Over forty-five VCU faculty and students led a strong contingent at the year’s largest international conference on interprofessional education and practice, All Together Better Health VII, in Pittsburgh, PA June 6-8, 2014.

The conference brought together nearly 1,000 providers, health system executives, educators, policymakers, and healthcare industry leaders from 27 countries to advance interprofessionalism. The conference featured 35 workshops, 144 oral presentations and 345 poster presentations focused on seven conference themes:

- New models of interprofessional practice and team-based care
- Aligning reimbursement with interprofessional care delivery and the economics
- Educating teams and integrating advanced practice providers in the clinical practice environment
- Educational redesign to prepare a “collaboration ready” healthcare workforce
- Legal and policy environment
- Technology applications (e.g., electronic health records, telehealth, e-health, social media, etc.)
- Theories, models, measurement and evaluation

The 2014 conference was held in the United States for the first time, with previous meetings convening in Kobe, Japan; Sydney, Australia; Stockholm, Sweden; London, England; and Vancouver, British Columbia.

With 27 presentations by VCU faculty and students, VCU was the most highly represented institution. In this special issue of The Common Thread, we showcase the accomplishments of these individuals and our institution.

Please join the Center for Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Care at a showcase event at 11:30 on August 7, 2014 in the School of Dentistry Perkinson Building (room 3114) to see some of the posters and presentations to learn more about interprofessional activities at VCU and the surrounding community. To register go to: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/all-together-better-health-comes-to-richmond-vcu-presentations-tickets-12368194603
From Tabletop to Laptop: Making Interprofessional Collaboration Real

Successful interprofessional education requires that health professionals engage in experiences where they learn about, from and with each other. Yet, making time in busy schedules and finding space to gather hundreds of students can be challenging. To solve this problem, VCU faculty and staff created a web-based case system.

The principles of collaborative learning underpinning this system were demonstrated on an international stage during a workshop session at the recent All Together Better Health conference.

In the interactive workshop, Peter Boling (School of Medicine), Lana Sargent (School of Nursing), Alan Dow (School of Medicine), and Annmarie Conlon (School of Social Work) led the audience in an exercise pulled from the system’s existing geriatrics curriculum. The exercise required workshop participants to individually review a status report on a patient transitioning from one setting to another, written from the unique perspective of one individual health professional. The exercise demonstrated that each profession focused on slightly different aspects of the patient’s care, and that professions must communicate their perspectives to work together successfully to care for complex patients. The faculty then demonstrated the case system and discussed how the experience has changed their teaching.

The current VCU web-based geriatric case involves planning care for a complex geriatric patient across multiple settings, to include the community, hospital, long-term care and end of life stages. Students from the VCU Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Social Work collaborate in interprofessional teams over a semester-long course to manage the patient and develop teamwork skills. Because of the curriculum’s success, it is now being used at several other institutions.

All Together Better Health — VCU

Teams Across Contexts: How do Healthcare Teams Differ in How They Work?
- Deborah DiazGranados – VCU School of Medicine
- Nital Appelbaum – VCU School of Medicine
- Alan W. Dow – VCU School of Medicine

Independence at Home (IAH): Marrying Shared Savings with Comprehensive Team-based In-Home Care
- Bruce Kinosian (University of Pennsylvania)
- Jean Yudin (University of Pennsylvania)
- Peter Boling – VCU School of Medicine

The Richmond Health and Wellness Program (RHWP): Coordinating Care for Community-Dwelling Older Adults Through Student-led Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (IPCP) Teams
- Kelechi C. Ogbonna – VCU School of Pharmacy
- Lana Sargent – VCU School of Nursing
- Steve Crossman – VCU School of Medicine
- Pamela L. Parsons – VCU School of Nursing

Understanding IPEC Competencies Across Institutions and Healthcare Professions
- Alan W. Dow – VCU School of Medicine
- Deborah DiazGranados – VCU School of Medicine
- Kelly S. Lockeman – VCU School of Medicine

Large Scale, Interprofessional Education Through an Interactive Web-Based Platform
- Sarah Hobgood – VCU School of Medicine
- Peter Boling – VCU School of Medicine
- Alan W. Dow – VCU School of Medicine

Debriefing on the What and Why of Expert Teamwork
- Moshe Feldman – VCU School of Medicine
- Deborah DiazGranados – VCU School of Medicine
- Nital Appelbaum – VCU School of Medicine
The Impact of an Interprofessional Symposium on Practice

Using Critical Care Simulations to Enhance Interprofessional Collaboration
*Tanya Huff — Nursing *Shelly Orr — Nursing *Alan W. Dow — Medicine

Faculty Development through Collaborating on Interprofessional Course Creation
*Annemarie Conlon — Social Work *Susan Johnson — Nursing *Jeffrey Delafusente — Pharmacy *Peter Boiling — Medicine *Alan Dow — Medicine

Improving Health For At-Risk Rural Patients (IHARP): Medication Use Coordination
*Michael Czar — Carilion Medical Center *William Lee — Carilion Medical Center *Leticia Moczyczga — Pharmacy *Tanvi Patil — Carilion Medical Center *Nikisa Blewits — Carilion Medical Center *Karen Williams — Carilion Medical Center *Heidi Wengert — Carilion Medical Center *Courtney Dickerson — Carilion Medical Center *Kelly Mills — Carilion Medical Center *Gary Matzke — Pharmacy

Improving Health For At-Risk Rural Patients (IHARP): Identification and Resolution of Medication Related Problems
*Leticia Moczyczga — Pharmacy *Andrea Pierce — Pharmacy *Michael Czar — Carilion Medical Center *Tanvi Patil — Carilton Medical Center *Nikisa Blewits — Carilion Medical Center *Karen Williams — Carilion Medical Center *Heidi Wengert — Carilion Medical Center *Courtney Dickerson — Carilion Medical Center *Kelly Mills — Carilton Medical Center *William Lee — Carilton Medical Center *Gary Matzke — Pharmacy

Care Coordination: What does it really look like?
*Moshe Feldman — Medicine *Leticia Moczyczga — Pharmacy *Antoinette B. Coe — Pharmacy

The Richmond Health and Wellness Program (RHWP): Strategies for Successful Community Based Interprofessional Care
*Pamela L. Parsons — Nursing *Patricia Slattum — Pharmacy *Moshe Feldman — Medicine *Kelechi C. Ogbonna — Pharmacy *Antoinette B. Coe — Pharmacy

The Use of the Structure-Process-Outcome Model to Evaluate the Richmond Health and Wellness Program

Pharmacy and Medical Student Perceptions of an Interprofessional Primary Care Clinic Experience in an Underserved Community Setting
*Michael Dail — Pharmacy *Sallie Mayer — Pharmacy *Allison Vanderbilt — Medicine *Steve Crossman — Medicine

IMPACT Diabetes: Evaluating Patient Outcomes in a Team Based Care Model
*Linda Barstow — Pharmacy *Kimberly Means — Pharmacy *Shelby Evans — Pharmacy *Lindsay Martin — Pharmacy *Sallie Mayer — Pharmacy *Michael Murchie — Crossover Healthcare Ministry *Sally Graham — Goochland Free Clinic *Michael Dail — Pharmacy *Adam Sima — Biostatistics

IMPACT Diabetes: Description of Diabetes Team Interventions and Outcomes Among Various Ethnic Groups
*Shelby Evans — Pharmacy *Lindsay Martin — Pharmacy *Linda Barstow — Pharmacy *Kimberly Means — Pharmacy *Sallie Mayer — Pharmacy *Tonya Buffington — Goochland Free Clinic *Adam Sima — Biostatistics

Identifying Problems during Transitions of Care and Reasons for Emergency Department Utilization in Community-Dwelling Older Adults
*Antoinette B. Coe — Pharmacy *Leticia Moczyczga — Pharmacy *Pamela L. Parsons — Medicine *Kelechi Ogbonna — Pharmacy *Patricia Slattum — Pharmacy *Paul Mazmanian — Medicine

Social Acceptance: Working with Community Members in an Interdisciplinary Community Health Model
*Sierra Alewine — Allied Health *Leland Waters — Allied Health *Pamela L. Parsons — Medicine

Development of a Campus-Wide Interprofessional Education Series for Beginning Healthcare Providers
*Sharon K. Lanning — Dentistry *Alan Dow — Medicine *Deborah Diaz-Granados — Medicine *Kelly S. Lockeman — Medicine

Survey and Video-Provoked Reflection to Assess an Interprofessional Education Conference for Beginning Health Care Professionals
*Kelly S. Lockeman — Medicine *Deborah Diaz-Granados — Medicine *Alan W. Dow — Medicine *Sharon Lanning — Dentistry

A Campuswide Approach to Structuring Interprofessional Education
*Alan Dow — Medicine *Kelly S. Lockeman — Medicine *Peter Boiling — Medicine *Sharon K. Lanning — Dentistry *Tanya Huff — Nursing

Identifying Needs and Opportunities for Faculty Development in Interprofessional Education

Richmond Global Health Alliance: Utilizing Diverse Professionals and Students in Building a Successful Global Health Project in Peru
*Emily Peron — Pharmacy *Sean Byrne — University of Richmond *Sean McKenna — Medicine *Ranya Abi-Falah — Medicine *Niyant Jain — Medicine *Paula Tamashiro — University of San Martin de Porres *Siddhartha Dante — University of Chicago medical Center *Mary Grace Apostoli — Advisory Board Company *Blair Armstead — Richmond City Health District *Julie Armstead — West Virginia University

Evaluating the Financial Sustainability of the Richmond Health and Wellness Program
*Ross K. Arlington — Medicine *Leland Waters — Allied Health *Paul E. Mazmanian — Medicine *David Allen — Nursing *Antoinette Coe — Pharmacy *Patricia Slattum — Pharmacy *Pam Parsons — Medicine

*Dianne F. Simons — Allied Health *Emily M. Hill — Allied Health *Diane Dodd McCue — Allied Health
The best ideas about how to overcome the challenges facing us – came from the students and faculty developing novel programs to meet the specific needs of communities. I am proud that some of those programs were from VCU. It’s the spread of these diverse, innovative ideas that is key to the future and critical for improving health.

As always, if you have a great idea for interprofessional education or practice, or would like to be more involved in some of the ongoing programs, contact us by email at ipecenter@vcu.edu. You can also like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

— Alan Dow
Director, Center for IPE&CC