METS Conference (Medical Evangelism Training & Strategies)

~Equipping health professionals to reach their spheres of influence for Christ~

The Whole Person Care Preceptorship (WPCP) was launched with a five-day conference with the purpose to equip healthcare professionals with the skills and tools to bring their faith in Christ to the patient bedside and their workplace. The conference encompassed numerous lectures and interactive talks given by those with years of experience practicing medicine, nursing, pharmacy and theology. The various topics of spiritual care covered in the conference included the church’s historical role in mediating physical and spiritual healing, the “brokenness” of the human condition, strengthening the healer’s spiritual assets, taking a spiritual history, and the ethical basis of spiritual care. METS was concluded with a clinical practicum at Loma Linda University Medical Center, which provided all with an opportunity to incorporate their newly learned spiritual assets and skills into practice with patients under the supervision of a faculty mentor.

What is Whole Person Care? WPC means that the health professional addresses the patient’s spiritual and emotional needs in addition to the physical.

A Typical Day

8–10am Quiet Time. Filled with scripture reading, prayer, and reflecting on what God has been showing us.

“Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘the kingdom of God is near you.’” Luke 10:9

WPCP students pose outside the Loma Linda Medical Center

Nursing student Nadia Chow and medical student Rony Berbara in a simulated patient interaction scenario.

The patient’s perspective: “I wanted to hear from my doctor that I was precious to God”
10am - 12pm  **Worship.** Six students formed our worship team to lead us in music each morning.

**Speaker.** Training on personal Bible study, sharing our spiritual journeys, apologetics, medical missions, evangelism and discipleship.

**Whole Person Care Training.** Role playing patient-interaction scenarios.

12 - 1pm  **Lunch**

1 - 5pm  **Practicum.** To speak to patients at Loma Linda Medical Center about their spiritual history, their hospital stay and how they cope with their illnesses. If patients express a desire to know God personally, we share the gospel.

-OR-

**Physician Shadowing.** To observe physicians who practice whole person care with their patients.

“God showed me that my role and significance was as a Christ follower first and health professional second.”  
- **Charlotte Yum**  
St. John’s University Pharmacy Student

“To me the most valuable part of the Whole Person Care Preceptorship was being able to observe Christian physicians sharing Christ in a clinical setting. The example of their lives is a powerful testimony and now I feel that I have something to model my career after.”  
- **John Shin**  
Loma Linda Medical School Medical Student

5 - 6pm  **Dinner**

7 - 9pm  **Small Groups.** Led by various campus crusade staff and medical professionals. To study and discuss *The Search for Significance*, a book by Robert S. McGee.

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- **Amanda Yen**  
Loma Linda Medical School Medical Student

“Mentoring. Met weekly with a leader to discuss personal growth and be equipped for whole person care.”  
- **Amy Covington**  
University of Tennessee Chattanooga Nursing Student

“One experience I’ve enjoyed the most is the one-on-one mentoring. To have an older woman take the time each week to pour into my life has been invaluable.”  
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As a group we participated in a few community service projects that gave us the chance to show and share our love for Christ. Firstly, we organized an event for Micah House, a Christ-centered after-school program for children in 1st through 12th grade in the Redlands area. The event was an evening of pampering the female caregivers with manicures, pedicures, massages, live music, food, and childcare. Our initial intent was to physically serve the women, but many students found it natural to integrate spiritual care into their conversations. Charlotte Yum, a pharmacy student, remembers incorporating spiritual questions into her conversation with a woman. This encounter helped her to see how whole person care can become second nature with practice.

Our service experience continued at the Serve the People food pantry in Santa Ana. We helped distribute and organize groceries of fresh vegetables, fruits, and bread to each household along with clothing. Many of the students also had a chance to use their nursing and medical skills to assess patients and some even used their knowledge of the Spanish language to translate. Together we served and were blessed by meeting many local community members.

...“has been an amazing experience that has helped me grow tremendously in my faith and has rejuvenated my drive to provide spiritual care. It has been an inspiration meeting other healthcare providers that share a drive to serve others through Christ.”
- Oscar Shoenfelt
Louisiana State University
Medical Student

“God is clearly demonstrating how I can use medicine as a ministry and show patients and other healthcare workers the healing love and understanding that only He can provide.”
- Jonathan Smits
University of Massachusetts
Medical Student

“From beach day to patient encounters at the Santa Ana clinic, the Whole Person Care Preceptorship influenced not only my practice but also my walk with God. This summer was a blast!”
- Justin Rheem
Loma Linda University
Medical Student
We are from:

<table>
<thead>
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