

Peter Whitehouse, MD, PhD
ABSTRACT

TELLING LEADING STORIES: THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE DEPENDS ON IT

Colburn Nora, Inui Tazo, Soranno Danielle, Gelula Mark, and Whitehouse Peter. *Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.*

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM: There is a lack of adequate leadership training in medical school. Narrative medicine is an emerging field of inquiry which can contribute to learning about leadership.

OBJECTIVES: Our goal was to use narrative medicine as a means to support professional development in medical students and faculty by exploring concepts and practices in leadership.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: We have reviewed the literature concerning narrative medicine, focusing on The Center for Narrative Medicine (Rita Charon, Columbia University), The Institute for the Study of Health and Illness at Commonweal (Rachel Remen, UCSF), and others, e.g. Oliver Sacks. We plan to interview leaders in several professional schools at Case. We are developing a novel curriculum to implement narrative medicine in the first year curriculum and as a longitudinal theme at Case SOM. This curriculum involves experiential learning in Case Inquiry groups. It also includes story sharing in the four Societies drawing from senior leadership on the Case faculty.

FINDINGS/BARRIERS TO DATE:

- Coordinating time and space for meetings of the team
- Figuring how this new program will fit with the new developing curriculum

KEY LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR:

- Teaching and learning about leadership are challenging because leadership itself is a difficult and broad concept.

QUESTIONS:

- What do you think are the essential components of leadership?
- Who is your favorite medical leader and why?
- Do you have a favorite story about learning from a medical mentor?

Contact Information

Peter Whitehouse, MD, PhD
University Hospitals of Cleveland
Department of Neurology
11100 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106
Phone: 216-844-6448
Fax: 216-844-6466
Email: peter.whitehouse@case.edu

Nora Colburn
CWRU, MSIV
Email: nora.colburn@case.edu

Danielle Soranno
CWRU, MSIV
Email: des4@case.edu

Tazo Inui
CWRU, MSII
Email: tsi2@case.edu