

# THE BIRTH OF A NATIONAL NETWORK IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (IPE) AND COLLABORATION

Results from an inter-university collaboration and implementation of IPE mechanisms



MICHAEL PALAPAL SY<sup>1, 3</sup> & CATHERINE JOY ESCUADRA<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Angeles University Foundation (Pampanga, Philippines); <sup>2</sup>University of Santo Tomas (Manila, Philippines);

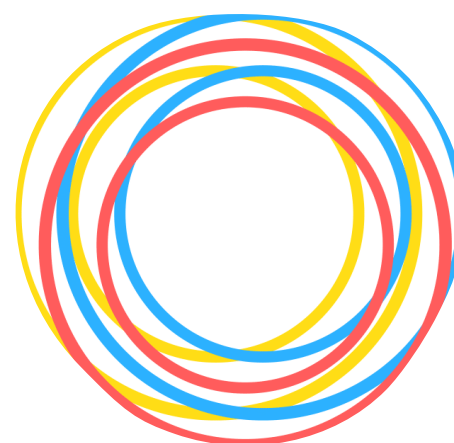
<sup>3</sup>Tokyo Metropolitan University (Tokyo, Japan)

## BACKGROUND

The *Philippine Interprofessional Education and Collaboration (PHIPEC) Conference 2018* is the first-ever national conference held in the Philippines on Interprofessional Education and Collaboration (IPEC). It was initiated through an inter-university partnership between **Angeles University Foundation** and the **University of Santo Tomas** to facilitate a uniform understanding of IPEC across higher education institutions and health facilities as well as instigate IPEC trainings, research, and curriculum development towards improving health outcomes for the Filipino population.

## APPROACH

We applied the **IPE educator and curricular mechanisms** proposed by the **World Health Organization** (2010) and modified them to befit our intended purpose, which is to create a national network on IPEC for the Philippines. Our approach is visually presented in the images below with descriptions; each image represents a step.



## PHIPEC NETWORK

Philippine Interprofessional Education and Collaboration Network

Figure 1. Official logo of the PHIPEC Network

MARCH 2018



Step 1: Identified **champions** of IPEC with formal IPE training to form the steering committee.

APRIL 2018



Step 2: Secured **institutional support** from the two universities who will be co-hosting the event

MAY-JULY 2018



Step 3: **Communication strategies** were employed: (a) video conferencing, (b) structured and unstructured meetings (face-to-face), (c) online recruitment of conference volunteers

## OUTCOMES

Last **August 11-12, 2018**, the two-day **PHIPEC Conference 2018** successfully gathered over **80 participants** (local and foreign) from more than **10 health and social care professions**. Furthermore, this initiative has also gathered more than **500 members** in our official Facebook Page ([www.facebook.com/phipecnet/](http://www.facebook.com/phipecnet/)) and **161 subscribers** in our mailing list. The event was featured in two local newspapers and in the **Centre for the Advancement of Interprofessional Education (CAIPE)** newsletter. We also organized a post-conference workshop where we gathered prospective IPEC champions from different Philippine institutions and discussed future plans including the establishment of a formal organization.



Figure 2. 1st PHIPEC Conference 2018 Delegates from 10 professions

## FUTURE PLANS

The positive turn-out of the **PHIPEC Conference 2018** and the outputs in the post-conference led the steering committee to co-create the **PHIPEC Network** (see Figures 1 & 2). This informal network has been agreed upon to serve as the entity that will represent Filipino health and social care professionals who advocate for IPEC initiatives in the Philippines and in the **Interprofessional.Global Confederation**. In 2019, we will bring **PHIPEC Network activities in the Visayas and Mindanao regions** (Central and South Philippines) and in 2020, we aim to hold the **2nd PHIPEC Conference**.

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<https://www.phipec2018.com/>



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