

Summary Report: 1st Philippine Interprofessional Education and Collaboration Conference (PHIPEC 2018)

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What is the PHIPEC 2018?

The **PHIPEC 2018** is the first-ever national conference held in the Philippines on interprofessional education and collaboration (IPEC). It was initiated through an inter-university partnership (Angeles University Foundation [AUF] and University of Santo Tomas [UST]) to facilitate uniform understanding of IPEC across higher education institutions and health facilities as well as instigate research and curriculum creation on IPEC to facilitate improved health outcomes for the Filipino population.

The historical event was held in the University of Santo Tomas (Manila, Philippines) last 11-12 August 2018. The two-day conference gathered over 80 participants from more than 10 health and social care professions (i.e., occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech-language pathology, nursing, medicine, social work, psychology, dentistry, pharmacy, public health, health professions education). Moreover, a total of 15 speakers shared their expertise in health education and practice in light of IPEC.



This memorabilia contains all the thumb marks and signatures of all the participants of the PHIPEC2018.



Workshop using T-E-A-M Protocol



Ms. Minnie Lagria on Island Health



Proponents of the 1st PHIPEC 2018

Conference Highlights

Despite the inclement weather (heavy rains and some flooding), the **PHIPEC 2018** still pushed through as planned. The conference began with a joint welcoming remarks from the deans of the host universities — Dean Annalyn Navarro (AUF) and Dean Anne Marie Aseron (UST). Keynote speeches were delivered in order to facilitate uniform knowledge on IPEC among the participants. Plenary sessions were threaded based on the core principles of health professions education — teaching, applying, integrating, and discovering. Thematic symposia that discussed on-going IPEC-related research and projects with specialized topics such as HIV care, substance addiction, communication competencies, team strategies, and more were also available. Each day was ended with workshops that facilitated interactive learning among participants. The workshops reinforced translational research and evidence-based teaching such as the use of technology (Ganotice, 2017) and the T-E-A-M Protocol (Sy & Martinez, 2017) in facilitating interprofessional education and collaboration.

Future Directions

On the last day, a post-conference workshop was held to determine future possibilities for the newly founded PHIPEC network that will reinforce a strengthened Filipino health care system:

- *Formalize IPEC training and education* for faculty, students, and graduate students;
- *Challenge more practitioners* to learn and engage in IPEC;
- *Strengthen conflict resolution and effective communication competencies* among students and professionals within the health and social care professions;
- *Explore various methods and research designs* in IPEC-related research i.e., qualitative, mixed methods, experimental;
- *Publish a textbook manual* that will highlight best practice in IPEC in the Philippines;
- *Discover possibilities of more inter-university collaboration* in terms of IPEC education and research across the archipelago;
- *Establish an informal network for Filipinos* to be called the **“PHIPEC Network”**, which is envisioned to be part of the World Coordinating Council - All Together Better Health and formally recognized by the CAIPE in the future.

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Roderick Salenga (pharmacist) from the World Health Organization explains the importance of IPEC in global health.



Cheryl R. Peralta (physiotherapist) from the University of Santo Tomas explains the “bayanihan” spirit of Filipinos — a culture of helping together towards a completing a difficult task.



Michael Sy (occupational therapist) from the Angeles University Foundation igniting Filipino IPEC champions to brainstorm about what are the future directions of the PHIPEC in the coming years.

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