# The Neglected Global Diseases Initiative UBC's Global Health Catalyst





The NGDI membership of 55 faculty and 31 research associates and students is augmented by the over 300 online members, and is open to all faculties across campus.

The Global Health Online Network is a platform administered by NGDI that provides a private link between all global health advocates at UBC.





































### Letter from the Director

The UBC Neglected Global Diseases Initiative (NGDI), founded by multidisciplinary scientists and equity advocates in 2010, has played a pivotal role in leveraging UBC's position in meaningful international development. NGDI-UBC has provided an outlet, sounding board, and pathway for the work of UBC's faculty, staff and students to increase the impact of their work for people in poverty and other disadvantaged situations.

Activities have included support of UBC's leading "Global Access Principles" which, along with NGDI's focus on neglected diseases led to a top ranking of North America's institutions in this area, student and faculty engagement of it's members, convening of high level discussions on topical issues such as Ebola and Zika virus outbreaks, and the formation of a UBC global health 'community' with launching of the UBC Global Health Online Network (www.ghon.ubc.ca).

UBC's path to being a meaningful player in the recently launched United Nations "Sustainable Development Goals" is only beginning. This brief report and timeline helps summarize the 'initiative' thus far, to help guide the way forward.

Kind regards,.

Richard Lester, MD, FRCP(C)

Global Health | Division of Infectious Diseases | Faculty of Medicine | Vancouver General Hospital Director | Neglected Global Diseases Initiative at UBC and Director | WelTel International

P.S. Our dedicated and exemplary Advisory Board is listed on the back page.



Canadian Global Health Research Training Program; 2013.



Biomedical Engineering Student Team (BEST) receives Ebola Action Fund Grant: 2015.



Ebola Symposium for Action and Treatment; 2014.



Ninth Distinguished Lectureship Seminar featuring Dr. Robert E.W. Hancock: 2013



Peter J. Hotez (middle) Centennial Session on Global Health with Mark Ansermino, guest, Tobi Kollmann, and Richard Lester; 2016.





Distinguished Lectureship Seminar in 2011 with Mr. Stephen Lewis (above) and Drs. Julio Montaner and Michael Hayden (below).





Site visits from CEO of Grand Challenges Canada, Dr. Peter Singer. He attended in 2011 with Dr. Abdallah Daar for "The Grandest Challenge" book release tour (left and centre) and in 2013 for a Distinguished Lectureship and meeting with UBC's \$100K Stars in Global Health.





Students who entered the poster competition on Celebrate Research Week in 2011 and Dr. Peter von Dadelszen judging them (left and centre). Students visiting from Central Michigan University in 2011 were members of the Universities Allied for Essential Medicines.





In 2016, Dr. Peter Hotez gave our UBC Centennial Lecture on Global Health. He is pictured with Jocelyn Conway (left), and the audience during and after the presentation (centre and right).







## Timeline and Impact Review 2010-2016

### **Convening and Networking**

Whether convening events locally or promoting our researchers nationally and internationally, NGDI has been focused on multidisciplinarity in global health for UBC. We have consistently provided opportunities for students, staff and faculty to engage in UBC's research excellence and understand the global need for continued and focused basic and applied research for the development of a healthier world. Networking within UBC at group meetings, Distinguished Lectureship Seminars, and most recently through the private UBC Global Health Online Network are helping to tear down the disciplinary silos that can hinder research innovation.



NGDI Network Members: 300
Faculty Members: 55 (6 faculties)
Seminars and networking meetings: 15
Distinguished Lectureships Seminars: 11
National & International Engagement: 9
Conferences: 4

### **Leveraging Research Opportunities**

We have advocated for our member's research in neglected diseases, beginning with the opening day media event for the \$1.5 billion Start an Evolution campaign in 2011, and continuing with every invitation to national and international events, and hosted site visits such as the Gates Foundation, Grand Challenges Canada, or with NTD expert Dr. Peter Hotez.



Multidisciplinary grant meetings: 10
NGDI grant applications: 10 (6 funded)
NGDI publications: 9
Letters of support: 7 (2 funded)
WIPO Re:Search collaborations: 4

### **Student Engagement and Education**

Engaging with students has been a specific focus and speaking at the many yearly events to introduce neglected diseases has inspired students to get involved with global health.

Students representatives are on our Advisory Board and the office has employed interns and work study students. We have supported several student projects and mentored many more. We have also provided references for several successful graduate student applications and work positions.



Invited talks to student groups: 11
Student interns: 11
Student travel awards: 10
Student events sponsored: 4
Work study students: 4
Student Projects supported: 4

### **UBC & Global Health Advocacy**

Through regular newsletters, press releases, annual reports and web communications, NGDI has advocated for global health topics and world events.

We are also concentrating on building a stronger, better connected Global Health community at UBC through a communications platform the UBC Global Health Online Network. We are helping to coordinate other group efforts, for instance, the new Clinical Global Health Network at the Faculty of Medicine and a TLEF funded online global health educational modules.



UBC Global Health Advocacy and meetings: 6 Global Health Online Network members: 106 Clinical Global Health Network members: 32

#### 2009 Publication

#### **Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

"The Global Access Initiative at The University of British Columbia (UBC): Availability of UBC Discoveries and Technologies to the Developing World."

#### Networking

#### **NGDI First Stakeholders Meeting**

In early January over 50 UBC stakeholders met at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies to discuss a model for and strategy in developing this new initiative. Topics of the day were: defining a niche, outcomes measurement, communications, funding models, and training. Outcomes from the meeting provided guidance for the first year that included: hiring a coordinator, hosting a neglected diseases symposium, surveying the UB community for research strengths and interests, and facilitating meetings across

### Operations Coordinator Hire

Apr, 1.0 FTE Coordinator started in late April.

#### Education

#### **Faculty of Pharmaceutical Science Lecture**

Apr, Dr. Robert Hancock: "Developing Treatments for Neglected Global Diseases"

#### Dublicatio

Mobilizing Research Opportunities
NGDI Hosts Gates Foundation Site Visit

#### **PLoS Medicine**

Jul 23, NGDI hosts a one-day site visit for Dr. Thomas Kanyok,

Public Health, University-Industry Liaison Office, Development

Office and the Universities Allied for Essential Medicines.

Senior Program Officer of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to

highlight members research. During the day, Dr. Kanyok visit with

two VP's office, Chemistry, Microbiology, School of Population and

**Developing Partnerships** 

Walter Reed Army Institute

May, "Which New Approaches to Tackling Neglected Tropical Diseases Show Promise?"

May 23, Dr. Kishor Wasan was invited to present at

the WRAI regarding novel Leishmaniasis treatments.

#### **Operations**

#### Website and Newsletter Launch

Jun, Revamp of the NGDI previous website to the UBC common look and feel site was launched as well as the first newsletter to NGDI membership.

#### Symposium Participation

#### World TB Day at UBC

Mar 24, Introduction of NGDI at the UBC World Tuberculosis Day event hosted by the Centre for Tuberculosis Research at UBC.

2010

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disciplinary boundaries.

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

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Jun

# 2011

#### **Developing Partnerships**

#### **CDRD MOU**

Jan 26, Memorandum of Understanding between the Centre for Drug Research and Development for the development of neglected disease interventions.

#### **Education**

### Inaugural Distinguished Lectureship Seminar Series

Jan 14, The NGDI Inaugural Distinguished Lectureship Seminar Series featured **Dr. Michael Hayden**, Director of the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics. Dr. Hayden was also awarded the Gairdner Wightman ward for 2011.

#### **Symposium Participation**

#### World TB Day UBC

Mar 24, Dr. Kishor introduced the NGDI at this event hosted by the UBC Centre for Tuberculosis Research.

#### **Student Engagement**

Creating Change, Creating Impact Mar 4, Celebrate Research Week event co-sponsored with the UAEM UBC. Speakers: Angus Livingstone, UILO, Peter von Dadelszen, CFRI, Rebecca Goulding, UAEM, and Lindsay Eltis, Centre for TB Research. Poster session with cash prize.

#### International Engagement

Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM) Speaking Tour Apr 2-11, Dr. Kishor Wasan visited groups at Cornell University, MIT and Central Michigan. He also visited various global health and science departments.

#### **Education**

#### **Distinguished Lectureship Seminar**

May 13, Series continued with **Dr. Julio Montaner**, Director of the BC Centre of Excellence for HIV/AIDS. Dr. Montaner's talk provided more information on the Treatment as Prevention work that he has championed over the last decade.

#### **Leveraging Funder**

#### MITACS Talk

May 6, NGDI hosted Dr. Laurence Meadows who presented the Accelerate and Globalink Program to NGDI members and students.

#### **Publication**

#### **Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

Feb, "Increasing Access to Essential Medicines: Diversifying Canada's Approach."

#### **Funding Award**

#### CIHR Planning and Meeting Grant: \$22K

Feb, "The Neglected Global Diseases Initiative at UBC: Research Collaboration for the Developing World"

#### Media

#### **CBC Radio**

Feb, Dr. Kishor Wasan interview about NGDI and UBC research for the developing world, and CDRD partnership.

#### **International Networking**

#### WHO Roundtable with Dr. Clive Ondari

Jun 16, The NGDI, the School of Population and Public Health and the Liu Institute for Global Issues co-sponsored a Roundtable with Dr. Clive Ondari of the World Health Organization.

#### **Education**

#### **UBC Pediatric Grand Rounds**

Jun, Dr. Kishor Wasan introduced NGDI and oral AmB project.

#### Convening

#### Neglected Global Diseases Symposium

Sep 18-19 Held at the Chan Centre, this multi-disciplinary group created awareness of the urgency and importance of global health work in neglected diseases. Introductory remarks were given by VP John Hepburn and closing remarks by Member of Parliament Dr. Keith Martin. The keynote was given by Nigel Fisher, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti.

Speakers were Dr. Carol Dahl, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Dr. Allan Saul, Novartis Vaccines Institute, Dr. Denis Martin, Drugs for Neglected Diseases, Dr. Shyam Sundar, Kala-azar Medical Institute, Dr. Rachel Kiddell-Monroe, UAEM International, Dr. Peter Singer, Grand Challenges Canada, Dr. Richard Kohl, Large Scale Change, Dr. Robert Hancock, UBC, Dr. Richard Lester, UBC. Fundina: Novartis Canada \$25K. UBC International Workshop Grant \$10K. ICC

**Funding:** Novartis Canada \$25K, UBC International Workshop Grant \$10K, iCo Therapeutics \$1K, Tilak Technologies \$3K.

#### **Sponsoring Students**

#### **NGDI Poster at CUGH Conference**

Sep 20, Jennifer Choi presented the Neglected Global Diseases Initiative Poster at Second Annual Meeting of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health WA.

#### **Leveraging Funders**

#### **Grand Challenges Canada**

Dec 10, Andrew Taylor, Rebecca Lackman and Raymond Shih of Grand Challenges Canada met with Advisory Board members Robert Hancock, Charles Larson and Kishor Wasan.

#### **Mobilizing Research Opportunities**

#### Parasitic Research Cluster Meeting

Dec 9, After surveying the UBC community about their research interests in neglected diseases, the NGDI held our first research cluster meeting. Malaria and Leishmaniasis were the two diseases that provided the most discussion in areas of drug synthesis and development, as well as, education and economic analysis.

#### **International Engagement**

#### American Assoc. of Pharmaceutical Sciences Aug, Dr. Kishor Wasan was highlighted in this newsletter about his Lead role as Global Health Focus Group Chair, and NGDI Director.

#### **National Engagement**

#### **Canadian Academy of Health Sciences**

Nov, Dr. Kishor Wasan was invited to present at the Call for Evidence the Academy's report on "Canada's Strategic Role in Global Health". NGDI featured in 'sidebar' in final report.

2010

### Jul 🌢 🏺 Aug

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Nov

Dec

2011

#### **Sponsoring Students**

#### **NGDI** Travelships Awarded

Jul, NGDI funded three travelships of \$750 to student for travel to the AAPS annual meeting.

#### **Networking**

#### **FINDER Talk**

Aug 26, Dr. Francois Jean addressed the NGDI membership regarding the UBC Facility for Infectious Disease and Epidemic Research.

#### **Sponsoring Students**

#### **Central Michigan Students**

Aug 17-19, The NGDI sponsored three executive members of the UAEM from Central Michigan University for a site visit to UBC.

#### Education

#### Distinguished Lectureship Seminar

Oct 21, The Seminar featured **Stephen Lewis**, Co-Founder and Director, of AIDS-Free World. This event was attend by over 350 people at the Old Auditorium and Mr. Lewis spoke on the topic of neglected global diseases.

#### "They Go to Die" TB Documentary

Oct 21, NGDI Co-sponsored talk by Jonathan Smith, Yale Epidemiologist and Director of the documentary.

#### Student Engagement

#### Gairdner Wightman Award Luncheon

Oct 24, NGDI co-hosted this luncheon for student mentorship with Dr. Michael Hayden, Gairdner Wightman Award winner.

#### Media

#### PharmTech.com

Oct, "Global Healthcare on the Ground: AAPS on why Global Healthcare is Important Now."

#### Research Award

#### World Health Organization \$17K US

Nov, Contract to provide systematic review of quality of essential medicine pediatric formulations in developing countries.

#### **Education**

# **Distinguished Lectureship Seminar**Dec 2, The Seminar featured **Dr. Stuart MacLeod** who spoke about his involvement with the International Alliance for Better Medicines for Children Organization.

#### **Publication**

#### International Pharmacy Journal

Dec, "Looking outward, looking forward: Fighting neglected diseases with pharmaceutical sciences".

#### **UBC Funding Leveraging**

### NGDI Priority Project in UBC's 1.5 Billion Start an Evolution Campaign

Sep 28, Dr. Kishor Wasan introduced NGDI at the opening media event of the campaign and the public event that followed Oct 1. NGDI was part of the public media campaign with an emphasis on developing Leishmaniasis treatment.

#### **Mobilizing Research Opportunities**

#### **Continued Research Cluster Meetings**

This year we facilitated the development of three clusters of researchers for; parasitic diseases, vaccines, and policy in public and global health. Several meetings took place over the year and while these were informative, it became apparent that it would be better to form teams based on a specific funding call.

#### Media

#### CDRD-NGDI Press Release

Feb, A joint press release reported outcomes from the partnership formed one year ago.

#### Education

Distinguished Lectureship Seminar Feb, Our fifth Lectureship featured Dr. Keith Martin. His talk was titled: "Bridging the knowledge action0-gap: Politics, partnerships and new tools to address the global health challenges of our time."

#### **Student Engagement**

#### **NGDI Director Talks**

Jan, Dr. Kishor Wasan gave introductory talks about NGDI at the Student Leadership Conference and the Faculty in Resident Program.

#### **Operations**

#### **Annual Report 2011**

Jan, Release of NGDI's First Annual Report, containing 17 pages.

#### **Student Engagement**

#### Celebrate Research Week

Mar, "Developing Drugs for Developing Countries", was co-sponsored with the Student Biotechnology Network and featured speakers from iCo Therapeutics, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Entrepreneurship UBC, and the firm of Gowling, Lafleur, and Henderson.

### UBC Amnesty International Conference Mar, Dr. Kishor Wasan introduced NGDI.

#### **Destination South Asia**

Mar, Dr. Kishor Wasan presented, "Engaging the Next Generation to Solve the World's most Dangerous Diseases."

#### **National Engagement**

### BC Forum of the Canadian Coalition for Global Health

Mar, NGDI was a major in-kind sponsor of the conference held at the Wosk Centre for Dialogue, Vancouver. Jocelyn Conway coordinated the conference and chaired the planning committee.

#### **Education**

#### **Distinguished Lectureship Seminar**

Apr, Our six Lectureship featured Dr. Brett Finlay, Professor, Michael Smith Laboratories, Microbiology and Immunology at UBC. His talk was titled: "The role of microbiota in enteric (diarrheal) and alleraic (asthma) diseases.

#### **Publication**

#### **Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

May, "Neglected Populations: Safeguarding the Health of Street-Involved Children in Ghana."

#### **Case Studies for Global Health Project**

May, "Success in Neglected Diseases Research Leads to a Broad Alliance." This update highlight Dr. Kishor Wasan's Oral AmB project from 2008 and NGDI's creation.

Jun

2012

### 2013

#### **Operations**

#### **Annual Report 2012**

Jan, Release of NGDI's Second Annual Report, containing 32 pages.

#### **Publication**

Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences Feb, "Review of the Quality of Pediatric Medications in Developing Countries."

#### **Education**

Feb

#### **Distinguished Lectureship Seminar**

Mar

Mar, The eighth NGDI Distinguished Lectureship Seminar focused on Canada's role in Global Health. Dr. Peter Singer.

#### **International Engagement**

#### **CUGH Conference Invitation**

Mar, Dr. Kishor Wasan was invited to joint the panel on Innovative Approaches and Technologies for Global Health at the 4th Annual Meeting of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health in Washington, DC.

#### Networking

#### **UBC Stars in Global Health Gathering**

Mar, Grand Challenges Canada's CEO, Dr. Peter Singer met with UBC and SFU Stars in Global Health. The recipients of \$100,000 each were: Drs. Richard Lester, Santi Ramón-García, Kate Tairyan, Tabassum Firoz, Hongshen Ma, Christian Kastrup and Erica Frank.

#### **UBC** Ranking

Apr

### North American University Global Health Impact Report—Ranked #1

May

Apr, UBC ranked #1 out of 53 N. American universities in the first UAEM Global Health Impact Report. Recognition of Global Access Principles and innovation in Neglected Diseases were the main factors.

#### **Developing Partnerships**

#### **NGDI Partners with CORE**

Apr, The Collaborations for Outcomes Research centre and the NGDI will develop projects that will support CORE trainees and also NGDI members. The significant expertise in health economics, program evaluation and pharmacoepidemiology in CORE will contribute to the multidisciplinary aspect that is vital for health policy development in neglected global diseases research.

#### **National Convening**

#### **Canadian Global Health Research Training Program**

On May 3-4, the NGDI gathered global health leaders from across Canada to develop a training program to educate the next generation of global health researchers. The vision for this opportunity is to transform the current global health research landscape by bringing together Canada's top universities and the scholars at the forefront of global health discovery and innovation into a single coherent and integrated program.

**Funding:** IDRC \$10K, SFU/CCGHR \$5K, Sandra Rotman Centre \$7.5K, University of Toronto \$5K, NGDI \$7.5

#### **Global Policy**

#### **NGDI Delivers Systematic Review to WHO**

Jul, NGDI was contracted by the WHO, Essential Medicines Branch to systematically review the literature from 2001-11 on the quality of pediatric medicines in developing countries. The review included 70 papers and provided recommendations.

#### Media

#### **CBC Radio**

Jul, Dr. Kishor Wasan is interviewed for CBC Radio's "The Invisible Hand" and featured in an episode titled: Profit and Capitalism.

#### **Networking**

#### **NGDI Stakeholder Meeting**

Aug, This meeting was conducted on campus to facilitate member feedback on the development of new funding strategies and programming for the initiative.

#### **Sponsoring Students**

#### **NGDI Travelships Awarded**

Aug

Aug, NGDI funded three travelships of \$750 to student for travel to the AAPS annual meeting.

#### **Student Engagement**

#### **Neglected Tropical Disease Database Project**

Over a three year period the NGDI developed the basis of an electronic platform that will increase the uptake and application of knowledge by acting as a data repository that unites all disciplinary approaches and literature on NTDs and, most importantly, is designed to promote interdisciplinary study and collaboration. The development of this project so far, has utilized the service of some wonderful undergraduate students over the last two years from the Arts Internship Program, the Library Sciences Practicum program and Work and Learn program.

We gratefully acknowledge the work of Raquel Baldwinson, Project Lead and the following students: Doe Lee, Joei Benjathiku, Michele Lee, Carrie Grinstead, Oren Newson, Chris Goodfellow, Katherine Brown and Catherine Ryczkiewicz and the faculty support from Librarians Katherine Hornby and Frank Sayre. The project is currently on hold waiting additional funding.

#### **Student Engagement**

Oct

#### **Pharmaceutical Sciences Graduate Students**

Sep, Jocelyn introduced NGDI to incoming students.

#### Education

#### **Distinguished Lectureship Seminar**

Nov, Our seventh Lectureship featured Dr. Clive Ondari, World Health Organization. His talk was titled: "Providing Evidence-based Norms, Standards and Guidelines for the Delivery of Health Solutions."

2012

# Funding Application

Networks Centres of Excellence Letter of Interest Submitted, UBC approved

Jul, The UBC application with Dr. Kishor Wasan as Scientific Director for \$2.2M: "Networks of Centres of Excellence for the Canadian Global Health Research Network (CGHRN)." This was outcome of Canadian Global Health Initiative: Mobilizing Academic Leadership in Global Health meeting.

#### **Operations**

#### **New NGDI Advisory Board Members**

Aug, Dr. Nancy Gallini is Professor in Economics and the former Dean of Arts and Dr. David Patrick is Director of the School of Population and Public Health.

#### **Fostering Student's Initiative**

#### NGDI Student Global Health Journal

Sep, Web, coordination and communications support for student global health journal for UBC.

#### **Publication**

**UBC Pharmaceutical Sciences Student Journal** Sep, "Pharmacists in the Developing World: Providing Impact to the Poorest of the Poor."

#### **Funding Award**

Sep

#### CIHR Meeting Grant \$23.5K

Oct, Dr. Richard Lester, Principle Investigator and Dr. Kishor Wasan receive meeting funding from CIHR of \$23,600 for "A global health research collaboration on engagement in HIV care: UBC, AMREF and AKU."

#### Education

#### Distinguished Lectureship Seminar

Oct, The Ninth NGDI Distinguished Lectureship Seminar featured UBC's Dr. Hancock. "Inflammation, Infection and Sepsis in Developing Countries: New Insights, New Treatments."

#### **National Engagement**

#### Canadian Conference on Global Health

Oct, Dr. Charles Larson and Dr. Kishor Wasan represented NGDI and UBC at the 20th annual Canadian Society for International Health conference in Ottawa.

#### International Engagement

Canada Gairdner Global Health Award Oct, The NGDI co-sponsored this talk featuring Dr. King Holmes, Dept. of Global Health Center for AIDS and STD, University of Washington.

#### **Sponsoring Students**

Nov

#### NGDI Travelships Awarded

Nov, NGDI funded three travelships of \$750 to student for travel to the AAPS annual meeting.

#### Advocacy

#### International UAEM Conference

Nov, Dr. Kishor Wasan was invited to speak at the conference held in Cleveland. His talk was "Increasing Academic Innovation for Neglected Diseases: how do we connect research priorities to global needs?"

### Mobilizing Research Opportunties Successful Letter of Support

Dec, Requested LOS from Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research for the Gathering Perspectives II proposal. This work is in response to "Canada's Strategic Role in Global Health" 2010 report.

#### **National Student Engagement**

Pharmacy Professional Development Week Jan, Dr. Kishor Wasan gave the keynote on his oral AmB project and NGDI. 500 students from across Canada attended and many attended the NGDI booth.

#### Education

Distinguished Lectureship Seminar Jan, The tenth Distinguished Lectureship Seminar featured Dr. David Zakus is Professor of Medicine and Director, Global Health at the University of Alberta.

#### **Student Engagement**

#### **UAEM Speaker Series**

Jan, The UBC chapter invited **Dr. Robert Hancock** to speak about what university
researchers can do about inequities in health
delivery to resource poor individuals.

#### **Operations**

#### **Annual Report 2013**

Jan, Release of NGDI's Third Annual Report, containing 40 pages.

#### **Mobilizing Research Opportunities**

#### **NGDI Hosts WIPO Re:Search Consortium**

Feb, The Consortium is designed to spark new collaborations and partnerships between researchers at the different member organizations and institutions. President BVGH and her research leads were introduced to six NGDI researchers of which 3 resulted in collaborations.

#### **Local Engagement**

#### Vancouver Public Salon

Feb, The event featured Dr. Kishor Wasan and the creation of the NGDI at UBC.

#### **Student Engagement**

#### **UBC Global Health Conference**

Feb, Dr. Kishor Wasan invited to speak at 1st annual faculty of Medicine student conference.

#### **Publication**

#### **Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences**

Feb, "The use of the US FDA programs as a strategy to advance the development of drug products for neglected tropical diseases."

#### **Developing Partnerships**

#### **Successful Letter of Support**

Feb, University of Toronto chapter of the UAEM: Inaugural Canadian Conference on Neglected Tropical Diseases."

#### **Operations**

#### **NGDI Announces New Director**

May, Dr. Lester, Assistant Professor in Global mHealth at the Division of Infectious Diseases in the Department and Faculty of Medicine has been an NGDI member since 2010. He is also the Founder and Scientific Director of WelTel.

#### Media

#### Vancouver Sun 5-part Series

May, A CIHR funded series on malaria ran this month in the Vancouver Sun. The articles feature several members and also mentioned the NGDI.

#### **CTV News**

May, NGDI Director, Dr. Richard Lester provide commentary for Polio crisis.

#### Social Media Engagement

### Gates Foundation 2014 Global Health Product Development Forum

Apr, NGDI Coordinator invited to attend the forum as a social media partner.

2014

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

2015

#### **Public Fundraising**

#### UBC Ebola Action Fund

Jan, NGDI set up the Action Fund through the Faculty of Science and received a donation from Pfizer Canada.

#### **Sponsoring Student's Initiative**

#### UBC Ebola Action Fund Gives Grant

Jan, Dr. Lester announced presented a grant to the **Biomedical Engineering Student Team** (**BEST**) for a communications project titled, "Meshin' Around - A Mesh Network Based Electronic Medical Record System for Ebola Treatment Centers".

#### **UBC Global Health Advocacy**

#### Proposed Kenya Centre of Excellence

Jan, High level planning session for development of an official UBC CoE in Kenya.

#### **Operations**

#### **New NGDI Advisory Board Members**

Jan, We welcomed new board members: Dr. Robert McMaster, Exec Director of the Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute, Dr. Tobias Kollmann, Assoc. Professor, Children and Family Research Institute and Dr. Jennifer Gardy, Senior Scientist, BC Centre for Disease Control and Mr. Peter Klein, UBC Graduate School of Journalism.

#### **Advocacy**

#### Letter to G7 for NTD Funding.

Mar, NGDI joined over ninety other global health groups, institutions and individuals in supporting the elimination of neglected tropical diseases. These diseases most often affect the poorest populations in mostly lower- and middle-income countries and can cause blindness, severe disabilities and even death.

#### **National Engagement**

#### **CCGHR BC** meeting

Apr 22 Dr. Vic Neufeld, Special Advisor for Institutional membership of the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research.

#### **Education**

#### Clinical Global Health Network

Apr, Coordination of a one-year TLEF funded project for the development of Flexible Global Health Online Training Modules for UBC begins.

#### **UBC Global Health Advocacy**

#### **Global Health Town Hall Meeting**

On May 5 Exec. Assoc. Dean, Research Dr. Howard Feldman held a Global Health Town Hall for the Faculty of Medicine. Guest speakers were Rich Lester and Gina Ogilvie. The concept of NGDI's UBC Global Health Online Network was introduced.

#### **CUGH Executive Director Visits**

May 4, Dr. Richard Lester invited to Faculty of Medicine meeting with Dr. Keith Martin, Executive Director of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health.

#### **Faculty of Medicine Research Council**

May, Dr. Richard Lester presented Global Health Online Network and NGDI to the council meeting.

#### **Education**

#### **Distinguished Lectureship Seminar**

Oct, Our eleventh Seminar featured **Dr. Peter von Dadelszen** Director of PRE-EMPT, a multi-country project designed to reduce the burden of pre-eclampsia through prevention, case identification, monitoring, and treatment.

#### **Developing International Partnerships**

#### **CDRD—NGDI Seminar**

Oct, Professor Kelly Chibale of the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He shared how a new incubating centre called "H3-D", was pioneering integrated drug discovery and development in Africa.

### **UBC Global Health Advocacy**

#### UBC Clinical Global Health Network

Jul, A network of clinical medicine faculty supporting global health education, training, and placement. Provide coordination, communications, and host meeting space.

#### **Local Engagement**

### Ebola Outbreak news and science website

Sep, The NGDI developed a set of pages that collated all the latest news and scientific developments in Ebola Virus research. This project continued until October 2015.

#### **Operations**

#### **NGDI Website Renewal**

Sep, Completed website upgrade.

#### **National Convening**

#### Ebola Symposium for Treatment and Action

Nov, This well attended event featured Dr. Dr. Xiangguo Qiu of the National Microbiology Laboratory (NML), Public Health Agency of Canada and Dr. Ian MacLachlan, Executive Vice President and Chief Technical Officer of Vancouver-based Tekmira Pharmaceuticals. These researchers discussed the development of three of the most advanced options that the world had for stopping the virus and treating the victims. A lively question and answer session followed a six-member panel of UBC experts who related their personal experience of Ebola work in the field or their scientific contributions.

Funding: NGDI, CDRD

#### Media

# CTV News, Global Now, Global News, Vancouver Sun Nov, Dr. Richard Lester, NGDI Director gave several TV, print and radio interviews speaking about Ebola and what Canadians should or should not be concerned about. Vancouver Sun article "New B.C. Network to Coordinate Local Response to Ebola Crisis."

#### **Student Engagement**

#### **UBC Asia Pacific Forum**

Nov, **Dr. Richard Lester** invited on panel. "Is Ebola the new SARS?"

Nov

2014

### Aug

**UBC Networking** 

Sep

#### **UBC Global Health Online Network**

Oct, This new digital platform linking the global health community at UBC went live in Oct. A private network with themed discussions, it is open to all students, residents, staff and faculty who are interested in discussing pertinent global health topics. These range from Research & Innovation, Maternal Newborn Child Health, Neglected Tropical Diseases to Humanitarian Crises. The GHON utilizes the campus wide login for privacy. To date over 100 members have joined.

Oct

#### **Student Engagement**

#### **UBC Global Health Conference**

Oct, NGDI co-sponsored and Dr. Lester presented Keynote; "Global Health and Neglected Diseases in an Era of Disruptive Technologies".

#### Advocacy

### **NGDI signs UAEM Letter to WHO** *Dec, Letter calls for the discussion of*

pricing and access to medicines at the next WHO Open Assembly meeting.

#### Media

### UBC Prominent in WIPO Re:Search Partnership Report

Nov, All four UBC international collaborations were featured. WIPO Re:Search is a pivotal method of linking of university and industry talent to create new interventions for neglected tropical diseases, as well as, malaria and tuberculosis.

### Strategic Advisory Board Meeting."

**Funding Award** 

Neglected Diseases?"

**UBC 100** 

Jul

Advocacy / Funding Award

**Centennial Session Awarded** 

Peter Wall Workshop, \$1K

Peter Wall International Round Table, \$29K

Jun, "Ethical Implications in Ebola Research and

Development: Does this Change Everything for

Jun, NGDI awarded funding for a **Centennial** 

Session on Global Health. Funding: UBC

Jun, "Neglected Global Diseases Initiative

Centennial Fund \$3.5K, PWAIS \$1.5K

### Convening NGDI Hosts First UBC World Sepsis Day Event

Sep 11, Important advances have been made by UBC biomedical scientists in the last few years. Dr. Niranjan Kissoon, VP of BC Children's Hospital is also the Vice-Chairman of the Global Sepsis Alliance Executive Board was joined by Dr. Keith Walley, Dr. Mark Ansermino, and Dr. John Boyd.

#### Student Engagement

#### **UBC Life Sciences Institute**

Sep 16, Dr. Rich Lester invited to panel: "After Ebola."

#### **UBC Networking**

#### UBC Global Health Online Network

Continued development and support for the growth of this UBC local network.

## 2016

#### **UBC 100**

#### **UBC Centennial Session on Global Health: Dr. Peter J. Hotez**

Apr, Dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine: Professor in Pediatrics and Molecular Virology and Microbiology." Editor: PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases, and President of the Sabin Vaccine Institute and Texas Children's Hospital Center for Vaccine Awareness and Research, where he leads a partnership to develop new vaccines for hookworm, schistosomiasis and Chagas disease.

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