Students compete in statewide healthcare case competition hosted by Wisconsin AHEC

Wisconsin Area Health Education Centers System held the third statewide healthcare case competition January 7–8, 2016, at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. The eight teams, chosen from 18 that applied, competed for up to a $3,000 first-place cash prize.

The teams, made up of students studying healthcare disciplines from public and private colleges and universities across the state. Two teams represented Milwaukee AHEC, two teams represented Scenic Rivers AHEC, one team represented Northeastern AHEC and three teams represented South Central AHEC.

The students were assigned a case study of stroke prevention and care in a rural setting and conducted an analysis of the interprofessional healthcare efforts within the population. The teams then presented their findings and recommendations for enhanced collaboration to a panel of judges.

The case competition judges consisted of leaders from various disciplines within Wisconsin healthcare programs. They included Roger Rego; Stephanie Stewart PhD, RN; Kathy Loppnow, PhD, RN, Dr; Richard Dart MD, and Trevor Cooper.

Concurrent with the case competition, Wisconsin AHEC also hosted an interprofessional resource fair, called an “I.P. Village,” consisting of stations for multiple health professions. The hosts of the I.P. Village stations included registered nurses, physicians, a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, medical interpreter, simulation specialist, genetic counselor, and representatives from the public health, pharmacy, and research fields. Touring the I.P. Village and talking with professionals at the stations gave students an opportunity to explore roles and responsibilities through the perspective of different healthcare professionals.

Cash prizes were awarded to the top three teams.

First place ($3,000) went to a team representing Northeastern AHEC: Frances Goglio (UW-Madison, veterinary medicine), Paria Sanat Zadeh (UW-Madison, pharmacy), Hillary Kirking (UW-Madison, nursing), Torie Grover (UW-Madison, pharmacy) and Justin Meyers (UW-Madison, medicine).

The second place ($2,000) team represented South Central AHEC: Amber Facktor (UW-Madison, nursing), Laurel Myers (UW-Madison, veterinary medicine), Allison Tutkowski (UW-Madison, nursing), Kate Berlin (UW-Madison, pharmacy) and Marnie Janson (UW-Madison, pharmacy). Pamela McGranahan was the team advisor.

Third place ($1,000) went to a team also representing South Central AHEC: Stephaine Thau (UW-Madison,
pharmacy), Mallory Jasicki (UW-Platteville, biochemistry and biology), Nick Reinhold (UW-Platteville, biology, psychology and business administration) and Bryan Haugen (UW-Madison, pharmacy and public health).

The Wisconsin AHEC System is a non-profit organization funded by federal grants, the State of Wisconsin, the state’s health professions training programs, and local communities. It consists of seven regional centers and one statewide program office. Wisconsin AHEC is a health professions education and outreach program that is part of a nationwide network of programs working to improve accessibility and quality of primary health care while encouraging universities and educators to partner in addressing local health care problems. Wisconsin AHEC provided meals and lodging for students attending the competition, along with opportunities to network with healthcare professionals from around the state. For further information, see www.ahec.wisc.edu.

Photo album available through the Wisconsin AHEC Facebook page: http://on.fb.me/1QpQt0K

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