The Global Health Conference 2010, Hobart

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The Global Health Conference (GHC) 2010 was a four-day event hosted by the Australian Medical Students’ Association (AMSA). Held in Hobart, it gathered about 500 motivated medical students for didactic forums and seminars on health issues that extend beyond the realms of our textbooks.

Being a medical student, and a future doctor, I believe I should not only be empowered to treat health problems but also to make a difference in the lives of the less privileged. Health is and has always been a dynamic issue worldwide. Often, the health of marginalized societies and the less developed nations go unnoticed amidst our quest for scientific knowledge and understanding of the human body. GHC certainly helped to acknowledge this gap in my medical education and allowed me to put into perspective the present global health situation.

The GHC had a diverse demographic of delegates. It was a great opportunity to meet fellow medical students from different regions of Australia and from countries such as India, Nepal, Bangladesh, New Zealand, Cambodia and many more. I was inspired by them to learn more about their countries’ health problems—something that I had been admittedly ignorant about.

The GHC has definitely been an inspiring and enriching four days. It has taught me to be a global health advocate, while I reflect on my personal actions too. I have hence been spreading and sharing knowledge I gained from the GHC with my family and friends. Raising awareness of the issues in global health is one of the first steps towards making a difference.