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Spring 2018, Global Education Center Grants Support Faculty Development Worldwide

UNH Global Education Center

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UNH Global

Global Education Center Grants Support Faculty Development Worldwide

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

With the support of the Global Education Center’s International Travel Development and Engagement Grants, UNH faculty members in the current academic year have presented at conferences, given guest lectures, pursued research opportunities and completed site visits and preparatory work for future education abroad opportunities on three continents.

Geochemistry Professor Julie Bryce spent some time in Iceland enhancing her connections with the Institute for Earth Sciences and seeking out the potential for future student exchange. In addition, she participated in an international drilling project off Iceland's southeast coast.

In the area of engineering, Professor Eshan Dave organized and participated in international meetings at the University of Nottingham in England; he gave presentations on cracking in asphalt materials and recycled asphalt materials. The trip strengthened the relationship between UNH and the Nottingham Transportation Engineering Center, leading to a reciprocal visit in April 2018 to give a seminar to civil and environmental engineering undergraduate and graduate students.

(l. to r.) Prof. Kim touring POSCO with Senior VP and Principal Researcher
Professor Young Jo Kim traveled to South Korea and visited two universities and two global companies, discussing his interest in lithium purification from brine and giving talks in his field and discussing the possibility of scholars exchange in the future.

In the area of health, Professor BoRin Kim also visited South Korea to further her research and teaching collaborations in the disciplines of social and health policies. Professor Patricia Halpin attended the IUPS World Congress, *Rhythms of Life*, in Brazil and made presentations and met many of the participating physiologists. Nursing professor Michele Loos served as a guest faculty lecturer at Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands, met with a UNH nursing student there, and participated and supervised research on Dutch elder residents’ quality of life and well-being. Finally, in January of 2018, nursing professor Gene Harkless and Dr. Kerryellen Vroman, Interim Associate Vice Provost for International Programs traveled to Nepal to evaluate health, educational, and social services and to identify potential partnerships for developing UNH/CHHS student service learning experiences there.

With the assistance of Geeta Pfau, a Nepali-born, American PhD-prepared nurse and the Little Angels College of Higher Studies, Harkless and Vroman visited a mix of health and social service agencies, including the Ayurvedic Teaching Hospital, Himalayan Medics/Outdoor Adventure Center, Chattrapati Free Clinic, Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre for Disabled Children, Anandaban Hospital and Leprosy Research Center, and the Feminist Dalit Organization. These visits proved quite interesting to the UNH team and have the potential to provide rich service-learning partnerships that can benefit the local community as well as UNH students and faculty across all UNH colleges.

As a tangible first step from the UNH visit, the director of Himalayan Medic expressed strong interest in developing a service-learning partnership with UNH’s Kinesiology Department, especially the outdoor education program. As a result, UNH is now developing service-learning opportunities with the Outdoor Adventure Center, with the goal of placing UNH students in Nepal as soon as summer 2018.
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