009**

Faculty Development: Interprofessional Education Teaching Certificate Program

This 2.5 day workshop prepares faculty members to integrate IPE into their current courses. The course combines theory and projects that are taught by an interprofessional group of IPE faculty. Continuing Medical Education credits are available for this course.

### **Past Events offered by IPHER:**

- IPE Sensitization workshops
  - o What is IPE/IPCP? Workshop
  - o Health Professional Roles Workshop
  - o Respect Workshop
  - o Understanding Each Other Workshop
  - o Leadership Workshop
  - o Conflict Workshop
  - o Assessing Effectiveness Workshop
  - o Putting it all Together Workshop
- Faculty Simulation Workshop
- Teaching Certificate Program
- Interprofessional Practice Placements
- IPE Graduate Knowledge Exchange: Lunch and Learn
- Team Development Workshops

