



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

Libraries and IPE: A Successful Partnership

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Interprofessional Education (IPE)

IPE “occurs when two or more professions (students, residents and health workers) learn with, about, and from each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes.”¹ Research shows team-based care leads to better outcomes for patients. Academic institutions are increasingly developing IPE curricula to prepare students for team-based practice.

History of HSL Involvement in IPE

The Health Sciences Library (HSL) Advisory Committee consists of members from each Health Affairs school. In late 2014, members of the committee completed a survey to inform the library of priorities for the next year. IPE was identified as a priority. Later that year, the group decided librarians should be involved in IPE on campus and participate with the Health Affairs Collaborative (HAC).

MAY
2012

HAC formed to address IPE on campus

LATE
2014

IPE shared with HSL as priority for Health Affairs schools

JAN
2015

Librarians begin attending HAC meetings

JUNE
2015

HAC requests new position, coordinator of interdisciplinary education, to be housed in and potentially report to HSL; request denied

SPRING
2016

IPE Steering Committee established as subgroup of HAC; librarians part of this group from beginning

IPE Steering Committee

The IPE Steering Committee was established to advance interprofessional education and collaboration through all schools. It consists of members from HSL and each Health Affairs school:

Department of Allied Health
School of Dentistry
School of Medicine
School of Nursing
School of Pharmacy
School of Public Health
School of Social Work
Health Sciences Library

Librarian Roles on Committee

- Completed environmental scan of IPE activities and initiatives in academic institutions in US and Canada
- Created and maintains library IPE guide <https://guides.lib.unc.edu/ipe>
- Manages Twitter account @IPE4UNC
- Created and maintains IPE website
- Organizes and promotes events
- Compiled inventory of IPE activities at UNC
- Organized summer reading project
- Advised UNC Clarion National Interprofessional Case Competition team
- Designed committee logo



Office of IPE at UNC

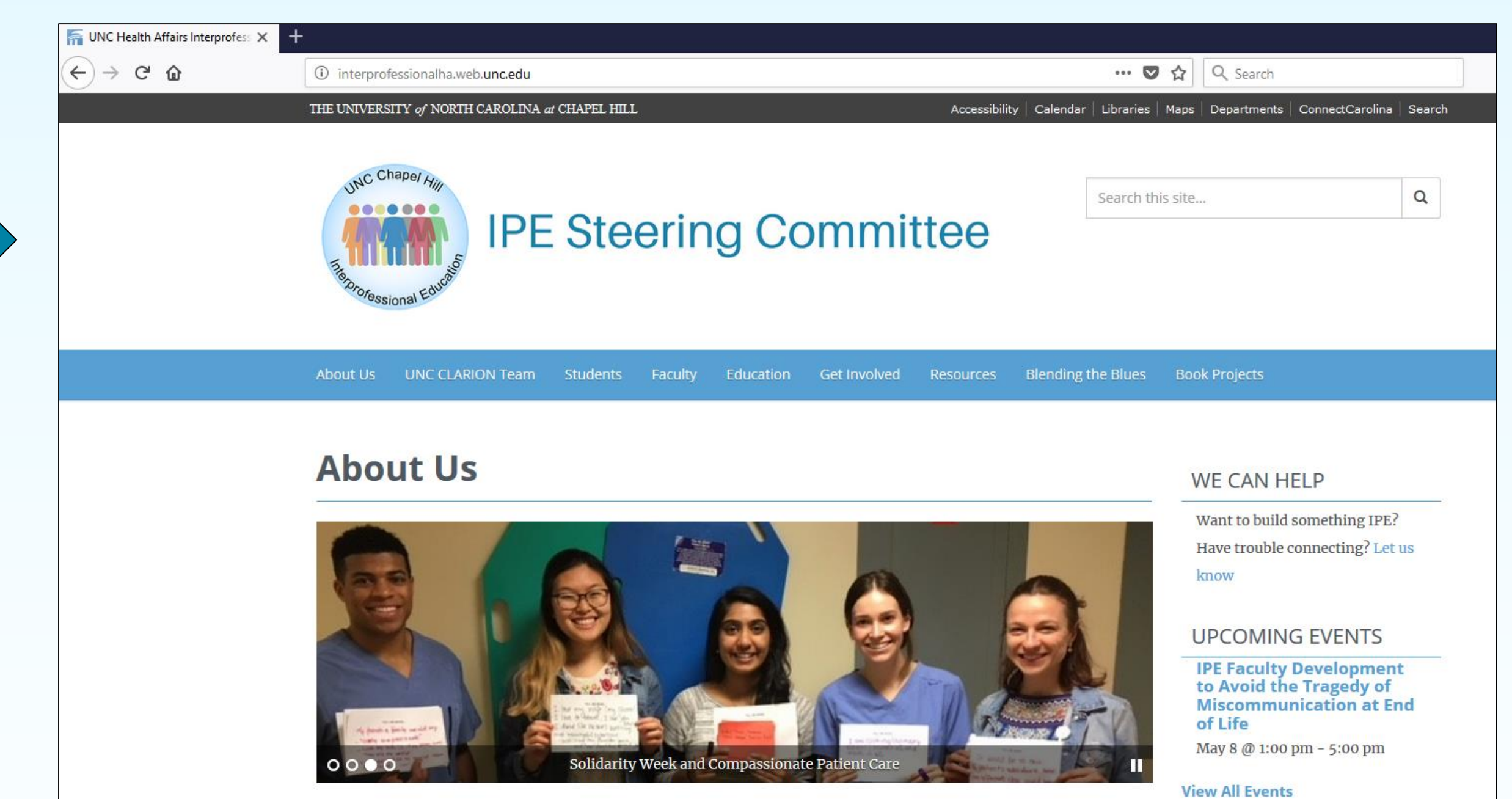
Meg Zomorodi, clinical associate professor in the UNC School of Nursing, will lead the new Office for Interprofessional Education & Practice. This office, established in January 2018, will be housed in the HSL.

Announcement of new office in the UNC *University Gazette* <https://unc.live/2Ha21mE>

Future Plans

The new Office for Interprofessional Education and Practice will be housed in the Health Sciences Library with HSL librarians serving as equal members of the team alongside the Directors in the professional schools. Three areas highlighting the skills of the library include:

- Academic participation and research dissemination
- Clinical and simulation involvement
- Patient and family engagement



IPE Steering Committee website <http://interprofessionalha.web.unc.edu/>

References

World Health Organization: *Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice*. Geneva, WHO, 2010. Available at: http://www.who.int/hrh/resources/framework_action/en/