



Thinking About Race, Colonisation And Medicine

Specialist Medical Colleges Workshop #3

On 1st and 2nd June 2020 we held the third of our Specialist Medical Colleges Workshops. Associate Professor Chelsea Bond and Dr Bryan Mukandi, both from University of Queensland, presented throughout the workshop. There have been significant challenges running this workshop. Most participants attended for the full two days.

In general, participants felt that online was not preferred. However, they were generally surprised that it was such a good experience:

- *I enjoyed the space much more than I thought I would ... certainly more engaging than anything else I have done on Zoom ... many advantages ... being able to stay in their own home/office*

There were some technical difficulties that were frustrating:

- *... was not able to participate in the breakouts for some of the time (voice was via phone and out of sync which made hard for me to follow)...*

And some helpful suggestions:

- *... problems with sharing the screen ... so would suggest sending them be email as well*
- *Having a faculty member in each room to troubleshoot was fantastic ...*

Participants felt involved, engaged in the presentations:

- *The varying formats combined with the excellent presenters kept the workshop moving forward, which kept me focused and engaged.*
- *The small group task where we were able to talk ...*
- *Sharing ideas by group. Everyone was at different stages of learning but everybody was really keen and respectful.*

At times there were challenges, that frustrated and distanced people:

- *... my technical difficulty. I learned from this too ...*
- *The philosophical part was not engaging,...*
- *When we only had 6 hours I would have liked some more practical advice and scenarios.*

There were some surprises:

- *The Fanon chapter [was] very unsettling, although the material did not surprise me. The relevance of that material to what is happening today is so stark.*

One participant acknowledged understanding that the

- *Intention-to-tweak is not just ineffective; it perpetuates the institutional violence.*

In general, participants would recommend future participants to their colleagues. Though one participant would have liked more practical advice, another said that

- *The course started changing my thinking and writing from Monday night.*

As we plan for the future workshops, we are weighing up the pros and cons of face-to-face and online, as are our participants:

- *Online makes it much easier to attend, which needs to be balanced with potential advantages of being better able to connect face to face.*

I take this opportunity to thank A/Prof Bond and Dr Mukandi for their outstanding work, the LIME team for their support, and Professor David Paul for his invaluable advice.