



The Methodist Le Bonheur Center for Healthcare Economics

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The Methodist Le Bonheur Center for Healthcare Economics successfully completed a two-week training program for 19 Health Care officials from China. The Chinese delegation came to the Fogelman College of Business and Economics as part of an educational exchange program called the China-Tennessee Rural Health Care Exchange initiated by Governor Phil Bredesen in October 2007. The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and the Chinese Ministry of Health jointly sponsored the Program.

Led by Dr. Cyril Chang of the Methodist Le Bonheur Center for Healthcare Economics, the Memphis program focused on health economics, insurance, and health care reform, with a focus on rural health care delivery. The delegates were selected jointly by the State of Tennessee and the Chinese Ministry of Health from eight Chinese provinces that have ongoing World Bank sponsored reform programs. While in Memphis, the delegates attended seminars taught by faculty of the University of Memphis and external health care experts. They also toured the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center, Medtronic Spinal and Biologistics, Smith&Nephew, the biopharmaceutical company GTx, Inc., Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, and rural health clinics in Madison and Crockett Counties.

Two other Tennessee universities, Vanderbilt and East Tennessee State University also participate in the exchange program. They focused on rural health leadership and the delivery of health care in rural areas. While one team was in Memphis during May 12 -24, 2008, the other was at ETSU. They re-convened in Nashville for the third week of the visit.

Members of Chinese Health Care Delegation with President Raines, Commissioner Matt Kisber, Commissioner Susan Cooper, Dean Grover and others

Dr. Cyril Chang receiving a "thank-you" gift from Mr. Liu Zhong-Ming, a Co-leader of the Chinese Delegation

