Coming Soon to an Institution Near You …to YOUR Institution!

In our October 2014 newsletter, I wrote about the various benefits of working within communities of practice. Not so coincidentally, the Office of Continuing Professional Development has teamed together with an incredible group of faculty educators within Carilion Clinic, Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, and Jefferson College of Health Sciences to develop our own community of practice for health professions educators. This Steering Committee has formally been meeting monthly since December and is comprised of representatives of each institution as well as each major department within Carilion/VTCSOM.

What is the Academy? TEACH is the Teaching Excellence Academy for Collaborative Healthcare and focuses on all things related to the development of faculty as learners, teachers, and education researchers. TEACH has 3 main arms: 1. Faculty Development, 2. Scholarship & Innovation, and 3. Recognition & Promotion.

Who can be a member of the Academy? All faculty and others with formal teaching roles throughout Carilion Clinic, VTCSOM, and JCHS may apply for TEACH membership. There will be 3 levels of membership. Level 1 benefits will be open to all. Levels 2 and 3 will have some additional benefits and also must commit to teaching and leadership in support of TEACH. More soon!

Why do we need TEACH? We need to value the folks who have the potential to have an incredible impact on the future of healthcare! We are incredibly fortunate to have outstanding educators throughout Carilion, VTCSOM, and JCHS. Our goal is to provide a teaching home for educators in which they have continued opportunities to learn, grow, collaborate, and innovate…all while feeling recognized for their efforts and commitment to health professions education.

How can you find out more about the Academy? Be on the lookout for more from me! TEACH is still currently under development, but we hope to have a kick-off event in the fall 2015 at which time applications for membership will open.

Mark your calendars!! TEACH’s 1st annual Education Day will be held on October 28, 2015. The focus of the day will be on Feedback. A student/trainee session will be held from 8:00-9:00 am, an all-faculty session will be held from 12:00-1:00 pm, and a (by invitation) session will be held for educational leaders from 1:00-2:00 pm. Looking forward to learning with you all there!

Special thanks to Dr. William Rea for his creative contributions in designing the TEACH logo! Thanks, Bill!

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