

JSPH Summer Seminar - The Next Phase

July 21, 2011

The JSPH Summer Seminar provides the region with a perfect opportunity to gather together to discuss future trends in health care, share news on the work and progress of the School, and to network with colleagues and stakeholders on a hot summer day.

David B. Nash, MD, MBA, Dean of JSPH, opened the program by examining the issues that drive the need for the School of Population Health. The field of population health in and of itself is a primary reason for empowering JSPH to offer academic programming that addresses everything from health policy to health care quality and safety, and public health. Dr. Nash reiterated the mission of JSPH, which is to prepare leaders with global vision to develop, implement, and evaluate health policies and systems that improve the health of populations and thereby enhance the quality of life.

Caroline Golab, PhD, Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, described in detail how the academic programs support the mission of the School. JSPH offers graduate degree programs in population health sciences, public health, health policy, healthcare quality and safety, health care quality and safety management, and applied economics and outcomes research, primarily available in an online format. Additionally, certificate programs are available in public health, health policy, healthcare quality and safety, and chronic care management.

Alexis Skoufalos, EdD, Associate Dean for Continuing Professional Education (CPE), explained the value of continuing professional education as it relates to fostering a learning culture within the healthcare system. She emphasized the need for leaders to remain actively engaged in the educational process so they may successfully manage and integrate new information into operations. The CPE division offers a number of different methods

and educational activities for targeted workforce development and learning.

Dr. Nash closed the program with the announcement of the establishment of the Center for Value in Healthcare. This new organizational component to JSPH will serve as the principal home for contract research and will focus on performance measurement and improvement to increase the capacity of the US health care system to deliver higher-quality, safer, more cost-effective care and, ultimately, better patient outcomes. Dr. Nash introduced the new Director of the Center, Mark Legnini, DrPH. Dr. Legnini brings a wealth of experience to JSPH, which includes the management of

HMOs and academic medical centers; the organization and management of health policy research; and the design and implementation of performance measurement programs for both the public and private sectors.

Summer Seminar attendees were encouraged to share their comments, suggestions, and questions to help JSPH determine how to further improve programming and foster partnerships. To date we have received numerous inquiries, and the degree of interest and excitement is overwhelming. JSPH encourages all readers, colleagues, and stakeholders to engage in the dialogue by contacting members of our leadership team. ■

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