IOM Global Forum on Innovations in Health Professional Education

Establishing Transdisciplinary Professionalism for Health

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Transdisciplinary Professionalism

an approach to creating and carrying out a shared social contract that ensures multiple health disciplines/professions, working in concert, are worthy of the trust of patients and the public
Terminology

“The world has problems, but universities have departments.”

Brewer, 1999
Unidisciplinary

those from a **single** discipline work together to address a common problem

Adapted from Rosenfield, 1992
Multidisciplinary

those from different disciplines work independently, each from a discipline-specific perspective, with a goal of eventually combining efforts to address a common problem

Adapted from Rosenfield, 1992
Interdisciplinary

an **interactive** process; work **jointly**, each from a discipline-specific perspective, to address a common problem

Adapted from Rosenfield, 1992
Transdisciplinary

an **integrative** process; **synthesizes** and **extends** discipline-specific theories/concepts/methods to create **new** models/language to address a common problem

Adapted from Rosenfield, 1992
Interdisciplinary
or
Interprofessional?
Interprofessional Practice

two or more professions working together as a team with a common purpose, commitment and mutual respect

Freeth et al., 2005
Professionalism

- Fundamental to all professions
- Basis for the social contract
- Articulated in silos
Professionalism

Social Contract

Health Professions
Interprofessional Professionalism

Consistent demonstration of core values evidenced by professionals working together, aspiring to and wisely applying principles of altruism and caring, excellence, ethics, respect, communication, accountability to achieve optimal health and wellness in individuals and communities.

Stern (2006)
Interprofessional Professionalism

Health Professions
Transdisciplinary Professionalism

A Shared Health Profession

Shared Social Contract

SOCIETY

Health Professions
Agenda

- **Today**
  - Morning – Building Blocks
  - Afternoon – Special Topics

- **Tomorrow**
  - Innovations in Teaching Professionalism
  - Feedback on Special Topics
  - Reflections