

THE CanadiEM DIGITAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM: AN INNOVATIVE INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL COLLABORATION CURRICULUM

Reference to abstract or paper: <https://doi.org/10.1017/cem.2017.76>

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Project website: <https://canadiem.org/announcing-new-canadiem-digital-scholars-fellowship>

Description of the Innovation

Introduction

Digital media are a new frontier in medical education scholarship. Asynchronous education resources facilitate a multi-modal approach to teaching, and allows residents to personalize their learning to achieve mastery in their own time. The CanadiEM Digital Scholars Program is a nationwide initiative that provides residents with practical experiences in creating educational materials under the supervision of experts in the field. The program allows for collaboration and access to mentorship from top digital educators from across North America.

Methods

Interested residents accepted into the program spent a period of their PGY4 year completing modules developed in the theory and science behind digital education. Four modules, developed in an iterative process, have been built on the topics of podcasting, blogging, digital identity, and patient communication. Each fellow was supervised by members of the CanadiEM team, a faculty member from the resident's home institution, and digital experts from across North America.

Curriculum/Tool/Materials

The first fellow completed all aspects of the designed curriculum. Above this, he also engaged in blog content creation, initiated research on digital scholarship, and managed the editorial section of CanadiEM. The second fellow is currently halfway through his year (and is expected to complete the program within the year) and has co-authored 30 blog posts and 53 podcasts in 6 months.

BOTTOM LINE:

The CanadiEM Digital Scholars Program utilizes a novel approach to foster development of digital educators utilizing experts across North America.

The program ensures that our Digital Scholars understand how to integrate medical education evidence and theory into their methods, thereby being able to propel the field of online medical education further through their scholarly projects.