



Allies in Health

3rd Annual Community and Patient Fair
for Health Professional Education 2011

meetingofexperts.org



2 November, 10:30am-4:30pm — West Atrium, Life Sciences Centre, 2350 Health Sciences Mall, The University of British Columbia

Arthritis Society of Canada – BC and Yukon Divisions
 BC Bereavement Helpline
 BC Cancer Agency Prevention Program
 BC Coalition of People with Disabilities
 BC Epilepsy Society
 BC Paraplegic Association
 Canadian Association of Familial Ataxia West
 Canadian Celiac Association – Vancouver Chapter
 Canadian Diabetes Association
 Canadian Mental Health Association– Vancouver/Burnaby Branch
 Canadian MPS Society
 Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB)
 Canucks Autism Network
 Cerebral Palsy Association of BC
 Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada
 Developmental Disabilities Association
 Fraser Valley Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society
 Heart and Stroke Foundation of BC and Yukon
 Huntington Society of Canada BC Chapter
 Institute for Aboriginal Health
 Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Canada
 Mood Disorders Association of BC
 MOSAIC BC
 MS Society of Canada, Lower Mainland Chapter
 Muscular Dystrophy Canada
 Myalgic Encephalomyelitis and Fibromyalgia Societies of BC
 North Shore Disability Resource Centre
 Ovarian Cancer Canada
 PeerNetBC
 Positive Living BC
 Positive Women's Network
 Recovery Narrative Project
 S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Chinese Help Lines
 Salvation Army – Kate Booth House
 Scleroderma Association of BC
 Special Olympics BC
 STOP HIV/AIDS Team, Vancouver Coastal Health
 YouthCO

38 community exhibitors and 7 patient panel workshops visited by over 500

Allies in Health is an open-house fair that connects community organizations, patient support groups and people involved in these agencies with UBC students and faculty.

The fair is an opportunity for students and faculty members to learn about:

- the experiences of living with illness or disability from patients/clients/community members, and their interactions with health professionals and the health care system,
- resources and information available in the community for health professionals and their patients/clients,
- patient and community organizations and what they do.

The fair brings the unique expertise of people from the community into the education of health professionals. It fosters familiarity, dialogue and partnerships between the academy and the community. The fair is one of several initiatives by the Division of Health Care Communication that bring the community and students together — with the community as teacher.



Division of Health Care Communication
informed and shared decision making



College of Health Disciplines



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Part of UBC Celebrate Learning Week. Organized by the Division of Health Care Communication, College of Health Disciplines. UBC Funding by the Social Accountability & Community Engagement Initiative of the Department of Family Practice, Special Population Fund, Faculty of Medicine and the Office of the Vice Provost & Associate Vice President Academic.

Visitors and Exhibitors

Estimated total attendance was over 500. 311 visitors registered and gave their discipline and year of study.

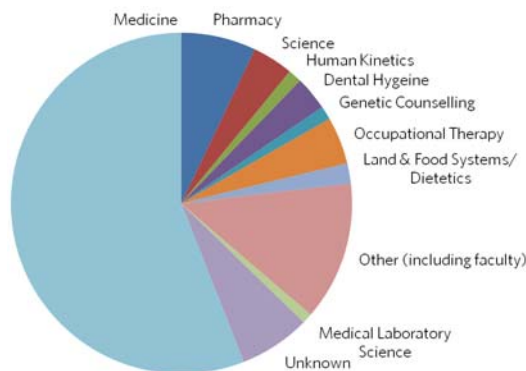
In exit interviews, students reported that they learned:

- about a range of new conditions and community services available
- the importance of advocacy in medicine
- how a condition could affect a patient's entire life
- about resources that are available to patients
- a new perspective: hearing from patients about living with disability and illness and the barriers to care that they may experience

"It was nice that the many of the students also had workshops and/or presentations to attend that were presented by the community organizations, therefore when they came out of the presentations that were more curious and willing to get information and connect with many of the community organizations in the common booth area."

— Community exhibitor

Fair registrations by discipline



Patient Panels

Seven 1-hour 'patient panel' workshops were offered to students, each featuring three to six different expert panelists (usually patients) and a moderator. Panelists shared stories, discussed their experiences, and answered questions from the audience. Panel themes were:

Experiences of chronic health concerns (presented twice)

Living and communicating with aphasia

Experiences in the health care system

Barriers to health care communication

Living a life of recovery with mental illness

Cultural competence in health care

149 students and faculty attended the panels.

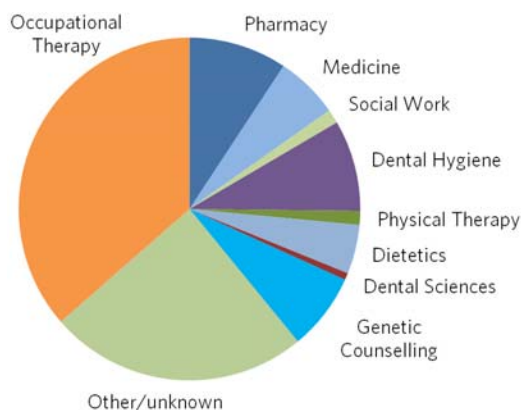
"I learned ...it is important to listen to the patient and try to understand them so that health care workers can advocate for them." — Occupational Therapy student

"I learned how such small things, like taking the time to listen to your patient and ask them how they are feeling about their own body can make such a big difference, even on the time of diagnosis. It just takes that small step about caring, listening and educating your patient to help them live a better life, step by step." — Dental Hygiene student

"It was great to see medicine from the patient's point of view. It reinforced the importance of treating patients like people not pathologies." — Physical Therapy student

"[I learned] some things about specific cultural practices of ethnocultural groups in Vancouver, as well as barriers to providing adequate health care services to these ethnocultural groups." — School of Audiology & Speech Sciences faculty

Patient panel visitors by discipline



A special "Thank You" to our community donors:

