MD Shadd Mahmud, Assistant Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering (CEPS) travel to United Kingdom

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During the month of July 2019, I was fortunate enough to visit the University of Oxford and the University of Surrey in England. The goal of this visit was to form strategic connections within multiple international universities such that future collaborations could be encouraged by the University of New Hampshire. I have already taken part in the submission of a US-UK NSF grant proposal this year and I was hoping to gain additional connections for future grant proposal submissions.

The visit to England began with a research presentation at the University of Oxford, specifically in the Chemistry Department. This presentation included my current and future research plans involving electrochemical sensors to be used for measuring and identifying bipolar disorder. It was at the end of this presentation that I was able to discuss various ideas and possible future collaborations with Dr.
Richard Compton, a well-known chemist. Some of these ideas included filing a patent as well as submitting a joint grant proposal next year. If this project were funded, students from both universities would be utilized to complete research project tasks.

Afterwards, I gave a seminar at the University of Surrey. It was organized by Dr. Carole Crean from the Department of Chemistry and also helped form connections in multiple departments. Throughout this visit I met numerous colleagues of Dr. Crean as well as the graduate students in her research lab. I was then given a tour of every single chemistry lab in the university along with additional research facilities that they have available. She was also kind enough to introduce me to multiple faculty members such that we could discuss similarities in research as well as possible future collaborations. Specifically, with Dr. Crean I was able to discuss a collaboration in between both of our research groups that would involve a wireless sensor to be used to detect human blood toxicity levels of lithium. We are also now working on a publication regarding this area of research as well as designing a graduate class regarding biochemical sensing.

In conclusion, the initial goal of this academic trip was to form collaborations, connections, and increased international interest in the University of New Hampshire. This was accomplished not only by directly contacting professors at both universities, but then also communicating with many additional faculty members in each department. I was also able to meet various graduate students and discuss the possibility of them continuing their education at the University of New Hampshire. Afterwards, both Dr. Compton and Dr. Crean will be added to our research lab website and vice versa. This will encourage students, both undergraduate and graduate, to look into attending our university and also increase interest in the research being done at this institution.