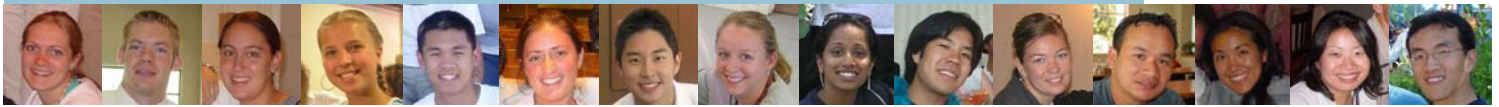


A WORLD OF CHANGE



The **Whole Person Care Preceptorship** is a summer rotation for healthcare students aimed at helping them address the spiritual needs of patients. The preceptorship is designed to equip students to succeed in their walk with God in all aspects of life – personal, professional and relational. Giving us a vision of bringing Jesus Christ into our practices, we are challenged to be ‘Christians who happen to be healthcare professionals, rather than



The University of Redlands, California

Faith in Clinical Practice

Kendrick Shih

“Listen, God does the healing, I’m just here to assist him.” Dr. Ed Krick drew smiles as he kindly rebutted one of his patients. He took the opportunity to delve into an area considered taboo by most medical professionals: the patient’s spiritual life. For many of us,

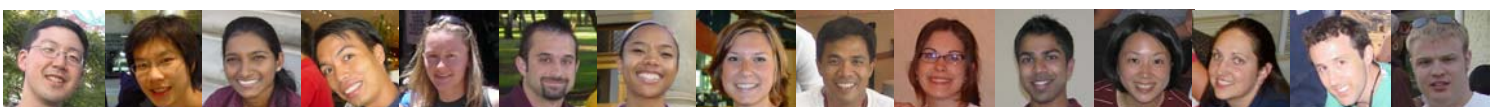
shadowing doctors like Dr. Krick was a jaw-dropping experience. Although I am a Christian health professional desiring to share my faith with patients, when I have the opportunity, I only timidly offer to do so. I need help!

rooms. Each mentor had a unique approach of sharing the gospel, but sensitivity to the patient’s spiritual well-being and the Holy Spirit’s guidance was common to all.



The preceptorship provided the aid I desperately needed. In the clinics, knowledge from our training seminars fell into place. For three weeks, we were privileged to observe different health professionals including doctors, nurses, and dentists. An afternoon of clinical exposure would consist of accompanying doctors in hospital wards, outpatient clinics, or even operating

At the end of each day, we recounted our experiences not unlike star-struck fans. In between mouthfuls of potato salad in the cafeteria, you might make out some astonished voices. “He just makes it look so easy!” exclaims **Julia Godleski**, a second-year physician assistant student. And that is the scary revelation: Sharing the gospel IS easy! Granted, it may take numerous years and some faltering steps to merge medicine and evangelism, but I’ve learned that the only way to fail in sharing the gospel is to not do it!



Called for a Purpose

Carol Ng

Medicine is described as a calling, yet I often feel ill-equipped to address the spiritual needs of patients. The METS (Medical Evangelism Training & Strategies) Conference was created for this purpose, to supply healthcare professionals with the knowledge and tools needed to fulfill our calling. This conference, which took place over the first four days of the preceptorship, set the pace for the rest of the summer.

The first lesson I learned was that medical knowledge alone is insufficient to restore people's broken spirits. They can only be mended by accepting God's love through Jesus Christ. Topics covered at the conference ranged from the work of the Holy Spirit in evangelism and taking a spiritual history, to the ethical concerns of spiritual care. Testimonies from experienced health professionals reinforced what I learned in the training seminars. **Claudia Diaz**, a first-year medical

student, had a similar impression, "Listening to the stories of the doctors that practice spiritual care was inspiring and assured me that whole person care is possible."

I was able to translate theory into action during our clinical practicum on the final afternoon of the

conference. In the wards at Loma Linda University Medical Center, I practiced taking spiritual histories and sharing the Gospel. We rejoiced over the 15 people who accepted God's gift of salvation. Please pray for all those who attended the conference, that God may use us to turn our profession into a mission field!



Sharing session by experienced spiritual caregivers



Small Groups, Great Relationships

Mika Toguchi



"Soul-to-Soul was the first time in my life I saw a group of guys share so openly."
- **Mike Chen**, 4th year medical student

Every Tuesday and Thursday night at 7:00, I would curl up on the couch for a time of sharing with seven other sisters in Christ. We shared our joys, struggles, tears and laughter. Our focus was to discuss the book *The Search for Significance*. We related our personal struggles and encouraged one another to replace lies about our self-perception with Biblical truths. I was amazed at how close I have grown to these girls in such a short amount of time. Second-year medical student **Jessica Varnam** agreed, "It's intense. I've never felt so close

to a group of girls so fast."

One of the most memorable times for me was sharing my life story during an activity we called 'Soul-to-Soul'. We were given an entire day to spend with our small groups, to get to know one another, and hear what God has done in each of our lives. Filipino medical student **Rex Samson** remarked, "Small groups are like mirrors to examine yourself, showing different perspectives in your life." In my small group, trust was formed among us and God's healing began to take place. The fellowship inside and outside of small groups is definitely a highlight of my summer that will continue as unforgettable friendships for a lifetime.

Meeting God in Mexico

Sara Sevinsky

As I climbed to the top of the dusty hill, I gazed out over miles and miles of what looked like waste land. There were no nicely watered lawns; no trees to line the horizon. For as far as I could see there were endless mounds of dirt, and shacks scattered across the terrain. I looked at the hundreds of homes that to my American standards looked like broken down woodsheds, and I quietly prayed, "Lord, where *are* you here?" Turning around, I saw Him. Through our hands and feet, God had been working in the lives of the Mexican people. We had been laboring all day to build a loft house for a family of six. We also provided medical and spiritual care at a local clinic.

...I knew God was answering me, "I'm where ever you take me."



"Interacting with patients at the clinics, I saw God's love transcend over cultural and language barriers."

- Pauline Yeung,
2nd year medical student



"To be able to give someone a house who had never had one before, and to do it in Jesus' name was really powerful."

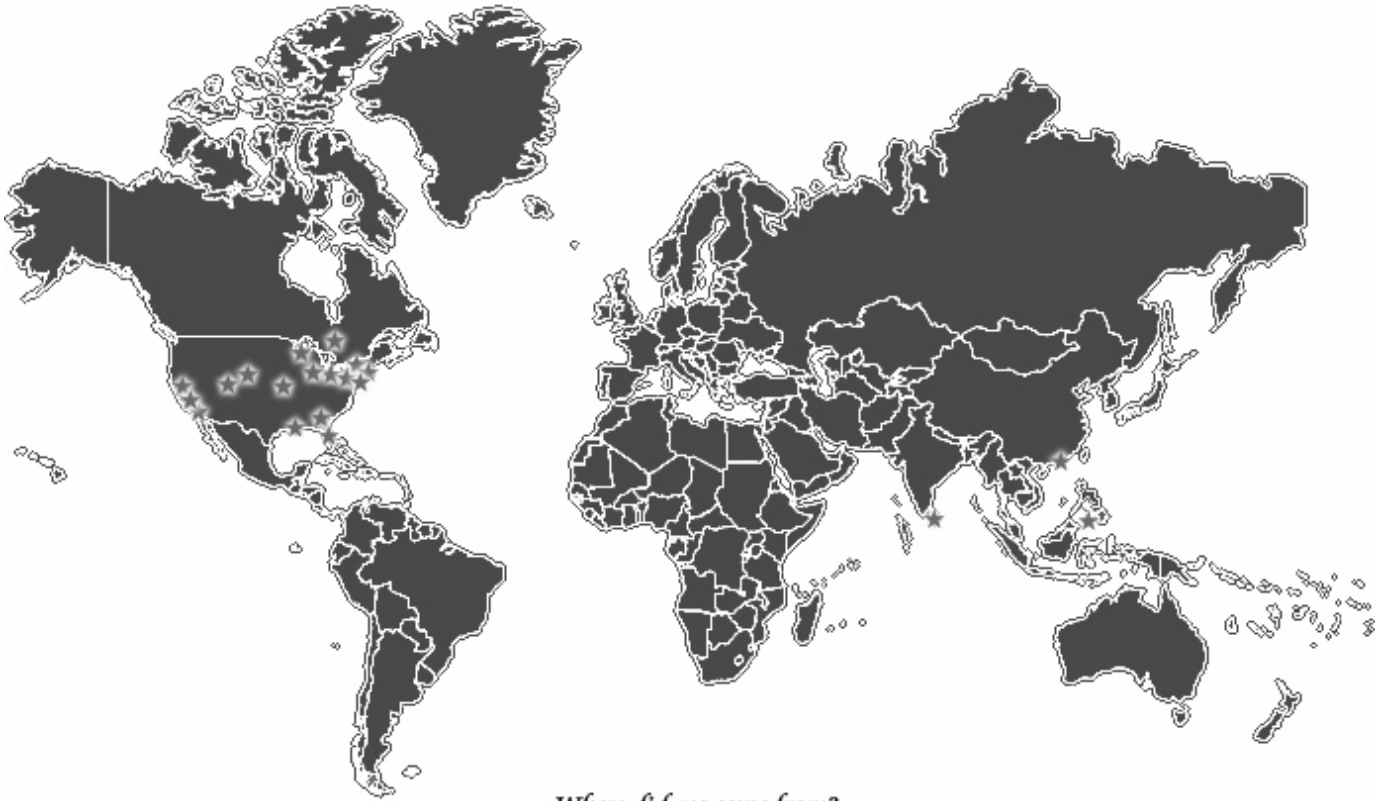
- Corin Pennella,
5th year pharmacy student

A Typical Day at the Preceptorship



- 8am Group Worship
- 8:30-10am Personal Reflection Time
- 10-12noon 'Bioethics for a Lifetime' by Rick Langer
- 12-1pm Lunch
- 1-5pm Shadowing Dr. Stan Shu at his clinic
- 5-6pm Dinner
- 7-9pm Small Groups

A SUMMER THAT LASTS A LIFETIME...



Where did we come from?

<i>California (11)</i>	<i>Georgia (1)</i>	<i>Louisiana (1)</i>	<i>Minnesota (2)</i>	<i>New Jersey (1)</i>	<i>Ontario, Canada (1)</i>	<i>Sri Lanka (1)</i>
<i>Colorado (2)</i>	<i>Hong Kong (4)</i>	<i>Maryland (1)</i>	<i>Missouri (1)</i>	<i>New York (2)</i>	<i>Pennsylvania (1)</i>	
<i>Florida (2)</i>	<i>Illinois (2)</i>	<i>Massachusetts (1)</i>	<i>Nebraska (4)</i>	<i>Ohio (3)</i>	<i>Philippines (3)</i>	



“Have you ever tried Balut?” **Mervin Ascabano** described a Filipino delicacy much to the horror of his friends. Just the thought of eating an unborn chick made students queasy, however, to many of us, it was a reminder of our cultural diversity.

The 2005 preceptorship was one of diversity. Health students braved long haul flights from Hong Kong, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka to take part in the program, and cultural differences were immediately apparent. Nonetheless, in the heart of each of us lies the same burning passion, to glorify the King of Kings Jesus Christ. “This is a little taste of heaven,” Mervin later commented, “where people of different cultures, nations and languages will be worshipping God together.”

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