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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**January 13, 2020**

## **Medical College of Wisconsin students win \$3,000 in statewide healthcare case competition hosted by Wisconsin AHEC**

A team of Medical College of Wisconsin students studying various health fields earned \$3,000 for winning first place at a statewide healthcare case competition organized by Wisconsin AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) on January 9 & 10, 2020.

First-place team members were Medical College of Wisconsin students representing Milwaukee AHEC: Megan Cory (MCW, Medicine), Wasif Osmani (MCW, Medicine/PhD), and Cassandra Rucks (MCW, Pharmacy).

The Medical College of Wisconsin team competed in the Wisconsin Dells against eight finalist teams chosen from 18 that applied. The teams were made up of students from private and public universities across the state with each of the seven Wisconsin AHEC regions represented.

The students were assigned a case study of a complicated situation and worked together for two months to conduct an analysis of the efforts and opportunities within the community setting. The team then traveled to the Wisconsin Dells to present their findings and recommendations for enhanced interprofessional collaboration. On the competition day, each team presented its findings and recommendations for collaboration to a panel of judges.

The panel of judges consisted of leaders from multiple disciplines within Wisconsin's healthcare community: Betsy Roesler, Richland County Drug Free Communities Coordinator; Rachelle Lancaster, Assistant Dean/Director of Pre-Licensure Programs at University of WI-Oshkosh; Roger Rego, CFO of Bridge Community Clinic; Kristin Stearns, Executive Director of Lakeshore Community Health Centers; and Logan Stiegman, AHEC Alumni.

Further recognition goes to the Concordia University of Wisconsin team taking second-place and a \$2,000 cash prize and to the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College team taking third-place and a \$1,000 cash prize.

The Wisconsin AHEC System is a non-profit organization funded by federal grants, the State of Wisconsin, the state's health professions training programs, and local communities. It consists of seven regional centers and one statewide program office. Wisconsin AHEC is a health professions education and outreach program that is part of a nationwide network of programs working to improve accessibility and quality of primary health care while encouraging universities and educators to partner in addressing local health care problems. Wisconsin AHEC provided meals and lodging for students attending the competition, along with opportunities to network with healthcare professionals from around the state. For further information, see [www.ahec.wisc.edu](http://www.ahec.wisc.edu).

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