



What's Love Got to Do with Teaching?

Embedding Humanity into our Teaching to Spark Transformation and Joy

Summary Document of the 19th Annual Dr. William Webber Lecture | Sept.12, 2025 Presented by: Katie Lee Bunting (she/her)

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Learning Objectives

- 1. Articulate the relevance of teaching with love in health professions education
- 2. Describe key dimensions of love as a pedagogical practice
- 3. Identify two implications to spark transformation and joy in your teaching relationships

Part 1: Why Love?

Why does love matter in our teaching?

- Fosters relational learning and diverse ways of knowing.
- Makes space for learners and teachers to show up as their whole selves.
- Fosters connection, trust, and engaged learning.

Part 2: Understanding Love

What does it mean to love? To love means:

- Actively practicing paying deep attention to ourselves and those around us.
- Collectively building nurturing learning environments.
- Naming and reorienting our values towards what is collectively just and good.

Part 3: The How of Love

How can we practice love as educators?

- We involve students in the design and delivery of their learning.
- We move from power over learners to power with and to partners.
- We pay loving attention to ourselves and our students, as whole people.

Impacts of a Love Practice

- Allows both students and educators to feel motivated and valued.
- Leads to broader cultural shifts in healthcare education.
- Can lead to space for students and educators to be imperfect and fully human.





Getting Started

3 Simple Ways to Integrate Love

Humanize yourself to students in service of relationship and learning. *Education works best when it's rooted in relationship.*

Seek formative feedback via informal dialogue or other online platforms. *Inviting dialogue signals that you value your learners and are attending to their needs.*

Ask your students how they're doing and mean it.

Taking meaningful interest in your students' lives fosters meaningful connection.



Self-Reflection

Self-reflection allows us the opportunity to better understand ourselves. Ask yourself:

- How does my teaching with love serve others?
- How does my identity influence the classroom dynamic?
- Are my values oriented towards what is just and good?



Review



Watch The Live Video Recording



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