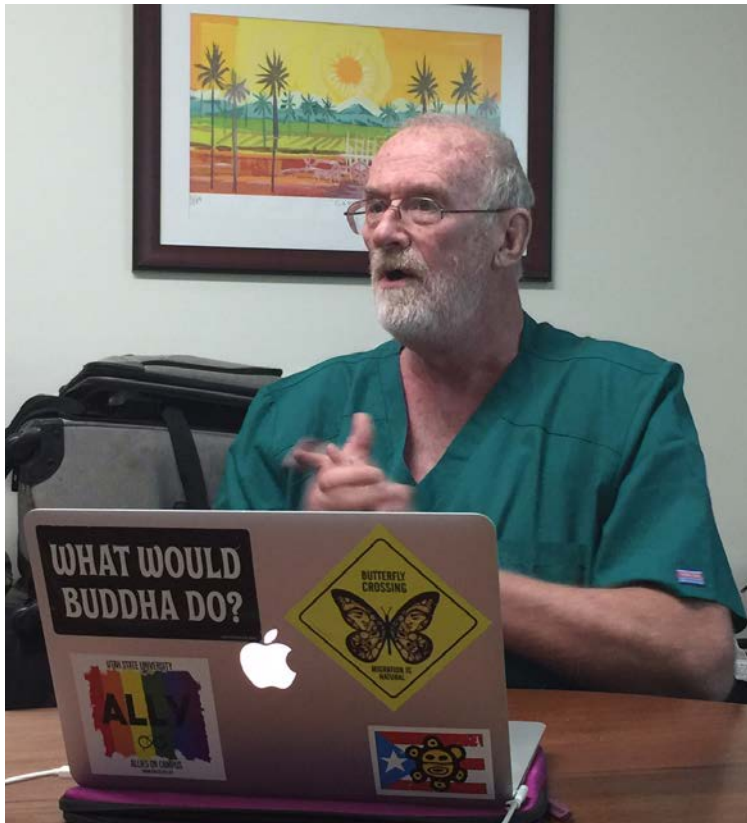
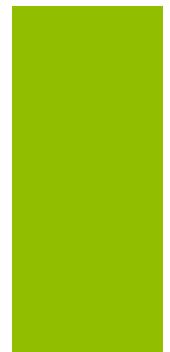




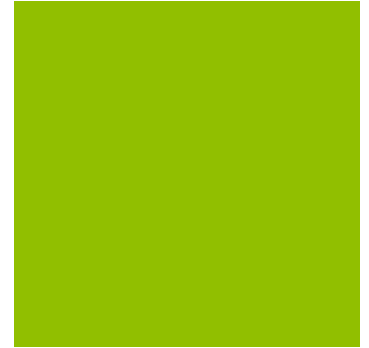
Short Term Medical
Service Trip:
Dominican Republic
February 2016

We started with strong preparation

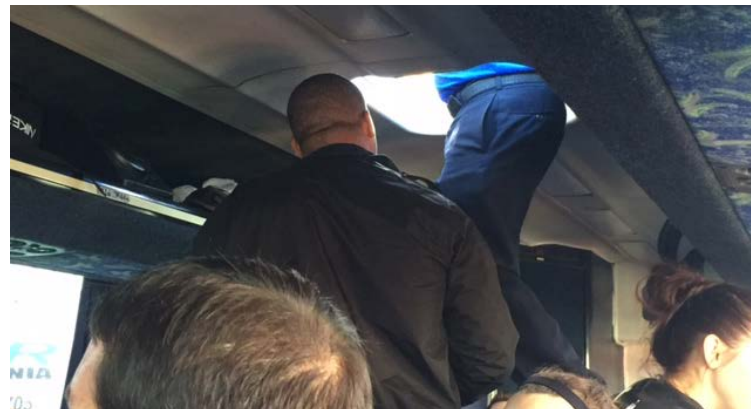


We are:

- 6 students
- 8 faculty
 - 5 PAS faculty
 - 3 other: Languages, Psychology
- 6 men, 9 women
- 27 to 70 years of age



We learned to use new equipment and improvise clinical spaces. We rode the bus. We napped. And we even made it to the *Mercado Modelo*.



We felt that we gained ...

- 93.3% somewhat or strongly agreed that you gained:
 - Awareness of yourself as a cultural being
 - Awareness of your patients as cultural beings
 - Important knowledge about working with marginalized patients
 - Important skills in working with marginalized patients
- 100% of you agreed that you gained awareness of the interconnectedness between culture and health within a specific community



Language

- 66.7% of you felt confident using Spanish before the trip and after. Those of you that didn't feel confident before, didn't gain any sense of confidence.
- 4 of you strongly agreed that the Medical Spanish course helped you prepare for this trip. Many of us had not taken the course.
- 66.7% of us felt more confident speaking Spanish in general and 73.3% felt more confident speaking Spanish in a medical encounter.



Gripe

Un "chin"

Cocotaso

Guagua

Clinical skills

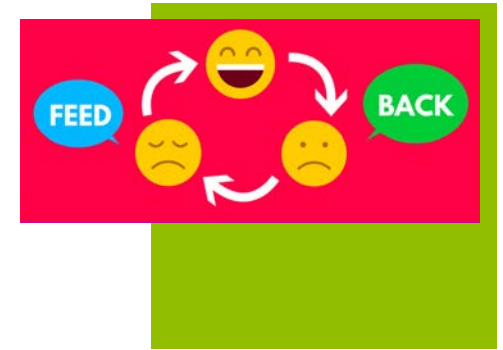


- Many of us (73.3%) felt confident providing clinical services to patients before this trip, yet we still learned strategies to provide medical services to patients
 - in general and to underserved patients specifically after this trip (93.3%)
 - with suboptimal resources (e.g., switching medications, plans of treatment) (86.7%)
- 86.7% of us reported gaining important clinical skills

Overall



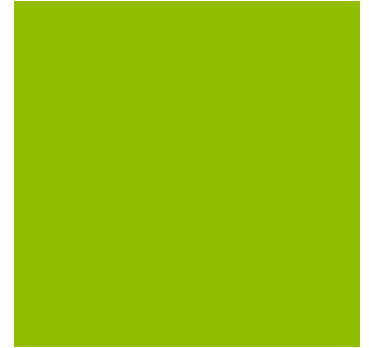
- 100% reported this was a good investment of time
- 93.3% reported this was a good investment of money
- 100% would recommend an STMST to a colleague
- Ethically speaking, we agreed the work we did had a positive impact
 - 93.3% reported we did “more good than harm”
 - 6.7% reported we did “only good”



Feedback from Travelers

- I really like that we have made initial efforts in **meshing our mission with the local medical community.**
- I feel **the glasses were a good addition to the trip**
- **Students were outstanding on this trip** and I think the selection process worked well in providing us with **strong students that were service oriented and ready for the mission at hand.**
- I realized that there are many people in need that **we could not help as much as I would have liked to.** Our resources were quite limited.

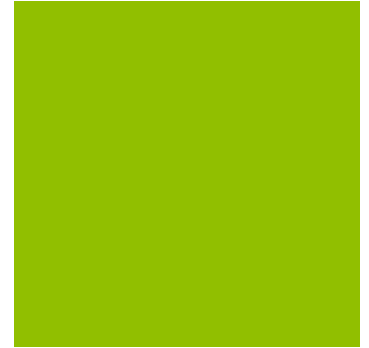
- The **knowledge, insight, and experience I gained is invaluable**. Whilst not a medical provider I gained keen insight working along side the providers. Every experience on this trip is material for the classroom.
- Amazing and even life changing experience. This STMST **helped me gain insight** into who I am, the privileges and blessings I have as well as development of medical knowledge and cultural competence.
- I **appreciated the debriefs** at the end of the day. I wish they would have focused a bit more on our experiences and growth as professionals rather than practical matters.
- ... a little more organization in advance might be warranted, especially for **crowd control/patient assignment** (perhaps also including contact with key persons at the locations we will be working at).



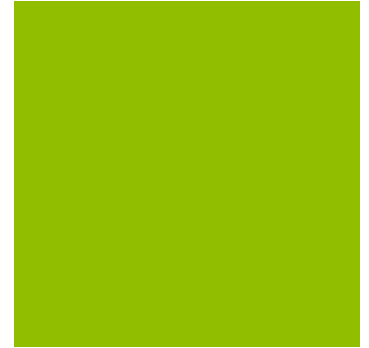
- Growth toward greater **congruence with optimal standards of care** is needed (from the medications that are solicited in advance to collaboration with local providers while working *with* the local system).
- the students did a great job. I think all of them started with different levels of Spanish comprehension and expression. But **all of them improved ...**
- **Not only advancing in Spanish, but I think the PA students also gained comfort in clinical encounters.** They gained the ability to open a discussion, ask health questions, get histories and do physical exams.
- **I gained confidence in my clinical judgment and significantly improved upon my Medical Spanish.**
- I appreciated having one extra day on the front end to sort medications, and **thoroughly enjoyed extra time spent in the country learning about the history and culture of the Dominican people.**



- ... **everyone was so supportive** and all were working toward the same goal.
- Some definite good was: treating infections with antibiotics, treating STDs, giving out birth control, passing out albendazole to so many children, providing glasses, and treating fungal issues. ...
- we saw so many chronic conditions for which we could give a **limited supply of medications** but **could not ensure follow up** or blood testing to make sure patients were tolerating medications ... also worried a bit about NSAIDs for older people because we had no way to know kidney function on patients. ...
- because there were so many people waiting in line, I felt **uncomfortable taking the time to learn** have things explained to me, and making people wait in the sun even longer. ..
- This **trip helped with Spanish and I enjoyed getting to know classmates and faculty better.** ...



- **It would be fantastic to have students be more involved before the trip** in ways that would actually be helpful.
- I thought this trip was a great experience run by a group of **outrageously caring instructors**.
- I feel this was an **incredible opportunity to gain confidence as a provider** and with the ability to provide medical care to Spanish-speaking patients.
- I do **wish there were long-term connections** made to connect patients with chronic disease states to medication availability and assistance.
- It was also a **wonderful inter-professional opportunity** to work with the dental community, with physicians, and with community members to provide more comprehensive care.
- The **community time outside of clinic and debriefings were very valuable to maintain team cohesion** as was the interactions with the security guards and the local staff that assisted us.





**¡HASTA LA
PRÓXIMA!**