



Linking Community Service and Interprofessional Education: The Salus University Veterans Readiness Initiative

*Interprofessional Care for the 21st Century
Jefferson Center for Interprofessional
Education
October 29, 2016*



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About Salus University

- Specialized graduate health professions
- Neurosensory/sensorimotor program emphasis
- Strong retired military presence



Mission

To lead in innovative education, research and service to enhance health

Vision

To impact the future of healthcare, education and professional practice

Veterans Readiness Initiative (VRI)

Document, identify and remove sensory barriers to Veteran reintegration

Partners

Community
College
of Philadelphia

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
CORPORAL MICHAEL J. CRESCENZ
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER


Montgomery County
Community College

Supporters



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HEARING CENTER
OF EXCELLENCE



VISION CENTER
OF EXCELLENCE

 SALUS
UNIVERSITY

Output To Date

■ Four Screening Events

- 60 Veterans (56 unique)
- 37 student clinicians
- 7 faculty
- >60 referrals for follow-up care

■ 4 Briefings

- Defense Centers of Excellence (Vision, Hearing)
- VA Central Office
- Under Secretary of the Army

■ Hearing Vision Balance Clinic Pilot

- Integrated practice model (OD/AuD/PT)
- Trauma-associated vision, visual function, hearing, balance
- Veterans Choice Program participant
- Continued collaboration with community partners

Multisensory and Veteran Focused

- **Interdisciplinary Clinical Development Team**
 - Medical Anthropologist
 - Audiologist
 - Optometrist
- **Multisensory Intake Screening Protocol**
 - New 21-question symptom screening tool
 - Tests of visual acuity and function, hearing, balance and tinnitus
- **AuD/OD Interprofessional Teams**
 - Student clinicians for intake and testing
 - Faculty preceptors
 - VRI Team clinicians to interpret and recommend
- **On-site VA Medical Center Staff**

Pre-Screening Training

- For students and faculty preceptors
- One hour
 - Logistics
 - Roles, process, and flow
 - Intake interview and screening tests
 - VRI background
 - Working with Veterans

Post-Screening Outcome Assessment

- Post mortem with partners
- Brief interviews with participating Veterans
- Student survey
 - SurveyMonkey
 - Voluntary and anonymous
 - 10 questions
 - ◆ Training session (5)
 - ◆ IPE experience (4)
 - ◆ General comments (1)
 - 81% response rate

IPE Study Aim and Methods

- Better understanding of VRI-style IPE
 - Meaning to students
 - Inform IPE at Salus University
- Content analysis of IPE questions from student survey
- IRB-approved as Exempt Research Category 4

Four IPE Questions

- **Q1:** Before the events, what did you think about having to team with someone from a different profession?
- **Q2:** Did your thinking change after the screening events?
- **Q3:** What did you like about working with the other profession?
- **Q4:** What did you not like about working with the other profession?

Content Analysis

- Text immersion
- Response categories emerged
 - Knowledge acquisition (learning)
 - Social interaction (teaming)
 - Affect (emotional reaction)
- Categories tested and confirmed
- All responses coded
- 104 coded words/phrases

IPE Findings: Highlights

- Q1: Before the events, what did you think about having to team with someone from a different profession?
 - 41 total coded responses
 - ◆ 66% affect
 - ◆ 20% knowledge acquisition
 - ◆ 15% social interaction
 - 8:1 ratio of positive to negative affect
 - “Excited” the most common (10)
- Q2: Did your thinking change after the screening events?
 - Forced choice with comments
 - Subject to multiple interpretations, not useful
 - 7 coded comments, all positive

IPE Findings: Highlights

- Q3: What did you like about working with the other profession?
 - 31 total coded responses
 - ◆ 71% knowledge acquisition
 - ◆ 16% social interaction
 - ◆ 13% affect
- Q4: What did you not like about working with the other profession?
 - 24 total coded responses
 - 100% affect
 - ◆ 63% positive
 - ◆ 37% negative

Application and Continuing Research

■ Immediate Process Improvements

- Pre-event training
- Screening event teaming experience

■ Continuing Analysis

- Interplay between affect, social interaction and knowledge acquisition
- Better understanding of knowledge acquisition

■ Dissemination of Findings

- Deans of participating colleges
- IPE Committee colleagues
- Publication

In Conclusion

“I thought it would be a great experience to see what another profession performs since we will all be healthcare professionals and will be helping each other with different diagnoses.”

Acknowledgements

Salus University

President Michael H. Mittelman, OD, MPH, FAAO, FACHE and
Rear Admiral, US Navy (Ret.)

Provost Janice E. Scharre, OD, MA, FAAO

Interim Dean Radhika Aravamudhan, PhD, FAAA, Osborne College of Audiology

Interim Dean Melissa E. Trego, OD, PhD, Pennsylvania College of Optometry

Former Dean Victor H. Bray, MSC, PhD, Osborne College of Audiology

Former Dean Lori L. Grover, OD, PhD, FAAO, Pennsylvania College of Optometry

Acknowledgements

Corporal Michael J. Crescenz (Philadelphia) VA Medical Center

Keith M. Robinson, MD, Chief, Rehabilitation Medicine Services and
Director, Polytrauma Network Site

Robert Fitzgerald, MSW, COMS, Polytrauma Blind Rehabilitation
Outpatient Specialist

Community College of Philadelphia

Stephen Bachovin, Coordinator, Military/Veterans Programming

Wendy Kohler, MS, Director, Center on Disability

Montgomery County Community College

Mike Brown, Coordinator of Veteran Services

Justin Machain, MA, (Former) Coordinator of Veteran Services

James “Joe” Long, Admin Support Veterans Services & Past President, MC3
Student Veterans Club

Ann Marie Donohue, PhD, Student Veterans Club Faculty Advisor and
Professor, Psychology

Acknowledgements

***Special thanks to the following Salus University
faculty and students:***

Gregory Genna, AuD; Jenny Rajan, AuD; Elizabeth Sedunov, AuD
Elizabeth Tonkery, OD, MPH; Melissa Trego, OD, PhD

Katelin Archer '17AUD, Arezou Azizaldin '17OD, Kim Cather '17AUD, Nicolette Constanza '17OD, Alexis Conte '17AUD, Sweta Das '17OD, Carly Grondin '17OD, Shawn Horsman '17OD, Lauren Chan Kai Kong '17OD, Greg Lawrence '17OD, Yu Lin '17OD, Amy McGrath '17AUD, Brett Radosti '17AUD, Marisa Ragonesi '17AUD, Jordan Sgroi '17AUD, Ethan Shore '17OD, Rob Stauble '17OD, Jamie Yusupov '17AUD

Saad Ahmed '18OD, Katherine Anderson '18OD, Kylie Auman '18OD, Alexandria Chandler '18AUD, Tyler Dean '18OD, Greta Ghaner '18OD, Brittany Hazelon '18OD, Allegra Inciardi '18OD, Tara LaRose '18AUD, Candace Miller '18AUD, Mark Nelson '18OD, Roshni Patel '18OD, Vishal Patel '18OD, Chet Ritter '18OD, Jamie Roden '18OD, Trevor Simones '18AUD, Bella Sudit '18OD, Alexandra Taylor '18AUD, Dominic Villanti '18OD

Acknowledgements

With special appreciation to:

DoD/VA Vision Center of Excellence

CAPT Penny E. Walker, OD, MPA
Executive Director

Felix M. Barker II, OD, MS, FAAO
Associate Director, Research

Defense Hearing Center of Excellence

COL Mark A. Packer, MD
Executive Director

Lynn W. Henselman, PhD
Deputy Director

LTC John A. Merkley, AuD
Army Liaison Officer

Salus University continues to appreciate the JCIPE opportunities

- Salus' IPE Committee participated in the JCIPE Interprofessional Education and Care Practicum Winter Immersion Program in February 2013
 - Timely after the launch of the Committee several months earlier
 - Helped the Committee to formulate its inaugural initiatives
- “Interprofessional education initiatives at Salus University: a unique perspective in both didactic and clinical education.” Presentation at the JCIPE Workshop in October 2014
- Salus colleagues are also presenting at this conference: “The Design and Implementation of a Collaborative Community-Based Assessment”
 - Faculty members from Salus' College of Education and Rehabilitation

Thank you!

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