

Law and Global Health – and Interdisciplinary Conference

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Aims and Objectives

- To promote interdisciplinary understanding of the relationship between law and global health outcomes.
- The conference aimed to bring together legal and global public health experts to discuss issues ranging from “the meaning of the right to health” to use of legal instruments to protect the health of vulnerable populations.

Activities

- The International Colloquium on Law and Global Health was the 17th interdisciplinary law colloquium held at UCL, and only the second ever international conference to address the law and global health.
- Collaboration with the Institute of Global Health allowed for a cross-disciplinary mix of academics to dialogue on issues of common interest.
- Within each conference session, a mix of both public health and legal scholars were given an opportunity to present their work. Presentations were followed by lively discussions between the panel and audience.

Outputs and impacts

- International conference attended by 100 people at UCL in July 2012. Experts from fields of law and global health came together to share ideas and experiences.
- Peer-reviewed book, “Law and Global Health” to be published by Oxford University Press in 2013 – over 25 papers for the book have been submitted to date.
- The success of the conference has led to plans for a second interdisciplinary conference to be held in Sydney in 2013.

Conclusions

- Improved understanding of the relationships between law and global health is important for moving agendas forward in both disciplines
- UCL is in a strong position to promote interdisciplinary collaboration between (global) public health and law – an area currently neglected in many schools of public health.

