

# Interprofessional Clinical Skills Competition: Bridging the Gap

*The University of Arizona, College of Pharmacy*

## What We Did

### ❖ OBJECTIVE

To improve working relationships between the four Health Science colleges at the University of Arizona through a fun, team based competition.

### ❖ PLAN

Invitations were extended to students from the colleges of pharmacy, medicine, nursing, and public health to take part in the interprofessional competition. Those specifically invited from each college to participate were first-year doctor of pharmacy students, first-year doctor of medicine students, both bachelor and master of nursing students, and both master and doctor of public health students. One faculty member from each college was approached to help in the question development and judging of the competition. Efforts to fundraise and to find donors for the competition (prizes and refreshments) were made by all members of our SSHP. Before the competition, a social event was organized that allowed the contestants an opportunity to meet. The competition included three rounds of healthcare related trivia, where the contestants were able to collaborate with their teammates to provide the correct answer. The first round was a trivia flash round followed by two rounds of Jeopardy. The competition questions were developed to include concepts representative of each college as well as general healthcare knowledge.

### ❖ OUTCOME

Six teams of four were randomly formed, each containing one student from each college. The top three teams received the grand prizes and the other contestants received a consolation prize for their participation in promoting interprofessionalism. The social event held for the contestants proved to be beneficial for those who attended, but didn't generate as much interest as was hoped. The competition questions were effective in revealing the overlap in knowledge between the represented student professionals, as well as their areas of expertise. Overall, the competition generated considerable interest and appreciation. The faculty members were impressed with the competition's outcome and were supportive of future interprofessional endeavors of this type. The professional health students involved were equally impressed and enjoyed the opportunity to be a part of a healthcare team in a game environment. The event also produced networking opportunities among those who participated, which may increase the prospect of future working relationships.

## Resources

<http://www.ashp.org>

## What You Can Do

- ❖ Select a time and location for event
- ❖ Recruit faculty members to assist in question development
  - ❖ Recruit students from other health professions
  - ❖ Fundraise or seek donations for prizes
- ❖ Create an agenda to keep leaders and groups on task
  - ❖ Create a survey for student feedback

Questions? Contact Sara Hodges ([hodges@pharmacy.arizona.edu](mailto:hodges@pharmacy.arizona.edu))