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Infusing Arts and Humanities into Professional Development: Description and Evaluation of BERST Museum Rounds





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BACKGROUND

The "Humanities" - the study of arts (literary, visual, film, musical etc.) as well as art-making (poetry writing, painting, composing music, etc.), and philosophy (including ethics), anthropology and other social sciences - are incredibly successful for teaching the following in Continuing Education (CE):

- empathy
- burnout
- reflection skills
- observation skills
- communication skills

Humanities interventions are most successful in CE if opportunities are offered consistently and augment CE activities and goals.

METHODS

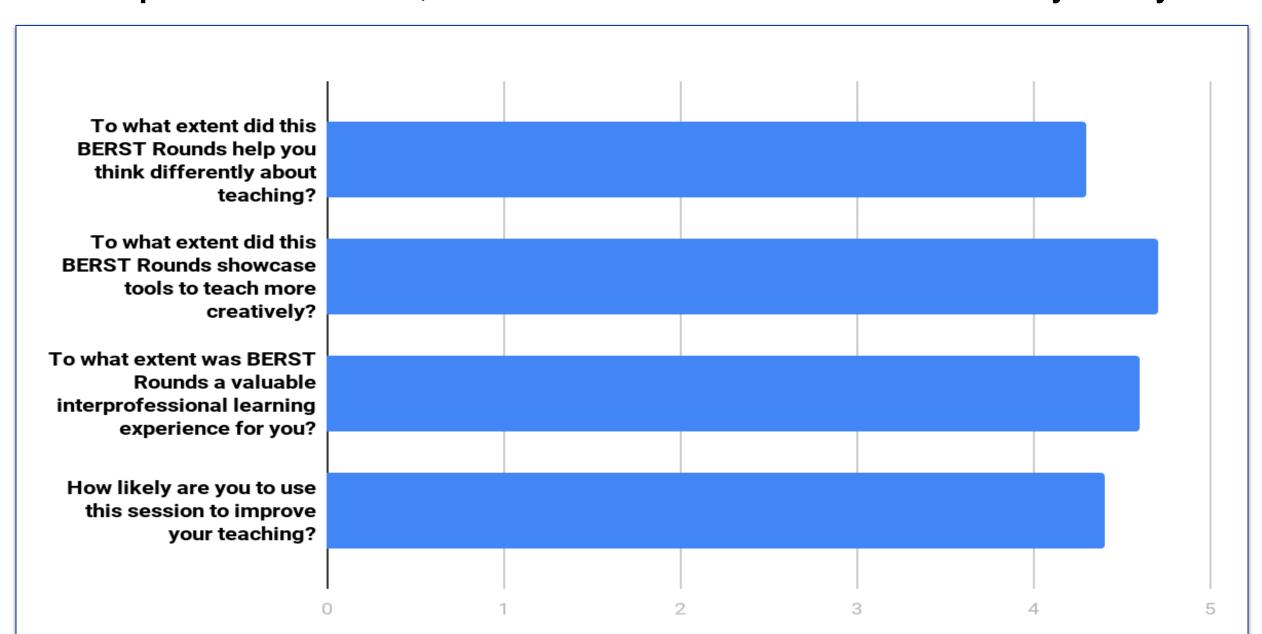
The Baystate Education Research and Scholarship of Teaching (BERST) Academy is an interprofessional teaching academy at UMMS-Baystate. BERST Academy offers "Rounds" - elective ½ day CE activities designed to give participants:

- A humanities-based program to learn about teaching or leadership skills
- Unique tools to teach or lead more creatively
- A valuable interprofessional learning experience

"Museum Rounds" was held in November 2018, planned by a Humanitiestrained curriculum designer (ATS) and three providers (pharmacist, nurse, physician). Participants engaged in three different exercises in three different museum galleries to explore how visual thinking strategies can support learning problem-solving techniques and the communication between health professionals.

OUTCOMES

Of 40 Museum Rounds participants, 11 (27%) completed an evaluation survey. Participants were asked the following questions, with responses on a 5-point Likert scale, where 5 = "A Great Deal" or "Definitely Likely"



Qualitative Survey Comments:

"I learned that people learn from the different perspectives of others and that engaging and encouraging the participants in your group or team to share their perspective and insights in a safe environment leads to valuable insights and provides permission for people to think and act differently."

"I plan to implement many of the techniques we were shown in the BERST rounds with my residents and with others I lead. I already have used it since the session."

"I intend to take this session and customize it in my efforts to grow and develop the [Patient Experience] Champions. During...rounding on patients, families & employees, I am going to pilot asking questions such as: What do you see? What do you hear? What do you wonder?"

CONCLUSIONS

BERST Museum Rounds created a successful, interprofessional space to learn problem-solving and communication.

Other institutions could incorporate sessions like this by engaging a Humanities-trained professional educator.



Participants debrief an exercise in one of the galleries.

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