

## RuDASA Keynote Speaker: Dr Mayara Floss



Dr Mayara Floss is completing her residency in Family and Community Medicine at Grupo Hospital Conceição, Porto Alegre, Brazil, and is involved in COVID-19 care. She graduated in medicine at Federal University of Rio Grande (FURG) in Brazil and did an undergraduate fellowship in Ireland through the Brazilian Government Programme 'Science Without Borders', in 2014-15. Since then she has developed a number of projects to raise the awareness of rural health care issues. Including:

- Co-creator of the project 'Health Education League' in 2010, based on the Freirean principles and co-empowerment of communities and students. [www.lesfurg.blogspot.com](http://www.lesfurg.blogspot.com)
- Co-created with Pratyush Kumar the project 'Rural Health Success Stories' <http://ruralhealthsuccess.blogspot.com/p/team.html>
- Has a weekly blog of Popular Education, Arts and Health - "[Rua Balsa das 10](#)" - a space for medicine and Arts (poems, chronicles, etc)
- Created the SUS Series in 2015. An empowerment video tool for Brazilian citizenship. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7p\\_rNpzJmIIQp2xFMMtk\\_g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7p_rNpzJmIIQp2xFMMtk_g)
- Piloted The Rural Family Medicine Café in 2015 to provide an international online forum for students, young doctors and experienced professors to discuss Rural Health. There has since been 5 Rural Seeds Café's.
- Developed the Rural Café Manual: 15 steps teaching you how to organise and facilitate a Rural Café. The idea is to improve the access to these discussions and technology, thereby hopefully increasing local Rural Cafés in local languages and discussing local community issues in rural health <https://www.facebook.com/ruralfamilymedicinecafe/>
- Co-developed the Rural Medical Education Guidebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/1828374997445210/>. Launched in 2020
- Creator and coordinator of the Brazilian Planetary Health MOOC in Portuguese and English.
- Coordinates the Word of Rural Medicine Student Network <http://goo.gl/forms/wL2dwKb1VKk6cxbO2>

### Her contributions to Conferences and Publications include:

- Co-ordinated the Rural Family Medicine Café at the WONCA World Rural Health Conference 2015 and at each of the following World Rural Health Conference.
- Keynote speaker at the WONCA World Rural Health Conference Cairns, Australia from 29 April - 2 May 2017.
- Organised the side-event "Investing in Rural Health Workers for the Economic participation and empowerment of rural women and girls" at the 62nd Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held at United Nations headquarters in New York from 12-23 March, 2018 together with the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the UN and the International Labour Organization.
- Junior author of the policy brief recommendations of Lancet Countdown 2018 -19.
- Co-authored with Enrique Falceto Barros *Heat stress in primary health care: a clinical review*. Brazilian Journal of Family Medicine V15, N42. [https://doi.org/10.5712/rbmf15\(42\)1948](https://doi.org/10.5712/rbmf15(42)1948)

- Co-authored with Raman Kumar and Ana Nunes Barata *Primary care education: medical student and young doctors' perspective from Brazil, India and Portugal* Journal Education and Primary Care October 2016 <https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tepc20/current>
- Presented at WONCA's World Rural Health Conference 2020. Co-presenter :*Supporting Young Health Professionals in Rural Settings* Link: <https://youtu.be/QTtS32R4yy0>; Panelist on *Rural Medical Education*

In 2021 she will present at the Planetary Health Week.