TOPIC: ADVOCACY FOR INCORPORATION OF INTERDISCIPLINARY EDUCATION INTO THE CURRICULUM OF FUTURE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN ORDER TO DECREASE MEDICAL ERRORS BY IMPROVING COMMUNICATION

SUBMITTED BY: Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Student Nursing Association

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WHEREAS, Interprofessional education occurs when two or more professions learn with, from, and, about each other in order to improve collaboration and the quality of patient care (Scalise, 2007); and

WHEREAS, “Common competencies for interprofessional education include team organization/function; assessment and enhancement of team performance; intrateam communication; leadership; conflict resolution and consensus building; and setting common patient care goals” (Scalise, 2007); and

WHEREAS, “According to a survey in the May issue of Nursing2006, 5000 nurses found that communication failures were more significant than either human errors or system failures in causing errors” (Scalise, 2007); and

WHEREAS, “Medical error and patient safety have become important issues and are reported to be the eighth leading cause of death among Americans” and “there is a growing understanding that the clinical environment and clinical processes-not individual clinicians- are major contributors to medical error” (Shrader, McRae, King, & Kern, 2011); and

WHEREAS, “A 2003 study by JCAHO documented that communication breakdown was the root cause of more than 60 percent of 2,034 medical errors, of which 75 percent resulted in a patient’s death. In other words, 915 people died as a result of a communication error. In 2005, communication continued to lead as the root cause of sentinel events in all categories” (Scalise, 2007); and

WHEREAS, Studies validate that patient outcomes, quality of care, and patient and provider satisfaction are improved in a collaborative practice setting where healthcare professionals work together (Larson, DeBasio, Mundinger, & Shoemaker, 1995); and

WHEREAS, “Incorporating a simulated interprofessional rounding experience into a required clinical assessment course improved student attitudes regarding interprofessional teamwork and was associated with high student satisfaction (Shrader, McRae, King, & Kern, 2011); and

RESOLVED, that the Texas Nursing Students’ Association (TNSA) support incorporation of interdisciplinary education into the curriculum of future healthcare professionals; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the Texas Nursing Students’ Association (TNSA) publish an article in
Central Line about Interdisciplinary Education; and be it further
RESOLVED, that the TNSA send a copy of this resolution to American Nursing Association,
Texas Nursing Association, Institute of Medicine, Association of Schools of
Allied Health Programs, American Medical Association, Association of American
Medical Colleges, American Association of Colleges of Nursing, National League
for Nursing, National Council of State Boards of Nursing, and all others deemed
appropriate by the TNSA Board of Directors.
Cost Estimation

Ink: $0.50

Paper: $0.10

Envelopes: $0.70

Stamps: $4.50

**Total: $5.80**
References

