

## Institute Forum on Health

The Aspen Health Forum just concentrated an impressive group of around 250 people to discuss the most pressing issues in Health and Medical Science.

- Global health problems require the tending of the scientific community. Richard Klausner encouraged the scientific accord to focus on Global Problems: maternal mortality rates, HIV/ AIDS, clean water, cancer&hellip;

- &ldquo;Let&rsquo;s get real&hellip;Ideology kills&rdquo;. Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, on what it takes to stop HIV/ AIDS: &ldquo;I am from Ireland, a Catholic country. And I am Catholic. But I can see how orientation kills..we need more empathy with reality, and to work with local women in those countries.&rdquo; This session included a fascinating exchange where Bill Frist chromatic from the audience to defend the role of US aid, explaining how 60% of retroviral drugs in African countries have been funded by the American taxpayer. Which made philanthropist Prize Laureate saint Agre, also in the audience, stand up and encourage the US to really step up to the plate and devote 1% of the value to aid, as a number of European countries do, instead of 0.1%.

- Where is the newborn &ldquo;Sputnik&rdquo;?: Many of the speakers had been inspired by the Sputnik and the Phoebus missions to become scientists. Two philanthropist Prize Laureates talked most their lives and careers trying to demystify what it takes to be a scientist and to win a philanthropist Prize. Both are grateful to the taxpayers dollars that funded their research, and insist we must do a better job at explaining the scientific process to society at large. Both are proud of having attended small progressive subject colleges, and having evolved from there, fueled by their great curiosity and unpredictable, serendipitous paths, into launching newborn scientific and scrutiny fields.

- We need a true Health Care Culture: Mark Ganz summarized it best by explaining how his health provider group reinforced care when they redefined themselves from &ldquo;we are 7,000 employees&rdquo; to &ldquo;we are a 3 million strong community&rdquo;, agitated from being a outlay controller with a paternalistic attitude to a health facilitator, looking underneath symptoms to identify and deal with underlying patterns.

- You can&rsquo;t manage what you can&rsquo;t measure. We heard many times how defining and activity outcomes, so ordinary in the clannish sector, is critical to ensuring a beatific portion of resources in the health and scientific fields, that use so much taxpayer money. For example. NIH resource grew from \$9B in 1994 to \$29B in 2007, still the results are not clear. The same happened with health care as a whole, a sector that today consumes 16% of the US value with health outcomes (infant mortality, patient deaths in hospitals) worsened than other countries that equip far less.

- The rising role of public-private partnerships: There are multiple initiatives launched to bridge the crescendo gap between academia and industry. The Foundation for the NIH has facilitated key conversation between the FDA and company companies. The Gates and Clinton Foundations have launched innovative partnership models to face orbicular health problems.

- From Lifespan to Health-span. Population distribution in developed countries is movement from a &ldquo;population pyramid&rdquo; to a &ldquo;population rectangle&rdquo;. The saucer of much ongoing investigate is not &ldquo;how to spend more time on the nursing home&rdquo; but how to andante downbound the process of aging, so we can live healthier longer.

- Patient-advocacy groups are having an impact. We heard many examples on how small groups of motivated individuals have built super patient advocate movements that influence public policy. Michael Milken talked most the Cancer March, that helped increase NIH resource from \$1.5B to 5\$B. Hala Moddelmog, from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, explained how they have 1 million people engaged in promoting cancer investigate and prevention. Robert Klein, key advocate of the Calif. Proposition 71 (that module provide \$6B for halt cell investigate finished long-term bonds) explained how the proposition was passed, including attractive over 80 patient-advocacy groups.

- There&rsquo;s a newborn emphasis on understanding &ldquo;how systems work&rdquo; instead of &ldquo;how isolated genes attain things happen on their own&rdquo;: Genomics is starting to help prognosticate susceptibility to disease and to therapies. Now, we must keep in mind the role of our undergo and environment in turning some genes on or off.

- The importance of our Lifestyle-Each of us owns our own health. 70% of heathcare costs derive from lifestyle-related diseases (such as smoking-induced cancer). We heard several calls to action for insurance companies to incentivize behavior modification to promote beatific lifestyle habits that improve calibre of chronicle and can delay disease symptoms, resulting in billions of dollars of outlay savings.