

# Global health: Some first steps to serving this interdisciplinary field

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## Understanding global health

Global health at Duke University is working to end health disparities

### GLOBAL HEALTH THEMES

#### CHANGE

Globalization  
Development  
Not the status quo  
Emerging diseases

#### CONCEPTUAL EXTENSION

Understanding health beyond the  
clinical and biological perspectives  
Knowledge ownership and control

#### EXTENSION BEYOND TRADITIONAL BOUNDARIES

Looking to local, national and global  
environments  
Sharing medical technology, equipment  
and infrastructure

#### COLLABORATION

Global outreach  
Service  
Public and health policy

## Looking for a service model

Informatics may facilitate global health collaboration and knowledge sharing

### INFORMATICS TOOL FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATION

#### PUBCHEM

<http://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>  
an NLM / NCBI database  
fosters data and knowledge exchange across the  
varied disciplines of health, biology and chemistry

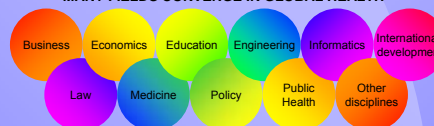
#### MOLECULAR LIBRARIES PROBE PRODUCTION CENTERS NETWORK (MLPCN)

a collaborative research network that is promoting  
robotic laboratory testing and experimental data sharing  
supported by the NIH  
associated with PubChem

## Exploring from diverse perspectives

Collaboration with non-medical librarians is strategic  
Promote campus-wide library partnerships and discussion of global health

### MANY FIELDS CONVERGE IN GLOBAL HEALTH



## Planning for action

Four areas to address

### PLACE

Foster spaces for diverse stakeholders to learn, share and collaborate  
Virtual spaces: wikis, federated search tools, online communities, blogs  
Community spaces: the library as a venue for global health exhibits,  
events and resources

### THE ESSENTIAL MOMENT

Focus on the moments of global health learning, research and service  
Establish a library presence at these instances  
Identify the information needs for global health activities  
Facilitate knowledge discovery among diverse disciplines  
Promote mobile information services for geographically dispersed patrons

### CONTENT

Focus on user-oriented, seamless content  
Bring diverse resources together  
Showcase expertise and knowledge that support global health activities

### SUCCESSFUL STAFF

Identify librarian skill sets that are suitable for global health activities  
Foster collaborative teams  
Identify complementary skill sets among subject specialized librarians