

**BOARD DISCUSSES MEDICAL AND CULTURAL COMPETENCY
AT SATURDAY SESSION**

After the Oregon Medical Board (OMB) completed its Thursday-Friday quarterly meeting, it spent Saturday, January 12, 2008 focused on competency.

Board members took part in two half-day sessions designed to boost their knowledge levels regarding cultural diversity and continuing physician education.

Miguel Valenciano, a nationally-known trainer in organization development and diversity, facilitated the morning session. Board members learned a number of social and communication skills which were intended to help them live and work harmoniously in a more diverse environment.

In the afternoon, trainer Karyn Lazarus returned to the OMB for a session on continuing physician competency. Ms. Lazarus, who had facilitated a prior Board retreat, led a fast-paced and meaningful discussion of good medical practices, the importance of continuing medical education (CME) and the role that state medical boards can play in ensuring that physicians keep their skill levels up to date.

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