Shifting Paradigms – Developing a New Global Master’s in Health and Sustainable Development

Despite much progress and international commitment to the MDG and other global treaties, the goals of global health, equity, sustainable development, and justice are far from being achieved. Furthermore, the competencies of professionals who are able to negotiate and tackle these issues effectively are complex but must be based on transformative learning; focused on acquiring leadership skills and preparation to become “enlightened change agents”. This is particularly pertinent as we stand on the cusp of the post-2015 development agenda, in world that continues to grapple with complex issues in global health and sustainable development, in the context of a beleaguered and weakened global south.

The Faculty of Health Sciences at AUB and EARTH University in Costa Rica have partnered to develop a Global Master’s in Health and Sustainable Development that seeks to address these issues, and explore the question: What role can higher education play in contributing to the fundamental shifts required to attain these goals, and recognize that human well-being is intrinsically linked to that of the planet, to social justice and human rights?

Presented by:
Maha Damaj, PhD
Assistant Professor
Faculty of Health Sciences, AUB

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