

# UBC Global Health Dispatch

April 2014

## **This edition: Sustainability and Social Responsibility in our Global Community**

In this edition, we are taken on a journey of student experiences through Kenya and the Dominican Republic. These poignant reflections remind us that hope is a force both powerful and universal, and one that can be renewed by the smallest demonstrations of compassion. We also hear from two physicians who share their inspirational international experiences, as well as their continued efforts to improve health abroad. On a slightly different note, we learn about an amazing partnership between physiotherapists in Canada and India. And, last but not least, we are introduced to a fabulous local initiative designed to help anyone who is passionate about health care connect with each other online to work together to help solve social health issues.

Happy reading!

### **Unite for Sight: Sustainable Eye Health Delivery Within Remote Ghanaian Villages, an interview with Dr. Damin Duffy**

Unite for Sight (UFS) invests human and financial capital to support social ventures aimed at eliminating preventable blindness and improving vision around the world. UFS applies best practices in eye care, public health, volunteerism, and social entrepreneurship to achieve its goal of high-quality, accessible eye care for all. It has projects in Honduras, India, and Ghana\*\*... [Click to continue reading](#)



Unite for Sight, Ghana



### **Local Inspiration: The Social Medicine Network BC, an interview with Michael Stein**

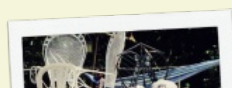
The Social Medicine Network is an initiative that brings together an interdisciplinary group of healthcare professionals, trainees, and community-based organizations to work together to enhance the understanding of a broad range of social factors affecting health and wellbeing. It is founded on principles of social justice and human dignity... [Click to continue reading](#)

### **Volunteering in India: Lesley Schwab, by Natasha Simula**

Lesley Schwab is an Orthopedic Physiotherapist from Prince George, BC, and has been a Case-Based Learning tutor in the Musculoskeletal block of the undergraduate UBC medical program for the past 4 years. Her passion for physiotherapy and physical rehabilitation has taken her as far away as Koppal, South India... [Click to continue reading](#)

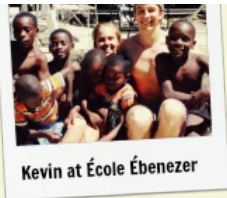


Lesley Schwab in India



### **École Ébenezer, by Kevin Koopman**

The Dominican Republic (DR) and Haiti are two dramatically different nations sharing one island, each with their own

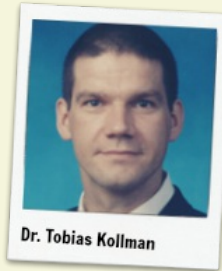


Kevin at École Ébénézer

culture, government, currency, and language. Sadly, Dominicans have developed a deep-rooted racial prejudice towards Haitians, resulting in on-going exploitation of Haitians on sugar cane plantations. In 1821, Haiti invaded the Dominican Republic and ruled it for 22 years. The effects of this historical conflict... [Click to continue reading](#)

**Faculty Profile: Dr. Tobias Kollman, by Natasha Simula**

During the beginning of the AIDS crisis in the 1980s, I was in Ethiopia doing part of my medical training. Along a truck route from Addis Ababa to Nairobi, I saw the plight of the kids apparently infected with HIV, and it deeply touched me. I then had the chance to visit Dr. Arye Rubinstein, the person who first described pediatric AIDS. On my first day with him, we saw a young girl with AIDS in the clinic.... [Click to continue reading](#)



Dr. Tobias Kollman



Children in Kanyawegi

**A Lesson from Kanyawegi, Kenya, by Clarus Leung**

In the summer of 2013, my teammates and I represented the GIVE Kenya (Global Initiative for Village Empowerment) group in our volunteer journey to Kanyawegi, a rural village in Eastern Kenya. Over the course of 6 weeks, we collaborated with Community Strategy, a Kenyan initiative that aims to decentralize health care and improve its accessibility to families of the rural village. The backbone of Community Strategy... [Click to continue reading](#)

| April    |  |
|----------|--|
| 7        | World Health Day   |
| 25       | World Malaria Day  |
| 25       | Barcelona Global Health Summer School Application due. <a href="file:///C:/Users/Nulli%20Secundus/Desktop/Downloads/Brochure%20of%20the%20Global%20Health%20Summer%20School%202014.pdf">file:///C:/Users/Nulli%20Secundus/Desktop/Downloads/Brochure%20of%20the%20Global%20Health%20Summer%20School%202014.pdf</a> for more information. |
| May      |  |
| 10       | 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual CUGH Global Health Conference. <a href="http://2014cughconference.org/">http://2014cughconference.org/</a> for more information.  |
| 28       | Global Summit on Maternal, Newborn and Child. <a href="http://www.can-mnch.ca/canada-to-host-summit-on-saving-the-lives-of-vulnerable-women-and-children/">http://www.can-mnch.ca/canada-to-host-summit-on-saving-the-lives-of-vulnerable-women-and-children/</a> for more information.  |
| November |  |
| 2        | 2014 Canadian Conference on Global Health. Registration now open! <a href="http://www.ccg-csih.ca/csih2014/index.php">http://www.ccg-csih.ca/csih2014/index.php</a>  |

[Click here to visit the UBC Global Health website for more information!](#)

Want to see your event listed here? Contact us at [globalhealthdispatch@gmail.com](mailto:globalhealthdispatch@gmail.com)

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