Jon Kerstetter, MD

The Native American Center for Health Professions at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health welcomes Dr. Jon Kerstetter, a member of the Oneida nation, and military veteran.

Dr. Kerstetter received his medical degree from the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota, and his MFA degree from Ashland University in Ohio. He practiced emergency medicine and military medicine, serving as a combat physician and flight surgeon for the U.S. Army National Guard and completing three combat tours in Iraq. He has also taught disaster relief and practiced emergency medicine in Kosovo, Bosnia, Rwanda and Honduras.

This lecture will focus on the changes in modern Native educational paradigms. This includes shifting from the ‘traditional’ pathways of Native education in the disciplines of social sciences to that of education in the Health Sciences and Health Professions. The lecture will look at prior and present attitudes in education which act as boundaries to professional education or which may in some institutions act to augment and encourage professional education. Dr. Kerstetter will also discuss institutional and individual culture as it relates to education. Using examples from his recent book, Crossings, he hopes to challenge students to look to their own strengths and desires to set the course for their own professional education.