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FACULTY OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SCIENCES DEPARTMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

CHAIRPERSON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE
UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE
20 December 2017

Dear Chairperson

REPORT ON UMSAEP ACADEMIC EXCHANGE VISIT: 4-11 November 2017

Thank you for the opportunity to visit the University of Missouri (UM) from 4 to 11 November 2017. Herewith please find a report of our visit.

The Visit to Missouri University

The visit formed part of a collaboration between Prof. Jo-Celene de Jongh and Prof. Lisa Wegner from the Department of Occupational Therapy (UWC) and Prof. Lea Brandt (University of Missouri). The aim of the project was to explore student occupational therapists' perceptions and experiences of ethical dilemmas within two countries (SA and the USA), and to explore the value of sharing their perceptions with, and learning from, other students' experiences. The objectives of the project were to:

1. Develop and implement an online international ethics module;
2. Explore student occupational therapists' perceptions and experiences of ethical dilemmas within two countries;
3. Explore cross-cultural issues in ethics that arise in occupational therapy;
4. Evaluate the module to determine the students' perceptions of the value of the module.

We have made significant progress on this project to date. Objective 1 has been completed in 2016 and an online ethics module has been running successfully in 2016 and 2017 as a collaborative initiative between the two universities.

A case study was developed from the UWC side and students from both universities worked on it as an assignment.

The purpose of the visit to UM was to work on Objectives 2 and 3. Specifically, we worked on the publication together with Prof. Brandt. We conducted the analysis of the UWC Occupational Therapy students' perceptions and experiences, based on a case study. During the visit we were able to complete a draft of the article which we submitted to Prof. Brandt to add her analysis of the UM students. Prof. Brandt had relocated to another part of the State just prior to our visit; therefore we were unable to meet with her in person, but we communicated via skype/Zoom.

Additional Activities during the Visit

In addition to the above, during the visit we were fortunate enough to be able to meet with many people who are experts in the fields of ethics (Prof. David Flemming), psychiatry, occupational therapy (Dr. Tim Wolf), youth risk (Dr. Judith Goodman, Dr. Hye Jeong Choi and Dr. Wilson Majee). We also met with Dr. Laura Schopp who works in community health. We also participated in various activities including a Faculty Board meeting, an Ethics Echo meeting (held via Zoom), and a Clinical Ethics Committee meeting. We were able to attend the Interprofessional Community Health Education Research Day (posters and lectures). We visited the MU Occupational Therapy Department, the Missouri Orthopaedic Institute, MU hospital psychiatric department, and Mobility Worldwide which manufactures mobility carts for people with disabilities in Africa and worldwide.

Overall Planning and Organisation of the Visit

The planning and organisation of the visit was excellent from both UWC and MU sides. A special thank you to Prof. Rich Oliver for hosting us and taking excellent care of us during the visit. Prof. Oliver's dedication, commitment and passion for UMSAEP collaboration is inspiring and he is a wonderful ambassador. We encountered no problems during our visit and we can suggest no changes as it all went so smoothly.

Highlights of the Visit

One of the many highlights of our visit was the Ethics Echo meeting. This meeting takes place once a month for an hour where academics and clinicians from different parts of the world "meet" via Zoom (teleconference) to discuss ethical dilemmas and issues. One person presents a case and this is followed by a discussion and input from all participants. We were invited to register to participate in this initiative.

Continuation of UMSAEP

We would like to continue strengthening and improving this UMSAEP collaboration through our ongoing participation. We see great potential to develop and implement an Ethics Echo initiative at UWC. This could be an **Interprofessional Health Ethics Echo** for academics and clinicians, from rural and urban areas, in Africa. This would enable us to develop ethics in Africa from an Africentric perspective, as part of our decolonisation endeavours. Furthermore, this initiative would be in line with UWC's Institutional Operational Plan (IOP) 2016-2020 in terms of meeting the need for internationalisation, Africanisation, digitalisation and collaboration. Therefore, we support the continuation of the UMSAEP exchange programme and we would like to submit a follow-up proposal in 2018.



Visit to Mobility Worldwide Workshop



Visit to Missouri Orthopaedic Institute

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of the UMSAEP programme, and for the visit to Missouri University.

Sincerely,



.....
Prof. Jo-Celene de Jongh (PhD)
*Associate Professor
Department of Occupational Therapy*



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Prof. Lisa Wegner (PhD)
*Professor
Department of Occupational Therapy*