There are many ways for physicians to teach and nurture the next generation of doctors. This includes lectures, written and spoken materials and exposure to hands-on experiences. Building a library of electronic materials that can be accessed in an open environment, via the web, and on devices from desktops to mobile phones, has proven especially beneficial to the latest generation of medical students, residents and fellows.

N. Cary Engleberg, M.D., was an early adopter and remains an advocate of using digital materials in medical education. His reach extends far beyond the walls of the U-M Medical School; over the past five-plus years, he has helped to develop and execute digital materials in Ghana and Ethiopia. For his commitment to global learning, Engleberg is the recipient of the Global Community Service Award.

Engleberg’s nominators cite his unique and influential medical education activities on the African continent. He has become well known to many in the medical and educational communities there — he is known as “Prof. Cary” — for his knowledge and selfless sharing of his time to mentor faculty members, students and staff in introducing electronic delivery of health sciences education.

In 2008, Engleberg took a sabbatical to enhance U-M’s relationship with the University of Ghana and the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. His activities in Ghana consisted of co-authoring new electronic materials, holding workshops in e-learning and open educational resource principles and developing lectures on topics for which there is little expertise in the country. He also created clinical cases and images to accompany several topics.

His work in Ethiopia since 2012 has focused on the development of materials at the St. Paul’s Millennium Medical College in Addis Ababa. He has actively participated in the e-learning process and has repurposed many of the materials from Ghana, including the local narration of surgical videos on Cesarean section, total abdominal hysterectomy and episiotomy, and sexually transmitted diseases. He also has delivered lectures on management of HIV in pregnancy, infections in women, multimedia learning and writing for assessment of medical knowledge.

“It’s great to be part of an academic institution that looks beyond its doors,” he says.

“I have been involved in global health for about ten years now, and I would rate Cary Engleberg as one of the best people I have worked with in this field. Cary has been an excellent ambassador for the University of Michigan and has made major contributions to medical education in Ghana and Ethiopia.”

— Richard MK Adanu, M.B., Ch.B., MPH, dean and professor of women’s reproductive health and obstetrics and gynecology, University of Ghana School of Public Health