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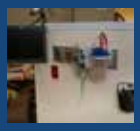
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1994-2014
WISER
20 Years of Simulation Improving Healthcare

Volume 5, Issue 1
October 2014

University of Pittsburgh Chancellor Patrick Gallagher and Distinguished Guests Visit WISER

The 11th Annual University of Pittsburgh Chancellor's Weekend itinerary included a visit to WISER on Friday, September 19th. As the new Chancellor, Patrick Gallagher toured WISER for the first time along with invited alumni and guests from various distinguished backgrounds to see the latest advancements in educational programming.

WISER's director, Dr. Paul Phrampus, gave an introductory presentation describing WISER's evolving role in the University and health system. Following the presentation, the Chancellor and his guests were treated to a hands-on tour of WISER's facilities led by Dr. Phrampus and Associate Director, Dr. John O'Donnell. The tour allowed the guests to experience what a typical student or practicing professional goes through on a daily basis, as well as observe several active courses which included the Emergency Medicine Cases and the Central Venous Cannulation Training courses. Finally, the Chancellor and his guests learned how to perform echocardiography procedures using the latest technology in ultrasound simulation.

WISER would like to extend a warm welcome to Chancellor Gallagher and wish him the best as Chancellor of the University! Hail to Pitt!

Tom Dongilli Authors Chapter in Clinical Simulations in Nursing Education

Tom Dongilli, WISER Director of Operations, recently authored a chapter on Technological Considerations to Run and Manage a Simulation Center in the Advanced Concepts, Trends and Opportunities edition of the Pam Jefferies edited book Clinical Simulations in Nursing. The book is dedicated to addressing the most prominent challenges in nursing education and simulation integration.

http://www.lww.com/Product/9781934758199

ASK OPS

AV settings can be a struggle in a simulation center, especially a center that has many users that like to "adjust their own settings". It is helpful to create a diagram of optimal settings, laminate it and store it under each piece of AV equipment that can be adjusted. This will allow for quick and easy fixes.

DID YOU KNOW?

that WISER's original manikin cost $250,000 in 1994

DID YOU KNOW?

WISER adds approximately two new courses each month?

WISER hosts 2014 SSH Sim Ops Conference

This year, WISER was chosen to host the 2014 Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH) Sim Ops Conference on July 11th and 12th. Over 190 attendees traveled to Pittsburgh from all around the US and internationally to attend this wildly successful conference. This event was designed to meet the growing needs in the field of Simulation (Sim) Operations Specialists. Each day was filled with hands-on workshops and challenges, exhibitor visits, and the mixing and mingling with colleagues.

The symposium was kicked off with a keynote address by Dr. Paul Phrampus, Director of WISER, entitled "Technical Connections: The Foundation of Simulation". His address touched upon the dynamic field of simulation education and the expansive role of the Sim Specialist in today's simulation program environment. Following the keynote address, Dr. Randolph Steadman facilitated the "Critical Components for Team Success" workshop. Participants engaged in fun, interactive, team building exercises that focused on the principles of teamwork and communication.

WISER hosted a series of break-out sessions that the participants chose to attend based upon information about the faculty, learning objectives, and a brief overview of what each session would entail. These sessions were led by professionals in the field of simulation. Some of the topics included "Preventative Maintenance for Manikins", "Going Hollywood with Moulage", "Educational Videos for Under a Grand", "Creating a Simulated Pharmacy", and "Scenario Design Made Easy". These sessions were held both day one and day two.

The Tech Mod Showcase was hosted on the second day at the Hilton Garden Inn. Peer-reviewed submissions were selected based upon their technical and operational relevance to Sim Specialists. The goal of the Tech Mod Showcase was to help foster creative problem-solving solutions for implementation at your Sim Center. Some of the entries included Airway Fire Modification, by our own Kevin Miracle, Manager of Simulation Services at WISER, as well as a Mobile Simulation/AV Cart by Jim Christman, our PC Consultant. Other entries were SimMan-tha, a SimMan modification that allowed for simulation of a cesarean birth, Developing an Electronic Health Record for Simulation through Google Docs, and Building a Pneumothorax Simulator. All of these Tech Mods

(cont.)

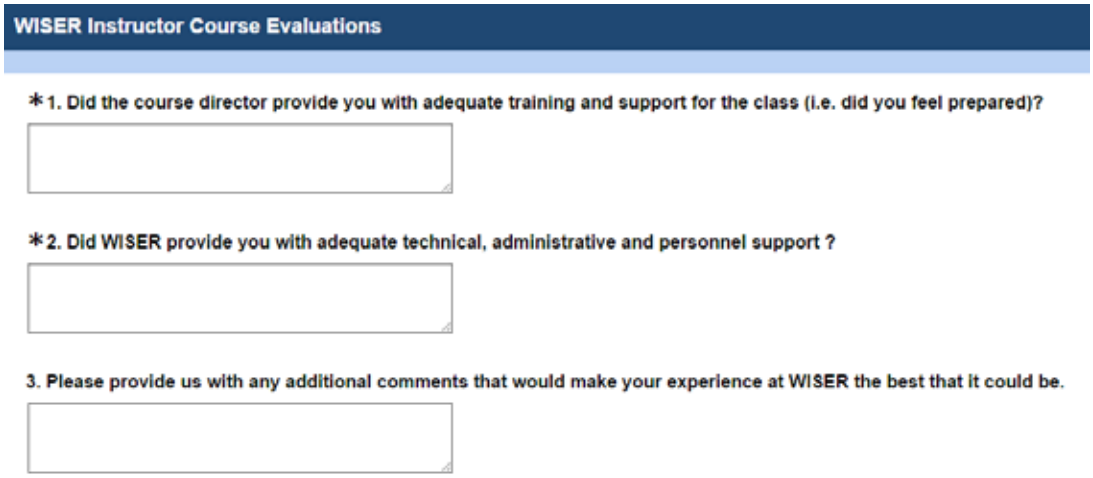
WISER hosts 2014 SSH Sim Ops Conference (cont.)

greatly exemplified how you can modify your equipment to meet the different needs of your simulation center.

Immediately following the close of the breakout sessions at WISER, the participants returned to the Hilton Garden Inn for the Sim Tech Challenge. In this challenge, 3 random teams comprised of 4 colleagues were given every day simulation equipment and tools to run scenarios and solve problems in their simulation center. Congratulations to Team 2 for winning the Sim Tech Challenge! Closing remarks were made by S. Scott Atkinson, the Planning Committee Co-Chair, and his keynote adjourned the event for this year.

WISER Quality Assurance Measures

In an effort to provide WISER users with the best possible experience, we have recently implemented an anonymous quality assurance survey through SurveyMonkey®. The survey was designed to address any potential issues with facilitator training and/or WISER support. Through WISER's learning management system, SIMS, class instructors are automatically emailed a link to the survey where they have the opportunity to discuss any potential problems and/or provide positive feedback. Each survey is linked to the particular class date and time however there is no identifying information about the respondent, rendering it completely anonymous. Survey responses are reviewed on a monthly basis and items are addressed as needed. Since the implementation of this measure, we have received an impressive number of responses and have been able to improve upon the services that WISER provides to its users.


WISER Instructor Course Evaluations

*1. Did the course director provide you with adequate training and support for the class (i.e. did you feel prepared)?

*2. Did WISER provide you with adequate technical, administrative and personnel support ?

3. Please provide us with any additional comments that would make your experience at WISER the best that it could be.

UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

- HOW TO RUN A SUCCESSFUL SIMULATION CENTER
  12/2-3/2014
- ISIM
  12/10/2014, 1/12/2015
- MOCA
  12/13/2014, 1/24/2015

For more course offerings visit www.wiser.pitt.edu

DID YOU KNOW?

that WISER started as a one room simulation center twenty years ago

Tech Tips

SimMan Lubricant

When preparing for any course where the airway will be utilized, having your Sim Man's airway properly lubricated is important. The technique you use to apply the lubricant can be just as important for the long term safety of your simulator.

Applying mannequin lubricant by spraying directly into the simulators mouth may seem easy and make logical sense, but over time all that lubricant can build up. In some cases, The excess lubricant can breech the protective shield in the simulator and get on the main board, causing it to short out, ultimately destroying the board.

Avoid this by using an LMA or an ET tube to lubricate the airway. Apply your lubricant to either device, insert and repeat until the airway is properly lubricated. It cuts down on the amount of lubricant you will use and keeps your simulator safe from lubricant build up.

SimPad Drop Connections

The SimPad can be a helpful tool, however scenarios that are preprogrammed may create issues. Audio can cause the SimPad to lose connection with the linkbox if the scenario moves to a new frame before the audio recording is finished. When programming a scenario for use with SimPad, ensure that actions have time to finish before the scenario is able to move forward.

WISER Utilizes New CAE VIMEDIX Ultrasound Simulator In Point of Care Ultrasound Course

As part of its mission to increase ultrasound training and utilization, WISER recently purchased the CAE VIMEDIX Ultrasound Simulator. VIMEDIX is a ground-breaking echocardiography training platform that offers on-demand learning without risk to live patients. Using computer-generated echo simulation, VIMEDIX teaches learners how to perform cardiac echo imaging procedures and interpret the scanned ultrasound images.

The first course that it was offered in was Dr. Christopher Schott's POCUS (Point of Care Ultrasonography) course. The course introduces participants to the use of focused, point of care ultrasonography to make bedside clinical decisions for the care of acutely ill patients. POCUS is one of the most rapid growing skills in contemporary medicine. It has spread from specific use by Cardiology, OBGYN & Radiology to broader applications for virtually any organ system or procedural guidance. WISER has begun incorporating this technology into more courses involving the use of ultrasound.

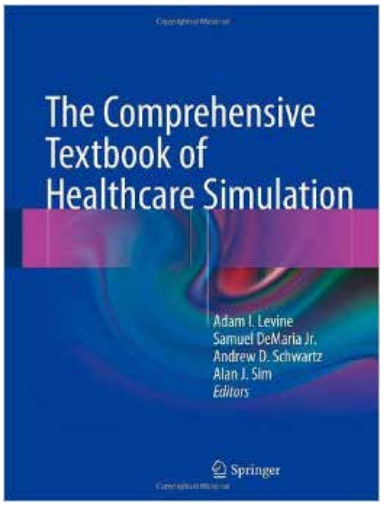
WISER Develops Mobile Headwall Unit

The WISER operations team recently developed a mobile headwall unit. The unit was created in response to the need for a headwall that can be moved from location to location and function independently of standard gas connections. The unit can operate from wall gasses or independently with a compressor unit. The patient monitor and equipment has been installed on it as well.

It is currently located in WISER's Simulation Room 11, where medical, nursing and other students utilize it daily.

For more information on our mobile headwall, the creation of it, or general questions, please contact us at wiserhelp@upmc.edu

Dr. Paul Phrampus, MD and Dr. John O'Donnell, CRNA, MSN, DrPH Author Book Chapter

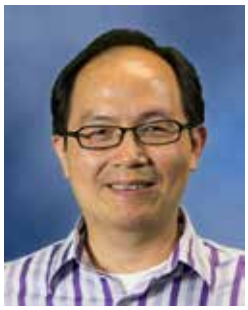


Dr. Paul Phrampus, MD, WISER Director, and Dr. John O'Donnell, CRNA, MSN, DrPH, Associate Director, Nursing Programs at WISER, recently authored a chapter on "Debriefing Using a Structured and Supported Approach" in The Comprehensive Textbook of Healthcare Simulation. The chapter they penned focuses on the Development of the Structured and Supported Debriefing Model, the GAS (Gather Analyze Summarize) Tool, The Theoretical Foundation of the Structured and Supported Debriefing Model, and the different phases of the GAS model. The book was edited by Drs. Adam Levine, Samuel Demaria Jr., Andrew Schwartz and Alan Sim. This book serves as a resource for individuals involved in healthcare simulation and shows how simulation assists with training, assessment, debriefing, and patient safety.

WISER Welcomes New Fellows

WISER is happy to announce that Andrew Musits, MD and Min-Hsin Huang, MD have joined WISER as visiting fellows. Dr. Musits was Chief Resident for Emergency Medicine Residency at Albany Medical Center in New York. During his time here, Dr. Musits will learn about the integration of simulation as a tool for education and assessment for healthcare providers. He is also working to obtain his Master's Degree in Education with a thesis project involving simulation. Dr. Huang is an Attending Physician in the Department of Surgery at National Cheng Kung University Hospital in Taiwan. During his time at WISER, Dr. Huang will focus on developing advanced skills and competencies needed to deliver high-quality, simulation-based clinical education in surgical intensive care units. WISER would like to give a warm welcome to Drs. Musits and Huang.

Andrew Musits, MD



Min-Hsin Huang, MD

Director's Corner

Greetings Friends of WISER,

We have recently had the privilege of sharing what we do at WISER with alumni from the University of Pittsburgh Schools of Health Sciences. It has been a great opportunity to reflect on where we are now in healthcare education compared to where we have come from. The conversations have been enlightening and caused me to realize that we are living in truly remarkable times.

The capabilities and innovations that are possible in healthcare education today are like none other in history. The use of simulation is increasing at an astounding rate in many areas of healthcare impacting the learning curve of students to increase educational efficiency and effectiveness, as well as the ability to create meaningful assessments to ensure acquisition of competency leading to expertise and the maintenance of expertise over time.

As we continue to experience dramatic healthcare reform in the United States and in other parts of the world, we will need to continue on our quest to deliver perfect, error-free healthcare all the while reducing the resources and costs that are necessary to provide it. This sets the stage that is ripe for continued growth and implementation of simulation!

We need to continually evaluate the opportunities and potentials of this learning and assessment modality to maximize its effectiveness in the most efficient ways possible. This includes ensuring that we are thinking of the entire spectrum of innovative education associated with simulation such as virtual patients, standardized patients, task trainers as well as computerized mannequins.

Designing for true educational outcomes is the key to the future! Blended learning strategies that have been common at WISER for the last 20 years; employing asynchronously delivered cognitive content combined with the appropriate uses of simulation will definitely be a cornerstone of healthcare education and assessment of the future.

Happy Simulating,

Paul

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING WISER, PLEASE CONTACT US:

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www.wiser.pitt.edu

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