

HYBRID RESEARCH ROUNDS

Monday, February 12, 2024 12:00 – 12:45 pm

In Person: The Wilson Centre, Toronto General Hospital, 200 Elizabeth St,

1st floor Eaton South Rm 559, Toronto, ON

REGISTRATION required to get zoom details:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpc-qgpzspG9ciVaye7rzCqJp1ki58KyGw#/registration

Harnessing history: Exploring how a look back can help global health education move forward

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The influence of western imperialism is everywhere and, for the time being, inescapable. How then can educators prepare students to develop the competencies needed for respectful engagement? Like physicians taking a medical history of their patients, analysis of historical case studies provides educators and learners with fuller knowledge of the contextual, structural, political, and social influences impacting both individuals and systems in educational collaborations. We propose that this knowledge can then be marshalled to encourage critical reflexivity, to mitigate power differentials, and to foster meaningful collaboration.

This presentation explores the historical case study of Canadian Lucien Matte, who in 1945 was invited by Emperor Haile Selassie to collaborate on the establishment of post-secondary education in Ethiopia. With access to the Canadian Jesuit archives, we used critical historical and discourse analysis to assess the letters written to and from Matte to determine the context and nature of this Canadian-Ethiopian collaboration in education. As our work demonstrates, the study of relationship making in historical cross-national contexts offers empirical and critical insights to inform future global health education partnership planning. The examination of Matte and Emperor Haile Selassie's relationship revealed an educational endeavour marked with the ongoing effects of colonial assumptions and offered indications of what contributes to successful international collaboration.