Expanding medical and nursing educational experiences in Haiti: A partnership in learning

E. Dupont Larson[1], M. Nadas[2], C. Louis-Charles[3], M. Gideon[4], P. Gaetchen[4], M. Trouillot[4], C. Curry[5]; [1]*Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx, NY/US*, [2]*Physicians for Haiti, New York, NY/US*, [3]*Physicians for Haiti, Port au Prince, Haiti*, [4]*UNIFA, Port au Prince, Haiti*, [5]*University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital, Miami, FL/US*

Program/Project Purpose: The University of Dr. Aristide Foundation (UNIFA) runs a medical and a nursing school in Haiti. Both schools recruit students from impoverished families residing in the countryside. They are committed to returning to work in underserved communities throughout Haiti. Physicians for Haiti (P4H) is a Boston-based nongovernmental organization, founded in 2010 with a vision of a self-sustaining Haitian medical education system. Because of the physician and nurse shortage in Haiti, there is a lack of teachers for medical and nursing training. P4H and UNIFA created a partnership called the Visiting Professor (VP) Program with the aim of providing enhanced educational experiences for medical and nursing students at UNIFA.

Structure/Method/Design: The VP Program created a database, now with over 80 medical professionals from which UNIFA requests specific content training. P4H coordinates professional matches to teach seminars. The VP Program facilitates scheduling, translates relevant documents and oversees academic planning. UNIFA provides housing, meals and transportation to the campus for the Visiting Professors. Sustainability is emphasized through the financial contributions of all stakeholders: UNIFA, P4H and the Visiting Professors. Students complete evaluations of their medical knowledge before and after training. For each VP a 360 degree evaluation is completed by the students, the VP and leadership of UNIFA and P4H.

Outcomes & Evaluation: The Visiting Professor Program has facilitated seven seminars for 1347 participants at UNIFA. Seminar themes have included qualitative research methodology, social determinants of health, basic life support and first aid, HIV, tuberculosis, health and behavior and approach to the patient with psychological and medical trauma. Teaching techniques have included lecture, small group, discussion, presentations and project-based education. Pre- and post-testing has demonstrated increases in knowledge over the short term with an average 34% increase in scores after seminar completion Learner evaluations have shown that over 95% of students felt the topics were important to practice medicine in Haiti and will improve their ability to do patient care. For P4H, challenges have included availability of Visiting Professors fluent in French or Haitian Creole and those with experiences relevant to a low-resource setting. For UNIFA challenges have included availability of in-person translators fluent in medical French and preparing the professors for the large, lecture based teaching environment and low resource setting.

Going Forward: The partnership between P4H and UniFA has led to medical and nursing students in Haiti having access to content experts not readily available in Haiti. This relationship has the potential to create a cadre of future health professionals who experience an

Funding: This program is supported by donations to P4H, by contributions from the Visiting Professors and from UNIFA.

Abstract #: 02ETC051

One health nicaragua- empowering current and future health workers in Nicaragua and California to address environmental, animal and human health needs

S.J. Lawton[1], L. Budd[2]; [1]*UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, Davis, CA/US*, [2]*UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicines, Davis, CA/US*

Program/Project Purpose: One Health Nicaragua is a three year-old partnership between a multidisciplinary team of MPH, MD, DVM and graduate students from the University of California, Davis and community health workers in Sabana Grande, Nicaragua to address the environmental, animal and human health needs of this underserved community. This partnership has two goals; the first is to use education and capacity building to address the community's interrelated animal and human health needs. The second goal is to provide students with training and first-hand experience working as part of a multidisciplinary team to address global health issues.

Structure/Method/Design: Needs assessments and interviews with community health workers identify topics for capacity-building workshops held each year. These workshops focus on information exchange and empowering health workers to better disseminate their own knowledge. Workshops for animal owners enable them to be active participants in their animals' health. For example, surveys indicated chickens were dying from Newcastle Disease, which causes rapid, widespread death in poultry. Seventy percent of households were unaware of Newcastle disease, but identified loss of chicken as a food security concern. In response, UC Davis students developed a workshop on disease prevention. We demonstrated the value of preventative medicine, trained health workers to vaccinate chickens, and connected chicken owners with local sources of vaccines to start a poultry vaccination program. This student-run project allows students to develop skills in grant-writing, international project management, public speaking, education, cultural sensitivity and teamwork. This project brings together students from different disciplines to solve problems and learn from one another.

Outcomes & Evaluation: Baseline data on animal health indices and production levels have been collected, but evaluation of the project's impact in these areas has not yet been completed due to the project's young age. A recent success was a locally led workshop on poultry vaccination and a 300-chicken vaccination campaign. We hope to evaluate the impact of these vaccinations in the future. Student capacity building successes include obtaining funding for yearly student and faculty mentor travel. Students have presented and won awards for this project at various conferences.

Going Forward: We have not yet held workshops in all districts of Sabana Grande but are working with community leaders to expand our community involvement. Additionally, students can only spend a short time in the community each year; therefore, partnering with Nicaragu

Funding: Project funding has come from these sources at UC Davis: Blum Center for Developing Economies, School of Veterinary Medicine, Hemispheric Institute on the Americas, and the University Outreach and International Programs.

Abstract #: 02ETC052

From Dartmouth to Haiti: Videoconferencing to facilitate educational cooperation among medical residents in two distinct settings

J.H. Malenfant, B. Remillard, M. Sedlacek; *Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH/US*

Program/Project Purpose: After the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti left unimaginable devastation, a widespread global response