The Stanford Literature & Medicine Dinner and Discussion series is designed to provide an opportunity for physicians to come together and share a meal while discussing works of literature. The program is designed to encourage the exploration of the challenges and rewards of being a doctor. Led by a skilled medical humanities facilitator, the Literature & Medicine series provides a supportive environment for candid and thoughtful discussion among physician colleagues.
Why Literature & Medicine?

Literature in the form of poems, short stories and essays provides an ideal catalyst for thoughtful discussion on the human experience as explored through story. Reading about other’s experiences allows us to walk in their shoes, thus gaining insight and empathy into the lives of others.

Building Community

This dinner and discussion series allows physician colleagues to come together in a non-medical environment to share a meal and participate in an often lively, thought-provoking and wide-ranging discussion of the evening’s readings. Sessions take place once a month for two hours for six months in the Bing Dining Room at Stanford Hospital.

Supporting our Medical Faculty

This program is free and is supported by the Stanford Committee on Professional Satisfaction and the Dean’s Physician Wellness Task Force.

What participants have to say about Literature & Medicine at Stanford

“I have loved this group. In fact, I was sad I had to miss one of these sessions. It was a wonderful to be with a group of peers of different specialties and different backgrounds.”

It has been a wonderful luxury to come and discuss humanities, ideas, literature with other physicians. I get so isolated from other disciplines, it’s gratifying to hear the perspective of doctors with training in other areas.

“I think it is important for physicians to have a forum like this to discuss challenging topics we face day to day in our clinics.”

“The program has taught me to be more thoughtful when interpreting situations - to see the "gray" areas of situations and issues more.”

Time to read and reflect with colleagues.

- Offered conveniently on campus
- Dinner and course reader provided
- Open to all Stanford physicians

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