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### Fall 2017, A Summer of New UNH International Program, New CEPS Research Exchange with U. of Chester, UK

UNH Global Education Center

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## UNH Global

# New CEPS Research Exchange with U. of Chester, UK

Friday, October 20, 2017

UNH and the University of Chester, UK, signed an exchange agreement this summer to provide research and internship opportunities to their engineering students. Two Chester students initiated the exchange by spending seven weeks at UNH doing research in the lab of Russell Carr, chair of chemical engineering. “I was able to support Dr. Carr’s research on blood rheology in micro-vessel networks with some basic coding and image analysis,” says Walter Elchmanar, one of the students. “The aim was to study the nonlinear dynamics of the blood and see if we could extract a fundamental frequency via the code, which we were able to do. Hopefully, the code can be further developed by a future student.”



(l. to r.) University of Chester students Walter Elchmanar and Roisin Williams in front of T-Hall

The UNH-University of Chester relationship has been in development for several years, with senior staff and faculty visits in both directions. Chuck Zercher, associate dean of the College of Engineering and Physical Science is impressed with Chester and the opportunities for collaboration. “Through its purchase and development of the Thornton Science Park, University of Chester has made a significant commitment to growth in engineering,” Zercher says. “The opportunity for UNH to partner with this dynamic institution sets the stage for a variety of student-focused experiences. Whether by hosting students from Chester in our research laboratories or vice versa,

technical skills will be developed while enhancing professional development in an international setting.” Zercher adds that a summer research program is just the beginning. “Through these short-term exchanges, we are setting the stage for more substantive and prolonged research and academic collaborations.”

As for Elchmanar, it was one of the best experiences of his life: “For me, studying at UNH was about experiencing a different culture and getting out my comfort zone. I met so many awesome students and faculty—if there was a button to reset my summer, I’d smack it!”

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## OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & SCHOLARS


 Conant Hall 315  
10 Library Way, Durham, NH 03824


 603.862.1288


 [oiss@unh.edu \(mailto:oiss@unh.edu\)](mailto:oiss@unh.edu)

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