



MEETING: RHPP Directors, Regional Center Directors, AHEC Scholar Faculty Mentors  
 DATE: October 21, 2020  
 TIME: 11:00 – 12:00PM  
 PLACE: AHEC Zoom Meeting  
 HOST: Leila Barraza  
 RHPP Director Attendees: Christy Pacheco, Shelley Vaughn, Jonathan Cartsonis, Marc Verhougstraete, Elias Villarreal  
 Center Director Attendees: Joena Ezroj, Sean Clendaniel, Gail Emrick, Marica Martinic, Jeri Byrne  
 Other Attendees: Jennifer Zuniga, Colleen Reed, Nicole Paredes, Amanda Perkins, Sonia Cota-Robles, Heidi Sanborn, Amy Devine, Theresa Allison, Bridget Wicks, Erin Sol, Becca Harris, Lourdes Montez, Courtney Madsen, Claudia Gonzales

ITEM	ANNOUNCEMENT/DISCUSSION	Information provided by:
<b>Meeting 11am</b>	Welcome & Introductions	All
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Innovative Project Proposal was distributed to and discussed with Centers. RHPP Directors will receive an email with this proposal so they may collaborate with Centers on ideas.</p> <p>AHEC Scholars participation is lower than HRSA guidelines of 75 Scholars per year, which results in 15 scholars per year per center. Currently, there are approximately 10 per year assigned to each center. The submitted plan incorporated RHPP/graduate students. Attrition rate was particularly high in the first year, and recruitment has been lower due to competing demands of graduate students. While recruitment is high in some colleges, it is low in others. To help with recruitment efforts future models are under consideration including 1) the addition of other graduate programs and 2) offering this opportunity to undergraduate students.</p> <p>Discussion followed about the considerations of this.</p> <p>Positives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate-level scholars have helped mentor undergraduate students; this allows undergraduates to envision future pathways. When having collaborating undergraduate and graduate student cohorts be mindful of each student’s level and divvy tasks to help students participate in a substantive way.</li> <li>• The undergrad pipeline option would be powerful. Develop these IP cohorts early! Help them move into health professions. Priority to students from rural high need areas who plan to return.</li> <li>• Health professions advisors at the 3 universities are great partners.</li> <li>• Bryant Scholars Pre-admissions Program at University of Missouri Medical School has a great rural track that begins in undergrad.  <a href="https://medicine.missouri.edu/education/admissions/bryant-scholars-pre-admissions-program">https://medicine.missouri.edu/education/admissions/bryant-scholars-pre-admissions-program</a></li> <li>• This could be symbiotic with the AzHOPE as well and aligns with existing AHEC Pathways programs strategies</li> <li>• Thinking outside the box and not planning for the centers to do the brunt of the work, HRSA requirements would be clearly met with this kind of opportunity.</li> </ul>	<p>Jennifer Zuniga</p> <p>All</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RHPP and the Centers could work closely together to gauge what is/is not possible.</li></ul> <p>One way the undergrad pathway program could help meet AHEC goals is that it could improve recruitment, admission, and retention of more diverse and disadvantaged students, who would be more likely to return to their rural/underserved communities to practice.</p> <p>Concerns and challenges expressed by Centers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Concerns that no additional funding would be available since we are trying to meet current HRSA agreement.</li><li>• Concerns that an additional cohort would place strain on current workloads.</li><li>• Concerns regarding dates/timelines not being stable</li><li>• Concerns regarding clinical placements are already difficult to find</li><li>• Need more resources for current students before considering placing undergraduate students.</li><li>• Should expand graduate cohorts before opening to a new undergraduate cohort.</li><li>• Develop better ways to support undergraduate pathways before creating a scholar cohort by possibly utilizing new RFP opportunity.</li><li>• Oversaturate of undergraduate cohort then we run the risk of losing graduate scholars for the program.</li><li>•</li></ul>	
<b>Ended 12:00PM</b>		