

U P D A T E

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From Pipeline to Practice – Interdisciplinary Training for the Health Professions

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The New York State AHEC System Statewide Advisory Board focused its March 17 meeting on best practices, models and examples of recruitment/pipeline programs, clinical placements and continuing education programs to address barriers and encourage communication and cooperation among health disciplines.

Through the support of the New York State Legislative Commission on Rural Resources and the assistance of the New York State Senate Technology Services, videoconferencing technology connected participants who attended the meeting held at the Legislative Office Building in Albany with representatives

of North Carolina's Eastern AHEC and East Carolina University School of Medicine. Stephen Willis, MD, Executive Director, Eastern AHEC and Assistant Dean for Continuing Medical Education, and Doyle Cummings, PharmD, Professor of Family Medicine and Pediatrics and Co-Director, Office of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences Education, both of East Carolina University, profiled their perspectives on interdisciplinary education.

New York State AHEC System success stories included: Interdisciplinary Preceptor Training, Peter Beatty, PhD, Central Region Office, Upstate Medical University; Brittany's Knee, Richard Merchant, MA, Northern AHEC; Inter-

disciplinary Rural Student Placements, Jane Munro, MS, Western New York Rural AHEC; and Lessons Learned – 20 Years of Interdisciplinary Faculty Development, James Deary, EdD, New York Metropolitan Region Office, The Institute for Urban Family Health.

Small group sessions further engaged participants in AHEC's role with continuing education, recruitment/career/pipeline, student placements and curriculum/program design. The New York State AHEC System Executive Council is now in the process of determining strategies to move forward with guidance from the Advisory Board meeting.