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Over 250 Attendees Filled the City of Minneapolis with a Goal of Enhancing the Delivery of Health Science Education Nationwide

Minneapolis, MN –

October 19–22, the National Consortium for Health Science Education brought together more than 250 educators and partners from all over the country for one reason: to enhance the delivery of health science education in America. Some of America's best and brightest educators in health science education convened at the 2010 National Health Science Curriculum Conference for three and half action filled days of discussions, presentations, and activities surrounding the preparation of the future healthcare workforce.

While there were many events in Minneapolis over the week focusing on health science education, one of the most unique and engaging was a pre-conference session that included a daylong field trip to the world renowned Mayo Clinic in nearby Rochester, MN. The goal of providing the teachers access to innovative, emerging medical research, diagnostics and therapeutics was achieved as participants visited eight laboratories:

- 1) Nephrology and Hypertension Research
- 2) Pediatric and Adolescent Research
- 3) Center for Advanced Imaging Research
- 4) Mayo Proteomics Research Center
- 5) Experimental Pathology
- 6) Physiology/Biomedical Engineering
- 7) Advanced Genomics Technology Center
- 8) Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

“The interest, excitement and enthusiasm around health science education here at the conference is a testament to the teachers’ commitment to create seamless programs of study for students interested in health professions, ” said Scott Hess,



Conference opening speaker, Dr. Alexa Canady-Davis was the first African American woman in the United States to become a neurosurgeon.

an educational program specialist at the U.S. Department of Education. Mr. Hess is currently the Branch Chief for College and Career Transitions Programs in the Division of Academic and Technical Education. He was the project lead for the career cluster projects at the department and is currently the lead for the College and Career Transitions Initiative. Providing one of the keynote addresses, Mr. Hess also participated in a concurrent session where participants were allowed to ask questions regarding programs of study, Perkins funding, and other pertinent information of the U.S. Department of Education official.

Participants attended sixty concurrent sessions and four general sessions focusing on strategies to support health science educators as they prepare students for the healthcare workforce needed in the future. The opening session highlighted an inspirational speaker, Dr. Alexa Canady-Davis, the first African American woman in the United States to become a neurosurgeon. Dr Canady-Davis told the audience how she persevered in her studies and overcame educational challenges to graduate cum laude at the University of Michigan Medical School. Throughout her prestigious career in pediatric neurosurgery, Dr. Canady has helped thousands of patients, most of them age ten or younger.

During the conference, the crowd of educators had opportunities to visit the exhibitors' showcase where publishers and other partners shared their latest instructional materials, resources and opportunities available for their classrooms and the students they serve. Following the national conference, the planning phase will begin for the 2012 National Health Science Curriculum Conference, scheduled October 23-26 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

About the National Consortium for Health Science Education

The National Consortium for Health Science Education (NCHSE), is a non-profit organization serving as the leading provider of leadership and professional development for health science education through collaboration among education, healthcare industry, policy makers and professional organizations. The consortium is a national partnership of individuals and organizations with a vested interest in health science education; organized in 1991 to stimulate creative and innovative leadership for ensuring a well prepared healthcare workforce. NCHSE collaboratively defines and advances the framework of health science education through their core values of:

- **N**etworking and Collaboration
- **C**areer Development
- **H**Health Science Framework
- **S**tandards for Quality
- **E**ducation for Future Healthcare Professionals

For more information, visit www.healthscienceconsortium.org