

Background:

This abstract serves to describe a scholarship of engagement fellowship project that will include the work of an interdisciplinary team that promises to strengthen current interprofessional education (IPE) initiatives implemented in the College of Health and Human Services at IPFW. The team will share an interest in a defined problem. Through their interactions as a team, they will deepen their knowledge and expertise so that they may provide a larger body of evidence to support IPE strategies.

Purpose of the project:

The purpose of this project is to enhance interprofessional collaboration, communication and team building within disciplines while engaging with the community healthcare leaders. The ultimate goal is to find a way to decrease healthcare costs and enhance patient outcomes.

Proposed engagement project

The team will include a student from radiography, computer science, business, engineering and nursing. The team will engage faculty, community healthcare leaders and other stakeholders in a dialogue about what they believe is a critical problem that healthcare providers are facing today.

Students will then study, collaborate, communicate, engage with appropriate community members, faculty and leaders to problem solve about the proposed problem. Possible solutions will be presented in a structured format to community stakeholders.

Further directions for the project

Students will lead the efforts to implement a plan with ongoing evaluation processes in place.

Students will be expected to disseminate the information as widely as possible.

