



Rutgers, Fulbright, and UFCSPA¹ Collaborating on Global Health for Understanding and Equity

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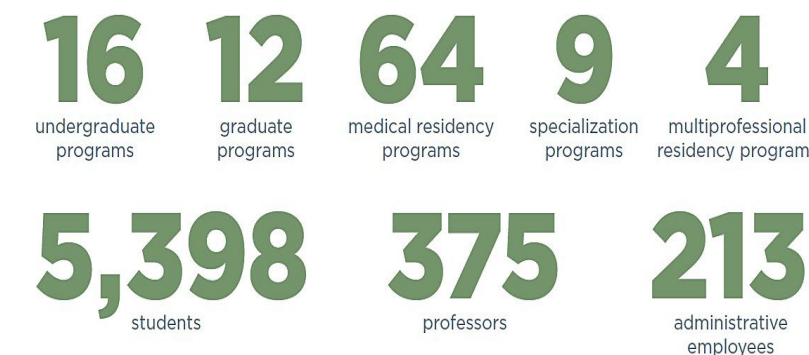
Introduction

In October 2023, coinciding with my fifth visit to Rutgers-New Brunswick, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between my home institution in Brazil, the Federal University of Health Sciences of Porto Alegre (UFCSPA), and Rutgers University. From all those five visits, the most impacting has been the amazing experience as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar at the RWJMS Office of Global Health. It happened in 2021 during the pandemic and not only had a huge impact on my professional and personal life but also has opened doors for my institution's students. I'm grateful for all the role model people that I met, and for the learning opportunity in the USA. In 2021, I shared and catalyzed three of my project based learning initiatives as a professor at UFCSPA: 1) Learning clinical reasoning in the AI era: How to use AI-powered database analytics to improve healthcare, and to build a more equitable and trustful relationship with community; 2) Clinical Reasoning learning in multiple languages as an innovative strategy for students role in solving Global Health issues such as immigrant's health care; and 3) The Brazilian Rondon Project and social accountability.



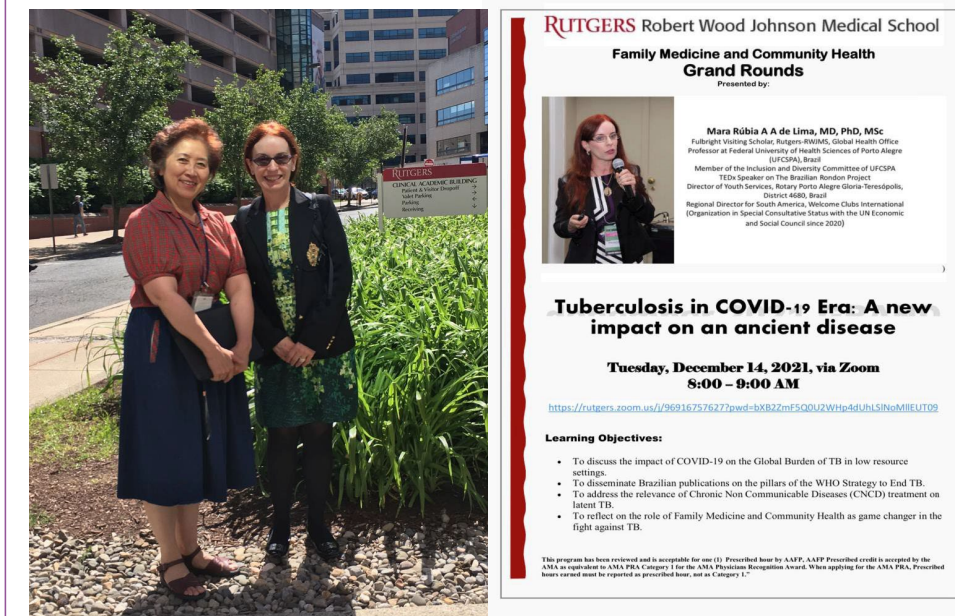
Background

Located in Porto Alegre, capital city of the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, UFCSPA is in operation since March 1961, when it was founded as the Catholic College of Medicine of Porto Alegre. UFCSPA mission is to produce and share knowledge and educate health professionals with humanistic values and social responsibility. UFCSPA cooperates with healthcare institutions such as the Santa Casa Hospital. It delivers healthcare through community engagement, teaching, and research activities, providing settings for practices in Primary Care in the context of the Brazilian Public Health System. UFCSPA also advises the municipal and state governments on health policy, as has been the case with COVID-19.



The Rondon Project is an inter-ministerial action by the Federal Government of Brazil, coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of Defense. It enables the participation of HEI students in sustainable development processes, contributing to the strengthening of citizenship, interacting with vulnerable communities for social inclusion and reduction of regional inequities.

Summary of Fulbright Experience



2021 (Fall Semester) Focusing on chronic cough including TB, COPD, asthma and bronchiectasis, I pursued my passion for teaching global health, medical interviewing and physical examination, and for sharing professional experiences. I taught and did scholarly activities, such as the Rutgers Connection Network (RCN) Mentoring Program. I had an abstract accepted for the 2022 Consortium of Universities on Global Health Conference titled, "An Educational Project to Bridge American and Brazilian Students in the Fight Against Misinformation on Two Global Killer Diseases, the New COVID-19 and the Ancient Neglected Tuberculosis." Karen Lin worked to organize scholarly activities, grand rounds and public lectures, co-mentored students with me and helped implement global education projects in partnership with UFCSPA. In addition, I've delivered public lectures, including on the Rondon Project, launched in 1967 in Brazil to encourage students to participate in the sustainable development of vulnerable communities, strengthen citizenship through social inclusion and reduce regional inequities. The lecture covered the history of the community service project and discussed the impact of the United Nations 2030 agenda-aligned project on health, education, culture and human rights in regions or communities with reduced access to health care, infrastructure and human resources. During classes, meetings and discussions I talked about Brazilian traditions, dress and cuisine. I've also taken full advantage to go deeply into American culture by visiting museums and theaters and learning more about the culture and history of Rutgers.



Outcomes of my Fulbright Experience

2022 - A team of Rutgers professors and students participated in a pulmonology meeting in Brazil and presented at the 46th Fulbright Conference, USA

2023 - Participation at the Fulbright Award Ceremony and Advocacy Day at the US Capitol

-Presentation at the 47th Fulbright Conference, USA

Since 2022, virtual and in person projects on a global curriculum for pulmonology, and outreach activities. Two UFCSPA students who had rotations at Rutgers say: "Wonderful and fulfilling experience". "Invaluable insights and learnings encompassing medicine in the USA, and personal growth".

Global Health is a main area at UFCSPA, **starting in 2024**, I will be in charge of a new required Global Health course for our medical students. It will be another floor for me to keep disseminating my passion, gratitude, and respect for Rutgers where I have the fortune and honor of being an international faculty representing Brazil and learning how to strengthen understanding between the USA and my country.



References:

www.ufcsa.edu.br
global.rutgers.edu
www.gov.br/defesa/pt-br/assuntos/projeto-rondon

Sponsors

The Fulbright Visiting Scholar experience was sponsored by Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Office of Global Health and Fulbright.