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The Sustainable Development Goals: Implications and Integration Across the Curricula

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Program/Project Purposes:
- Explore ways to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other global health concepts across the curricula in both a health science university and a private research university
- Utilize multiple modalities to explore the implications of the SDGs
- Enable educators to infuse global health concepts into curricula
- Capitalize on the work of the Global Health Initiatives Committee (GHIC), an interdisciplinary committee convened and charged by the university president to help coordinate global health efforts university wide

Structure/Method/Design:
Three methodologies were used to develop this program:
- Integrate SDGs into curricular design across courses
- Utilize interactive curriculum experience (iCE) to promulgate the SDGs to all faculty
- Advocate beyond the curriculum to faculty and students

Integrating the SDGs in curricula is a dual challenge of maintaining the holistic focus of SDGs while aligning specific goals with core global health foci.

Outcomes & Evaluation:
- Measure evidence of faculty understanding and utilization of SDGs by feedback on the iCE modules
- Utilize rubrics within each course to measure student comprehension and application of SDGs
- Collect anecdotal evidence from students and faculty

Going Forward:
The ongoing challenges of integrating SDGs across curricula include increasing awareness and acceptance of the importance of global health among faculty in all disciplines.

The desired result is a health workforce that is prepared to respond to today’s global health challenges.