



**National Consortium on Health
Science and Technology Education**

2006 and 2007 Biennial Report
Prepared by Beverly Campbell



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR JANUARY 2008

Serving as chair of the **National Consortium on Health Science and Technology Education (NCHSTE)** has been a rewarding position for me. I appreciate having the opportunity to work with each of you. Thank you for the support, guidance, and encouragement you have provided me during my time as chair.

Reflecting over the past two years, I am proud of our many accomplishments; a new look for our revised Website, a successful biennial curriculum conference in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the revised accountability criteria for the National Healthcare Skill Standards, and our “soon to debut” revalidated online assessment to name a few. Most importantly, this consortium has positioned itself to serve effectively as the national health science career cluster lead.

It is our mission to create dynamic partnerships between business and education to prepare and increase the number of young people who will pursue health careers. The **NCHSTE** provides the leadership and support needed to produce continuous improvement and innovation in the health science program of study.

All members have something to contribute. It is essential to know, to listen, and to be responsive to our membership and our customers. Thank you all for what you bring to the meetings personally and to the consortium from the larger entities you represent. Your contributions continue to assist in moving this organization forward.

As we begin with new leadership and new goals, we are proud of our past, but let us move with persistence toward our goal of preparing a well qualified healthcare workforce. As my tenure ends, I would like to share with you in this detailed biennial report in work we have embarked upon and our accomplishments.

Thank you for allowing me the honor of representing you and this organization. I look forward to working with you in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy H. Allen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NCHSTE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR
JANUARY 2006–JANUARY 2008**

NCHSTE Executive Director's Report for 2006 and 2007



Carole Stacy, NCHSTE Executive Director

NCHSTE has continued to grow in both our scope of work and recognition for that work. From a healthcare workforce and educational preparation for that workforce all of the issues around healthcare shortages continue to permeate the landscape across the country. From my perspective as the Executive Director of NCHSTE we have been fortunate to have a strong Board committed to the NCHSTE mission and work above and beyond to help NCHSTE achieve our objectives. Our work has included:

- Continued as Lead for the Health Science Cluster project
- Completion of a two year beta project to develop interdisciplinary units
- Partnership with the ConnectEd project to expand the interdisciplinary units
- 2006 Health Science Curriculum Conference held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Revalidation (2006) of the Foundation Standards and knowledge and skill statements for those standards
- Revision (2007) of the Accountability Criteria for the Foundation Standards

We thank the NCHSTE Board and the staff of the Michigan Health Council for their contributions to our success.

Biennial Health Science and Biomedical Education Curriculum Conference

The Biennial Health Science & Biomedical Education Curriculum Conference, since its inception in 1988, continues to provide professional development opportunities for

teaching teams across the country. Held every two years the 2006 conference was hosted by Oklahoma Department of Career and Technical

Education. In addition to the 45 sessions on new health science and biomedical practices and strategies there were 20 exhibits to help educators easily explore new classroom resources.

The 2008 conference is scheduled for Raleigh, North Carolina October 22-25.

Kathy Turner NCHSTE Chair-elect Prepares to Take Office

Representing the North Carolina Division of Health Service Regulation, Kathy Turner, Assistant Chief, Health Care Personnel Registry, will take over as Chair of the NCHSTE Board of Directors February, 2008.

“As the incoming chair of the National Consortium on Health Science and Technology Education, I am excited to be involved in an organization which can have such a direct and positive impact on health science education. Through the continued development of innovative curriculum products, the offering of professional development designed to meet educators’ instructional needs, and building effective educational and industry partnerships, NCHSTE will be further positioned to support the efforts of health professions, hospitals and other healthcare employers, educators, professional associations and state education agencies in building the healthcare professions pipeline. The consortium’s efforts must assist educators to empower their students

for effective participation in an international economy as world-class workers and citizens.



Kathy Turner, center, at a recent work session

NCHSTE Plans of Study Project

Representing the Health Science Career Cluster, the NCHSTE Executive Board and invited postsecondary programs partners from the health science pathways along with healthcare industry participants from Eli Lilly, CVS, and Cerner, reviewed the existing Health Science knowledge and skill statements and the proposed health science plans of study and provided updated information. Of particular note is the revised Career Specialization Chart that offers an updated list of careers within each of the Career Pathways.

Although there is some variation between the Health Science Knowledge and Skills statements and the National Health Care Foundation Standards there is an obvious alignment between the two. The final Plans of Study were completed and are available on the Career Clusters at www.careerclusters.org and the NCHSTE web site www.nchste.org. The revised Career Specialization Chart is also available at the NCHSTE web site

The project was funded by the U.S. Department of Education with a grant given to the College and Career Transitions Initiative intended to provide Plans of Study that span grades 9-14 for each career cluster in a similar format.



Health Science and Biomedical Interdisciplinary, Integrated Units

The Health Science and Biomedical Interdisciplinary, Integrated Units of Instruction developed and beta tested by 12 schools in 9 states have been completed. The project, co-sponsored by the NCHSTE and ConnectEd: the Californian Center for College and Careers as well as state and local education agencies in the participating states, has moved into the distribution phase. The completed units that were submitted at a reporting out session in June 2007 have been edited, formatted and published. As a result the initial 16 units were compressed into 10 published units blending similar work from several developmental sites. The final units are:

- Risky Business
- Good Eats
- Waiting to Inhale
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Career Explorations
- Safety First
- Catch the Fever
- Do No Harm
- Second Opinion
- Global Health Summit

The Units of Instruction are designed to:

Improve student's academic achievement by integrating healthcare processes and procedures into core academic curriculum;

Increase interest in healthcare and biomedical careers by introducing students to the variety of opportunities and benefits in the industry; and

Enhance decision-making skills to help students make wise education and career choices.

Workshops are being offered at a number of locations across the states including Sacramento and Los Angeles, California; Mansfield, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; Charlotte, South Carolina; Roseville, Minnesota and Yonkers, New York. In addition a pre-session will be held October 21 just prior to the 2008 Biennial Curriculum Conference that will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina.



Larry Bailey, team lead and Mansfield, Texas team members presenting and responding to questions at Texas workshop

Publisher's Coalition Sponsors NCHSTE Endorsed Health Science and Biomedical Program of Study

Requests continue to be received at the NCHSTE headquarters office and at various workshops and conferences for a health science and biomedical

sequence of courses that are based on the National Healthcare Foundation Standards. To that end the NCHSTE Publisher's Coalition provided grants for writing the course sequence. The sponsoring publishers include:

Applied Educational Systems, Inc
Applied Technologies, Inc
Career Communications, Inc
Elsevier, Inc
Glencoe/McGraw-Hill
Lippincott Williams & Wilkins
Prentice Hall Health
Thomson Delmar Learning

Description of the NCHSTE "developed and endorsed Health Science and Biomedical Program of Study Health Science Sequence is comprised of a series of learning experiences designed for each standard to introduce students to the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for successful employment in the healthcare industry sector. The sequence of learning experiences may be grouped into three courses that equate to 1 Carnegie Unit per course with the courses titled; *Fundamentals of Health Science*, *Principals of Health Science* and *Applications of Health Science*. These three courses cover the National Healthcare Foundation Standards and accompanying Accountability Criteria.

The sequence culminates in the *Concepts of Biomedical and health Science* course of study that prepares students with knowledge and skills based on the results of current research that has evolved from the Human Genome Project and other related findings as it impacts evolving healthcare practices, procedures and ethical frameworks.

Successful completion of the Health Science Sequence offered concurrently with core academic courses recommended in the Health Science and Biomedical Program of Study prepares students for post-secondary programs at the level required to meet their healthcare career goal.

The Health Science Sequence also provides for the option of completing career specific preparation for those students seeking entry-level employment directly following completion of high school in one of the five (5) healthcare career pathways:

- ❑ Biotechnology Research and Development
- ❑ Diagnostic Services
- ❑ Health Informatics
- ❑ Support Services
- ❑ Therapeutic Services

The Health Science Sequence includes work-based/service learning experiences that are age, grade and preparation appropriate. These experiences introduce students to the many healthcare career options and opportunities, inform them of the criticality of academic achievement and provide them with information on the education requirements for each career at both the technical and professional level of entry.

The Health Science Sequence, developed by healthcare professionals and experienced educators with the content derived from field tested applications and strategies that demonstrate student engagement and success." The anticipated completion date is projected for the end of 2008 with individual standards learning experiences available on an interim basis. A request for proposal has been issued for completion of the Health Science and Biomedical Program of Study.



Nancy Allen and Kathy Turner working on designing the sequence format and content

NCHSTE Resource & Information Distribution

The NCHSTE e-newsletter is sent to more than 1000 addresses, more than 425 CD's are distributed each year and the website averages 25,000 "hits" each month.

Healthcare Foundation Standards On-line Test Updated and Relocated

NCHSTE has formed a partnership with CareerTech Testing Center, Oklahoma Department of CareerTech to provide the platform for the National Healthcare Foundation Standards Certificate Assessment. Under the guidance of the testing center representative Jennifer Nuttle, a team from the NCHSTE Board of Directors completed the initial review of the test items previously offered by NOCTI testing services. NCHSTE members participating in the review included Lara Skaggs, Nancy Allen, Kathy Turner, Clarice Morris, Thalea Longhurst, Becky Davis, Beverly Campbell and Carole Stacy.



Lara Skaggs works diligently on the test item review

Kim Smith, a private consultant with extensive test design experience and expertise was contracted to complete a rewrite of the revised materials that will include adequate coverage of the Foundation Standards and accompanying Accountability Criteria (AC) with appropriate weighting and discrimination to ensure a quality test design. After an extensive review and writing process it became clear that additional work was needed to clarify the AC statements. The NCHSTE representatives, under the guidance of Kim and Jennifer prepared an updated version of the AC that resulted in an improved test with items providing full coverage as needed.

The new on-line test will be ready for access in March 2008 at a significantly reduced cost of \$12 per test for both the pre-test and certificate test. Sites within the NCHSTE membership will receive detailed test result reports for the school site and at the state level for comparison studies. These results can be used to meet Perkins or other criteria requirements. Non-member state reports will be limited to school site results.

NCHSTE-Health Professions Network Partnership Continues

Shared issues and concerns emphasize the value of the partnership between these two organizations. NCHSTE representative to HPN Don Richards reports on the following:

"The HPN members are very concerned about healthcare workforce shortage issues across most of the health professions, and, are concerned about the general public's lack of awareness of many of the allied health professions. This lack of awareness affects funding, and the workforce, as many future potential health care professionals lack sufficient awareness of many of the allied health professions. As a result HPN has been working with the Bernard Hodes Group (BHG) to develop a major media campaign to increase awareness regarding the growing crisis in the shortage of, and access to, allied health professionals. It is anticipated that this initiative will serve as leverage to secure corporate and foundation funding to attract individuals to careers in allied health.

As this project moves forward, the relationship NCHSTE has with secondary health science careers programs will become even more important to the HPN membership as this is seen as a major source of future allied health professionals. HPN has also continued to feature the "Allied Health Profession of the Month" and wants to be the conduit that health science secondary programs use to access different professions.

The NCHSTE/HPN partnership works well because each partner truly benefits from the resources of the other."

HOSA Scholarship Awarded

2007 Scholarship Recipient

In June, at the 2007 HOSA National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida, Jeana Dunn, recent graduate of the Academy for Technology and Academics, Conway, South Carolina received the National Consortium on Health Science and Technology Education's scholarship award of \$500. Jeana plans to attend Frances Marion University, Florence, SC in the fall and major in nursing. As honored guests, Jeana and Nancy Allen, NCHSTE Chair attended a special scholarship recipient and sponsor dinner on Wednesday evening of the conference. They were recognized on stage with other scholarship winners and sponsors at the opening session.

2006 Scholarship Recipients

Two scholarships were awarded at the national HOSA Leadership Conference in Nashville, TN. Scholarships were awarded by Chair Elect, Nancy Allen to Molly Dillon, Michigan HOSA and Callie Ottmers, Texas HOSA. These students demonstrated outstanding skills and knowledge and both plan to pursue a career in a healthcare field. They were given their \$500 scholarship awards, that will be used to help defray education costs, at the dinner for special award recipient and awards sponsors.



Nancy Allen with award winners Molly Dillon and Callie Ottmers

NCHSTE Fees Increase

For the first time since the founding of NCHSTE in 1991 it was determined necessary to increase the membership fee from \$1500 to \$2500. The increase will help defray the added travel costs for Board of Director meetings and the increased cost of support services provided to the Board.

NCHSTE Forms Partnership with NAO

During the last year NCHSTE formed a partnership with the National Area Health Education Center Organization - (NAO) is the national organization that supports and advances the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) network in improving the health of individuals and communities by transforming health care through education.

With a similar Mission the affiliation is intended to increase resources and services by collaborative projects and shared information.

AHEC Mission

"To enhance access to quality health care, particularly primary and preventive care, by improving the supply and distribution of health care professionals through community/academic educational partnerships"

The Interdisciplinary, Integrated Health Science Units will be presented to NAO members at their annual professional development conference in Denver, CO, June 2008. Upon completion of the Health Science and Biomedical Program of Study Sequence the results will also be made available to NAO members.

Publisher's Coalition Members Continue to Support National Healthcare Foundation Standards

Members of the NCHSTE Publisher's Coalition are including identification of the National Healthcare Foundation Standards in each of their new and revised published materials and accompanying documents. This inclusion and identification encourages health science teacher teams to address the standards as part of the Health Science and Biomedical Program of Study. As the lesson plans are designed to include the standards students are better prepared for taking and successfully completing the NCHSTE on-line assessment and receiving their certificate of achievement as a result.



NCHSTE

2410 Woodlake Drive, Okemos, MI 48864-3997
(517) 347-3332 <http://www.nchste.org>