Why RPgs need 'Cultural Intelligence'?

The Graduate School is pleased to offer a face-to-face workshop on Culture Intelligence.

Cultures are formed in small groups, large groups or populations. People with similarity in ideas, beliefs and behaviours make up a given culture. Meanwhile, we are living in an increasingly diverse society which is only going to get more diverse. Cultural Intelligence, a person's ability to relate to and work with people from culturally diverse backgrounds, is therefore an absolute essential skill for progress and success in the future ahead of us.

A university context, as a podium from where students leap into the world of work, provides the first opportunity for students to interact, mingle and work with people from diverse cultures. The workshop "Why RPgs need Cultural Intelligence" renders RPg students an opportunity to learn the following:

- What is a culture? What role does culture play in the way people interact?
- What role does culture play in shaping our values, beliefs and behaviours?
- What are the strategies to mingle and work with diverse cultures?
- How does cultural competence improve mental health by reducing stress caused by different environments?

The workshop participants will

- reflect on their own culturally conditioned values and behavioural preferences and how those influence their interactions with others;
- build an awareness of the challenges and opportunities presented by culturally diverse settings; and
- develop an understanding about the role of culture in personal and professional life and about cultural diversity in Hong Kong.

Date: November 12 (Fri), 2021 **Time**: 9:30 am -12:20pm

Venue: Information will be emailed to those successfully registered

Speaker: Dr Nimisha Vandan, co-founder OKAYMINDS

Online registration: https://hkuems1.hku.hk/hkuems/ec_hdetail.aspx?UEID=78988

About the Speaker:

Dr Nimisha Vandan, co-founder OKAYMINDS and a former Post-Doctoral Fellow at the School of Public Health, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong conducted research to understand the impact of COVID-19 of various population in Hong Kong. During PhD, her research focus was on understanding the effect of culture and ethnicity on patients' access to healthcare, their experience with healthcare system, cultural competency of healthcare professionals. Being passionate about understanding the influence of culture on life, she is keen in raising mental health awareness in the community and runs an initiative called OKAYMINDS

(http://www.facebook.com/okayminds). She has successfully received a certificate in "Intercultural communication" from HKU and has been conducting similar workshops for another local University and a number of NGOs.

She did her Masters in International Health from The University of Tokyo, Japan and Bachelors in Pharmacy from India.