

CMDA St. Louis November Update



This weekend, six CMDA St. Louis students attended the Global Missions Health Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. The conference was a place to connect and learn with thousands of others interested in healthcare missions. However, as our students have arrived back home and are relaying their experiences to me, it has been so much more than just a conference. God used this time to bring these students closer to Him, to challenge them with how to spend their time in medical school, and to call them to missional living now and in the future. God called many of you to partner with these students in sending them to this conference, and we are so thankful for your generosity!

SLU Med M2 Student Testimony

The Global Missions Health Conference, GMHC, was a unique and incredible experience. Having heard a little bit about the conference from friends who attended in the past, I came into the weekend with an open mind and heart about what God would show me about myself and my faith. Needless to say, God showed up and I was in awe. I was renewed in my faith and also got introduced to new opportunities that I didn't know were available. I had hoped God would provide an answer of if I was called to do missions or not, since I hadn't felt the strong conviction of serving internationally yet. I was pleasantly surprised that I not only got an answer, but was challenged to ask better questions about what serving in missions relates to my daily life.

The overall message I received from God this past weekend was - You may not get a solitary call from God to do medical missions, instead we get called every day to live out a life of mission work no matter what part of the world we reside. For me, I was waiting for an answer to my question "Where is my call to medical missions?" when I should have been asking God "What mission have you called me to today?". I really felt God telling me that if I was sharing His Word and serving others then I was already living a life called to mission. While the conference focused on international medical missions, I believe medical missions can be carried out daily in our actions as physicians and students. Each patient we see is an opportunity for us to provide a service and share the Gospel.

Some of the new opportunities I learned about at GMHC included rotations, residencies, Mercy Ships, short term, and long term international service options. It was encouraging to hear that there are several programs that can connect medical students to Christian medical missions, working with our schedules to set up a week or an entire rotation. I enjoyed getting more information about Mercy Ships. Mercy Ships are large cruise ships with 5 OR suites on board and over 80 recovery beds that travel up and down the coast performing surgeries and procedures on indigenous people.

The GMHC was a fantastic conference to attend and I would encourage any student and health care provider to attend if they are interested in learning more about medical missions or want to get plugged in with an organization that can set up a medical mission. I learned so much about myself and my faith and also about the numerous opportunities available now and after graduation. My weekend was fantastic and I met so many amazing people and loved hearing so many of their stories and experiences. A special thank you to the CMDA council in St. Louis for their generous funding for our trip. It is so encouraging to know that a group of Christian physicians is supporting our journey through medicine and in serving the Lord through daily mission.



CMDA St. Louis Students

Praise & Prayer

Praise God with us for :

- *His provision with fundraising for the GMHC and compelling students to sacrifice their time to go.
- *God's transforming power which He poured out on those six students.
- *Believers being called to work the harvest.

Pray with us for:

- *Thriving CMDA St. Louis ministries which go beyond intellectual knowledge to deep fellowship with Christ and other believers.
- *Medical students to live on mission.
- *Physician mentors for our CMDA students.

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