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Ateller Wilson Centre @ HOMER present:

**CLARIFYING  
METHODOLOGIES  
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Applications in your Workplace

May 21 - 24, 2018



## NHG Education

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# Many 'Firsts' for SHBC 2017

BY EUGENE SENG



**Organising Co-Chairman, Dr Martin Chio giving his opening address**

Themed “Transforming our Health Ecosystem”, the 5th Singapore Health and Biomedical Congress took place on 12 to 13 October 2017 at the Max Atria@ Singapore Expo, and 14 October 2017 at the Nanyang Technological University Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKC/Medicine).

An SHBC of many firsts, this year’s congress saw the congress being held over two and half days, with the half-day Dermatology Symposium held at the new LKC/Medicine Novena Campus; cash prizes presented to all ‘Circle of Life’ Medical Humanities participants; and the introduction of ‘Pecha Kucha’ to the Health Education Professions track.



**The SHBC 2017 poster village**

## Pecha Kucha@SHBC 2017

Devised by Astrid Klein and Mark Dytham of Tokyo’s Klein-Dytham Architecture, ‘Pecha Kucha’ is a fast-paced presentation style which limits presentations to 6 minute 40 seconds; 20 auto-scrolling slides or images shown for 20 seconds each.

Dr Lee Eng Sing, SHBC Organising Chair, explained

that the adoption of this new format “would ensure that the presenters do not overrun, as it requires effort to plan well and be succinct in their presentations”.

“Pecha Kucha was introduced to us by Associate Professor Nicholas Chew... it was a novel idea, and we jumped on it as we have always wanted our research

to have a narrative platform so that those who are not clinically or scientifically trained can relate to the research better," he explained.

"It also makes presentations lively, concise and pictorial, rather than busy slides filled with words," concurred Adjunct Assistant Professor Sarah Lu, SHBC Education Track Champion.

Ms Loo May Eng from NHG-HOMER, who presented felt that Pecha Kucha was a creative and concise way to present a topic that people are passionate about. "Although it was rather challenging to keep to the precise timing of each slide, the process of preparing and presenting my thoughts on Health Professions Education through a format like Pecha Kucha was fun and enjoyable on the whole," she said. "I think the audience enjoyed the presentations."

Ms Jamie Lim, Assistant Director of Nursing, TTSH, who also presented at the same session, admitted that the preparation process was not easy. "I did my research on Pecha Kucha; drew my story board, looked for appropriate pictures; wrote my speeches and rehearsed like crazy!" she chuckled. "It was the most thrilling 6 minutes of my life! I want to do it again!"

"I think the Pecha Kucha presentations have gone very well for our first attempt at doing it," said

Dr Lee. He added that the organising committee is in the midst of soliciting feedback from the presenters to determine if this will be a permanent presentation format for future SHBCs.



**Ms Loo May Eng presented her topic: 'Health Professions Education – Through The Eyes Of Totto-Chan And Mine'**



**The Pecha Kucha hall was packed to the brim with SHBC participants**

## Medical Humanities@SHBC 2017 - 'Circle of Life'



**From left: Minister of Health, Mr Gan Kim Yong presented the 3rd prize to Mr Tan Tzeh Phang**



**Follow the link to view all the artwork submissions for this year's SHBC Medical Humanities Exhibition:**  
<http://bit.ly/NHGEduMedHum2017>

## SHBC2017@LKCmedicine

Some 500 SHBC delegates converged at the new NTU LKCmedicine Novena Campus, on Saturday (14 Oct) afternoon for the SHBC Primary Care-Dermatology Symposium.

It was the first time the congress was extended to two and a half days; and the first time a part of the congress was held at a different locale.

Ms Eileen Hor, SHBC Secretariat Chair, said that the location was well received by the participants. "The locale was a perfect, and we felt that it was a timely opportunity to also showcase LKCmedicine's new facilities, and what better platform to do it than at SHBC?" she chuckled.

Ms Hor added that there is also a possibility that future half-day SHBC congress would be held at the LKCmedicine campus. "Keeping the delegates' experience [of LKCmedicine] in mind, we are certainly considering this as well as other venues that will value add to SHBC 2018. [And] currently, plans are afoot to expand the programmes. So stay tuned!"

All thanks to NTU LKCmedicine, participants of SHBC Medical Humanities exhibition received cash prizes for the first time; with the top three winners receiving \$500, \$300 and \$200.

"The artwork were marvellous and very creative!" said an impressed Dr Lee.

"I was amazed by the sheer talent and wide variety of exhibits, ranging from paintings to poetry to sculpture," said A/Prof Lu, one of the judges. "This exhibition provided an avenue for healthcare workers and patients to express themselves."

Dr Shermin Tan who bagged the top prize shared that the practice of medicine is an art, and she credits the patients as her inspiration not only as a doctor, but also an artist. "For all of us in healthcare, I hope that we will continue to balance both the art and the science, to provide the best care we can for the lives we touch," she said.

One particular artwork '點燃生命 (Ignite Life)' which left both Dr Lee and A/Prof Lu in awe was a Chinese poem, penned by third-prize winner Mr Tan Tzeh Phang, a patient at Ren Ci Community Hospital. They were impressed by how skilfully Mr Tan weaved in the names of his fellow patients' into the six-verse poem. "An excellent piece of work!" exclaimed Dr Lee.

"After reading his poem and seeing the world through his lens, it was heart-warming to see him beam with pride as he collected his prize from Minister Gan at the opening ceremony," said A/Prof Lu.

"I was pleasantly surprised that my poetry was recognised," said an ecstatic yet humbled Mr Tan. "I hope to be able to take part in a similar event in the future."



**Speaker Dr Aaron Tan (Consultant, National Skin Centre) presented his talk on common nail disorders**





# A Gap Year in Sierra Leone

BY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR THAM KUM YING

There were three reactions when I mentioned that I was traveling to Sierra Leone: “Where’s that?”, “That’s Ebola centre – what are you doing there?”, and “Isn’t that the Blood Diamond country?”.

Sierra Leone is in West Africa and in a bygone era, the Athens of West Africa. In 2014 it was one of the countries that were severely affected by Ebola. Diamonds and other natural resources are plentiful there but unfortunately do not translate into a better life or living environment for the ordinary Sierra Leonean.

I paid a visit to Dr Lois Hong, NHG (National Healthcare Group) Family Medicine resident on a gap year in Sierra Leone in October 2017. Lois is there with her husband, Dr Rajaraman Natarajan, who holds the post of Medical Educator at Connaught Hospital in Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone.

After a deadly mudslide in August that killed 500 and brought many injured to Connaught Hospital, Raj wanted me to talk about mass casualty incidents to the junior doctors and hospital leaders. And Lois invited me to conduct a crash course on basic life support skills upon realising how the staff at The Shepherd’s Hospice lacked these skills.

Using team based learning (TBL) and the Immediate Feedback Assessment Technique (IF-AT) aka “scratchy card”, forty junior doctors consolidated their knowledge about mass casualty incidents and management.

Raj received feedback that TBL using IF-AT was a fun and engaging way to facilitate the learning of a heavy-weight topic like mass casualty incident and management on a Sunday afternoon. I gave Raj the rest of the “scratchy cards”, and hope that he would find them useful too.



From left: A/Prof Tham with Dr Lois Hong at the fabric market



Staff from The Shepherd’s Hospice practicing the Heimlich manoeuvre

The Shepherd’s Hospice, one of three places that Lois worked had much less resources compared to Connaught Hospital. Though it is a hospice, it receives an unexpected number of acute cases because it is the only nearby medical facility for several communities in that area; the staff felt ill-equipped to receive these acute cases.

Borrowing an adult manikin from Connaught Hospital, we managed to cover one-man CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and Heimlich manoeuvre for a choking victim. Fashioning a spine board out of a piece of wood, the doctors, nurses, health assistants and even drivers learned the basics of airway-cervical spine protection, breathing, circulation and spinal immobilisation.

The staff members understood that these skills are not needed for the palliative care patients, for example those with end-stage HIV, but for the young man who falls off a tree and is injured, these skills provide a systematic way to receive and prepare the patient for transfer to Connaught Hospital.

Lois will be back in Singapore by the end of December to resume her residency in January 2018. What she has learned during her gap year may not have direct bearings on her residency but I am certain

the lessons on healthcare systems, sustainability, education and training, and patient-centred care in an under-resourced country will serve Lois well in her future practice as a Family Physician.

Associate Professor Tham Kum Ying is a Senior Consultant Emergency Physician and Education Director at Tan Tock Seng Hospital. She has been teaching medical students, junior doctors, nurses and paramedics since 1994, and is a much sought after teacher and lecturer who has won numerous teaching awards. Since 2008, she has been involved in the setting up, organisation and launch of the Nanyang Technological University Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine.

## Streaming 'LIVE' for the First Time

BY EUGENE SENG



### Questions and comments streamed in during Prof Sloot's talk

For the first time, National Healthcare Group (NHG) Education live-streamed a one-and-a-half hour talk by guest speaker Professor Peter Sloot, co-director of the Nanyang Technological University's Complexity Institute, through its Facebook (FB) page at the NHG-HOMER meeting held on 7 November 2017.

The talk titled 'The Complexity of Health & Diseases: Concerns & Consequences of Focusing only on Big Data', attracted some 160 real and 'virtual' attendees. Those who watched the live stream also had the opportunity to post their questions, and had them answered by Prof Sloot in real time during the Q&A session.

Ms Seah Chiew Tin, Senior Executive, Learning Design and Technology, NHG Education, who watched the live stream said, "It was good that I was able to watch it live as I was unable to attend the talk."

Ms Michelle Teo, Assistant Director, NHG Education, who also watched the talk through FB live concurred: "Sometimes our schedules do not permit us to attend [talks or events]... and especially for our colleagues who work at the various other institutions [e.g. Institute of Mental Health, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, etc.], FB Live



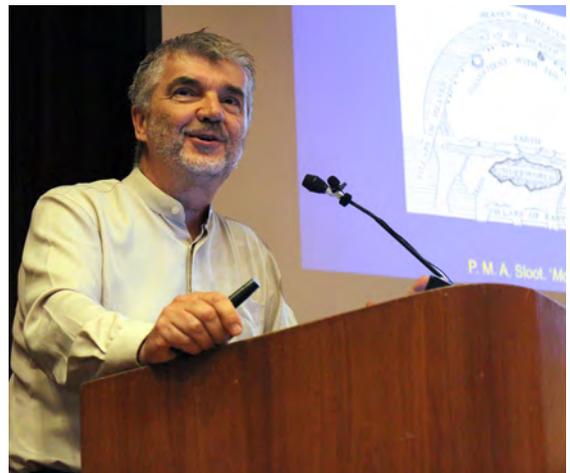
**Prof Sloot answered questions from the floor and Facebook Live.**

helps to bridge these gaps, making content accessible to everyone.”

She added that online streaming such as Facebook Live and YouTube Live can also be effective tools that educators, trainers and institutions can utilise for education and synchronous learning. “And most importantly, it does not require high-tech equipment or expertise, all you need is your smartphone!”

Following the positive response received from this live streaming session, Ms Teo said that NHG Education will definitely explore the possibility of incorporating FB Live streaming in future teaching sessions and NHG Education-related talks and events such as the Singapore Health and Biomedical Congress.

**Follow the link to view Prof Sloot’s talk ‘The Complexity of Health & Diseases: Concerns & Consequences of Focusing only on Big Data’: <http://bit.ly/NHG-DrSlootFBLive>**



**Prof Peter Sloot**



### Course Synopsis

Wilson Centre and HOMER are proud to offer health professionals a four-day intensive programme in qualitative research. Pitched at the intermediate level, the course will give participants the chance to hone their research skills through guided seminars, skill-building workshops and exercises led by some of the world's most respected health professions education researchers.

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### Programme Highlights

- Exploration of methodological traditions relevant to health professions education research; includes grounded theory, ethnography and critical discourse analysis.
- Skills-building workshops introducing nuances in data gathering and analysis
- Dedicated sessions on reflexivity, rigor and quality
- This short course is modelled after the award winning Wilson Centre Atelier Series and incorporates insights from HOMER's growing presence as a leader in workplace relevant research



The vision of the Wilson Centre is to be a global leader in advancing healthcare education and practice through research. Its mission is to foster the discovery of theory and new knowledge relevant to advancing healthcare education and practice and the translation of new knowledge by promoting creative synergies between diverse theoretical perspectives, and between theory and practice. The Wilson Centre is committed to the cultivation of future research leaders in healthcare education and practice.

HOMER, which stands for Health Outcomes and Medical Education Research, was established as a unit within the NHG Education Office, to inform and transform Health Professions Education by providing the strongest evidence for educational practices. It seeks to build the research capacity of NHG's community of Health Professions Education practitioners by enabling clinical educators to conduct rigorous health professions education research, and providing avenues to communicate these findings.

Closing for registration: **31 March 2018**

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