

MEDICAL LIBRARIAN TEACHES DATABASE RESEARCH METHODS



Physician Assistant students learn database research techniques.

The Northeast AHEC strives to provide comprehensive research materials for both the professional staff and the students within the region and those utilizing the St. Claire Regional Medical Library. In June, Katy Roe, Northeast AHEC Medical Librarian, hosted an informational luncheon for 14 first year Physician Assistant (P.A.) students. A key focus of the luncheon was to instruct students on the library computer lab procedures and explain how to use databases to further their research.

Following lunch, hosted by the Northeast AHEC, students gathered in the library computer lab, where rules and standard login procedures were explained. Katy presented a brief history of the Eastern Kentucky Health Science Information Network (EKHSIN). The network, comprised of 7 medical libraries throughout the region vastly expands the resources to students by sharing inter-library

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loans. The Medical Subject Heading (MeSH) list, a list of medical terms commonly used in database searches, was explained. The students learned how to conduct literature searches in the PubMed, MD Consult, MEDLINE PLUS and CINAHL databases. The website known as the Cochrane Library, a site for scientific review articles, is also available for research. In addition to the St. Claire Regional Medical Library, students were instructed on how to access the UK Medical Center Library resources. After the instructional portion of the luncheon, Katy remained available for questions or concerns as the students conducted their first independent searches.



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“What the heck is an AHEC?” is probably the most asked question received by anyone working in an AHEC office. One would think that it should probably be the easiest question to answer. However, the longer I work at the Northeast Area Health Education Center (NE AHEC) the harder this question becomes. The question is difficult because our AHEC goes into a wide array of activities and programs to fulfill our mission of “promoting healthy communities through innovative partnerships.” We do so much to promote our mission that it is just too difficult to describe in one sentence. It was this very reason the NE AHEC adopted our motto, “Bringing Our Best Back Home”. This motto is probably the closest I can come to describing what the heck we do at our AHEC.

What does “Bringing Our Best Back Home” have to do with “promoting healthy communities through innovative partnerships”? Well its simple, in my opinion, the greatest challenge before us as an AHEC is supporting the training, recruitment and retention of health care professionals in our region. Without access to those professionals the health of our local communities is at stake. For all of us working at the NE AHEC it is much more than that. It is taking intelligent, bright, creative and talented individuals from our local communities and doing the following:

- helping them develop an interest in a health profession
- supporting them through their educational experience
- recruiting them “back home”
- retaining them for a lifetime

With all of this said, I would like to welcome you to the first of our quarterly newsletters showcasing the many activities and programs supporting our mission and motto.

Kayla D. Rose

Kayla Rose
Northeast AHEC Director

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SUMMER 2006

CONNECTING WITH TOMORROW'S PHYSICIANS

Eager new medical students, proud parents, and seasoned physicians gathered at St. Claire Regional Medical Center (SCR) May 1 to honor the recent admission of nine Morehead State University (MSU) students into medical school. The Northeast AHEC hosts the "Letters from Home" Recognition Dinner each year as part of their continuing efforts with the "Letters from Home" program. "Letters from Home" is an innovative program founded by the Northeast AHEC as an ongoing effort to connect and stay in contact with regional students while they are away at medical school. The program's purpose is to retain more physicians in eastern Kentucky by strengthening ties to the community.

The evening began with a reception, which gave students an opportunity to intermingle with Northeast AHEC staff, physicians and both SCR and MSU faculty. Kimberly Williams, MD, Northeast AHEC Medical Director and VP of Medical Affairs, welcomed the group and gave a personal account of leaving eastern Kentucky to pursue her dream and returning to practice medicine in the mountains. Many physicians attending the dinner also congratulated the students and gave a short story about their experiences as a medical student. Following dinner, Kayla Rose, Northeast AHEC Center Director, and James Vansant, MD presented each student with

a personalized medical dictionary. The evening was concluded with a continuing education program by Jeff Ellis, MD focusing on new research in breast cancer. It is important to note that both Dr. Ellis and Dr. Vansant are former MSU and Northeast AHEC students who went to medical school and are now practicing in our region.



Center Director, Kayla Rose (center) and Kimberly Williams, MD, Northeast AHEC Medical Director (right) chat with Letters from Home student Samuel Byron (left).

This year three students were accepted to the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and six students were accepted to the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine. Paul Browning II of Paintsville, Emmett Lotton of Morehead, and Kelli Trent of Morehead will be attending the University of Kentucky College of Medicine in the fall. Bethani Bartley of Pikeville, Clayton Bowman of Morehead, Samuel Byron of Hillsboro, Rajat Kaul of Lexington, Kelli Montgomery of Morehead, and Angela O'Quinn will be attending Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Since the program began in 2002, 41 students have participated. The Northeast AHEC is now welcoming some of its first "Letters from Home" students back on clinical rotations. In August, James Wilson, a former "Letters from Home" student, will begin his two-year clinical rotation at Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital.

HOW WORKSHOP HEALTH CAREER OPPORTUNITY WORKSHOP

How do I pursue a career in healthcare? Why should I go into a healthcare related field? When should I apply for college? What options are available for financial assistance? These are just a few of the questions that could be answered at this year's HOW Workshop held on March 10 at the Clay Community Center in Mt. Sterling, Ky.

More than 30 booths ranging from healthcare practitioners and professors to college admissions personnel and a student loan organization filled both the conference center and parking lot. Basic life support, laparoscopic surgery, and suturing techniques are just a few examples of the many hands-on activities the

students participated in throughout the day. Students from Bath, Carter, Montgomery, Morgan, and Powell counties attended the workshop. After participating at the many informational booths students turned in a completed punch card. This made them eligible for door prize drawings, which included an i-pod shuffle, i-tunes download gift cards and many other exciting prizes.

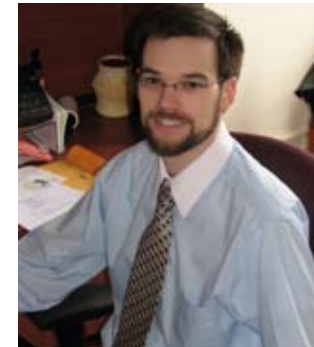
In its first year, more than 130 students participated in the HOW Workshop. The Northeast AHEC hopes to expand the workshop in the upcoming year by growing both the attendance and booth participation in 2007.



Using Skittles, the pharmacy station simulated counting, packaging, and labeling of medication.

BUELTERMAN WILL HEAD UP BELLEFONTE OFFICE

Brian Buelterman is no stranger to the Northeast AHEC. Brian first joined the team as an intern while working on his bachelor's degree. His internship soon led to a full time job as Media Specialist. After three years, Brian moved to the Health Career Opportunity Program (HCOP), as Program Specialist. During his time with the HCOP program, Brian established health careers programs and summer camps for elementary, middle and high school students. When the Program Coordinator position became available in the Northeast AHEC satellite office at



Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital (OLBH), Brian was at the top of the list.

As a clinical hub site for the Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine (PCSOM) a major focus for Brian will be placing both 3rd and 4th year medical students in their clinical rotations. Currently, six 4th year medical students are practicing clinical rotations at OLBH with three 3rd year students joining in August. These students will remain at OLBH full-time for their final two years of medical school. In addition to managing PCSOM medical students, Brian is responsible for placing both University of

Kentucky and University of Louisville medical students in their respective clinical settings.

When not managing clinical rotations, Brian plans to expand math and science programs in the local school systems. Target areas will be Carter, Greenup, Boyd, and Lawrence counties. Brian also plans to address community health by presenting tobacco use and dental health programs at local community events.

TUNE IN TO
Health Matters
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OH BABY! IT'S A BABY SHOWER

"Oh Baby!" is exactly how to describe the crowds that filled the Carl Perkins Community Center April 1 for the 5th annual "Oh Baby! It's a Baby Shower." The shower targets individuals needing resources on pregnancy and infant care. The free community shower packed more than 30 informational booths and over 300 participants into the three-hour event.

The Northeast AHEC continually builds partnerships to raise community awareness and expand this event. This year, Morehead State University's Nursing Program and St. Claire Women's Health provided tremendous support for the informational booths provided at the shower. Nursing students supplied more than five booths with information on a variety of infant and toddler care topics. The physicians, midwives, and nurses of St. Claire Women's Health were on hand at one large booth to answer questions and provide guidance on pre-natal care. In addition to MSU and SCR, many other organizations strongly supported the informational booth portion of

the day. For example, the Kentucky State Police were available to clarify proper child safety seat installation and Whitaker Bank took time to explain savings plans for college. In addition to providing support in filling the booths, community businesses and organizations donated a large number of door prizes.

"This is a wonderful experience for all new moms!"
-Shower Participant

The highlight of the day is always the "question and answer" segment. This is an opportunity to separate fact from fiction concerning pregnancy. During the session, women's health professionals answered participants' questions on a range of topics from signs of labor to fertility while breast-feeding.

The Northeast AHEC plans to provide an even more comprehensive resource event in 2007. An expanded informational area, a more accommodating facility, and an extended question and answer session are goals for next year's event.



"Oh Baby! It's a Baby Shower" reaches many expecting mothers from throughout the region. Here, a young mother has the opportunity to listen to her baby.