







May 6, 2022

## Dear Student:

Welcome to the School of Public Health! During your educational career at UNTHSC, you will come to learn that the various fields of health care thrive when professionals engage in collaboration. As such, the university offers numerous opportunities for students training in our health professions to participate in interprofessional education (IPE) experiences. Through collaborative teamwork, IPE is an opportunity for students from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines to come together with the goal of creating solutions for healthier communities and safer health care systems. As part of the collaborative experience, the 2022 IPE Common Reading Program is a shared learning experience for students from the disciplines of TCU Communication Sciences & Disorders, TCU Athletic Training, TCU Dietetics, TCU Nursing, TCU Social Work, UNTHSC School of Public Health, and UTA School of Social Work. Our goal for this interactive discussion is to stimulate meaningful conversations about the profession that you are entering while learning about many possibilities to make a difference. Additionally, it is our hope that this book will illustrate the diverse roles and responsibilities that are found in the fields of health care and ask you to think about injustices that occur in the communities we live and work in.

This year's selection for the 2022 IPE Common Reading is *The Other Wes Moore*: *One Name, Two Fates* (2011) by Wes Moore. *The Other Wes Moore* tells the story of a generation of boys trying to find their way in a hostile world. Two kids named Wes Moore were born blocks apart within a year of each other. Both grew up fatherless in similar Baltimore neighborhoods and had difficult childhoods; both hung out on street corners with their crews; both ran into trouble with the police. How, then, did one grow up to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader, while the other ended up a convicted murderer serving a life sentence? Wes Moore, the author of this fascinating book, sets out to answer this profound question. In alternating narratives that take readers from heart-wrenching losses to moments of surprising redemption.

Trigger Warnings: Moore's best-selling novel explores controversial issues such as violence, drug use, murder, poverty, the criminal justice system, and class and race discrimination. This content and discussion are highly relevant to events that have taken place the last year and may cue you to reflect on historical and current responses to social determinants of health and social movements. For others, the book and discussion may personally affect or impact you based on your life experiences, so we encourage everyone to prepare themselves emotionally before reading. Resources are available on campus that can be of assistance should you feel the need to discuss any personal reactions that you may have because of reading this book. You can reach our Care Team at HSC for more information on how to access counseling resources. The Care Team can be reached at 817-735-2740.

In preparation for the IPE Common reading event which includes a virtual interactive discussion on Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup>, from 3:30 pm-4:30 pm, by zoom (link to be provided closer to the date) followed by a discussion board online. We are suggesting that you obtain a copy of the book- *The Other Wes Moore*: *One Name, Two Fates* (2011) and read it over the summer (ahead of the pressure that the fall semester may bring). As you read through the book, you will need to complete the guided reading and self-reflection questions (attached). You will be able to use your complete guide to assist you with the IPE Common Reading event on Thursday 9/08/22. Should you have any questions about the 2022 IPE Common Reading Program, please contact Dr. Kayla Fair at Kayla.Fair@unthsc.edu.

We look forward to seeing you at our first interprofessional experience of the year.

Sincerely,



Kayla Fair, DrPH, MPH, RN | Assistant Professor

**Public Health Education** 

School of Public Health

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