



National Rural Health Association  
Rural Medical Education Conference  
May 4, 2021 - Virtual Event

*“Creating Connections with Rural Distance Education:  
Optimizing e-learning with students, one another, and our communities”*

*\*\*\*All times listed are in EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME\*\*\**

9:30am(EDT)/8:30am(CDT)/7:30am(MDT)/6:30am(PDT)

**\*\*\*Conference will be a live Zoom Meeting - link available through conference platform\*\*\***

**9:30-10 a.m.**

**Welcome/Networking**

**10-10:15 a.m.**

**Introductions/Session Objectives**

*Dave Evans, MD, NRHA Rural Medical Education Committee, Senior Co-Chair*

**10:15-11 a.m.**

**Keynote Presentation**

*Sanjeev Arora, MD, MACP, FACG, Director and Founder of Project ECHO. Distinguished and Regents' Professor of Medicine, the Dept of Internal Medicine at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center (UNMHSC)*

**11-11:15 a.m.**

**Break**

**11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Connecting Across Campuses - Bright Spots for shared:**

*Andrea Wendling, MD FAAFP, Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, Director of Rural Medicine Curriculum and Professor of Family Medicine*

- Curriculum: WWAMI
- Student and Faculty: University of North Dakota School of Medicine & Health Sciences
- Experiences: Michigan State University College of Human Medicine
- Research: Rural PREP - The Collaborative for Rural Primary care, Research, Education, and Practice

**12:30-12:45 p.m.**

**Connecting our Community - Live Variety Show**

*Julia Terhune M.A. Com., M.A., Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, Assistant Director Rural Community Health*

**12:45-1 p.m.**

**Break**

**1-1:30 p.m.**

## Connecting with Learners: Breakout Sessions

Innovation Showcase Rooms - Please select a room to join during this session

### 1. *Cultivating Equity and Diversity: Building Team Relationships and Building Learning Environments (WWAMI)*

This session will introduce a recently formed racial justice working group titled Cultivating Equity and Diversity through Advocacy & Relationships (CEDAR) in the Office of Rural Programs (ORP) at the University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM). Early success and challenges will also be discussed in this interactive presentation.

### 2. *Building Community with First Year Medical Students via the Open Book Project during COVID-19 (Ohio University - Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine)*

Comprehensive look at the The Open Book Project (OBP), an elective course that explores issues of social justice and inclusion in medicine. Grounded in narrative medicine methodology, the OBP equips preclinical medical students with a unique framework for understanding, interpreting and interacting with the lived experiences of others. This session will discuss the potential for virtual delivery of small group activities and their broader applications and relevance to rural medical education.

### 3. *An Old Play for a New Day: e-Discussions with medical students about ethics in rural health (University of Minnesota Medical School Duluth Campus)*

The pandemic unveiled several societal moral and ethical conflicts which were relevant for rural community health. In response, faculty created new sessions that utilized a 134-year-old play by Henrik Ibsen to facilitate discussions about the Activist Physician, the collective good, and the public role of the press and social media. This session will describe the methods used to engender appropriate e-discussions with first-year medical students about rural public health ethics and advocacy issues and consider appropriate modifications for inclusion of this method into current training programs.

### 4. *Robots and Cadavers - Alternatives to in Person Clinical Instruction (East Tennessee State University)*

This session will identify alternative mythologies successfully used to teach ACLS and Male and Female Genital Exams during COVID restrictions. It will recognize strengths and weaknesses in using remote technology (including robots, zoom and videos) for teaching ACLS and recognize strengths and weaknesses for using Thiel cadavers to teach physical exam skills for male and female genital exams.

### 5. *WWAMI AHEC Scholars: An Interprofessional Rural and Underserved Training Program During the Time of COVID (WWAMI)*

This session will highlight best practices in interprofessional teaching in a virtual environment. It will provide an understanding and appreciation of teaching team-based skills as part of healthcare education by highlighting how the WWAMI AHEC Scholars program pivoted to develop worthwhile virtual experiences while cohorts cooperated remotely. Resulting in the most successful WWAMI AHEC Scholars cohort, consisting of 132 Scholars.

**1:30-2 p.m.**

**Breakout Room Debrief**

*Bryan Hodge, DO, MAHEC Department of Community and Public Health, Family Medicine Physician*

**2-2:25 p.m.**

**RME Business Meeting**



**2:25-2:30 p.m.**

**Closing Remarks**

*Bryan Hodge, DO, MAHEC Department of Community and Public Health, Family Medicine Physician*

**Thank you for your attendance and your continued support of NRHA and the RME Conference!  
Join us next year in Albuquerque, NM on May 10, 2022!**