



QUARTLERLY NEWSLETTER » SEPTEMBER 2016

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Executive Director	2
Annual Meeting "Save the Date"	3
Program Spotlight	
Participating Program	4
Become a Participating Program	5
Sponsoring Program.....	6
Rural PREP Grant.....	7
Broadening Our Focus	8
Additional Information.....	9



Photo courtesy of: <http://www.ourupstatesc.info/chattooga-river.php>

Engaging the community in scholarly work can be like **navigating the rapids** of a wild and scenic river in upstate South Carolina. The skills it requires are different than those needed to traverse the Mississippi or the Amazon...

Continue reading on **Page 5** for details about the RTTC Annual Meeting

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www.RTTcollaborative.net

Message from the **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



Growing our Community of Practice and Expanding our Repertoire

I reported in June that “The RTT Collaborative (RTTC) has chosen to expand its focus to all medical education programs in rural places, undergraduate and graduate, and hopes in the future to include all rural health professions – ‘Growing our own...together.’” Shortly thereafter the Departments of Family Medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, and Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, were awarded an Academic Unit – Primary Care Training Enhancement (AU-PCTE) grant from HRSA’s Bureau of Health Workforce. The Rural PREP grant is described on _____ in this edition of the newsletter. Although the grant does not directly fund RTTC, it does support a significant portion of my time here at the university as its associate director and the individual primarily responsible for expanding our community of practice in rural health profession education and training. In our grant application, the community that we proposed to expand is the very community that we’ve already developed under the RTT Technical Assistance program. The grant will provide continuing support to individuals who attend our annual meeting and create an opportunity for us to interact more regularly through monthly rural grand rounds and quarterly sessions devoted to faculty development and scholarly work.

As initially described by Lave and Wenger a quarter century ago, and conceptually refined by others since,^{1,2,3} communities of practice represent an informal or organized learning community or space in which:

1. Members interact with each other in many ways, which Wenger refers to as mutual engagement
2. They...have a common endeavor, which is referred to as a joint enterprise
3. They develop a shared repertoire of common resources of language, styles and routines by means of which they express their identities as members of the group

Throughout the past 6 years we have mutually engaged with many of you around our joint passion for medical education in rural places (our joint enterprise), and, through our annual meetings, breakfasts and workshops associated with PDW, NRHA, STFM, and other meetings as well as in person visits and consultations, we’ve enlarged our community.

1. Wenger E. Communities of Practice: Learning, Meaning and Identity. New York: Cambridge University Press. 1998.
2. Barton D, Tusting K, Ed. Beyond Communities of Practice: Language, Power and Social Context. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2005.
3. Engeström, Y. From communities of practice to mycorrhizae. In Hughes J, Jewson N, Unwin L, Eds. Communities of practice: Critical perspectives. London: Routledge. 2007.

And now we have the opportunity to further consolidate our repertoire around definitions of a “rural program.” The Board at its August meeting and in the weeks following has created our own definition. I am in conversation with the ACGME and hope to publish that proposed definition in some way with their assent in the coming months. I am hopeful that the definition we propose will be useful in the development of rural programs in other specialties and in other health professions. I am also optimistic it will further the purposes of research in rural health professions education, in particular through Rural PREP.

Thanks to those of you have have formally joined the RTTC community as paid participants in the our cooperative of rural programs. We’ve seen steady growth over the past 4 years and an increase in the diversity of programs who participate (See figures on next page). We welcome many more, as we further build the evidence base for our work and the student interest in what we have to offer!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Randall Longenecker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

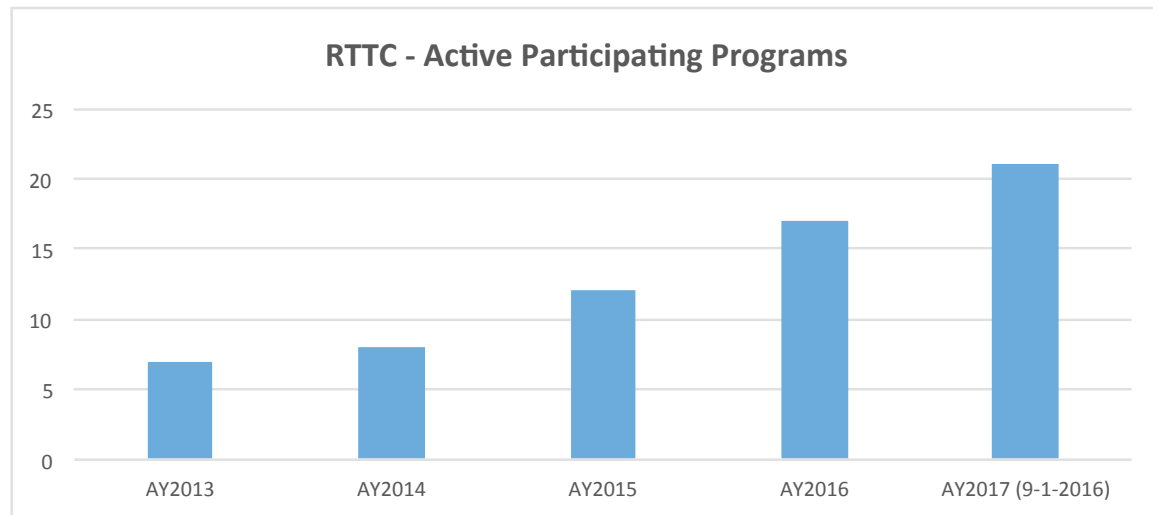
Randall Longenecker MD
Executive Director

Diversity of Programs Growth

RTT Collaborative Dashboard

Program Number

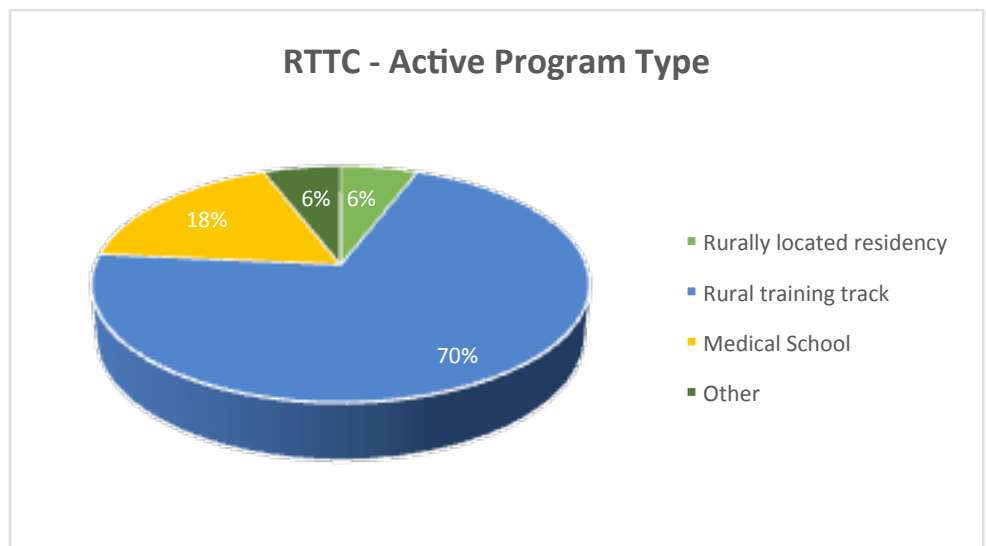
Academic Year	Number of Programs
2013	7
2014	8
2015	12
2016	17
2017 (9-1-2016)	21



RTT Collaborative Dashboard

Program Type

Current Academic Year (2017)	Number of Programs
Rurally located residency	1
Rural training track	12
Medical School	3
Other	1
Total	17



SAVE THE DATE

The RTT Collaborative Annual Meeting
Anderson, SC // April 19-21, 2017

NAVIGATING THE RAPIDS: Engaging the Community in Scholarship



Engaging the community in scholarly work can be like navigating the rapids of a wild and scenic river in upstate South Carolina. The skills it requires are different than those needed to traverse the Mississippi or the Amazon. Adapting the expectations for scholarship crafted in larger academic settings to the scale of rural medical education can be difficult, and fun!

Although sometimes framed as an individual sport, as in kayaking, the most challenging rapids require a team and a raft.

Join rural medical educators, representatives from the ACGME, researchers and policy folks at this year's RTT Collaborative Annual Meeting. Visit the home of Seneca Lakes Family Medicine Residency, engage with leaders from the ACGME on matters of accreditation, experts and peers on matters of curriculum and finance, and participate in a free pre-conference workshop in Community Based Participatory Research, courtesy of **Rural PREP**, a new federally funded collaborative for **Rural Primary care Research Education and Practice**.

Plenary speakers include **Stacey Potts MD**, Chair of the ACGME Review Committee for Family Medicine respectively; and **Peter Carek MD**, previous FM-RC Chair, program director and advocate for scholarship in Family Medicine in South Carolina, now Professor and Chair of Family Medicine at the University of Florida.

Stay tuned for further details in October – a call for proposals, information regarding travel and meeting stipends, and a preliminary agenda.

Photo courtesy of: <http://www.ourupstatesc.info/chattooga-river.php>

Participating Program Spotlight:

HIDALGO

Full Name: Hidalgo Medical Services
Family Medicine Residency Program

Location: Silver City, New Mexico

Contact Information: Jade Zamora,
Program Coordinator

Email: jzamora@hmsnm.org

Website: www.hms-nm.org



What makes your program unique?

- Focus on Rural Training
- Protected Education Time
- Modern Training Facility- newly built, 30,000 square feet
- Intimate Continuity Clinic Environment- only 2 residents per academic year so residents are supported by the entire medical team
- 1.3 Residents to One Faculty
- Unopposed Training- full access to attending physicians
- Richness of Culture- diverse population

What do you want people to know about your program?

Specifically designed in a “1+2” format, HMS FMRP offers top quality Family Medicine resident training in an urban setting in year one, followed by a two-year robust community rural training experience. Decentralizing resident education adds value to the education experience by ensuring that each resident has more community-relevant experiences.

What do you see as the biggest advantage of participating in the RTT Collaborative?

Collaboration at a National level with other RTTs and rural oriented training programs as well as RTT collaborative technical assistance if needed

Become a Participating Program

Have you dreamt of joining a network of communicators dedicated to sustaining health professions education in rural places? Your dream is only a hop, skip and a click away.

Apply to be a participating program with the RTT Collaborative today!

Formal participation in the RTT Collaborative requires an annual fee of **\$2500***. This creates a support structure for rural medical education associates in addition to the following benefits:

- Technical Assistance
- Preventative Maintenance Visit
- Reduced Conferece Fee
- Promotion
- Research Network
- Faculty Development
- Nominations to the Board
- Accredidation Assistance

*Programs-in-development should contact [Dr. Longenecker](#) regarding their particular circumstances, potentially modifying this participation fee and adapting it to your particular program needs.

Grant Announcement:

RURAL PREP

Academic Unit Primary Care Training Enhancement (AU-PCTE) Grant Announcement

Grantor: HRSA Bureau of Health Workforce

Project Title: The collaborative for Rural Primary care Research, Education, and Practice (Rural PREP)

Applicant Organization Name: University of Washington Department of Family Medicine

Project Director: Davis G. Patterson, PhD

Associate Director: Randall L. Longenecker, MD

E-Mail Addresses: davisp@uw.edu and longenec@ohio.edu

The collaborative for **Rural Primary care Research, Education, and Practice** (Rural PREP) is designed to expand capacity in rural health professions education research at two colleges of medicine, one allopathic and one osteopathic, one in the west and one in the east, and to generate and disseminate across an emerging community of practice the evidence needed to grow a quality workforce for underserved communities in rural places. The focus area chosen for this project is "Training for Rural Practice."

In cooperation with HRSA's Bureau of Health Workforce, Rural PREP will: (1) Conduct rigorous research on rural health professions education and foster research conducted by trainees and their faculty and associates; (2) Disseminate best practices and evidence to strengthen the health workforce in rural places; and (3) Expand an existing community of practice and research in rural primary care training and service delivery.

Two research projects have been chosen by a HRSA advisory body for completion in the first year: (1) The Impact of Telepsychiatry Services on the Training of Rural Primary Care Teams in Integrated Behavioral Healthcare; and (2) Measuring the Commitment of Health Professions Schools to Rural Primary Care. Research results will be disseminated widely to engage communities of practice in rural health professions training and primary care delivery.

The University of Washington (UW) Department of Family Medicine, with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and WWAMI Area Health Education Center, will lead the

collaborative. The Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (HCOM) Department of Family Medicine and its Office of Rural and Underserved Programs will partner with UW and coordinate an expanding community of practice in rural health professions education through The RTT Collaborative (aka "Rural Training Collaborative" or RTTC), a nonprofit anchored at HCOM. The Associate Director for Research for RTTC, Dr. Dave Schmitz, will serve as a consultant and direct the dissemination portion of this project.

Building on relationships established through the HRSA-supported Rural Training Track Technical Assistance Consortium (National Rural Health Association, National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health, WWAMI Rural Health Research Center, and the Rural Health Information Hub), this project will formally engage NRHA's Rural Medical Educators, the American Hospital Association's Section on Small or Rural Hospitals, the National AHEC Organization, and 3RNet through a Community Based Participatory Research training strategy, conducting "Research Design and Dissemination Studios," facilitating monthly grand rounds and quarterly faculty development sessions in scholarly activity, and providing travel support to researchers and trainee scholars to present their work in a variety of venues. In contrast to a process in which a researcher publishes in a journal and hopes someone reads the article and puts its findings to use, in community-engaged research, the community that we serve – our students, our faculty, our patients, the larger health care workforce, and so on – participate in the design of the research, and help us in interpreting and disseminating the results. A rural health professions education and training research portal will enable wider and more rapid dissemination of research findings to a widening community of educators as well as to trainees in clinical practice.

Adapted from the grant narrative and HRSA's grantee site: <http://datawarehouse.hrsa.gov/Tools/FindGrants.aspx>

Created in May 2014, the Bureau of Health Workforce administers HRSA workforce programs previously housed in two bureaus: Clinician Recruitment and Service and Health Professions.

Rural PREP

Collaborative for Rural Primary care Research,
Education, and Practice

2016-2021

UW Medicine
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



"an expanding community of practice in rural health professions education and research"

It's Almost Time For...

Year End Giving

Trying to decide who to send that end-of-year donation to? Consider donating to The RTT Collaborative General Fund or the Rural Faculty Development Fund.

THE RTT COLLABORATIVE GENERAL FUND

The role of sponsors is to financially support The RTT Collaborative in its mission through program expansion, increased member benefits, and additional or lower cost services.

Individual sponsors – individual contributors (Charitable contribution of any amount) will receive a regular newsletter and announcements of meetings

Graded level sponsors – individual, corporate and foundation sponsors and social investors (With cumulative levels of sponsorship)

\$10,000 Bronze level

\$25,000 Silver level

\$100,000 Gold level

\$250,000 Platinum level

Greater than \$250,000 – Consider named level program within The RTT Collaborative

THE LONGNECKER RURAL FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FUND

The RTT Collaborative (RTTC) is committed to sustaining health professions education of all types in rural places, with an initial focus on physician education. This restricted fund within The RTT Collaborative will be used to prepare Family Medicine faculty who live, clinically work, and teach in a rural place (using any federally accepted definition of “rural”) to become even better educators and, preferably, program directors of residency programs located in rural communities.

For more information on this fund, <http://rttcollaborative.net/give/> or click the donate button at the bottom. Donations for either fund are welcome at

If you have items you would like to be included in the upcoming edition of the newsletter, please submit these ideas by December 1 to Dawn Mollica at mollicd1@ohio.edu.

Other INFO.

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS?

If you are presenting a research poster at a health professions education related conference this year... **STAY TUNED** for information regarding a travel and meeting stipend of \$1,000.

For more information contact Dr. Randall Longenecker at longenec@ohio.edu.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Beyond Flexner — Rural Community Engaged Health Education

Miami, FL

September 19-21, 2016

Contact Dr. Randall Longenecker for more information: longenec@ohio.edu.

National Residency Coordinator Videoconference Meeting — *"Helping Rural Residents Feel Engaged with the Urban Program"*

October 17, 2016 from 12:30-2:00 (CST)

Contact Kara Traxler for more information: ktraxler@RWHC.com.

GME State Initiatives Summit

Albuquerque, NM

January 22-24, 2017

www.gmeinitiative.org/2017Summit

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