ABSTRACT: 2018 ELAM Institutional Action Project

Project Title: Building an Educational Home: From Vision to Implementation

Name and Institution: Sandhya Venugopal, University of California, Davis Health

Collaborators and Mentors: Tom Nesbitt, Lars Berglund, Mark Servis, Colleen Clancy, Ian Julie, Shelley Palumbo

Topic Category: Education

Background/Significance of project: Educational excellence is a hallmark of UC Davis Health. However, it can be challenging for faculty to stay abreast of current trends of curriculum design and adapt to advanced curricular delivery. Consider an educational home for instructional innovation – both physical and virtual. The creation of Health Sciences Educational Services (HSES) will leverage educational program strengths in the health sciences and create tools that promote an interprofessional environment where knowledge is exchanged using technological applications to achieve integrated learning. By design, HSES will establish stronger ties between the Davis and Sacramento campuses. We will develop a cadre of colleagues who will inspire and elevate the use of innovative educational approaches. Instructional design, media experts, simulationists, and psychometricians will partner with faculty to create thought provoking, hands-on educational material. HSES will broaden our influence as a world-class leader in health education.

Purpose/Objectives: The goal of Health Sciences Educational Services is to reshape how curriculum is designed and delivered and pave the way for a future that supports reimagining education. This vision validates a shared educational services model and educational home across the spectrum from students to alumni in technology-enabled, life-long learning. By aligning these efforts with UC Davis’ strategic goals, quality improvement measures, patient safety standards, and global health objectives, HSES will have a positive effect on the local, national and international level. The development of HSES will improve clinician education and impact patient care. Additionally, we propose that such a dynamic central hub of learning and teaching will promote recruitment and retention of faculty, as well as strengthen relationships with alumni.

Methods/Approach/Evaluation Strategy:
- Research existing gaps and any efforts to date in Health Sciences educational curriculum design and delivery (complete)
- Begin outlining the envisioned educational home with the Health Sciences Educational Services Advisory Committee (complete)
- Identify faculty champion workgroup in partnership with Schools of Health (complete)
- Pilot and assess 1-2 interprofessional courses utilizing educators toolkit (in progress)
- Collate list of needed topics for faculty development in technology-enabled education (in progress)
- Future steps include identifying junior faculty interested in technology-enabled educational models and support their research efforts

Outcomes/Results: Establish UC Davis Health as a provider of world-class leadership in Health Sciences education and workforce development. UC Davis Health becomes the “one-stop” education hub for students from all the health professions, physicians, alumni, and practitioners at regional affiliates.

Discussion/Conclusion with Statement of Impact/Potential Impact: The development of Health Sciences Educational Services (HSES) as a dynamic central hub of learning and teaching will improve clinician education, positively impact patient care, help recruit and retain faculty, and strengthen relationships with alumni. HSES will position UC Davis as a world leader for its innovations in health education. By transcending historical norms and engaging interprofessional groups, building upon existing relationships, incorporating fresh ideas, leveraging the strengths of other resources in instructional design, media production, distance learning, simulation, telehealth, standardized patients, human cadaver material, and experts in psychometrics, we will transform the way health sciences education is delivered and workforce development is achieved.