

Global Engagement Office

Oct. 2017



Asian World Center

The Asian World Center at Creighton University and the India Association of Nebraska are organizing the First US-India Friendship Summit to be held at Harper Center at Creighton University, on October 7, 2017. The goal of this Summit is to further the cause of friendship between these two large democracies. The Summit will have 3 parts – Geo-political, Eco-

conomic-Business & Cultural. Each will have eminent speakers from the United States and India. There will also be a panel discussion for the Geopolitical & the Economic-Business sections. All sections are free and open to the public. Seating is limited, please register online at: <http://www.usindiasummit.org/p/event-registration.html>

Speakers include:

- US Congressman
- Tom Osborne
- Shashi Tharoor,
- Jim Clifton
- Amit Chandra, Managing Director, Bain Capital Mumbai
- Suketu Mehta, Celebrated & Award Winning Indian Author

Study Abroad

On September 20th, study abroad staff hosted their annual study abroad fair. In hopes of helping students feel confident in their decision to study abroad, Lizzy Curran invited representatives for all study abroad programs to talk with prospective students. With an estimated 475 Creighton students coming to the event, GEO staff had to focus their time and energy to provide a seamless event for these students. The deadline to apply for a spring study abroad program closed on October 1st. Scholarship applications are now available for students through October 31. These scholarships, made available through the

Jesuit fund and Kiewit fund, include awards intended to assist students with the additional expenses that study abroad entails. The application includes a series of short answer essays that encourage students to reflect on the effect that a global education will have on them personally as well as on their future career.

Office of Academic Service Learning

The Office of Academic Service Learning (OASL) connects academic courses with community partners to enhance academic learning, meet community-identified needs, and foster global perspectives through engagement and reflection. We do this by developing partnerships with

nonprofit, nongovernmental, and public organizations; working with faculty to learn about, implement, and assess academic service-learning pedagogy; and by serving as a resource for students in finding academic service-learning classes, preparing for experiences in the community, and connecting with opportunities for service and research. On Wednesday, Sept. 27, the Office of Academic Service Learning hosted a workshop for faculty. The workshop was designed to introduce concepts and processes for academic service-learning, and provided Creighton faculty the opportunity to identify and discuss the integration of academic service-learning into course curriculum. A similar workshop is scheduled for October 24, from 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM, in Harper 3027.

Intensive English Learning Institute



Students Practice English at Creighton

SPEAC is a student led group, consisting of 20 students that helps international students practice their English language with other Creighton and international students. As a faculty support, IELI staff prepare questions to help induce conversation between the students, however, student are encouraged to discuss topics that interest them. IELI faculty, Maria Barros said “SPEAC is a wonderful group of students, and their ownership of the program helps them become great leaders. Often times SPEAC students will go off campus and have fun together, like getting pizza.”

“Perhaps the main reason why I fell in love with SPEAC is the connections that I have made in SPEAC. SPEAC is a platform to gain a better understanding of different cultures, and it is a safe place for both international students and domestic students to connect with each other. SPEAC is fully led by students, and that made it lovable and easier to digest. I feel like every week in SPEAC I mature more and my perspective on different cultures is constantly changing.”

~Mohammad Alnosif
Class of 2020

Since 1979, the Intensive English Language Institute has been providing English instruction and support to Creighton students. By working closely with Creighton programs, they provide an inclusive experience for IELI students. Within the recent year, IELI faculty have developed the Bridge to Creighton program. The Bridge program enables students to do an advanced English curriculum while earning a total of 6-credit hours that apply towards their Creighton undergrad, including a 2-credit hour academic success course offered through the Creighton EDGE. Through the Bridge, students meet all of the application and admission requirements to continue their education as a full time undergraduate Creighton student. The Bridge to Creighton program helps students get accustomed with American and academic culture in a sympathetic and supportive environment. A foundational part of the IELI curriculum is service. Recently, students in the IELI program were asked to attend the service and justice fair and give a presentation on one of the organizations or service opportunities. In September, students and faculty volunteered at the Heartland Food Bank, doing a total of 85 community service hours and filling 1,080 bags of food. Students overall have a very positive response to the service learning, for some students it is their first service experience. Overall, service opportunities help build relationships and bonding between students and teachers in the program.

Institute for Latin American Concerns

The Institute for Latin American Concerns center in the Dominican Republic is housed at “La Mision” located 7.5 kilometers outside Santiago. The ILAC Center provides numerous opportunities for students and professionals to grow personally, professionally and spiritually. This past summer marked the 40 year anniversary for the ILAC summer program. Upcoming we have Fall Break Immersion with Dr. Nancy Shirley and 10 nursing students. This idea began with the assistance of an anonymous donor who wanted nursing students who struggle financially and have never traveled abroad to have the ILAC experience.

For several years 2 students traveled with Dr. Shirley in November to the ILAC Center. This year for the first time, during Fall Break and with the help of our donor, 4 students meeting the original requirements, will travel on partial scholarship. They will be joined by 6 more nursing students. The majority of the students time in the DR will be spent living with families in a rural community. The students will perform a community health assessment and work with the local health promotor to provide preventative educations talks regarding healthy lifestyle and avoiding chronic illnesses. During summer 2017, more than

60 Creighton students, along with 23 professionals from the areas of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Pharmacy worked with local lay health promotors to provide health and dental clinic care for 4 weeks. Participants lived with families during their time in the Dominican Republic and become integrated into the daily life of their communities. They were challenged to serve, live in solidarity, and explore their faith during the program. The first summer program occurred in 1977. The summer program collaborates with CIPER and will be a interdisciplinary passport activity in the future.

Office of Sustainability Programs

Sustainability and global engagement go hand-in-hand. Being at a Jesuit, Catholic institution, we have a moral responsibility to stand in solidarity with our global neighbors. Part of that solidarity includes mutual care for our common home. As Pope Francis writes in *Laudato Si'* (2015), “Human life is grounded in three fundamental and closely intertwined relationships: with God, with our neighbor and with earth itself” (no. 66). When we think about our neighbors, we tend to think of our immediate, local, next-door neighbors. We can extend the concept of “neighbors” to transcend space and even time. Our neighbors can be found in places like

the Dominican Republic and in future generations. To best care for our environment, to be the most responsible stewards of creation means we must include all of humanity, our neighbors here in Omaha and across the globe. We must remember that “...When our hearts are authentically open to universal communion, this sense of fraternity excludes nothing and no one.” (*Laudato Si'*, no. 92) In 2011, Creighton University founded the Energy Technology Program receiving grants from both the Omaha Public Power District, and the U.S. Department of Energy to develop green technology infrastructure and academic programming. There are currently three locations on campus where major renewable energy

units are tied to our energy grid. We also have several off-grid units, such as the EnergiPlant. Under the leadership of Dr. Andrew Baruth (Associate professor, physics) and Larry Hopp (director of Energy Technology Program), students in the Energy Technology Program perform regular maintenance on the solar array on Cuming Street and use the array for educational purposes. When functioning at full capacity, all of Creighton’s renewable energy units produce 120kW of power per year. That is enough to power about 40 homes or somewhere between 2-4% of Creighton’s annual energy consumption. When the units were installed, Creighton became the largest producer of renewable energy in the state of Nebraska.

International Student and Scholar Services

Weeks prior to the beginning of the semester Creighton's GEO welcomed a total of 55 new full time international students to Creighton's campus. These new students include 33 graduate students, and 22 undergraduate students. In addition, Creighton has 10 exchange students for the fall semester. This means that Creighton has a total of 218 international students on campus. Through the semester International Student and Scholar Services is leading a

series of in depth discussions, based on the needs of students and their questions. Discussion topics include relationship building, dating, cross cultural communication, cultural adjustment, and what it means to be a student in the US. In September ISSS hosted an ice cream social, to help new students meet some of the current students on campus, we had over 35

students attend. In the month of November is International Education Week, with the GEO hosting several events. Starting off the week, the International Student Association (ISA) will throw their annual International Student Banquet, on November 11th. Throughout the month of October, ISA will be selling tickets for the event around campus.



Solar Energy

2-4 %



**120 kW of
Renewable Energy**





CGI

Creighton Global Initiative

The Creighton Global Initiative is a 6 to 8 million-dollar grant cycle intended to help Creighton become a globally diverse campus. In the past two years, project approvals have reached 2.5 million dollars in funding, with a total of 44 on going CGI projects. As one of the many projects, Africa Rising Week was a two-year grant designed to spark student interest in Africa and African Studies, as well as engage the local African diaspora population. This year's week of activities began with the showing of the film *Guanzhou Dream Factory*, discussing the growing economic opportunities for immigrants to both China and Africa in factories. The film was a collaboration between the African and Asian study departments. Between 120 and 150 people attended the African Rising Festival, with African com-

munity members being a majority of those in attendance. The week ended with a celebratory Mass, in honor of Dr. Ekpenyong and Rev. Chuks Mueme. The mass hosted the choir from St. Gerald Catholic Church, a major west African group. Dr. Jay Carney said that his highlight from the week was the business panel that presented on Thursday night. The panel featured African business owners in Omaha, that saw needs in their community and opened businesses to help meet that need. Businesses included the International Daycare, Chaima Restaurant, Banwo & Igbokwe Law Firm LLC, and the Omaha Tropical Market. Panelists discussed the challenges in being an African business owner and the perseverance needed to develop a flourishing business. Dr. Carney noted that especially enjo-

yed learning about the dynamics that international business owners encounter while trying to obtain a loan and navigate through cultural issues in business. While developing Africa Rising, faculty collaborated from several different studies, including; African Studies, Asian Studies, Global Engagement staff, SCSJ staff, and both the college of arts and sciences and the college of business. Africa Rising Week was headed by several African Student leaders, who contributed their unique leadership and insight throughout the week. Africa Rising faculty intend to reapply for funding; with hopes to pilot two FLPA trips to Africa, provide funding for student research, further Creighton's involvement with local African populations, and deepen the intercultural community at Creighton.

Jesuit Worldwide Learning

Jesuit Worldwide Learning is an initiative of the Society of Jesus to bring tertiary education to those living at the margins. Since 2010 over 600 students from Jordan, Kenya, Malawi, Sri Lanka, Brooklyn, N.Y., Afghanistan, Iraq, and Chad have pursued a Diploma in Liberal Studies, consisting of 45 credit hours offered online, accredited by Regis University, and predominantly taught by instructors from Jesuit Universities. Many graduates of this diploma wish to continue their studies toward a bachelor's degree. Creighton University can be an institutional partner with JWL, offering scholarships in its two online bachelor's degree programs that can serve as a logical and ideal platform to enhance the University's mission-based partnership in this enterprise. It is vital that people living at the margins receive higher education while

still displaced. In her article entitled, "Exploring Barriers to Higher Education in Protracted Refugee Situations: The Case of Burmese Refugees in Thailand," in *Journal of Refugee Studies*, Vol. 24.2: 256-276 (Oxford University Press), Barbara Zeus demonstrates how tertiary education for refugees, whose average length of displacement is 17 years, provides 1) meaning to life, thereby reducing the chances for youths to join military recruiters, gangs, or become involved in the sex industry; 2) a head start so that when refugees are resettled they can better accept the new challenges and find jobs; 3) benefits to the immediate and wider community. This project will pilot scholarships to graduates of the Jesuit Worldwide Learning Diploma. Two seats/academic year in

each of Creighton's Bachelor's programs in Leadership Studies and Healthy Lifestyle Management, respectively will be "donated" via scholarships starting with the Fall I 2017 term. Both CU online programs have been developed in 8-week terms with course content specifically designed for nontraditional students. JWL diploma graduates would have the option of taking 1-2 courses concurrently every 8 weeks, beginning with CPS 200: Making the Transition, and their 45 credit hours awarded by Regis University would transfer to Creighton. It is expected that extra time (possibly 4 years) will be needed to move through the program for these students who are accustomed to taking only 1 course/8 weeks.



60 Millions Global Refugees



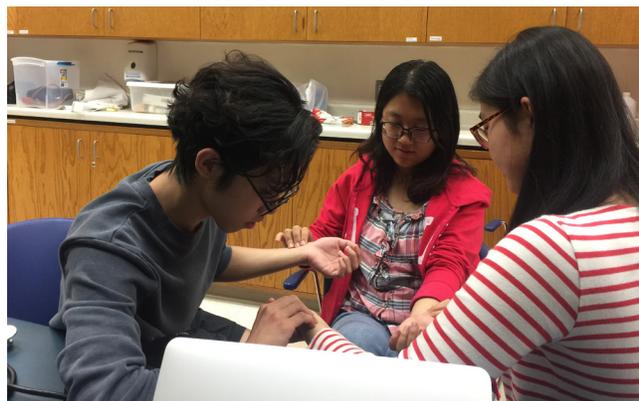
**4 New Students
Starting In January**

International Relations in Health Sciences

The School of Pharmacy and Health Professions and School of Medicine hosted the fourth annual Creighton Rehabilitation International Summer Program (CRISP) and third annual Creighton Medicine International Summer Program (CMISP). CRISP welcomed 27 participating students for a 3-month CRISP experience and an additional 22 participating students for a one month CRISP program. CMISP welcomed 7 participants. The participants were occupational therapy, physical therapy and medical students and faculty from 8 different health science universities in China. The participants completed didactic courses and labs as well as clinical observations and tours throughout all of Omaha's major

medical centers and habilitation facilities. In addition to advancing their knowledge and skills in medicine and rehabilitation, the participants also provided cultural education presentations to the Creighton faculty, staff and students. Creighton students expanded their global health and education perspectives through social engagements with the CRISP and CMISP participants.

CRISP participants reported an increase in their professional development, clinical reasoning, team work skills and cultural competency. The program has a positive impact both professionally and personally on the participants that is translated when they return to China.



Ecuentro Dominicano

Dominican Republic. Encuentro embodies the Jesuit mission of promoting justice, striving for excellence, and dedication to the truth. The program centers around service-learning, justice, and building community with fellow students and Dominicans – all while experiencing the rich and vibrant culture of the Dominican Republic. Encuentro Dominicano is celebrating its 25th Anniversary in 2017! Recently the Ecuentro Dominicano program has been working with a group of women from the Mothers' Club at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception in Sabaneta. Together this group of women and the Ecuentro program have built a greenhouse and nursery for coffee plants. In recent years, agriculture and disease has led to an epidemic of deforestation in this small farming community, which is centered on coffee bean production. Before this partnership, the women in the community would predominately stay at home, but in recent events, this group of 14 women have taken a role of financially supporting the community. In total, they have planted 5,000 coffee plants that were produced in the nursery, 5,000 more are ready for planting, and another 5,000 have been ordered. Farmers buy the plants from the nursery and the profits help financially

support the community. By planting coffee varieties that are more resistant to disease they are taking greater preventive measures for deforestation. This project not only benefits the community but also improves the water quality and ecology in the community. Zeneida Perez notes "Thanks to God, we are united in this project and in our faith. We are a Catholic, Christian community with great faith in God. We recognize that

we deforested our hill, but by raising awareness of the mistake we must continue onward and reforest. If we don't reforest, then our water will run out and without water, what will we do on the mountain? Without water, what will those who live downhill from us who also need the water do?" Through this extraordinary project, the women of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and Creighton Students have unified this community.

