It’s back to school time for our students! Before the semester gets rolling and students start coming to clinic, we wanted to take a moment and revisit the purpose of this newsletter. It is easy to get caught up in the day-to-day, especially during the summer when the students are not present in clinic each week. This newsletter was created to fill a gap in the VPIL preceptor development and support.

VPIL is a complex, multi-moving web of students, faculty, preceptors, staff, didactics, assignments, projects, and simulations. It is important to us that our preceptors feel supported and well informed about what is going on for the students outside of clinic. It is important to see the greater picture and to see how one afternoon a week in clinic fits into the greater curriculum of VPIL.

It’s no secret that taking 4 students from different professions can be challenging. With busy clinic schedules, other faculty/teaching responsibilities, and busy life schedules outside of the clinic or hospital, how could we disseminate vital information about the program without having to go to one more meeting or one more 2-hour development session? How can we reach all preceptors and avoid the working around of complex and ever-changing schedules? The answer - a monthly newsletter.

We hope with this newsletter, we can close the gap just a little between the VPIL Program as a whole and you, the preceptor. Our goals are to bring you into the fold of the VPIL family and begin to create a much deeper and richer experience as we try to create a sense of community; to synthesize the clinic experience and the classroom experience for the students by making you more familiar with the curriculum and what the students are learning in class or simulation; to introduce topics, offer suggestions, and bring in real stories and feedback to help successfully implement an interprofessional team of students in the clinic setting.

Preceptors are more than vital to our program - they are essential in making the program successful and enriching the learning for our students. A small portion of each participating class get this opportunity to work on a team of interprofessional students in the same clinic for 2 years. This program is unique in every way compared to the other home curricula and the preceptors are the most integral aspect. Without the clinic setting, our program is lifeless.

Next month, we will talk about the introduction of a new Capstone project for our second-year students and what that means for the preceptor and clinic. We will also look at the home visit assignment for our first-year students in their first semester.

WELCOME TO THE 2019 VPIL COHORT!
Last month we welcomed our newest cohort of VPIL students! They were engaged and excited to learn more about the program, getting to meet and know their teammates, and getting the opportunity to visit their clinics and meet their preceptors for the first time.

**FIRST DAY OF CLINIC**

You can expect the VPIL 1 students to be in clinic beginning on September 4.

You can expect the VPIL 2 students to be in clinic beginning on August 28.

**PRECEPTOR PAYMENTS**

We're only missing a few!

We require each preceptor, whether new or returning, to complete the Annual Preceptor Agreement. For new preceptors, this agreement is the confirmation of your willingness to participate as a clinical preceptor for VPIL. For returning or continuing preceptors, this is used to confirm your continued participation as a VPIL preceptor. In addition, there is pertinent information on this agreement that is necessary for us to provide you with your preceptor stipend at the end of the academic year. Please click the button below to be taken to the agreement. The Preceptor Agreement can also be found on the Preceptor Portal on the VPIL website.

[Preceptor Agreement]

**Faculty of the month**

Donna Rosenstiel, LCSW

Donna has been a licensed clinical social worker for 24 years and has been an Assistant Dean for
Camellia Koleyni, MD
Camellia has been a Family Practice Physician for 16 and has been involved with VPIL since 2016.

How did you become involved in VPIL?
I was introduced to former VPIL Director Heather Davidson, PhD by Carol Etherington, MSN, RN, FAAN. Once I learned more about the program & program goals, I knew I had to be involved. Heather invited me to join in 2016, and it was one of the best things that has ever happened to me! VPIL has brought me in contact with so many amazing people & has been a wealth of incredible experiences.

Why are you drawn to interprofessional collaboration?
As a professional social worker, my practice approach is inherently collaborative and interprofessional. It's just baked into what social workers are trained to do. Social work in the healthcare setting can be challenging because the system is not structured to encourage or reward such collaboration. However, VPIL creates an experience where collaboration is not just encouraged, but necessary, and the professions learn together about how best to collaborate in various settings and on a range of tasks. Pretty exciting!

Any words of wisdom for VPIL preceptors?
I would encourage all preceptors to approach the role with a sense of curiosity and discovery. Take the risk of being a learner along with students on your VPIL team, instead of merely an expert out in front of them. That can be a liberating shift for educators, and one that may lead to greater engagement and fulfillment in the role.

What's one fun fact people don’t know about you?
I have lived in Japan twice in my life, and I majored in Japanese language and culture as an undergraduate.

Why are you drawn to interprofessional collaboration?
As a professional social worker, my practice approach is inherently collaborative and interprofessional. It's just baked into what social workers are trained to do. Social work in the healthcare setting can be challenging because the system is not structured to encourage or reward such collaboration. However, VPIL creates an experience where collaboration is not just encouraged, but necessary, and the professions learn together about how best to collaborate in various settings and on a range of tasks. Pretty exciting!

What is your favorite part of being on faculty?
Discovering new things: about students, about other professions, about interprofessional collaboration, about teaching and learning. VPIL is an incredibly rich learning environment, and with a leadership committed to continuous improvement, there are always new ideas to explore.

Take the risk of being a learner along with students on your VPIL team, instead of merely an expert out in front of them.
On a professional level, I believe interprofessional collaboration is absolutely critical to the health & dignity of individuals we are privileged to serve as well as the communities within which they live. Each profession highlights important & diverse perspectives to ensure we see each person from a holistic point of view. On a personal level, I am energized when I learn from others & reminded each day how much more I have to learn about everything.

What is your favorite part of being on faculty?
There are so many reasons I'm excited to be part of the faculty:
- I absolutely love working with incredible students. They brighten my day & humble me with their passionate quest to learn & to help/empower patients as well as their communities.
- I love being part of a wonderful team of interprofessional staff plus faculty who are very supportive & have similar goals.
- I am also incredibly thankful for our amazing preceptors who are generous with their time & who lead by example.

Any Words of wisdom for VPIL preceptors?
Be ready to learn some amazing things from your students as they are ready to learn some amazing things from you.
They are excited to join you in discovery of what makes patients healthy or sick, they are ready to learn whatever you are willing to teach, & they are eager to be an active part of your team. I know that I have learned a lot from the students that I have been so fortunate to mentor/teach!

What's one fun fact people don't know about you?
In middle school I named my parakeets after characters in a book I read. Maybe more interesting: I've been absolutely, incredibly fortunate to travel to over 30 countries & meet amazing people of this wonderful world.

We would love to have your feedback about this newsletter!
Visit the Preceptor Portal on our website! The portal includes an overview of the program, what the students are learning throughout their 2 years in the program, what to expect when being a preceptor, helpful hints on what to do during downtime, and much more!

Preceptor Portal

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