Medical Practicum: 1981-2016
Outline

I. How it started

II. Sites
   A. Requirements
   B. Selection

III. Evolution of trip

IV. Outcomes
   A. Communities served
   B. Participants

V. Ideas for future
The Beginning

Fall of 1979

Fred LaMar
DePauw U. Chaplain

Bob Knechel
MC Campus Pastor
Why did I accept?

International Education
Programs for Science Majors
Strength in Health Sciences
Mission Statement
International Experience
6 Weeks Work Camp in Rural Ecuador in 1956

“Camping” in a school using pit latrine

New foods
Over high mountain passes

Down to Amazon headwaters
Sabbatical Year in Rural Philippines 1971-72

Encountering different cultures
New modes of transportation
Islamic society

Organic chemistry class with different cultural assumptions
Medical Practicum Locations

1. Ambergris Cay, Honduras
2. Panama
3. Guatemala
4. El Salvador
5. Costa Rica
6. Nicaragua

Sources: worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/camerica.htm
Location Requirements

1. Permission for entering country.
2. Support and facilities at locale.
3. High health care need.
4. Cultural experience for students.
1981

Episcopal church
Medical Professionals

Don Parker, MD, ‘56

Rick Myers, DDS, ‘69
Dan Nordman, Rex Flenar, Hank Grimes, Tim Troyer, Pete Grieser, Suzanne Shenk, Rachel Callaway, Gladys Stutzman
Off to Punta Brava

Portable pharmacy
Caribbean Methodist Church Clinic
Cusapín on Valiente Peninsula
On the way to Cusapín
Packing for Playa Colorada
Hiking to Punta Uva
Dave Fouts,
MD, ‘56
Weekend relaxation
1983
Episcopal Parish Hall at Omoa
Lee Smith, MD, ‘47
1984 and 1985
Viajama

Al fresco bathing
Yet another latrine
Preparing Piperazine syrup for treating lambrices (round worms)

Dean Rust, DDS, ‘68
Five Star Hotel and Restaurant in Viajama

R and R in Sosúa on North Coast
Boca Chica 1986, 1987
Bonafacio, Costa Rica 1988-90

Hosted by Misión Pentecostal Fé y Santidad
Public Health Project
Keim Houser, MD, ‘61

Mike Kastner, DDS, ‘77
Cahuita National Park

Volcán Poás, 8,885 ft

Cahuita
1993-2003 Mulukukú

2001 El Hormiguero

Daily Distances:
Origin: Puerto Cabezas
1. to Nazareth 1 ... 67km
2. to Rosita ... 78km
3. to Siuna ... 73km
4. to Mulukukú ... 70km
5. to Matiguás ... 87km
6. to Boaco ... 91km
7. to Tipitapa ... 69km
8. to Pochomil ... 86km
Total trip: 621km

www.lahistoriaconmapas.com
Charcos Grandes
BIENVENIDOS
AMIGOS
INTERNACIONALISTA
MULUKUKU
A “real” ambulance derived from the Latin *ambulare*: “to walk”

Chad Ringley, MD, ‘94
“Todo el mundo sabe.”

Elaine Shafer, MD, ‘89
El Hormiguero 2001
Archie Beckner, Daniel Ortega, Warren Hickman, Bill Weybright
DDS ’57, Pres. Nicaragua, RPh, ’65, MD, ‘60
2008-09 Ciudad Antigua, Nicaragua

Mark Shafer, DDS, ’88
2010 Río Coco, Nicaragua
~300 miles
Hauling Cargo
Walakitang

2010, 2011
Water Purification
Medical Practicum Evolution
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1981</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professionals</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patients</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>135</td>
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<td>Medical</td>
<td>557</td>
<td>1731</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>745</td>
<td>1866</td>
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62 at Meals
Local Partners

Churches – 10 years
Guatemala, Panama, Honduras, D.R., Costa Rica

Social/Political Organization – 10 years
Nicaragua (Women’s Co-op in Mulukukú)

Federal Government – 11 years
(Santa María, Ciudad Antigua, Alto Wangki-Bocay)
Vaccinations
Cryotherapy

Jeff Easley, MD, MC ’83
Rhonda Whitten, NP/midwife
Urine analysis
Pregnancy
*H. pylori*

Glucose
Hemoglobin
*Chlamydia*

HbA1C
Chagas
Gonorrhea
Veterinarians

Emilie Blough, DVM
MC ‘02
“Frequent Fliers”

8  Mark Shafer, DDS ’89
   Bette Cowan, RN

9  Lois Johnson, MD ‘52
   Don Parker, MD ‘56
   Kathy Long, MD ‘71
   Paul Fry-Miller, PA-C ’75

10 Bill Fike, MD
Continuous Medical Practicum Spirit

Solidarity with local people.
Relationships with communities.
Accompanying local people in the work of health care.
"If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together."

- Lilla Watson
Outcomes
Total Clinic Outcomes

39,581 medical consultations
5,259 dental patients
$213,463 meds/clinic supplies

677 lab tests (since 2013)
1,500 animals dewormed (since 2013)
Other Outcomes

Participants:

356 students
120 healthcare providers
65 other staff

48% students now in health care:

104 physicians
19 dentists
19 nurses
15 pharmacists
7 PAs
The Medical Practicum increased my...

-knowledge of other cultures, including their beliefs, values, perspectives, practices, and products.  
  84%

-understanding of global issues.  
  72%
The Medical Practicum helped me...

- accept cultural differences.  
  76%

- recognize that different perceptions and behaviors may be based on cultural differences.  
  75%

- experience being a minority and/or an outsider.  
  73%
“Adventure is discomfort in retrospect.”

- Jim Adams
Acknowledgements

Providers

Donors

Medicines and Supplies
Med. Pract. Endowment

In-Country Partners

Host Communities

Manchester Family Dentistry
Future

January Session 2017
NICARAGUA
NASC-310 Medical Practicum

If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together. — Lilla Watson

Manchester University

Apply at www.MedicalPracticum.org by March 28

www.MedicalPracticum.org
End