



Date: August 14, 2003
To: All Faculty
From: Noni Threinen, Director
Subject: News

***August Faculty Seminar: Wednesday, August 13th, 2003
"Enhance Your Teaching with a Focus on Culture"***

Guest Presenters: Sara Axtell, PhD. and Patricia Cole, M.D.
University of Minnesota Medical School

Thanks to those faculty members who chose to attend the seminar on a beautiful summer day. The presenters were very knowledgeable about the content related to cultural awareness, culture as a healing system, health status and disparities among cultures, culture in the clinical encounter, and cross-cultural skills. The session was inter-active and gave those in attendance the chance to ask specific questions and hear about the actual applications in the University of Minnesota medical school on these issues.

Faculty response was very favorable overall. Comments included:

"This was the best session we have had to date"
"Very specific to health care education"
"Liked the examples of integrating culture into the courses"
"Very well done", "Specific examples, concrete steps"
"Engaging process"
"Better and more useful than some of the previous seminars".

An excellent reference list was provided by the presenters. In addition, a complete bibliography of materials available in our library concerning culture and diversity was compiled by Ann Kempke. There is a special display just inside the door of the library with a few selections from the collection. A seminar video and copy of notes will be available in the library at the start of the fall term.

Your suggestions are welcome

Please send your suggestion for future program topics and ideas to me or any of the advisory group members. We welcome your input.

Advisory group members' names, e-mail addresses and campus phone extensions are available on the assessment page of the CTLA web site.