



In August of 2011, at the opening meeting of the Waldron College of Health and Human Services, the college administration encouraged the faculty to develop an interdisciplinary event that would engage students and faculty from each of the five professional healthcare related programs within the college. This charge reflected the goals of the administration, faculty, and staff of each Waldron College school and department, each of whom endeavor to educate health and human services professionals to competently serve in their own disciplines while professionally engaging with other health care and human services providers to ensure best practices for patients and clients. These goals of improving interdisciplinary communication and collaboration were also identified in the 2001 Institute of Medicine Report, *Crossing the Quality Chasm: A New Health System for the 21st Century*, and *Healthy People 2020* report as critical to providing safe and excellent health and human services care.

The first Waldron College Interdisciplinary Symposium took place in the Spring of 2012, with approximately 100 students and faculty from all five of the Waldron College programs, including Communication Sciences and Disorders, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Social Work. In the Fall of 2012, a faculty member from the School of Teacher Education and Leadership became involved, and both faculty and students in Early Childhood Education joined the Symposium events in Fall 2013 and 2014. Since 2011, the concepts involved in learning and working with others across disciplines have evolved and the term "interprofessional" is now widely accepted as the most accurate terminology to describe the collaborative nature of these interactions and exchanges of ideas. During the same timeframe, Waldron College began holding an interprofessional event emphasizing scholarship and research, the annual Waldron College Interprofessional

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