



Rural Dentistry

Need, Challenges, and Options

Recommendations for new initiatives

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Board of Visitors Meeting

Where do we go from here?



Someone has to take the first step

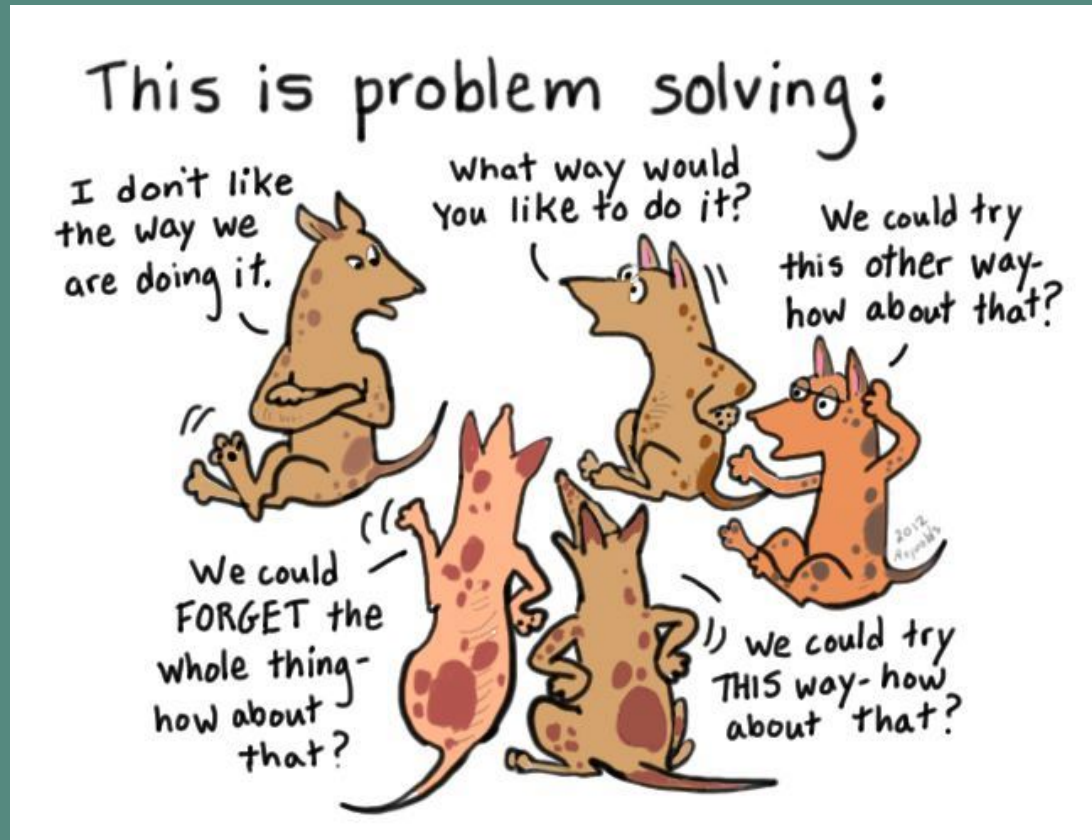
Proposed Program Goals

- Career guidance and placement services for all students & spouses
- Recruitment to and retention in rural areas
- Produce graduates confident in their ability to address majority of oral health care needs
- Responsive to professional and community needs
- Promote integration of the health care team –
 - Hygienists, therapists, dentists, and beyond

Considerations

- School of Dentistry (in-house), separate centralized facility (Duluth?), dispersed locations (MNSCU or outreach expansion)
- Curriculum focus - Rural Track; alternate tracks (teaching, research, pre-specialty training, general dentistry,???)
- Expand enrollment; integration of Hygiene and Therapy
- Institute career counselling and placement services for students and spouses; educate communities-in-need (and health systems) about recruitment and retention
- Role of organized dentistry

Discussion and alternative ideas



Thank you