Abstract

One Health Approach to Course Development & Implementation

In 2013 an international partnership was established between the University of Peradeniya (UoP) Sri Lanka and the University of California Davis (UC Davis) campuses. The 2015 One Health Field Intensive Course was designed to bring faculty members from both institutions together to develop curricula and field experiences that would prepare students, both in the course and at UP, to apply a One Health approach to problems at the human-animal-environmental level. Course participants consisted of a group of students and faculty in human health sciences, veterinary medicine, agriculture, nutrition and environmental science that are currently enrolled at the UoP and UC campuses. Selected students from both countries worked closely together in collaborative team-based learning for thirty days under the guidance of faculty members from both universities. Leadership, communication, cultural awareness and problem solving were prominent themes of the program. Students were directed toward an active learning process through discussions, presentations and interviews to gain practical knowledge. Over 94% course participants said they gained one or more specific ideas they can implement in their career. More than 88% students learned a new approach to their career and indicated that the course may help them be more effective and creative in their current position. The course received very positive feedback from students and course instructors. In addition AWBsupported faculty (Smith and Bell) had opportunities to engage with UP faculty to discuss student-centered learning and One Health course development. Plans are underway to continue this engagement and offer the One Health course next year.