Student Leadership in Interprofessional Programs: The CLARION Student Board
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Background

CLARION (Clinician Administrator Relationship Improvement Organization) is a student-led, faculty/staff-advised committee within the Center for Health Interprofessional Programs at the University of Minnesota (UMN). It was founded at the UMN in 2001 when two friends, one in medical school and one studying healthcare administration, realized that though they were expected to work closely together in their careers, they actually knew very little about each other’s curriculum or professions. CLARION was then created as an opportunity for students across the Academic Health Center (AHC) to collaborate and work together on sample cases that focus on real world issues. In 2005, CLARION expanded into a national competition; over 20 universities across the nation have participated in the competition, many of which consistently send students to participate in the competition from year to year.

CLARION’s mission is to empower health professions students to work together to build a better healthcare system and this is exemplified by its student board. The CLARION Student Board plays an integral role in the sustainability and success of the local activities at the UMN and the national competition. Students work together to put on an interprofessional competition while gaining interprofessional collaboration experience themselves. The following sections outline the different components and responsibilities of the student board.

Timeline of Annual CLARION Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Board recruitment</td>
<td>Local activity: Friday Night at the ER</td>
<td>Local activity: Interprofessional Dinner</td>
<td>Case competition registration opens for local and national competition</td>
<td>Local and national team registration closes</td>
<td>Local competition kick-off</td>
<td>Local competition Day</td>
<td>National competition Day</td>
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Student Board

The focus of CLARION is interprofessional collaboration, and the student board reflects that in its makeup and recruitment. Students across the AHC interested in being a part of CLARION are invited to apply to be on the student board, regardless of their previous participation in the local or national case competitions. The student board is comprised of students across several health professions. During the 2017-2018 school year, the student board consisted of students studying health administration, nursing, public health, health informatics, pharmacy, and medicine.

Within the student board, committees have been created to provide students with the opportunity to contribute in different forms. Although each member has an assigned position and is the point person for their committee, students frequently collaborate and work across committees to accomplish the board’s goals.

Professions Represented on the Board, 2004-2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pharmacy</th>
<th>Healthcare Administration</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
<th>Nursing</th>
<th>Public Health</th>
<th>Informatics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
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Annual Local Activities

Friday Night at the ER

Friday Night at the ER is a trademarked game that has been used across the globe as an exercise for collaboration and team building. Student board members are tasked with finding the space, promoting, and setting up the game for attendees to play. Attendees spend the night going through the emergency department simulation game and board members lead a discussion afterwards about students’ experience playing the game, and how it serves as an example of the challenges and interprofessional work that happens in the real world.

Interprofessional Dinner

The Interprofessional Dinner is an opportunity for local health professionals to visit the AHC and discuss the role interprofessional collaboration plays in their work. Board members use their personal networks and connections with professionals to find energetic and passionate presenters to spend an evening enjoying dinner with students and discussing their work. Board members develop an evaluation survey for attendees at the dinner to provide feedback as well as suggest improvements, topics, and presenters for the following year.

Future of CLARION

CLARION was founded 17 years ago and continues to grow and evolve on the University of Minnesota campus and at participating schools around the nation. In the future we hope to see more:

- National teams
- Scholarship amount for student competitions
- Collaboration and oversight with national teams
- Participation from other health professions within the student board and the competitions
- Partnerships with local organizations for scholarship and case writing support

Acknowledgements

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