JSPH Hosts a Successful Gathering of Future Leaders in Quality and Safety

December 6, 2014

On Saturday, December 6, 2014 over 50 students, residents, and faculty representing universities and hospitals throughout the mid-Atlantic region convened on the campus of Thomas Jefferson University to further explore their interests in quality and safety. The conference, “Future Leaders in Quality and Safety,” is the American College of Medical Quality (ACMQ) Student and Resident Section Annual National Workshop on Quality and Safety. Now in its fourth year, this conference serves as the Mid-Year Conference for the College and is targeted primarily towards students and residents. However, a significant number of practicing faculty also participated, using the event as an opportunity to further engage in quality and examine ways to apply new ideas, while also sharing their knowledge with less experienced attendees.

This year’s conference was hosted by JSPH and moderated by its dean, David B. Nash, MD, MBA, a passionate leader committed to promoting the quality agenda in all segments of health care and medical education. JSPH also shows its commitment to quality by offering a Master of Science in Healthcare Quality and Safety, and a Master of Science in Healthcare Quality and Safety Management.

Over 15 conference faculty, experts in quality and safety, contributed to the day’s success by presenting and facilitating discussions. Plenary speakers included:

- **Peter Angood, MD, FRCS(C), FACS, MCCM**
  Chief Executive Officer, American Association for Physician Leadership

- **Samara Ginzburg, MD**
  Associate Dean for Case-Based Learning, Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine

- **Jennifer Myers, MD, FHM, FACP**
  Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine and Director of Quality and Safety Education, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania

- **Susan Freeman, MD, MS**
  Chief Medical Officer, Temple University Health System; President & CEO, Temple Center for Population Health, LLC; and Vice Dean, Health Care Systems, Temple University School of Medicine

- **Mark Lyles, MD, MBA, FACMQ**
  Vice President, ACMQ; Chief Strategic Officer, Medical University of South Carolina Clinical Enterprise

- **James Pelegano, MD, MS**
  Assistant Professor, Program Director, Masters in Healthcare Quality and Safety, JSPH

- **Kathleen W. McNicholas, MD, FACS, JD, LLM**
  Medical Director of Performance Improvement, Christiana Care Health System

The conference offered highly interactive group discussions on a variety of topics including: quality in undergraduate and graduate curriculum; ACMQ leadership; IHI Open School; interprofessional approaches to quality; and faculty development. Additionally, panel presentations on “Careers in Quality” and “Engaging in Quality” allowed young attendees to envision their own futures in quality.

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Overall, the message was that quality is just as pressing an issue now as it was 10 years ago, and that professionals who receive special training in quality will serve themselves and the healthcare system well. The enthusiastic response from attendees was evident (Figure 1) and inspiring throughout the program.

To access presentations from this conference and view a complete list of faculty and topics visit Jefferson Digital Commons. Click here if you are interested in learning more about the Student and Resident section of ACMQ.

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Figure 1. Comments From Attendee Evaluations.

“Hearing the stories of how everyone got to their current roles professionally and hearing about what opportunities are out there was very useful to me.”

“Medical quality improvement seems less abstract and scary and more tangible. It is something that I already have the desire and capacity to do.”

“I think as a medical student right now, it was interesting to learn about QI efforts in undergraduate curriculum.”

“I will be working to change residency program to include more QI/PS education and mentoring (for both residents and faculty).”

“I will work on an IHI chapter at my school and do the IHI modules to start my initial training. May possibly plan for JSPH degree/certificate.”

“I plan to become more involved in steering committees at my medical school and be more aware of opportunities at different residency programs. I may also pursue another degree and ultimately integrate QI into how I practice.”