Global Health Program Activity Report

July 2014 - July 2015

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Global Health Program Activities July 2014- July 2015

In Canada

Toronto International Program in Strengthening Family Medicine & Primary Care (TIP-FM)

The TIP-FM 2015 program ran from June 1-12, 2015. A key success of the program this year was a larger cohort representative of various countries and stages of development of family medicine around the world. The 2015 class consisted of thirteen participants, representing six different countries: China, Brazil, Ethiopia, Kenya, Haiti, and Thailand. Dr. Kerling Israel (Haiti) and Dr. Wisree Wayurakul (Thailand), both alumni of the DFCM, were invited as visiting faculty for the program.

The course received excellent reviews from participants and invited faculty.
Chilean Interprofessional Program in Primary Care & Family Health

Since 1999, the DFCM Global Health Program, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health of Chile, has offered a program for the professional development of Chilean primary health care workers.

In 2014 participants of the Chilean Interprofessional Capacity Building Program in Primary Care included one doctor, five midwives, two kinesiologists, three nutritionists, and a dentist. The curriculum included workshops on different aspects of family medicine and primary care in Canada as well as numerous site visits to community health centres including the Toronto Birth Centre, Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services, St. Michael’s Academic Family Medicine Health Team (410 Sherbourne), Anishnawbe Health and others.

Celebrating 15 years of Chilean Interprofessional Program in Primary Care & Family Health

In December 2014, the DFCM hosted a celebration of the 15 years of the Chilean Interprofessional Program in Primary Care & Family Health and collaboration with Chile’s Ministry of Health. Guests at the celebration included the 2014 program participants and invited a special representative from the Ministry of Health in Chile to Toronto, Mr. Juan Vielmas, Chief of Staff, Undersecretary of Assistance Networks. During his time in Toronto, Mr. Vielmas met with program participants, visited health care centres and the College of Family Physicians of Canada, and attended meetings with a number of DFCM faculty and the chair Dr. Lynn Wilson. Mr. Vielmas’ visit was fruitful: his insights will inform our course delivery in the future, and positively enhance our collaboration to deliver high quality training to primary care professionals in Chile.
Family Medicine and Primary Care in the Global Health Context (CHL5618H) Graduate Course

From January-April 2015 the Global Health Program delivered the course “Family Medicine and Primary Care in the Global Health Context (CHL5618H)” co-led by Drs. Katherine Rouleau, Curtis Handford & Frieda Chavez (Faculty of Nursing). A key focus continues to be the history and evolution of primary care, within a broader social policy context as well as a comparative analysis of case studies from around the world, including the Americas, Africa, Asia, Gulf States & the Middle East. Invited guest faculty in 2015 included Dr. Tara Aird, Dr. Ryan McKee, Dr. Lisa Graves, Dr. Samantha Pereira França (Brazil), and Dr. Nicolas Barticevic Lantadilla (Chile) among others.

Speaker Series: “Connections: Primary Care and Family Medicine in the Global Health Context”

For the second year in a row, the Global Health Speaker Series was a great success, as evidenced in strong evaluations. Our robust line-up of speakers for the 2014/2015 series included:

- Dr. Neil Arya: “Exporting Canadian Family Medicine: Capacity building or Neo-colonialism?"
- Dr. Solomon Benatar: “International Health Contrasted with Global Health and Conceptual Links between Caring for Individuals and for Populations”
- Akwatu Khenti, PhD: "Global Mental Health and the Challenge of Stigma"
- Dr. Jane Philpott: "How and Why in Global Health: Exploring Our Messy Mix of Motivations"
- Stephanie Nixon, PhD: "Who me? Power and privilege in global health".
- Dr. Israel Kerling, Dr. Yiming Zhang, and Dr. Wisree Wayurakul: “Family Medicine around the World: Perspectives from Haiti, China, and Thailand”
Global Health in Family Medicine Summer Primer (GHSP)

The DFCM Global Health in Family Medicine Summer Primer (GHSP) ran from July 14 to 18, 2014. In total three residents, two physicians, and one allied health professional participated in the program. The program received excellent reviews by participants. The GHSP included various didactic sessions on global health and family medicine, a networking breakfast, reflection exercise, and student presentations.

Cities of Learning Symposium

In a run up to the Pan Am games, a two-day symposium, Cities of Learning, was held at the University of Toronto about the ways in which research-intensive universities in the Americas engage with and contribute to their respective cities/regions. As part of the symposium, the DFCM represented the Faculty of Medicine with a session titled “From Poor to powerful: propelling health through human potential”. Organized by Drs. Katherine Rouleau and Lynn Wilson, the session included presentations by Dr. Martim de Medeiros Junior (Faculdade Santa Marcelina, Brazil), Mr. Mike Creek (Voices from the Street), Ms. Brit Ellis (Ryerson University) and Mr. Richard Marsella from the Regent Park School of Music.

Global Health Competencies for DFCM residents

The DFCM Global Health competencies committee revised the Global Health & Equity Centered Core Competencies for DFCM Residents. The DFCM Global Health competencies pertain to the medical care
of individuals and populations made vulnerable on account of inequitable social determinants of health in the context of family medicine delivered in Canada. The competencies were submitted to the Post Graduate Office so they may be included in the curriculum review.

International

Toronto Addis Ababa Academic Collaboration in Family Medicine (TAAAC-FM)

In February 2015, the TAAAC FM program welcomed a third cohort of nine residents bringing the total number of family medicine trainees in Ethiopia to twenty-one. Ethiopia’s first family medicine physicians will graduate in February 2016. This first group of graduates will also become Ethiopia’s first Family Medicine faculty.

Dr. Praseedha Janakiram travelled to Ethiopia in January 2015 to supervise second-year Family Medicine residents from the University of Toronto and participate in teaching activities for AAU FM residents. Dr. Joanne Laine-Gossin was also in Addis participating in the orientation for the new residents with a focus on Quality Improvement (QI) training for them and for select faculty. The QI training was received quite well by our Ethiopian colleagues and trainees. Dr. Anne Biringer and Dr. Vanessa Redditt, a PGY3 in Global health, were also in Addis conducting Advanced Life Support in Obstetrics (ALSO®) training.

The second annual Family Medicine meeting was held on January 30th, 2015, which included a focus on the potential contributions of Family Medicine to the Ethiopian health care system, and the development of a roadmap to the integration of Family Medicine into the Ethiopian Health Care System. Parallel to the meeting, a program review was conducted. The review indicated that the Family Medicine residents are highly engaged in the program. Consistent with the original intent of the supporting institutions, the Program is ready to evolve to fuller assumption of responsibility by Ethiopian leaders, reduced reliance on expatriate faculty, and expansion to other sites for training in the coming year.

During the week of June 22-26th 2015, Dr. Abbas Ghavam-Rassoul and Dr. Judith Peranson delivered the first phase of Interprofessional Applied Practical Teaching and Learning in the Health Professions (INTAPT) training in Ethiopia to over 30 residents from various programs. All of the Family Medicine residents attended the training. The second phase of the program will be delivered in late October 2015.

PGY3 in Global Health & Vulnerable Populations

In July 2015 we were pleased to welcome the incoming PGY3 trainees, Drs. Melanie Henry, Dr. Edward Rooke, and Dr. Vanessa Redditt.
Following six months of selectives in Canada, Drs. Henry, Rooke and Redditt travelled to Brazil for a six month global health practicum at FASM (Faculdade Santa Marcelina, Sao Paolo, Brazil). The DFCM and FASM have an established educational partnership to collaborate in a variety of educational activities with an aim to mutually strengthen medical education and family medicine training.

**Global Health Electives**

An average of 10 residents per year undertake global health electives in different parts of the world including Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. All global health electives must be a minimum of four weeks in duration and must occur under adequate supervision. In 2014-2015 DFCM residents completed international electives in Brazil, Dominica, Peru & Ethiopia.

**Scholarships and Research**

In 2014-2015 the Global Health Program was engaged in a number of scholarly and research projects.

**IDRC Grant: Strengthening primary care through family medicine around the world: collaborating towards promising practices**

The project “Strengthening primary care through family medicine around the world: collaborating towards promising practices” is ongoing. The project is collaboration with our colleagues at Université Sherbrooke, McMaster University, the University of British Colombia, Addis Ababa University, Faculdade Santa Marcelina (Sao Paolo, Brazil) and colleagues in Rio de Janeiro. The project aims to produce a compilation of case studies on the development of family medicine in the selected local contexts (Ethiopia, Brazil, Mali, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya and Canada).

On November 10th -11th, 2014, Canadian and international delegates gathered for a two day workshop as part of the project. Delegates from each of the participating countries presented their case study and outlined key enablers and challenges in the development and strengthening of family medicine in their local region.
In addition to rich exchanges of experiences, participants engaged in discussions of the collective lessons learned across the case studies, common challenges and opportunities, and future directions for the project.

Consensus was reached regarding the need to disseminate the results of the case studies. Participants elaborated some of the following as future directions: a) the case studies should be prepared for publication in article and/or book formats and; b) a second phase of the project should involve the development of a toolkit in the development of family medicine.

**Conferences & Publications**


**International Visitors, Meetings & Delegations**

In 2014-15, the Global Health Program hosted a number of guests, meetings and delegations including:

- Mr. Juan Vielmas, Chief of Staff, Undersecretary of Assistance Networks, Ministry of Health in Chile
- Dr. Samantha Pereira, Family Medicine Residency Program, Municipal Secretary of Health, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Dr. Martim de Medeiros, Faculdade Santa Marcelina, Sao Paolo, Brazil
- Drs. Assefa Beyene & Sawra Getnet, Addis Ababa University, Family Medicine Residency, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Costa Rican delegation, BK Singh, Coordinator Global Masters in Health & Sustainable Development Program, EARTH University, Costa Rica
• Family medicine in Haiti 2015-2021 consortium: University of Sherbrooke, University of Toronto, Canada College of Family Physicians (Besrour Centre), Partners in Health, Partners in Health Canada Zanmi Lasanté, University Hospital of Mirebalais (Department of Education)
• Department of Health, Universidad Católica de Temuco, Chile: Master of Science in Family and Community Health with a focus on intercultural health
• From July 6-17, 2015 the Global Health Program hosted Estefania Cintra, Enialyn Fontino and Mariela Zaros, medical students from Faculdade Santa Marcelina (FASM) in Sao Paolo Brazil. During their visit they observed local family medicine practice.