Classrooms with Broad Horizons and without Walls

Padmini Murthy MD, MPH, MS, CHES
Asst Prof Dept of Health Policy and Management
Asst Prof Dept Family and Community Medicine Global Health Program Director NYMC
Medical Women's International Association Representative to the United Nations
CIESUP/Knowledge Crossing Borders 2012
Objectives

- Role of online learning and social media in expanding educational horizons.

- Role of Academic institutions as catalysts of action by creation of class rooms without walls.

- Ripple effect can produce results
Introduction

- Globalization and advances in technology have helped us broaden educational horizons.

- Class rooms without walls have become popular and the establishment of so-called cyber schools have made education more accessible.
United Nations and E-Learning

“Academic Impact is a global initiative that aligns institutions of higher education with the United Nations in actively supporting ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, literacy, sustainability and conflict resolution.

The Academic Impact also asks each participating college or university to actively demonstrate support of at least one of those principles each year.” (Source: United Nations)
Objectives of Distance Education

- “A commitment to educational opportunity for all people regardless of gender, race, religion or ethnicity;
- A commitment to the opportunity for every interested individual to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary for the pursuit of higher education;
- A commitment to building capacity in higher education systems across the world;
- A commitment to encouraging global citizenship through education.” (Source: United Nations)
Inter University Project

http://www.facebook.com/pages/UNAI-Aspire-Sustainability/230036153732147
NYMC Safe Motherhood Project
NYMC Safe Motherhood project

- Face Book
- Wish list on amazon
- Twitter
- Shutterfly
NYMC Safe Motherhood Project

- Improving safe motherhood project
- Illustrates team work
- What we did is easily replicated
- Role of academia in working to reach MDG targets.
- Establish a program where medical / nursing students in the US can learn from and teach medical/ nursing students in Malawi.
Mama Kit
Skype and classrooms without walls

- Teach medical students
- Experts from other countries
- Cost effective
- Cooperation among Academics from various institutions
Advantages of E Learning

- Communicate
- Learn
- Teach
- Advocacy
- Activism
AV Radio show on MDGs

- Goal Role of advocacy and Activism
- Communication and communication
- Power of voice and personal stories
- Promotes Education
- http://www.africanviews.org/av-radio/av-radio/av-radio/millennium-development-goals_c1068/
Conclusion

- We have miles and miles to go. At present one of the biggest challenges in promoting Universal is lack of equity and social inequalities.
- Academic institutions are the bridges which help to bring together key players in building effective systems.
References