The annual meeting of the Network: Towards Unity for Health (TUFH), a WHO affiliated organization, was held in Shenyang, China, July 25-29. The theme of the conference, which had over 360 participants, was ‘Building Trust: A Global Challenge in Health System Reform’. Hana Hinkle, MPH, Assistant Director for Rural Health Development at the National Center for Rural Health Professions, and Clinic Associate with the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford, presented a poster she co-authored with Jenna Vater, MA, Health Professions Educator, Native American Pipeline Program, ‘The Native American Pathways Program: Supporting the Pipeline Trajectory by Responding to Tribal Community Needs’. Dr. Michael Glasser, Associate Dean, Dr. George & Mrs. Mildred Mitchell Professor of Rural and Family Medicine, National Center for Rural Health Professions (NCRHP), University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford, participated as a member of the executive committee of Network: TUFH and convened a session entitled ‘Meet the Editors’ to discuss writing papers for publication in the journal Education for Health.

Since 1972, the College of Medicine at Rockford has focused on building an academic medical institution committed to education, research and innovation, and clinical service in the surrounding communities. The College has become a center for internationally recognized research efforts funded through grants awarded by government agencies, private foundations and other resources. Today, the University of Illinois Rockford Campus is a regional health sciences center, home to the College of Pharmacy program, the College of Nursing advanced degree program, the master’s in medical biotechnology program, a public health certificate and Health Systems Research.

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(PHOTO – Hana Hinkle with her poster ‘The Native American Pathways Program: Supporting the Pipeline Trajectory by Responding to Tribal Community Needs’