Background

To contribute to the coordinated implementation of the Quality Enhancement Plan, the LINC Academic Affairs Council has adopted national consensus recommendations jointly developed by the Health Professions Accreditors Collaborative (HPAC) and National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education. One recommendation was the development of program-specific interprofessional education (IPE) plans consisting of the following four components: rationale, outcome-based goals, deliberate design, and assessment and evaluation. Such IPE plans are intended to serve as a mechanism for program leaders to not only document intentions/approaches to achieve profession-specific IPE accreditation mandates, but also to signal to partners, both internal and external to the academic institution, opportunities for synergy and collaboration.

The LINC Academic Affairs Council has developed processes and procedures to operationalize HPAC’s recommendations, which has resulted in the annual production and school-specific faculty governance approval of 12 IPE Plans at UT Health San Antonio. Following approval of IPE Plans, the LINC Academic Affairs Council initiates an annual process to study these plans and identify opportunities for synergy and collaboration, in accordance with HPAC’s vision. The end product is a workplan intended to guide efforts for the following year. The list below represents priorities identified for calendar year 2022.

2022 Priorities

- Embed new and/or existing IPE activities into courses as a way to integrate them into curricula.
- Target the following 4 IPEC sub-competencies in IPE activity development and/or refinement: (VE3) Embrace the cultural diversity and individual differences that characterize patients, populations, and the health team; (RR2) Recognize one’s limitations in skills, knowledge, and abilities; (RR9) Use unique and complementary abilities of all members of the team to optimize health and patient care; and (TT2) Develop consensus on the ethical principles to guide all aspects of teamwork.
- Develop new IPE activities that feature advanced but generic skills that are agnostic regarding profession and transferrable across settings/venues/situations/domains. Examples of topics include, but are not limited to, crucial conversations and psychological safety. Examples of pedagogical approaches include, but are not limited to, simulations and role-playing.
- Align LINC Seed Grant Program funding with IPE Plans to ensure that these projects are addressing identified needs and have the capacity to be sustained long-term. Incorporate a checkpoint or hard-stop from this Council before finalizing funding decisions.
- Leverage LINC’s infrastructure to initiate development of a longitudinal series of IPE activities intended for all students that progresses along a continuum of learning from basic to intermediate to advanced; for example, from the LINC Common IPE Experience to an IPE simulation to an IPE activity within a clinical learning environment.