Interprofessional education (IPE) typically focuses on implementation of learning experiences in students’ curricula. However, powerful interprofessional learning can occur through co-curricular, non-academic-credit bearing activities, particularly time-intensive experiences. At the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), we have developed several of these. The purpose of this presentation is to examine outcomes associated with students’ participation in IPE co-curricular activities.

All 2008 and 2009 MUSC graduates were asked to complete a survey that included items from the Readiness for Interprofessional Learning (RIPLS) scale and the Interdisciplinary Education Perception Scale (IEPS). Respondents were to indicate participation in as many as applicable of the institution’s IPE co-curricular activities.

The IPE co-curricular experiences include: a year-long “Presidential Scholars” program, a summer immersion practicum, the CLARION competition, a student-run clinic, university student government participation, and volunteer health education with school children. To determine attitudinal differences between students who had participated in at least one of these versus students who had no IPE co-curricular experience, descriptive statistics were conducted based on the subscales of the two instruments. Regression analysis was performed to determine if the number of activities participated in (1 or more) was predictive of students’ attitudes.

659 (48%) of graduates completed the survey. Of these, 52% (341) indicated participation in at least one activity. Of the seven scales from the two instruments, only the IEPS “perceived need for cooperation” scale was marginally significant (p=.053) between the two student groups. The number of IP experiences was a significant predictor for this subscale as well (p<.05).

Findings suggest that students’ participation in IPE co-curricular activities may promote more positive attitudes towards the need for cooperation. Institutions should explore development of IPE co-curricular