Think Global – Sustainable Development, Health and Advocacy: Call for Applicants

Pre-GHC 2012 Workshop
“Think Global, Act Local”

Dear Fellow Students!

Applications for the 2012 Think Global (TG) Program have just opened!

The workshop is brought to you by the Australian Medical Students’ Association (AMSA) and the International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA), and consists of three days of intensive learning and training which will be run from September 13th – 15th, just prior to the 2012 Global Health Conference (GHC), in the same tropical location – Cairns, QLD.

Think Global is an Initiative Project of the IFMSA, focused on Global Health Education. It works extensively with all 97 countries represented by the IFMSA, and in 2012 is for a third time partnering with AMSA!

TG is looking to engage students from the Asia-Pacific region and provide a unique mix of thought provoking education on highly topical issues in global health; intensive training in communication and advocacy skills; and develop a clear path for action into the future.

Following closely on the heels of the Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the TG will be a unique opportunity to examine the roles and responsibilities of the health sector in sustainable development. TG will provide a platform for medical students to engage with the issues and rise to the challenge of meeting the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

With input from the International Think Global Team, local experts in the field and delegates of the Rio +20 conference, the TG workshop is an opportunity not to be missed!

Key Details
The program will accommodate for 20 delegates within the TG program from the Asia-Pacific Region. We will aim to select the delegation as early as possible to help minimise the costs of airfares associated with attendance.

Those who attend the 3 day TG Program will also be required to attend the Global Health Conference. They will have a guaranteed place at GHC, for this purpose.
N.B. The Think Global Workshop is distinct from the AMSA TNT Program.

Application Process
Prospective delegates are required do complete the following to apply:

• Write an expression letter of interest (maximum 1 page) which outlines the reasons why you would like to participate in the TG program, why you believe that you should be selected to attend the TG program, and how you will utilize your new skills upon your return to your local medical school and associated student group/s.
Complete a CV (max 2 pages) that highlights your education, skills, qualities, experience, and interests.

Completed applications must be sent via email to the AMSA Training Coordinator (training@amsa.org.au) by 5pm AWST, Friday 25th May, 2012. Applications received after this time will not be accepted.

The selection of delegates will be based upon the applicant’s demonstrated interest in global health, passion for advocacy and campaigning, and, if selected, their willingness to use their new skills to develop global health initiatives within their local medical school. To maximise the downstream benefit of the TG program to the entire Australian medical student community, delegates will be selected from medical schools throughout the country.

The final selection of delegates will be made over the following days and successful applicants will be notified by the 27th May. Please make sure you will be in contact for this period of time, otherwise the organizers may need to select other applicants.

Cost
AMSA is able to provide delegates with a high quality training program over three (3) days, venue, and catering. It is the responsibility of the individual delegates to pay for their own flights to and from Cairns (if required), and for their accommodation for four (4) nights.

In order to make the workshop feasible to run this year, there will be a charge of $50 per delegate. The cost of return flights to Cairns varies between $50 - $600 depending on the origin of the flight, how early it is booked, and the availability of any suitable discount fares. Accommodation will cost in the order of $30 per night. Delegates will be expected to arrive on the evening of the 12th September for an early start to the TG program the next morning.

AMSA encourages students to seek financial support from their local Medical School, University faculties or other organizations, such as Medical Student Societies and Global Health Groups, to help reduce the financial burden. AMSA is able to provide assistance in the form of advice and official letters of support upon request. Requests should be directed to the Global Health Officer (Freya Langham – global@amsa.org.au). All delegates who accept a position at the TG program, however, accept the full responsibility of the aforementioned associated costs and, if necessary, be prepared to use personal contributions to fund their participation in the event.

Questions
If you have any questions regarding the TG program or application process, please don’t hesitate to contact the AMSA Training Coordinator (details below).

Kind regards,

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