“Health Disparities Education: Teaching, Training and Tele-learning”

Shedra Amy Snipes, Ph.D.

University of Texas
MD Anderson Cancer Center
Center for Research on Minority Health (CRMH)
Health Disparities

Health disparities refer to gaps in:

- the quality of health and health care across racial and ethnic groups.
- "population-specific differences" in the presence of disease, health outcomes, or access to health care.
Center for Research on Minority Health (CRMH)

- First congressionally mandated center on minority health and health disparities outside of the federal government

- Focuses on cancer research through integrated programs and collaborations.
Center for Research on Minority Health (CRMH)

Mission

“To reduce the prevalence of cancer in ethnic minority and medically underserved populations through outstanding, integrated programs in patient care, research, education and prevention.”
Education Core of CRMH

- The PIPELINE Scientific Training Program
- Kellogg Scholars in Health Disparities Training Site
- Health Disparities Education, Awareness, Research and Training (HDEART) Consortium
- Summer Workshop and Fall Course on Health Disparities in America
The PIPELINE Scientific Training Program (PSTP): links training from elementary school to graduate programs
PIPELINE Goals

- Increase the cadre of minority and underrepresented students in the health sciences by creating a “pipeline” from the elementary/middle/high school levels leading to undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate level programs.

- To enhance the quality of science education through special training for teachers in public schools.
PIPELINE

Fort Bend Independent School District
PIPELINE

➔ Fort Bend Independent School District
PIPELINE: Elementary

“Science Project”: classroom science centers equipped with all the necessary materials to teach elementary school science
“Science Project”
PIPELINE: Middle School

- Hands-on math and science activities
- Increase students’ awareness and interest in science and potential science careers
- Middle school students will mentor elementary school students
PIPELINE: High School

- Summer internship opportunities
- Urban Ecology class offered to 11th and 12th grade students
- Mentor elementary and middle school students
PIPELINE: High School Program
PIPELINE: High School Program
PIPELINE: College/Graduate

- Summer internship opportunities
- Mentor high school students
PIPELINE: College Program
PIPELINE: Postdoctoral

Kellogg Health Scholars in Health Disparities National Program on health disparities and policy One of training seven sites
Kellogg Health Scholars

2006-2008 Cohort

Gina Evans, PhD  Angelica P. Herrera, DrPH  Shedra Amy Snipes, PhD
The Health Disparities Education, Awareness, Research & Training (HDEART) Consortium brings together institutions of higher learning along with health care institutions to develop a program to bear the strength of each institution to address the issue of health disparities in minority and medically underserved populations.
HDEART Members

The University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston
  Baylor College of Medicine
  Texas Southern University
    Lee College
  Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
  Prairie View A&M University
  Prairie View A&M University, College of Nursing
 Texas Woman's University - Denton Campus & Health Science Campus at Houston
  Rice University
  San Jacinto College-South
 The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
  Texas A&M University - College Station
 The University of Texas Medical Branch-Galveston
  Texas A&M Health Science Center
 University of Houston - Main Campus & Downtown Campus
 Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Administration Medical Center
 City of Houston – Houston Department of Health and Human Services
 The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler
  Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
  Florida A&M University
 University of Texas Health Science Center - San Antonio
  Texas Department of State Health Services
 The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
Health Disparities in America: *Working Toward Social Justice*

Examines the social and societal factors that are fundamental in creating disparities in health.

Offered at MD Anderson, University of Houston, Rice University and Texas Southern University
Tele-Learning

Is tele-education a feasible mode of instruction to present the multidisciplinary components of health disparities?
Tele-Learning

- Audio visual technologies, world wide web
- Interface between learners and instructors
- Rice University, Texas Southern University, University of Texas
  - 11 screens simultaneously displaying classrooms at other universities to other schools with interactions abilities.
Conclusions and Future Work

PIPELINE
- Adopted by entire school system of Fort Bend ISD
- Additional district: Goose Creek ISD
- Extension to middle school, and college programs

HEARDT
- Two additional schools will participate in tele-learning in the Fall 2007 course
- For the Fall 2008, a 4th academic institution will be added to the rotation as host for the Health Disparities Course
Acknowledgements

➔ The Center for Research on Minority Health
➔ Dr. Lovell A Jones, Director
➔ Education Core
  – James Heggie, Anissa Lewis and Cynthia Clark
➔ NCHCMM Coordinators