THE PROFESSIONAL CURRICULA TIME CRUNCH: OPTIONS FOR CHANGING STUDENT UNDERSTANDING AND PERCEPTIONS OF INTERPROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND COLLABORATION

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Widener University
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Objectives

- Briefly discuss some of the challenges faced in the academic setting in both creating and implementing IPL opportunities.

- Discuss curricular design options.

- Present a curricular approach used at Widener University to foster the skills thought to be essential for effective interprofessional collaboration.

- Describe the importance of including curricular assessment in the design and implementation of IPL opportunities.

- Present some of the findings from student assessment related to IPL used at Widener University.

- Open forum: opportunity to discuss what others are doing to incorporate IPL opportunities into professional curricula.
The Problem with Current Clinical Practice – Interprofessional Collaboration
# Importance of Interprofessional Collaboration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice</th>
<th>Education</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient/client care can be complex</td>
<td>Learning with, from and about other disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interprofessional teams are the future of medicine</td>
<td>Interprofessional collaboration skills can and should be taught prior to licensure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved quality of care</td>
<td>Develop respect for other disciplines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patient/client centered care</td>
<td>Practice the skills necessary for effective teamwork</td>
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<td>Financial considerations</td>
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</table>
Importance of Interprofessional Education & Learning
Importance of Interprofessional Learning

Number of Participants by Discipline who Self-reported Exposure to Working on an Interprofessional Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soc Work</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
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<td>23</td>
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Importance of Interprofessional Learning

Mean Score on the Interdisciplinary Education Preparation Scale (IEPS)

- Competency / Autonomy
- Perceived Need Cooperation
- Perception Actual Cooperation
- Understanding Other's Values

- Yes
- No
Importance of Interprofessional Learning

Mean Score on the Attitudes Toward Healthcare Teams Scale

- Quality of Care / Team Value
- Cost of Team Care / Team Efficiency
- MD Centrality / Shared Leadership

Yes
No
Challenges Faced in Creating IPL Opportunities

Widener University

- Time
- Curricular silos
- Faculty support
- Administrative support
- Student support/seeing value in IPL and collaboration
- Infrastructure/Physical plant
Opportunities at Widener for IPL

Interprofessional Learning Opportunities

- Student Interdisciplinary Day – 6 hour learning module
- Diversity Day – 2 hours
- International Trip – approximately 1 week
- Graduate Student Research Day
- Community Outreach Programs
Student Interdisciplinary Day
Widener University
Student Learning Objectives

1. Understand the different structures and functions of multidisciplinary teams;

2. Understand the process of communication within a multidisciplinary team and with other related systems (i.e. agency administration, outside caregivers, client/patient/consumer significant family members);

3. Appreciate the different terminologies that are utilized in different types of multidisciplinary teams;

4. Demonstrate an understanding of professional values and code of ethics that guide professional working relationships;
Widener Approach

Student Interdisciplinary Day

Student Learning Objectives

5. Begin to understand the roles played by other professional disciplines in providing team based patient/client services;

6. Demonstrate skills in utilizing problem solving methods to resolve conflict within the team or between the team and outside systems;

7. Demonstrate skill in conducting a multidisciplinary assessment; and

8. Demonstrate skill in implementing/creating a multidisciplinary intervention
CIHC Core Competencies (2010)

1. Interprofessional communication
2. Role clarification
3. Team functioning
4. Collaborative leadership
5. Interprofessional conflict resolution
6. Patient/client/family/community-centered care
Effective Interdisciplinary Practice

- Understanding Team Process
- Identify Team Values & Ethics
- Team Identity
- Communication
Widener Approach

Student Interdisciplinary Day

Teaching Modules: Six Hours

Session 1: Introduction to Interdisciplinary Team Functions & Member Roles – 1 hour

Session 2: Case Presentation & Team Meeting Structures – 1 hour

Session 3: Student Interdisciplinary Day – Simulated Team Conference – 4 hours
Widener Approach

Student Interdisciplinary Day

Simulated Team Conference

- Case Introduction
- Interprofessional Group Meeting
- Discipline Specific Group Meeting
- Final Interprofessional Group Meeting
- Create a Service Plan
- Debriefing & Wrap-up
Widener Approach

Student Interdisciplinary Day

Case Considerations

- Real client with multiple disabilities
- Disciplines represented within SHSP
  - Clinical Psychology
  - Clinical Social Work
  - Education
  - Physical Therapy
- Promote interprofessional discussion
Case Study: Sarah

- 17 year old female
- Lives with single mother
- Final year high school
- Diagnosis: Cerebral Palsy

Limitations
- Mobility
- Activities of daily living
- Multiple learning disabilities

Strengths
- Above average intelligence
- Motivated student
- Support system
Curricular Assessment (Research)
Assessment

Options

- Self report/attitudinal inventories
- Develop questions based on the learning objectives that are part of a self-report or attitudinal measure
- Qualitative approaches – focus groups, one-on-one interviews, behavioral observations
- Competency based checklists/OSCE
- Reflective assignments – artifacts for analysis
Knowledge and Understanding of Interdisciplinary Teams

Concept Purpose Process Ethics & Values

Intervention Control

Knauss et al, 2003
Group Participation Skills (IPES)

- Identity
- Communication
- Participation
- Team Work

Intervention vs. Control

Knauss et al, 2003
Focus Group

Key Themes Emerging

1) Better understanding the professional roles of other team members

2) Increased awareness of professional role overlap among some of the disciplines

“I learned what physical therapy does, a little about what educators do and a little about what a social worker does but I’m still very vague about all of it”

Wellmon et al, 2009
3) Competition and conflict among disciplines & difficulty resolving differences

“I felt like everyone was fighting for air time and fighting (when) one discipline made a suggestion that the other disciplines would think wasn’t important.”

Wellmon et al, 2009
4) Appreciation of the need for effective leadership

“I was surprised that no one knew how to readily integrate all disciplines’ contributions into an action plan. There was a breakdown in the process…”

“Groups should not be facilitated by physical therapy students … (differences of opinion) were not effectively resolved. The team leaders failed to lead.”

Wellmon et al, 2009
Leadership Within the Group Was Effective

- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
- Neutral
- Agree
- Strongly Agree
Group Climate Questionnaire

- Engaged
- Conflict
- Avoiding

Clin Psy  | Education  | Soc Work  | Phys Ther
Focus Group

Key Themes from the Research

5) Importance of collaboration in providing services

“I really liked working with physical therapy students. I gained a lot more information about what they do. I also found them easy to work with and thought that they really helped to inform the psychologists and other disciplines about how to better our work. They also seemed very interested in gleaning useful information from psychology.”

Wellmon et al, 2009
Focus Group

Key Themes from the Research

6) Development of professional competence and confidence

“I was surprised the whole team listened to my opinions ... this gave me confidence.”

“The thing that surprised me the most about myself is that I could answer the questions from the other disciplines. I learned that I could bring more information to an interdisciplinary meeting than I had originally thought.”

Wellmon et al, 2009
Feelings of Confidence in Working on an Interprofessional Team

- **Strongly Disagree**: 8.0%
- **Disagree**: 3.4%
- **Neutral**: 32.2%
- **Agree**: 46.5%
- **Strongly Agree**: 36.7%

Pre-IPE vs. Post-IPE:

- **Strongly Disagree**
  - Pre-IPE: 8.0%
  - Post-IPE: 3.4%
- **Disagree**
  - Pre-IPE: 3.4%
  - Post-IPE: 2.0%
- **Neutral**
  - Pre-IPE: 32.2%
  - Post-IPE: 32.2%
- **Agree**
  - Pre-IPE: 43.2%
  - Post-IPE: 46.5%
- **Strongly Agree**
  - Pre-IPE: 20.3%
  - Post-IPE: 36.7%
Has the Experience Changed You?

- Increased Knowledge: 93% Yes, 7% No
- Understanding Others: 75% Yes, 25% No
- Attitude Toward Others: 57% Yes, 43% No

Gilin et al, unpublished data
Team Working Skills Improved from Being on the Team

- Strongly Agree: 34%
- Agree: 44%
- Undecided: 18%
- Disagree: 3%
- Strongly Disagree: 2%

Gilin et al, unpublished data
Interprofessional Curriculum

- **Required Participation**: 81% Yes, 19% No
- **Additional Opportunities**: 80% Yes, 20% No

Gilin et al, unpublished data
Should IPL Be Required: Yes Vs. No Respondents

Mean Score on the Attitudes Toward Healthcare Teams Scale

- Quality of Care / Team Value
- Cost of Team Care / Team Efficiency
- MD Centrality / Shared Leadership

Yes
No
Should IPL Be Required: Yes Vs. No Respondents

Mean Score on the Interdisciplinary Education Preparation Scale (IEPS)

- **Teamwork & Collaboration**
  - Yes: 40
  - No: 25

- **Professional Identity**
  - Yes: 35
  - No: 20

- **Roles & Responsibilities**
  - Yes: 15
  - No: 10
Number of Participants by Discipline who Self-reported the Opportunity to Work on an Interprofessional Team

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Differences in Scores on the Interdisciplinary Education Perception Scale Based on Reported Experience with Interprofessional Collaboration

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<th>Perception Actual Cooperation</th>
<th>Understanding Other's Values</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>75.72</td>
<td>63.14</td>
<td>72.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>73.47</td>
<td>60.64</td>
<td>71.89</td>
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</tbody>
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Mean Score

p=.04  

p=.01  

p=.02
Differences in Scores on the Attitudes Toward Healthcare Teams Scale Based on Reported Experience with Interprofessional Collaboration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Care /</td>
<td>43.12</td>
<td>41.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Value</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Team Care /</td>
<td>12.55</td>
<td>11.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Efficiency</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MD Centrality /</td>
<td>17.29</td>
<td>16.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Leadership</td>
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*p=.01*  
*p<.001*  
*p=.005*
Revised Curricular Model

Effective Interprofessional Practice

- Understanding Team Process
- Team Identity
- Communication
- Identify Team Values & Ethics
- Leadership
- Understanding Roles
- Conflict Resolution
Mean Pre and Post-IPE Scores on the Interdisciplinary Education Preparation Scale (IEPS)

Wellmon et al., JAH 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency &amp; Autonomy</th>
<th>Perceived Need Cooperation</th>
<th>Perception Actual Cooperation</th>
<th>Understanding Values Others</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-IPE</td>
<td>75.93</td>
<td>62.78</td>
<td>73.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-IPE</td>
<td>81.61</td>
<td>63.83</td>
<td>77.14</td>
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Mean Pre and Post-IPE Scores on the Readiness for Interprofessional Learning Scale

Wellmon et al, JAH 2012

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<th>Professional Identity</th>
<th>Roles &amp; Responsibilities</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-IPE</td>
<td>37.91</td>
<td>28.23</td>
<td>7.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-IPE</td>
<td>39.91</td>
<td>29.62</td>
<td>6.56</td>
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Readiness for Interprofessional Learning Scale
Mean Pre and Post-IPE Scores on the Attitudes Toward Healthcare Teams Scale

### Quality of Care/Team Value
- Pre-IPE: 43.69
- Post-IPE: 45.68

### Cost of Team Care/Team Efficiency
- Pre-IPE: 12.18
- Post-IPE: 13.04

### MD Centrality/Shared Leadership
- Pre-IPE: 16.44
- Post-IPE: 17.41

*Wellmon et al, JAH 2012*
### Student Learning Objectives

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<th>Assessment</th>
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<td>Focus Groups</td>
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<td>ATHCTS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Non-standard questionnaire</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RIPLS</td>
</tr>
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<td>2. Understand the process of communication within a multidisciplinary team and with other</td>
<td>Focus Groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>related systems.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Learn the different terminologies that are utilized in different types of multidisciplinary teams.</td>
<td>Focus Groups</td>
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<td>Non-standard questionnaire</td>
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<td>4. Demonstrate an understanding of professional values and code of ethics that guide professional working relationships.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Begin to understand the roles played by other professional disciplines in providing team based patient/client services.</td>
<td>Focus Groups ATHCTS Non-standard questionnaire</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Demonstrate skills in utilizing problem solving methods to resolve conflict within the team or between the team and outside systems.</td>
<td>Group Climate Questionnaire Focus Groups Non-standard questionnaire RIPLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Demonstrate skill in conducting a multidisciplinary assessment.</td>
<td>Group Climate Questionnaire RIPLS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Demonstrate skill in implementing/creating a multidisciplinary intervention.</td>
<td>Artifacts – Service Plan Focus Groups</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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- **Dissatisfaction** with the status quo
- **Vision** of a positive future state
- **First Steps** in the direction of the vision
- **Resistance** to change
Questions?
Contact Information

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