Faculty International Travel Grant

Final Report

Name: Dr. Nan Zhang Hampton and Dr. Caren Sax

Faculty/Rank: Professor and Professor

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College: Education

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Proposal title: Developing a Travel Study Program for Rehabilitation Counseling Students in China

Country visited: The People’s Republic of China and Hong Kong

Institutions visited:
- China Disabled Person’s Federation, Beijing (CDPF)
- National Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities, Beijing
- China National Institute for Educational Research
- Beijing Union University
- Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities
- City University of Hong Kong
- Hong Kong Polytechnic University
- Shatian Community-Based Rehabilitation Program, Hong Kong

Dates of travel: September 18 to 28, 2009

Number of student participants:
- One student from the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at SDSU
- Twenty rehabilitation professionals from the Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities and 10 researchers from China National Institute for Educational Research attended our presentations.
We projected 10-14 students from ARPE-SDSU will go to China in fall 2011 or spring 2012.

**Previous IP proposals submitted and grants awarded:**
(list titles, countries and dates)

1. International Rehabilitation Counseling Internship Program Department of Administration, Rehabilitation, and Postsecondary Education awarded to Drs. **Caren Sax** and Fred McFarlane. The visited country was Ireland and the travel dates were September 26 to October 5, 2005

2. Institutionalizing Internships, Summer Study Programs, and Research Experiences for Rehabilitation Counseling and Postsecondary Education Graduate Students in Hong Kong and China awarded to Drs. **Nan Zhang Hampton** and Fred McFarlane. The visit country was China and the travel dates were Oct. 25 to Nov. 7, 2006.

3. Summer Study Programs for Rehabilitation Counseling Students in Hong Kong and China awarded to Drs. **Nan Zhang Hampton** and Marjorie Olney. The visited Country was China and the travel dates were July 21, 2007 to August 24, 2007 for Dr. Hampton and August 8, 2007 to August 24, 2007 for Dr. Olney.

4. Implementing International Internships and Research Experiences for Rehabilitation Counseling and Postsecondary Education Graduate Students in China awarded to Drs. Nan Zhang Hampton and Caren Sax. The travel dates were October 12 to 22, 2008.

**Have all required reports been submitted?**

Yes.

**Other funding for this activity available/applied for:**

Our Chinese hosts – China Disabled Person’s Federation, Beijing (CDPF) National Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities, Beijing China National Institute for Educational Research, Beijing Union University Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center for People with Disabilities and City University of Hong Kong covered several meals and part of local transportations.

**Proposal Abstract (75 word maximum):**

The Department of Administration, Rehabilitation, and Postsecondary Education (ARPE) proposes to develop an international travel study program in Rehabilitation Technology for rehabilitation counseling students with Beijing Union University in conjunction with CDPF-Shenzhen Special Education College for People with Disabilities, China. The programs will expand learning opportunities for SDSU students in China, increase involvement of SDSU students and faculty in international educational and research experiences, and provide similar learning opportunities for Chinese students at SDSU.
Travel report:

I. Opening/overview of intentions/activity

ARPE has a history of expanding students learning to international arena. The Department has established long-term cooperation with counterparts in Asia, Mexico and Europe. This visit was part of our long-term cooperation with the China Disabled Persons’ Federation, the China National Institute for Educational Research and the City University of Hong Kong. We were invited by Professor Peng Xiaguang of the China National Institute for Educational Research, Dean Xu Jiacheng of the Special Education College of Beijing Union University, and Dr. Joseph Kwok of the City University of Hong Kong. During the visit, we have accomplished the following activities:

a. Gave a presentation to rehabilitation professionals from Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center and CDPF-Guangdong Branch;
b. Met with administrators at the aforementioned institutions; and

c. Discussed the cooperation between ARPE-SDSU and the Special Education College of Beijing Union University, the National Assistive Technology Center, the Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center, and the City University of Hong Kong. It was agreed that ARPE-SDSU will send a faculty-led group of students to China in 2011 or 2012 to learn about rehabilitation technology for people with disabilities in China and two professionals/students from the Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center/BUU will take an assistive technology online course that is offered by ARPE-SDSU in 2010.

II. Preparation for the Trip

Dr. Hampton has a long-standing relationship with the host, due to her involvement with the Chinese Rehabilitation Association (CRA) and the China Disabled Persons’ Federation (CDPF). She is the Director of a joint training and research project between ARPE-SDSU and CRA-CDPF. Under this Project, we held two short-term training workshop at SDSU for rehabilitation administrators from CRA-CDPF in November 2007 and May 2008 and one workshop in China in Oct. 2008. As the former Coordinator of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program and the current Department Chair of ARPE, Dr. Sax has been involved in strategic planning and decision making in developing the joint training and research project. She met with administrators from CDPF and presented at training workshops to these administrators in November 2007, May 2008, and Oct. 2008. She also directs the rehabilitation technology certificate program and teaches a rehabilitation technology course. Both Drs. Hampton and Sax have been working with a Chinese student in ARPE-SDSU’s distance education program in Rehabilitation Counseling. Through the joint training and research project between ARPE-SDSU and CRA-CDPF, this student presented at the CRA-CDPF’s First National Training Workshop held in Beijing, China in July 2007. Prior to this trip, we had communicated with our host about this trip via email and telephone. We collaboratively decided the agendas that included presentations, site visits, and meeting with administrators, faculty, and students. We also discussed our plans with Dr. Laura Hall, the International Program Coordinator at College of Education about our trip to China.
III. Activities in China

Below is a brief description about our activities in China:

Days 1-2 (9/18/09-9/19/09):

Departed San Diego on 9/18/09 and arrived in Beijing on 9/19/09.

Day 3 (9/20/08):

Met Prof. Peng and finalized the schedule in Beijing.

Day 4 (9/21/09):

Met Mrs. Feng Yanxia, Deputy Secretary-General of the Chinese Rehabilitation Association and discussed the training program for Chinese rehabilitation professionals. Visited the China Rehabilitation Research Center and the National Center for Assistive Technology.

Day 5 (9/22/09):

Visited the Special Education College of Beijing Union University, met with Dean Xu Jiacheng, and discussed the student study abroad program.

Day 6 (9/23/09):

Met with the Director of the China National Institute for Educational Research, discussed student study abroad program, visited Beijing Normal University.

Day 7 (9/24/09):

Fly to Hong Kong; visited Hunghom train station and purchased train tickets to Shenzhen.

Day 8 (9/25/09):

Took the train to Shenzhen, presented at the workshop for rehabilitation professionals from the Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center, met Mrs. Fan Jiajin, Director of the Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center and discussed the student study abroad program.

Day 9 (9/26/09):

Met Dr. Kwok of the City University of Hong Kong in the morning and discussed the student study abroad program, had Lunch with the Vice President for Student Affairs at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, visited the Assistive Technology Center on the Hong Kong Polytechnic University campus.

Day 10 (9/27/09):
Visited Shatian Community based rehabilitation program.

Day 11 (9/28/09):

Return to San Diego

Conclusion and Recommendation

Through this visit, we reached agreements with the Chinese counterparts in Beijing, Shenzhen, and Hong Kong on accepting travel study students/student interns from ARPE-SDSU. We also offered students/rehabilitation professionals from the Special Education College of Beijing Union University and Shenzhen Assistive Technology Center with an opportunity to take an SDSU online rehabilitation technology course via extended studies.

The trip also provided our student with opportunities not only to learn the current rehabilitation technology services in China but also to compare the similarities and differences in the AT services between the U.S. and China. In her summary of the trip, the student wrote “It was a perfect time for me to go to China since I was enrolled in the rehabilitation technology course. I visited the AT Center, where rehabilitation technology services were provided for people with disabilities. The meeting with local rehabilitation agencies and administrators provided me with a lot of information on AT services. I would like to thank the Program for giving me this great learning opportunity.”

Responses from the workshop participants were very positive. Participants commented that “We learned new knowledge about rehabilitation.” “We learned the rehabilitation principles in foreign countries which are new to us.” The “the professors’ lectures were very lively and we were able to see the outcomes of rehabilitation through pictures, video clips, and cases.” Participants expressed strong interests in having the similar training workshops in both China and the U.S.

Ideas for collaboration:

Students at ARPE-SDSU have showed interests in participating in either an internship and/or a summer course in China. Two students will do their internship in Hong Kong and mainland China in Spring and Fall 2010, respectively. We will further explore the opportunity of a student travel study trip to China with BUU, CityUHK, and HK Polytechnic University in 2011 or 2012. Meanwhile, BUU will select one or two students and Shenzhen AT Center will select one or two staff members to take the SDSU online rehabilitation technology course in 2010. The selected students/staff members from BUU/Shenzhen AT Center will pay a minimum fee for taking the course.

In summary, we had a very productive visit to China. We established very good working relationships with the key individuals at the aforementioned institutions and strengthened the existing operation with these organizations. Our graduate student networked with many Chinese rehabilitation administrators/professionals on this trip and learned a lot from these Chinese rehabilitation professionals. Through these activities, we have laid the foundation for institutionalized international internships, travel studies, and research experiences for ARPE-
SDSU students in China. To make the cooperation successful, Dr. Hampton will coordinate the activities related to the cooperation agreements with the Chinese counterparts under the leadership of Dr. Sax. We will need the continuous support and assistance from the office of International Program at SDSU.