

Agrosalud  
Guatemala

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1998

I have just completed my international health elective in Guatemala for Agrosalud. It was a tremendous learning experience, not to mention adventure. The founder and Director of Agrosalud asked me to come with him to Costa Rica to the IHMEC Conference to give a presentation on the program in Guatemala. I was not fully aware of what IHMEC was or the conference would be like, and must say it was an enormous culture shock to come from 2 months in the jungle of Guatemala to a Best Western hotel conference full of medical students and US doctors. I had the good fortune to run into April here who assured me all was well in Cleveland. I was planning to send you a package of information of some of the elective opportunities for medical students in Guatemala, because I have encountered many, but there is such sparse information about them in the US. So April graciously agreed to carry this letter to you, which I am confident is much more reliable than the regular mail. I also have other info on good Spanish school and other volunteer opportunities that I look forward to sharing with you and other interested students. I would be happy to give a conference on my experiences, as I have done here for IHMEC, when I return, the results here appear to have been quite inspirational. I will slowly be making my way towards Ecuador where I start an elective with Child Family Health International - Mobile Surgical Unit in April. I have been so impressed by the plethora of opportunities for med student here and after my year long struggle of finding an adequate placement I am eager to share this information with other interested parties.