Rural Health Scholars – OE 915

Brief description (200 words or less of course details):

The goal of this course is to foster students' interest in and desire to learn about issues related to practicing in rural and small town communities as well as to help them develop contacts with rural health clinicians and leaders while learning skills useful to rural/small town practice.

Objectives

- To identify and then nurture the interest of students who would like to explore issues related to pursuing a career in rural health
- To help participating students acquire the skills and develop the attitudes necessary to become effective clinicians in rural and small town communities
- To expose students to the important linkages between clinical practice and public health in developing healthy rural communities
- To introduce students to clinicians who are practicing in rural and small town communities in Massachusetts and New England
- To foster relationships among student Scholars and introduce them to others in the medical, public health, and governmental sectors who are working to meet the needs of rural communities
- To foster a connection between medical and graduate school of nursing students who share an interest in rural/small town practice

Semester offered: Fall/Spring (year-long OEE)

Registration information:

If you are interested in participating in this class, contact the student leaders for more information and to register.

Requirements for credit:

- Attend at least 75% of the seminars during the first two years of medical school; during the second two years of medical school, attend at least one seminar in each year OR submit a written summary of one rural clerkship; seminars are offered 6-7 times each year for approximately 90 minutes.
- Have at least one experience--clinical or preclinical--in a rural/small town community; this could be the community medicine clerkship (2 weeks), the family medicine clerkship (6 weeks), an elective (4 weeks), or a summer experience (6 weeks).
• Keep a journal, recording experiences and reflections regarding practice in rural/small town community during one preclinical or clinical clerkship or rotation; submit journal to faculty advisors at the end of that experience.

Contact information (student and faculty leaders):

Faculty advisors:
Suzanne Cashman Suzanne.Cashman@umassmed.edu
Steve Martin Steve.Martin@umassmemorial.org
Janet Hale Janet.Hale@umassmed.edu

Offered in this academic year:  YES