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| **2016 Women for ATSU Awards Application** | |
| **Timestamp** | 3/15/2016 5:33:08 |
| **PROJECT TITLE** | Seeing is Believing: Enhancing Osteopathic Manipulative Skill Training by Real-time Responses |
| **FUNDING REQUEST** | $9,360 |
| **PROJECT BUDGET** | 80 Cerebral oxygen sensors @ $117.00 |
| **MINIMUM FUNDING REQUESTED** | While it would be ideal to have 80 students be able to experience the sensors, we will be able to scale our training lab down to 40 students who use sensors at $4680. |
| BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION | ATSU-SOMA's model of training osteopathic medical students has been predicated on innovation since its beginning. This educational model is learning-centered and uses a highly interactive small group approach. One of the skills that is especially suited to small group learning is the development of a finely honed sense of touch that is critical for accurate osteopathic diagnosis and osteopathic manipulative treatment (OMT). Currently, in a small group format, students practice on their peers. The students provide feedback to each other and guide their partner in refining pressure and application of forces. In addition, students use non-invasive objective measurements to observe real-time responses in their partner in response to their OMT. As an example, changes in heart rate, limb blood flow and muscle strength are successfully measured. This helps the student gain confidence about their OMT effectiveness. The students have rated this experience positively and it has become an integral part of their learning OMT.  We would like to enhance the students' measurement capability by adding forehead sensors that non-invasively measure head and neck blood flow. The disposable sensors are placed on the forehead and reflect any changes in head and neck blood flow in response to OMT. While our current capability allows for limb blood flow these sensors expand the ability to observe changes beyond the limbs. This reinforces the concept that OMT is a whole person response. |
| **EXPECTED OUTCOMES** | The outcomes that are expected are : 1). Osteopathic medical students develop confidence in their skill development of OMT skills through objective measurements. 2) Demonstrates that OMT is a powerful intervention through whole body blood flow that promotes healing.  2). Reinforces the Osteopathic tenets " The body is an integrated unit of function" and structure and function are inter-related function. |
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| **DEAN’S APPROVAL** | Yes |