Request for Student Applications

Vernissage Health: Health Leaders Dialogue Series

Concept

Dialogue can be a powerful catalyst for transformative learning and systemic change. This is the central idea behind an initiative called Vernissage Health™ which employs dialogue as the foundation for exploring leadership in health care. Vernissage Health™ is an innovative leadership development opportunity for graduate students in health care at the University of Toronto.

Vernissage Health™ brings together two leadership groups in a “salon” environment for dialogue about leadership: graduate students embarking on careers in health (***emerging leaders***) and late career senior executives and leaders in transition from established, successful careers across broad sectors in health (***established leaders***). The scope of experienced leaders will include CEOs and senior executives in the private and public sectors – consultants, hospitals, advocacy and professional associations, government, and physician leaders in management.

Dialogue sessions provide a unique opportunity for these leaders to self reflect, share experiences, and exchange concepts and ideas about leadership. Ultimately, this unique experience will help impact and develop emerging leaders who can successfully navigate positive change within Canada’s health system for the future.

Objectives

The dialogue sessions are designed to provide a positive, informal learning environment that achieves the following objectives:

* fosters insights and authentic conversation about leadership and leading change in health organizations, the broader health system, the community and society at large;
* allows networking, creates relationship and shared learning among and between participants who are emerging and established leaders in health;
* provides the opportunity to examine diverse experiences, thoughts and insights about the challenges facing health leaders now and in the future
* allows participants to learn about and experience dialogue and its core elements as a form of communication that can facilitate engagement, change and transformation.

*Application Instructions*

Please submit three Microsoft Word Documents containing the following information:

1. Cover email **clearly identifying your name, graduate program and to which series you are making application.**
2. The answers to the application questions (see below)
3. Your curriculum vitae (maximum of two pages)

Application Questions: (Please answer the following three questions within the word limit).

1. Please briefly describe the qualities, skills or experiences you possess that would make you an ideal participant in such a dialogue series. (250 word max.)
2. Please briefly describe your career goals as a leader in health and how the experience of this dialogue series would contribute to or support these goals. (250 word max.)
3. What aspect within the health system, community or society at large do you most strongly feel requires change and transformation and where you might focus your attention as a leader? Please identify how you feel this issue might change or evolve in future. (250 words max.)

For more information about this initiative, please contact Wendy Nelson, Founder and Project Lead at wnelson@rogers.com. Completed applications should be sent to Vernissage@utoronto.ca by the application date for the series to which you are applying.