Assessment and Working Trips

Assessment Trip to Central & East Africa Hub: Kampala, Uganda – Jan 13 to 17, 2014 – Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda is a key site for interdisciplinary global activities across the AHC. Working relationships exist with medicine, public health, and veterinary medicine. Rental of the UMN Makerere House supports research projects and student experiences. During this visit, key meetings were conducted with the RESPOND Kampala Office, Makerere University School of Public Health and Infectious Disease Institute, One Health Central and East Africa (OHCEA), the FAO Uganda Office, the UMN Makerere House coordinator, UMN IMER students, and One Health Residents. Future action includes expanding the working relationships to nursing, reviewing UMN Makerere House use to allow for expanded opportunities, and to explore interprofessional student exchange in collaboration OHCEA schools (14). Makerere University and OHCEA will be included in the RESPOND project as part of the USAID EPT2 renewal.

Working Trip to Myanmar: Exploring Collaborations for Health Education & Research – Feb 3 to 7, 2014 – Partners from the UMN AHC (CGHSR, Public Health, Medicine, Vet Med, Dentistry, and Pharmacy), CFANS, Boynton Health Service, GPS Alliance, and Chiang Mai University (CMU) completed a foundational trip to Myanmar initiating a One Health, One Science, One World collaboration. Meetings were conducted with the Ministry of Health leadership, including Minister Khin, as well as the US AID Yangon Office. A MOU/affiliation agreement between the UMN, CMU, and the Ministry of Health is being initiated. Grant- and corporate-funding opportunities are being pursued as well as initial actions that can be initiated without major funding.

Major Education Opportunities

Global Health Case Competition – Feb 1, 2014 – Eighty students registered to participate in fourteen teams at the inaugural UMN Global Health Case Competition. Thirteen Schools/Colleges were represented as well as the Twin Cities, Duluth, and Rochester campuses. Volunteer judges and mentors also exhibited broad representation. The winning team is preparing for their participation at the March 29th International competition at Emory University. A video was created to help promote the event to students, mentors and judges next year.

Global Health Institute Thailand – Feb 3 to 13, 2014 – Five AHC students received $2,000 scholarships to attend this 4-credit intensive study abroad opportunity created in partnership with Chiang Mai University and the UMN RESPOND project. The focus was One Health Leadership with 2 specialty tracks in disease surveillance & epidemiology and environmental health.

FAO Internships – In collaboration with the FAO Washington and the FAO Country level offices in Rwanda and Peru, three long-term internship positions for UMN students are available for summer 2014. Application deadline is March 14, 2014. These positions provide a $700 monthly stipend while the students are in country - $350 is funded by FAO and $350 by the home department/school/college.
Other CGHSR Activity

CGHSR Event Co-Sponsorship – Tropical and Travel Medicine Seminar: One Health Approach to Global Health, Jan 15 (Global Health Dept. of Medicine); Public Health Film Series Screening of “American Heart,” Feb 18 (School of Public Health); Medicine Grand Rounds Presentation by Karen Goraleski, ED of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH), Feb 27 (Global Health Dept. of Medicine)

Communications – Website (globalhealthcenter.umn.edu) with ongoing updates and twice-monthly electronic newsletter are primary communication vehicles.

Capacity Building – Faculty, staff, and student development activities to support safety and compliance around international experiences.

UMN School of Public Health Specific Activities

SPH Travel Process – The application has been updated and is currently linked to the field experience learning agreement and to GPSA. This system is fluid for those students who are traveling for their required field experience. Non-field experience students must still be tracked manually. Additionally, student orientations with the SPH Global Coordinator occur prior to student travel.

SPH Global Health Regents Certificate – This process is being led by Alan Lifson and combines the recommendations brought forth by the SPH global health task force and the ASPH core competencies. This is expected to result in a strengthened global health program, by expanding the introductory course, creating a capstone course, and presenting students with a wide range of objectives and competencies. Presentation to the Regents is expected Spring ‘14.

SPH India Winter Institute – Dec 30, 2013 to Jan 20, 2014 – Six SPH students traveled to India to participate in the Study India Program on Urban Health sponsored by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. This program focused ways in which public and clinical health are greatly affected by complex sociocultural and economic issues of the population.

UMN Medical School IMER Specific Activities

IMER Travel Process – The application process for international elective participation by medical students is being managed online and contains links to the GPSA resources for continuity and safety compliance with University policies and procedures. This process is being reviewed and updated to better prepare students for international travel and to improve the tracking of international experiences and evaluation of IMER sites.

IMER Incoming International Student Process – Process improvement is underway to eliminate inefficiencies and improve communications with medical school departments and visiting students regarding criteria and policies for international students requesting electives at UMN.

Integration of Student Groups – Meetings are being coordinated with the Global Health Impact Group (medical student group) and other AHC global health related student groups to create synergy, eliminate overlap, pool resources, and increase interprofessional opportunities for all AHC students.

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