

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue of *Journal of Medical Humanities*: Pre-Health Humanities

Guest Editors: Sarah Berry and Erin Lamb

We invite submissions for a special issue of *Journal of Medical Humanities* that will explore the expanding field of Pre-Health Humanities or Health Humanities teaching and engagement at the baccalaureate level. There are increasingly diverse means of preparing students for health-professions schools, and many of these are beginning to look for more than A+ science students. For example, recognizing the need to train healthcare professionals for teamwork, treat a diverse patient population, and provide humane care, more health-professional schools are turning to holistic review in their admissions processes, emphasizing ethics, interpersonal skills, and social foundations in the delivery of healthcare. At the same time, baccalaureate education is turning toward interdisciplinary studies. At the nexus of these trends are Pre-Health Humanities studies. In the past decade, the number of new baccalaureate humanities programs focused on health and medicine has dramatically increased in the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere.

This special issue will map this growth and address the many essential questions it raises, such as:

- At the pre-professional level, how do we define the Health Humanities and identify Health Humanities programs?
- What is the mission of programs that serve a broader constituency?
- What underlying philosophies ground the diverse curricula of these programs?
- What are the relationships among the humanities, arts, and social and natural sciences within these programs?
- Are there any skills, methods, learning outcomes, or curricula that are (or should be) standard across these programs?
- What are the benefits and challenges of teaching Health Humanities at the baccalaureate level?
- What impact does training in Pre-Health Humanities have on future health-professions students and healthcare professionals, and how do we measure this impact?
- What “best practices” exist in Pre-Health Humanities education?

We welcome three kinds of submissions:

Critical Articles speak to the above questions or other aspects of Pre-Health Humanities education.

Abstract submissions should be 1000-1500 words and include a paper title.

- Abstracts should be submitted **by November 1, 2015** to litmed@hiram.edu with the subject heading: JMH Pre-Health Humanities Article Submission
- Notification of acceptance will be in December 2015, with full articles of approximately 12-15 double-spaced pages (not including references) due **by June 1, 2016**.

Snapshots of Existing Programs

- We invite a representative from any currently existing or proposed baccalaureate health humanities program to submit a very brief overview of their curriculum.
- Snapshots should be submitted **by June 1, 2016** via an online form at <https://hiram.wufoo.com/forms/prehealth-humanities-programs/> that asks for a brief (250-word) narrative description of the program, an uploaded document that lays out program requirements, and basic contact information.

Student Perspectives

- We invite students, health practitioners, and health educators who have completed Pre-Health Humanities programs or coursework to submit brief reflections in response to the following question: *How has your baccalaureate Health Humanities training affected your health-professions training or practice or your life experiences more generally?*
- Perspectives should include the school and program from which you matriculated and be **no more than 500 words**. Perspectives should be submitted **in full by June 1, 2016** to litmed@hram.edu with the subject heading: JMH Pre-Health Humanities Perspective Submission

Inquiries about any of these submissions for the special issue should be directed to Sarah Berry or Erin Lamb at litmed@hram.edu

