

Evaluating the Outcomes of an Interprofessional International Experiential Learning Experience

Primary Investigator Amy Matthews, OTD, OTR/L Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy School of Pharmacy and Health Professions Office #: 280-5955 Email: amymatthews@creighton.edu	Co-Investigator Natalie Harms, PT, DPT, GCS Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy Director of Rehabilitation Creighton University Medical Center Office # 449-4246 natalieharms@creighton.edu	Co-Investigator Keli Mu PhD, OTR/L Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy School of Pharmacy and Health Professions Office #: 280-5938 Email: kmu@creighton.edu
---	---	--

Project Abstract:

This project intends to investigate the outcomes of an international and interprofessional learning experience of occupational and physical therapy doctoral students. In the fall of 2008, four students from occupational therapy and four from physical therapy were chosen through an application process to participate in a semester long elective course centered on fostering cultural competency and international leadership. This elective honors program consists of ten days of cultural immersion and experiential learning in a hospital in China. The course exemplifies the Creighton University mission in action: Care for the whole person, service to others, social justice, and appreciation of diversity.

A mixed methods approach will be used to evaluate the impact of the program on the students and stakeholders. Data collection and analysis consists of: analysis of the students' reflective papers and debriefing at the end of the experiential experience; a follow up focus group with the students 6 months after the experience, and a follow up survey with administrators and rehabilitation practitioners in China. Findings of this project will be disseminated at local and national levels via professional presentations, peer-reviewed journal publications, as well as electronic sharing. The investigators of the project plan to engage in a longitudinal project to evaluate the outcomes of the program for refinement.