



MAY 2016

2016 Besroul Conference

We are pleased to announce that “Save the Date” notifications for the 2016 Besroul Global Health Conference have now been circulated. The conference will take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from November 1–4, 2016.

Program and content development for the conference are well under way, with ongoing consultation with members of the Besroul community, in addition to the creation of a conference planning committee in charge of synthesizing and coordinating the conference program content.

A detailed information package on the conference will be sent out shortly to participants. In the meantime, we encourage attendees to begin their visa application processes as soon as possible, given it is a busy year in Rio due to the summer Olympics and the 2016 Wonca World Conference of Family Doctors.

Additional conference developments will be included in upcoming newsletters.

Working Group updates

- **Faculty Development Working Group**

The Faculty Development Working Group is in the process of analyzing data from focus group interviews conducted at Family Medicine Forum 2015. The group hopes to have this process completed within the next 2 months.

- **Narrative Working Group**

Both of the Narrative Working Group submissions to the WONCA World Conference in Rio have been accepted. The Narrative Working Group will host a Story Booth for examining micro-level appreciative inquiry of individual doctors, as well as a symposium around social accountability at a macro-level of stakeholders in family medicine.

Also, the Narrative Working Group has submitted a narrative paper for potential publication in *Canadian Family Physician*. Second-step verification of the analysis is now underway, and the Narrative Working Group has reached out to their partners for this purpose. They hope to have southern-partner perspectives on the narrative thematic analysis by the end of 2016.

Finally, Dr Christine Gibson and Dr Brian Cornelson are currently working on a separate “roadmap to family medicine” paper.

QUICK LINKS

[CFPC/Besroul website](#)

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- **Advocacy, Community Engagement, and Ethics**

Under Dr François Couturier’s leadership, the group will be preparing a submission to Canada’s international assistance review and consultation launched by Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of International Development and La Francophonie, on May 18, 2016.

- **Continued Medical Education Working Group**

Workshop proposal submitted and accepted for WONCA Rio in November: *“Coordinated, high quality, national continued professional development for family physicians: tips and tricks from around the world”* based on the literature review undertaken by the Working Group.

As well the group as submitted their manuscript to the Education for Primary Care journal special WONCA edition: *“Achieving Competencies in Family Medicine through Continuing Professional Development”*

Chinese Medical Doctor Association (CMDA) Conference 2016

During the CMDA Conference in Beijing from April 23–24, 2016, Dr Ivy Oandasan, the CFPC’s Director of Education, and Dr Brian Wang, President of the Chinese Canadian Medical Society of British Columbia, presented on primary care in the Canadian health care system to an audience of more than 200 delegates.

The presence of the Besroul Centre and the CFPC was very well received by CMDA members, and several points of potential collaboration were identified. As the CMDA continues to develop its family medicine programs, members of the organization were interested in learning about the Canadian accreditation process, the continual knowledge exchange between the institutions, and faculty development support for physician educators in China.



Dr Ivy Oandasan and Dr Brian Wang at the CMDA Conference

Following these fruitful discussions, the CFPC is working with its Accreditation Department and partners to operationalize these mutual areas of interest, while the Besroul Centre continues to explore a longer-term collaboration plan for family medicine strengthening in China.

Pegasus Conference 2016

Ophelia Michaelides, Manager of the Besroul Centre, participated in the Pegasus Conference in Toronto from May 13–15, 2016. The Pegasus Conference brought together physicians, health professionals, students, health-related organizations, and community members to engage in discourse about actions and policies to improve unacceptable levels of poor health. The aim of the conference was to advance awareness and knowledge of global health issues, locally and abroad, framed through a lens of peace and sustainability. A number of members of the Besroul community were among the presenters at the conference. We congratulate Dr Neil Arya on the resounding success of this important conference. For key take-away messages from the Pegasus Conference, please see the conference summary attached.

Current collaborations

- **Tunisia:** The continuing professional development manual for health care professionals in Tunisia is now complete and will be validated during a 1-week seminar in Tunis at the end of May through the beginning of June.
- **Dr Aboi Madaki,** a senior Nigerian family physician representing the West African College of Physicians (WACP), visited the CFPC this month. The WACP includes chapters from 15 West African countries including five anglophone, seven francophone, and three Portuguese-speaking countries, making it a natural partner to our bilingual College. Extremely fruitful and engaging meetings were held with the

Besroux Centre staff, with Dr José Pereira (Executive Director of Research), Dr Ric Almond (Interim Executive Director of Academic Family Medicine) and Dr Ivy Oandasan (Director of Education). In addition, Dr Madaki travelled to Montreal (Longueuil) to have meetings with Dr François Couturier, colleagues from Sherbrooke University, and family medicine champions and leaders from the University of Bamako (Mali) who were also in Canada at that time. This last meeting was particularly important, as one of the priorities identified by WACP is to support Cote d'Ivoire in establishing a family medicine training program, a process that stands to benefit from the experience of our Malian colleagues. More information will be provided about the WACP–CFPC collaboration in coming months. We welcome Dr Madaki and our WACP colleagues to the Besroux family!