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CCBC interprofessional and multicultural global health education initiative: Costa Rica study abroad program

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The Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) through the Global Education Advisory Board offered a Faculty International Travel (FIT) grant in 2015. The goal of CCBC's Faculty International Travel (FIT) grants is to provide full or partial financial support for international trips that will strengthen the college's global education initiative by providing faculty with international experiences. The FIT grant was awarded to two School of Health Professions (SHP) Nursing faculty members who developed an elective global education opportunity focused on developing cultural competence in health professions students at CCBC. Through a partnership with an international volunteer agency, a sustainable model was developed to provide a consistent interprofessional and multicultural global health education experience for students. The model is intended for students to travel with a faculty member from CCBC to a different culture for 1 week to explore health care issues. Students will reflect on the 7 principles of caring, spirit of inquiry, teamwork, innovation, problem solving, assessing community needs and cultural competence during the health care experience. The first group of students successfully made their trip in January 2017. At present, the nursing faculty is working with the CCBC Global education department to make another arrangement for another group of students to travel in January 2018.

Biography

Maria Sheilla Membrebe is an Assistant Professor at the Community College of Baltimore County, USA. She has worked as a Clinical Registered Nurse for over 15 years. She has served in the US Army Reserve Nurse Corps. She has obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from University of Santo Tomas in Manila, Philippines and Master of Science in Nursing Education from University of Phoenix. Her passion is to bring out the best in her students.

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