Request for Student Applications

Vernissage Health: Leadership and Leading Change in Health: A Dialogue Series

(January to April 2020)

Concept

Dialogue can be a powerful catalyst for transformative learning and systemic change. This is the central idea behind an initiative called Vernissage Health™, a re-interpretation of the 18th century “salon” as a forum for contemporary leadership development. Supported by IHPME and Rotman faculty, Vernissage Health™ is an innovative leadership development opportunity in 2020.

Vernissage Health™ brings together two leadership groups in a “salon” environment for dialogue about leadership and health system transformation: graduate students from the Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation (IHPME) and the Rotman School of Management embarking on careers in health (emerging leaders) and late career senior executives and leaders in transition from established, successful careers across broad sectors in health (experienced leaders). The scope of experienced leaders will include CEOs and senior executives in the private and public sectors – consultants, hospitals, advocacy and professional associations, government, and physician leaders in management.

Dialogue sessions provide a unique opportunity for these leaders to self reflect, share experiences, and exchange concepts and ideas about leadership. Ultimately, this unique experience will help impact and develop emerging leaders who can successfully navigate positive change within Canada’s health system for the future.

Objectives

The dialogue sessions are designed to provide a positive, informal learning environment that achieves the following objectives:

• fosters insights and authentic conversation about leadership and leading change in health organizations, the broader health system, the community and society at large;
• allows networking, creates relationship and shared learning among and between participants who are emerging and experienced leaders in health;
• provides the opportunity to examine diverse experiences, thoughts and insights about the challenges facing health leaders now and in the future
• allows participants to learn about and experience dialogue and its core elements as a form of communication that can facilitate engagement, change and transformation.

The foundation of Vernissage Health™ is a series of five small group sessions — or “hosted conversations” — scheduled on Mondays from January to April 2020. Here are the details:

• January 27
• February 10
• March 2
• March 23
• April 20

All sessions are held at 155 College Street, from 4:30pm to approximately 7:30pm. Given that dialogue and relationships build over time, selected participants are expected to commit to attend all sessions in person.

Application Instructions and Application Deadline: 4 p.m. on Friday, October 25, 2019

Applications are open to all IHPME graduate students, in advanced stages of study, as well as graduate students enrolled in the Center of Bioethics within DLSPH.

Please submit two Microsoft Word Documents with the following file names:

1. Send cover email and answers to the application questions (see below) saved as firstname.lastname.IHPMEVernissageapplication
2. Your curriculum vitae (maximum of two pages) saved as firstname.lastname.CV

Application Questions: (Please answer the following three questions within the word limit).

1. Please briefly describe the qualities, skills or experiences you possess that would make you an ideal participant in such a dialogue series. (250 word max.)
2. Please briefly describe your career goals as a leader in health and how the experience of this dialogue series would contribute to or support these goals. (250 word max.)
3. What aspect within the health system, community or society at large do you most strongly feel requires change and transformation and where you might focus your attention as a leader? Please identify how you feel this issue might change or evolve in future. (250 words max.)

For more information about this initiative, please contact Wendy Nelson, IHPME Project Lead at wnelson@rogers.com. Completed applications should be sent to Vernissage@utoronto.ca no later than 4 p.m. on Friday, October 25, 2019.