



Introduction

- Diversity and cultural competency education are essential for the next generation of healthcare professionals.¹
- Most current programs address these topics in a formal, lecture style setting.^{2, 3, 4}
- The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) is comprised of seven colleges as a comprehensive health sciences center.
- Implementation of a student-led, interdisciplinary program to teach diversity is needed to provide students with deeper insights and perspectives.^{5, 6, 7}

Purpose & Goals

- To shed light on the diversity represented among students and promote interdisciplinary collaboration
- To demonstrate the importance of diversity within the different spectrum of health care
- To illustrate a constructive and respectful approach in communicating with individuals from different backgrounds, identities, and professions.
- To showcase challenges and barriers that impact students in health care based on their visible and invisible identities.

Methods



- Interdisciplinary student committee formed to select perspectives represented by the panelists.
- One student from each college with help from committee, student leaders, and Student Affairs office.
- 2 hour event: Each panelist was given 5 minutes to share their experiences and insight followed by a Q&A session from the audience.
- Optional & anonymous survey sent to guests regarding their experience.

Contact Information

- Danial Gebreili (Danial-Gebreili@ouhsc.edu)
- Anna Sahlstrom (Anna-Sahlstrom@ouhsc.edu)
- Kelsey Anderson (Kelsey-Anderson@ouhsc.edu)

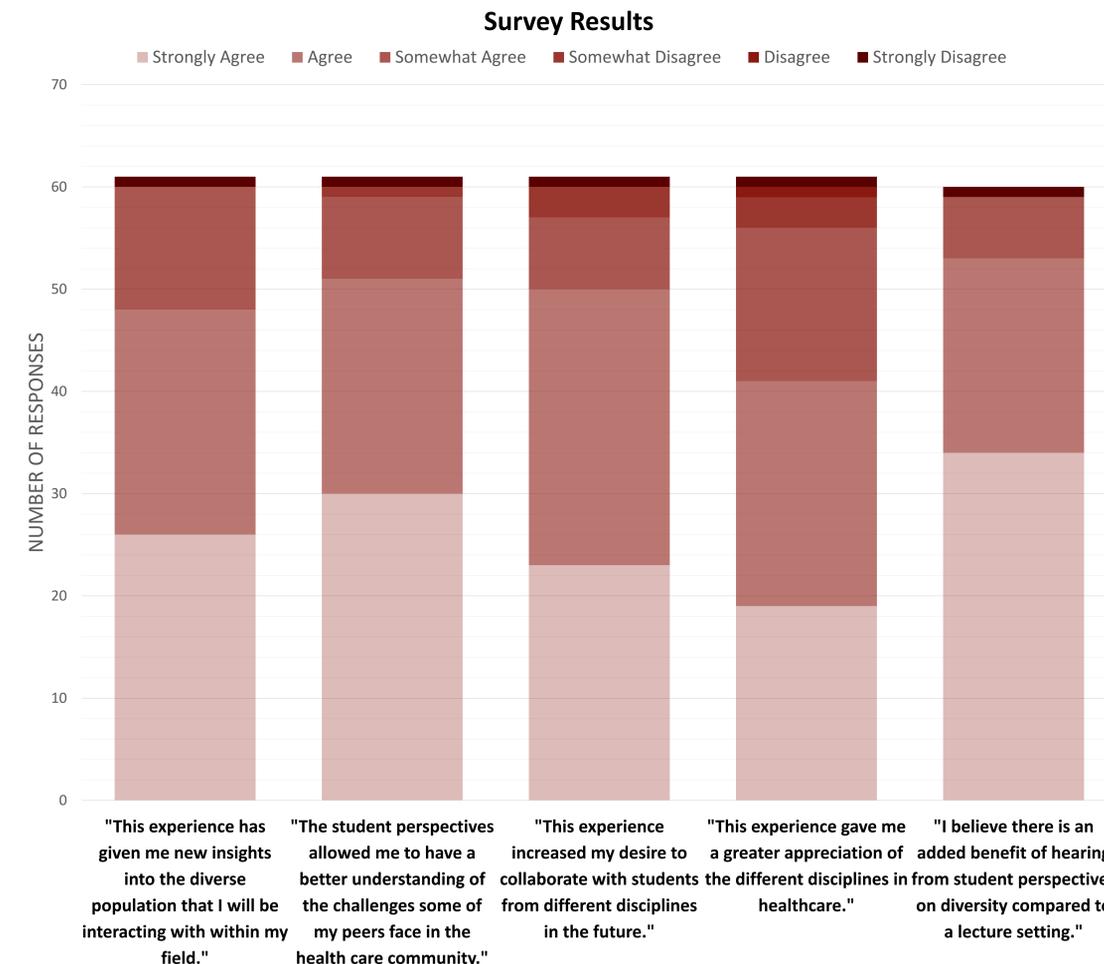
Results

Student Panelists



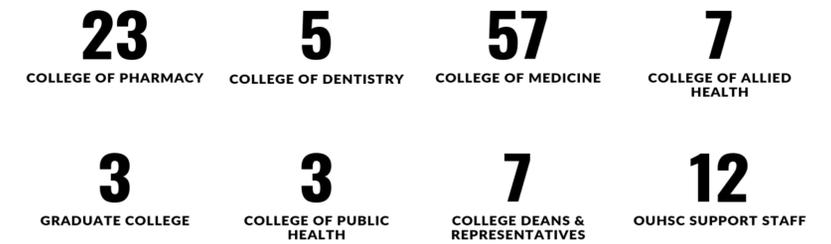
While the student panelists spoke on their experiences as it pertained to the population they were representing, the audience was made aware that students are not representatives of the entire spectrum that exists within each population.

Unity in Medicine Survey



Results Continued

Attendance Breakdown



Conclusion and Significance

- The majority of the students felt that they had a better understanding of the population they will be serving within their field.
- Students reported higher interest in meeting, collaborating, and understanding between health care disciplines.
- 59 out of 60 students surveyed believed that there is an added benefit to hearing from a student perspective when compared to a lecture setting.
- Gaining institution support for student-led initiative is an effective way to support interdisciplinary collaboration and diversity education.
- Unity in Medicine provides a practical approach to both interprofessional education and diversity education in a way that students prefer.

References

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Disclaimer

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