Marymount University: Evolving IPE Projects in Central and South America

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Background and Purpose
Global perspective is an academic outcome of engagement that facilitates development of social responsibility in professional practice. This case report illustrates the evolution of a global partnership as a strategy for interprofessional education (IPE) and student engagement.

Case Description
Marymount University (MU) is a student-centered academic institution motivated toward service and integration of student experiences within the global community.

Ongoing courses using IPE theory and practices include:
- Manos Abiertas, Alajuela, Costa Rica
  - Physical Therapy (PT)
  - Healthcare Management (HCM)
  - Nursing (NSG)
  - Special Education (SP ED)

- Ojos Saludables in Chulucanas, Peru
  - HCM and Health Promotions (HP)

A developing NGO dedicated to the caring and attention of persons with physical and mental ailments. A comprehensive health promotion campaign and educational program to promote eye health among school going children.

Outcomes
- Participants from 4 of 5 Academic units (Schools)
  - 5 unique Academic Programs
  - 16 faculty members
  - 232 students

Discussion
Global engagement designed within curriculum may be used successfully to advance developing organizations and guide student participation as professionals responsible for addressing needs across global communities.

Global engagement is an innovative approach to the application of IPE core competencies and principles, such as leadership and collaboration in challenging situations, to improve and sustain patient centered care.

Future Directions
IPE curriculum at Marymount University grounded in coordinated and sustained global partnerships
- Collaborative IPE practice among students and faculty with community partners to engage in interprofessional teamwork enhancing professional practice while fulfilling mutually determined community needs within a culturally rich and diverse global service learning experience
- Model and provide students a foundation for understanding the complexities of health care and the role of inter-professional collaboration in improving the system

Students will:
- Explore the art and science of teamwork, communication, and contemporary information technology
- Interact across different cultures effectively
- Evaluate ethical issues impacting education and health; and analyze healthcare disparities and social determinants of health