“How to Build Ethics and Values into Collaborations: Insights from UM-Ethiopia Partnership”

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Models of Collaboration with the Global South

• Neither primary health care or disease-oriented intervention, alone has been successful in achieving the goals of global health (despite decades of significant funding).

• Shift in focus to the development of efficient and responsive health systems (health systems strengthening & Capacity building)

Western Institutions in LICC

How do we become relevant??
• Getting involved with long-term commitments
• Working with bilateral and multilateral group (universities, civil societies, government, NGOS)
• Developing health systems* and building capacity

*WHO definition “all the activities whose primary purpose is to promote, restore, or maintain health.”

Mutually Beneficial Academic Partnerships

• Potential benefits for hosts
  — Increase workforce capacity
  — Access to resources —

• Potential benefits for visitors
  — Career advancement, publications
  — Professional intrigue

• Mutual potential benefits
  — Reciprocal learning - social constructivism
Ethics in Collaboration

• Academic partnerships
  – Assess power differentials, risk/benefits
  – Dialogue about motivation
  – Kant - moral value determined from perspective of moral agent not outcome

Requirements for ethical engagement

Requirements for making moral progress in international collaborations for medical education (adapted from Benatar and Singer 2000)

• Raise awareness of ethical implications of academic partnerships
• Ensure that educators comprehend and are sensitive to the social, economic and political milieu
• Encourage members of the host country to lead design and conduct of the curriculum
• Ensure that educational materials are of direct relevance to the health needs of the host country

Benatar and Singer 2000

Requirements for ethical engagement

• Evaluate whether curricular content/recommendations could be incorporated into the local healthcare system
• Provide content they would not ordinarily get through local resources
• Prevent disparities from becoming more deeply entrenched by unequal educational opportunities in regions of educational initiatives
• Pursue initiatives to build the capacity of healthcare professionals in the host country

Benatar and Singer 2000

Ethiopia—Where it all began

Lucy 3.2 Million years
Selam—3.3 M years
The birth place of coffee

Benatar and Singer 2000
UM-Ethiopia Partnership

My Story as a Global Diaspora

- An Ethiopian diaspora
- Roots in developing world
- Early exposure to inequities and social injustices
- US culture and education
- Motivation, drive responsibility, persistence!

Ethiopia: Background
- Horn of Africa
- Total population in 2011 = 90 million
- Life expectancy of 59 years
- Health expenditures: $15.71 per capita (2010)
- Decentralized & Federal structure
- Nine Regional States and two City Administrations

Human Resources for Health

- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Southeast Asia
- Middle East and North Africa
- Western Pacific
- Americas
- Europe
**Human Resources for Health (HRH)**

UM-Ethiopia HRH Program - is working to improve the quality and quantity of health professionals in Ethiopia by means of sustained collaborations with University of Michigan schools of medicine, nursing, natural resources and environment biomedical engineering, and public health.

**Ethiopian Government Initiatives on improving HRH of the country**

- Eighteen medical schools in the last eight years (SPHMMC)
- New Medical Education Initiative (NMEI) (MOH)
- 38,000 Health Extension Workers
- Task Shifting/IESO

**50 people who will change the world in 2012**

Melinda Gates – cofounder, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation selects.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus – Minister of health, Ethiopia
UM-Ethiopia Partnership Initiation

- Only 3 year old Partnership
- March 2011 Dr. Tedros Adhanom visited UM to explore partnership opportunity
  - Request to partner with SPHMMC to strengthen medical education/health systems and Capacity building (post graduate training, particularly establishment of OBGYN Residency Program)
  - Request to help strengthen New Medical Education Initiative using ICT/OER
- April 2011 UM Team led by Dr. Tim Johnson/traveled to Ethiopia.
  - Dr. Richard Adanu, Dean of SPH at University of Ghana, to establish south-south partnership

Chinua Achebe

“...when we are comfortable and inattentive, we run the risk of committing grave injustices absent-mindedly”

Terms of Collaboration for the “New Partnership”

- Based on
  - Mutual Thrust
  - Mutual Respect
  - Mutual Benefit
  - Transparency
  - Accountability
  - Communication
  - Developing Sustainability
Infrastructure & Program Development

• Using Family planning as part of a strategy to
  – reduce maternal, infant, and child mortality
  – Faculty development
  – Research Infrastructure
  – Develop competency based OBGYN Residency program that has integrated family planning training
  – Jointly wrote the curriculum (ACOG, RCOG, IFPFP) with national workshop to get feedback (ESOG)
  – Joint grant from an anonymous foundation

Program & Infrastructure Enhancement

• Faculty Development – First year of partnership
  – Increase the number of teaching faculty in from 2-7
  • Build the capacity of the teaching staff in the OBGYN departments (ACOG Post Graduate Course)
  • Research Capacity Building (South-South)
  • Opportunity for professional networking
  • Robust Faculty Exchange
  • Advanced Training (laparoscopy, ultrasound, etc...)

• Infrastructure
  • Improvement of Equipment & Supplies
  • Strengthening Skills/Simulation Lab
  • Learning Resource Center (OER, Telemedicine)

Inauguration of OBGYN Post Grad Training Program - July 2012

With support from CDC-American International Health Alliance
Team Ethiopia visiting UM

UM-SPHMMC Partnership

• Current Programs in Med School
  – Post Grad Training Programs
    • OB/GYN & sub specialty fellowship in MFM & Family Planning
    • Internal Medicine
    • Surgery
    • Radiology
    • Pediatrics (Ophthalmology, Anesthesiology)
    • Renal Transplant (MOH)
  – Medical Education – Kolars/Mullan/Gruppen
  – OER/ICT – Ludwig-Omollo/Gooseman/Hanss
Graduation of 1st batch of St. Paul, Nov 2013

The Partnership Future is getting Brighter!!

EMPACE – GCTC Provost Grant

- Ethiopia – Michigan Platform for Advancing Collaborative Engagement (EMPACE)
  - Medical School/PIBS/Medical Education
  - Nursing
  - Ross/William Davidson
  - SNRE
  - Engineering
- 30 UM grad students & Mentors will spend 8-12 weeks in Ethiopia this summer

EMPACE Team Visiting Ethiopia
Our Partners

- Primary/Main Partners
  - FMOH
  - St. Paul Millennium medical College

Other Collaborators
- Addis Ababa University School of Medicine
- Addis Ababa University Institute of Technology
- Professional Societies
  - Ethiopian Medical Association (EMA)
  - Ethiopian Surgical Society (ESS)
  - Ethiopia Society of Obstetrics & Gynecology (ESOG)

Center for International Reproductive Health Training (CIRHT)

$25 M grant backs U-M project to curb maternal deaths in Ethiopia, other developing nations

New center to train health professionals in resource-poor countries in comprehensive family planning services, helping lower maternal mortality

Ethiopia-UM Partnership Lessons Learned

- Relationships matter
- Define goals
- Clarify roles
- Measure progress
- Address conflicts
- Resolve challenges
- Celebrate success
- Enjoy the coffee!

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- CDC Ethiopia
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