



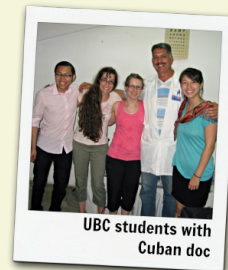
This Month: A Spotlight on Latin America

In this issue we're featuring perspectives on the Cuban health care system and an account of emergency room adventures in Colombia. We also explore how a Saskatchewan physician's early experiences in South America led him to explore the intersection of politics and health, and hear from our new Global Health Advocate Kay Fung. We invite you to get out of the rain and cold and escape to the south with us!

Features:

"La Medicina es Bonita" - Reflections on Cuban Healthcare - by Marianne Schwarz

Sweat trickling down our backs and crammed into the few available seats in a Cuban doctor's office, we struggled to follow our preceptor's rapid and enthusiastic Spanish monologue. It was a typical hot, humid Cuban afternoon, and as much as we wanted to learn from Ania (the doctor), we struggled against the exhaustive heat and the difficulty of understanding her fast and impassioned speech... [Click to continue reading](#)



UBC students with Cuban doc



Consultorio (doctor's office), Cuba

Reflections on the Cuban Health Care System - by Jasmine Osiowy

White sand beaches, classic cars, and salsa dancing are all images typically associated with Cuba. Perhaps more notable, however, are the things that are uniquely absent from the country. For instance, there is not a single "American" chain such as McDonalds or 7-11, and the sparsely located internet is slow and very expensive. There are countless other features of Cuba that make it different from any other country... [Click to continue reading](#)

CFMS Global Health Advocacy Program: Report From Training Weekend - by Carlen (Kay) Fung

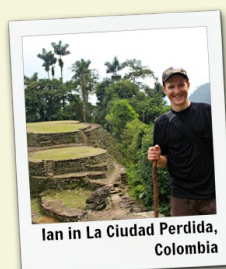
Recently, as part of my role as UBC's Global Health Advocate (GHA), I participated in a training weekend in Ottawa, Ontario, along with other medical students from across Canada. We had the opportunity to connect with leaders in the global health field and learn how to improve our advocacy skills, especially surrounding issues of injustice within healthcare. Going into Ottawa, I wasn't quite sure what to expect... [Click to continue reading](#)



GHA Training in Ottawa

How Colombia Opened my Eyes - by Ian Ferguson

Last summer, I was lucky enough to participate in a four-week IFMSA clinical exchange in Colombia. Working in the emergency department of Hospital San Juan de Dios in Armenia was an experience I will never forget! Not only was I exposed to a variety of interesting medical cases that demonstrated that the fundamentals of medicine do not rely on technology, I also had the chance to enjoy the many cultural opportunities Colombia has to offer!... [Click to continue reading](#)



Ian in La Ciudad Perdida, Colombia

Focusing on Health to Create Political Change - by Sara Eftekhar

Dr. Meili, a family physician running to become the leader of the NDP in Saskatchewan is hoping to change the perception of negative politicians by focusing on the value of health in society. In his new book titled "A Healthy Society, How a Focus on Health can Revive Canadian Democracy", Dr. Meili examines health beyond the medical system with a social justice focus on the social determinants of health as a political platform... [Click to continue reading](#)



Global Health Calendar

November

- 14 World Diabetes Day
- 25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- 27 Aboriginal Health Initiative Meeting (6pm - 8pm) - 1st meeting of the year!
Meeting sites: Vancouver: MSAC Alumni Room, Victoria: MSB 107, Prince George: NHSC 9-374, Kelowna: HSC 227, Phone In: 1-877-792-2770
- 28 GHI Workshop: Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (7pm - 8:30pm)
Meeting sites: MSAC Hardwick Hall, Victoria: MSB 107, Prince George: NHSC 9-374, Kelowna: HSC 129 and KGH 237

December

- 1 World Aids Day
- 3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- 5 International Surgery Speaker Series (4pm - 6pm)
Meeting site: Theatre (Rm 102) Michael Smith Laboratories, 2185 East Mall, UBC
- 10 International Human Rights Day

[Link to the UBC Global Health website for more information](#)

Want to see your event listed here? Contact us at globalhealthdispatch@gmail.com

Get involved!

The Global Health Curriculum Team is recruiting! If you are keen, creative, and have a passion for global health we have a project for you - help us to create interactive online global health modules for students! Contact Jillian Fairley: jillian.fairley@alumni.ubc.ca to get involved.

Send us your stories, events for the calendar and ideas for content at globalhealthdispatch@gmail.com

Keep in touch!

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