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Medicine and Spirit

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Duke University professor Dr. Harold G. Koenig has been named keynote speaker for the region's third-annual Health Care Symposium, which will focus on medicine and spirituality and the Patient-Centered Medical Home.

The University of Dayton premedical programs and Miami Valley Hospital are sponsoring the event, scheduled for 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 31, at the University of Dayton Science Center. It is open to all physicians and health professionals as well as University of Dayton students and alumni interested in medical careers. Registration is required.

The symposium brings students and physicians together to engage in a day of dialogue and continuing education. This year's attendees may participate in one of two tracks on hot topics in health care.

National, state and local leaders and experts in Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) will present the first track, "Are You Ready for PCMH?" Participants will discuss lessons learned by implementing PCMH as well as practicalities of the system. Speakers include Ohio Department of Health Director Dr. Ted Wymyslo, national speaker Dr. Joseph Scherger and several local physicians and professionals implementing PCMH in medical practices.

"Meaning in Medicine: Exploring Connections Between Medicine and Spirituality," the second track, will feature local medical educators Dr. Philip Diller and Dr. Evangeline Andarsio, as well as keynote speaker, Koenig, Director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health at Duke University. Koenig will discuss research on how religious and spiritual involvement may impact overall health and how these findings may be applied to clinical practice.

In addition to these primary tracks, students have the opportunity to engage in an afternoon student track designed to help aspiring health care professionals plan and prepare for their future in the health care field.

Koenig completed his undergraduate education at Stanford University, his medical school training at the University of California at San Francisco, and his geriatric medicine, psychiatry and biostatistics training at Duke University Medical Center. He has published extensively in the fields of mental health, geriatrics and religion, with more than 350 scientific peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and nearly 40 books in print or in preparation.

Continuing Medical Education credits (3.0 CME) and American Association of Family Practitioner (AAFP) will be provided.

The symposium is free to University of Dayton students, Miami Valley Hospital residents and Dayton Children's residents. Registration is \$50 for physicians and other professionals and \$10 for all other students. For more information and to register, visit the related link or call 937-229-3545.

Funding for the Health Care Symposium is provided through generous grants from Miami Valley Hospital Foundation and University of Dayton College of Arts and Sciences with additional support provided by the professional staff of Dayton Children's.

For more information, contact Cameron Fullam, assistant director of media relations, at 937-229-3256 or fullam@udayton.edu.