New International Travel Medical Insurance & Evacuation Coverage Now Available to UK Faculty/Staff Travelers

By Andrea Gils

A new international travel medical insurance and evacuation coverage is now available at no cost to faculty and staff members engaging in University of Kentucky business overseas.

This travel medical insurance coverage greatly increases faculty and staff protections while traveling internationally, and brings UK in line with best practices at many of its peer institutions. In order to facilitate the coverage and to help UK liaise with travelers in case of an emergency, the International Center’s new division of International Health, Safety and Security has launched an international travel registry for faculty and staff.

The system offers a process that is simple as possible for the traveler, requiring no longer than 10 minutes to complete.

UK Nepali Students organize ‘Nepal, I am with you’ Fundraiser to Help Families After Earthquake

By Andrea Gils

A group of UK students from Nepal helped relieve the suffering in their home country caused by last April’s 7.8-magnitude earthquake, by starting a fundraising initiative, “Nepal, I am with you,” to obtain food and medical supplies, and to rebuild broken communities.

“Almost all of Nepali grad students, about

Free Passports to UK Students with EA and CIEE Partnership, Fall 2016

By Andrea Gils

The Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) has selected the University of Kentucky as one of the few universities across the U.S. to host its Passport Caravan initiative in fall 2016. CIEE’s Passport Caravan will enable UK students who are first-time passport-seekers to have the opportunity to obtain a passport on campus, free of charge.

“Many of our students have never studied or traveled abroad, and receiving a free passport can make a big difference to a student, both practically and symbolically,” said Anthony Ogden, executive director of education abroad and exchanges at UK. “Having a passport in hand, I hope, creates the will to want to study abroad and get it [the passport] stamped.”
After University of Kentucky’s year-long audit of the protections it offers to UK’s faculty, staff, and students traveling abroad, the UKIC, in cooperation with the provost and the executive vice president for finance and administration, has created the International Health, Safety & Security (IHSS) office. Jason Hope, manager of IHSS, oversees UK’s international travel health, safety and security as well as risk management related to overseas travel and natural disasters.

Under IHSS, Hope, who is a UK alum and previously worked with the UK Education Abroad office, now manages the international medical insurance and evacuation coverage as well as the newly created travel registry. The travel registry was launched August 1, 2015.

Before August, UK faculty and staff had to rely on their U.S.-based insurance coverage when traveling internationally for business purposes. Now, UK offers a blanket insurance policy to cover all university travelers traveling abroad under UK’s auspices. The coverage, which offers both medical insurance and evacuation coverage in a political or natural disaster, places UK firmly among its peer institutions in offering excellent international support to their travelers. “Faculty and staff traveling on behalf of the University should not have to worry about insurance issues while they are abroad,” Hope said. “These new protections keep our travelers safer while they’re abroad and allow UK to support them as much as possible while they’re away from campus.” IHSS is responsible for coordinating this insurance coverage, and, in concert with UK Risk Management, for liaising with the University’s insurance broker.

With the newly implemented travel registry, UK is now able to collect faculty and staff travel information, automatically provide travelers with UK’s international insurance information, and allow the UK International Center (UKIC) to contact travelers in the case of an emergency. This system aims to markedly reduce institutional risk with international travel, and makes it safer for UK employees to engage in professional development, research, and other opportunities outside the United States.

Besides faculty and staff international travel, IHSS oversees non-credit student and group travel, which includes individual students traveling under UK auspices and who are not earning academic credit, and faculty or staff members who may be leading non-credit groups of students overseas.

Additionally, IHSS is responsible for maintaining the UKIC Crisis Management Handbook. The handbook outlines the appropriate unit-level and institutional responses to a variety of emergency situations abroad. While IHSS is primarily responsible for managing crises involving non-credit student groups or independent UK employee travelers, Education Abroad retains oversight for issues involving students enrolled in for-credit programs.

IHSS works closely with EA in the area of risk analysis. IHSS monitors news outlets and U.S. government resources to identify current events and threats that may have implications for the safety and well-being of students on EA programs. IHSS works with EA to ensure that students are informed of such threats, and to provide guidance on how to avoid risk exposure on-site.

Moreover, IHSS is involved with the health and safety elements of the faculty orientation for those UK employees who lead EA programs overseas. IHSS works with EA and UK’s office of Crisis Management and Preparedness to ensure that faculty members receive necessary training, and that data needed for reporting purposes is collected properly.

Lastly, IHSS works with students who wish to travel to high-risk countries. According to regulations, all UK students are prohibited from traveling for educational purposes to countries under U.S. Department of State Travel Warnings. However, an appeal process exists for those students who demonstrate that their academic and/or career goals could not be adequately met by traveling to an alternate destination, and who demonstrate preparedness for travel to the chosen site.

Hope chairs the committee that hears student appeals to this prohibition. In addition to ensuring compliance with policy, the appeal process serves as an important educational opportunity for students, allowing them to explore the safety considerations that they may encounter in their host country in a way that the academic approval process does not always address.

In addition to the faculty and staff registry available on IHSS’s new website, students, faculty and staff can find information technology security tips as well as other resources useful to international travelers.

For questions about the protections, how the insurance and evacuation coverage works, or details on travel registration for faculty or staff, or non-credit students, please visit https://ihss.uky.edu/ or contact Jason Hope, UK’s manager of International Health, Safety & Security at jasonhope@uky.edu.
In May 2005, three earthquake scientists from the Lanzhou Institute of Seismology, part of China’s Earthquake Administration, visited the UK campus, starting a decade-long research exchange between UK and the Lanzhou Institute of Seismology, and other organizations of the China Earthquake Administration.

The Chinese scientists who made that first visit gave presentations on their work and visited the New Madrid Seismic Zone and the Kentucky Seismic and Strong-Motion Network. The network is operated by the Kentucky Geological Survey and UK’s Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, both of which are participating in the exchange.

During the past 10 years, more than a dozen Chinese scientists have come to UK for training and research, and UK students, staff, and faculty have traveled to China’s Gansu Province, where the Lanzhou Institute is located, and other places such as the Tibet Plateau. They have interacted with their counterparts at the institutes, conducted cooperative research, gathered information for their studies, and made new friends during their exchanges.

“There are both similarities and differences between the earthquake threat in northwestern China, including Gansu Province, and the central U.S., and these have contributed to our exchange,” said KGS Geologic Hazards Section Head, Zhenming Wang. “The faults in our New Madrid Seismic Zone are buried deep beneath the surface, but the faulting that has been the source of major earthquakes in northwestern China are visible on the surface. Yet there are also areas in both the central U.S. and northwestern China with soils that can magnify the effects of earthquakes on the built environment. UK faculty, staff, and students have benefited a great deal from our scientific exchange.”

Wang is originally from Fuzhou in southeastern China’s Fujian Province. He visits his family in China, but has also interacted with seismologists at a number of institutions and universities in China. Some of the Chinese scientists are his former classmates. He was invited to Sichuan Province in 2008 after an 8.0-magnitude earthquake caused major destruction in the Province and the loss of more than 90,000 lives. He, along with Earth and Environmental Sciences professor Ed Woolery, has given seminars and lectures at the Lanzhou Institute. Both have been appointed adjunct research fellows at the Institute of Crustal Dynamics, another part of China’s Earthquake Administration in Beijing. Recently retired KGS Director Jim Cobb, former Assistant State Geologist John Kiefer, and current Interim KGS Director Jerry Weisenfluh have also traveled to China to give seminars and participate in research.

UK geology students who have benefited from the exchange include master’s degree candidate David Butler, of Baton Rouge, La., who conducted field work and collected data for his thesis, “Scenario Seismic Hazard Assessment of Tianshui’s Urban Area, Gansu Province, People’s Republic of China,” in 2011. Data collected by graduate student Alice Orton during her visit to China in 2013 was used as a part of her master’s thesis, “Science and Public Policy of Earthquake Hazard Mitigation in the New Madrid Seismic Zone.” Both theses were successfully defended.

The visiting scholars who have come to UK to work for as long as a year have helped to conduct field research and process data from the seismic network.

The UK and Chinese researchers have also collaborated on several publications. One of the visiting scholars, Qian Li, was the principal author of a 2013 KGS Information Circular, “Seismic Velocity Database for the New Madrid Seismic Zone and its Vicinity.” Visiting scholar Jiwei Feng wrote a master’s thesis, “Comparison of Ground Motion Prediction Equation Between China Wenchuan Area and the Central and Eastern United States.” Wang co-authored a paper, “Seismic Hazard Assessment for Greater North China from Historical Intensity Observations,” with visiting scholars Jingwei Liu, Furen Xie, and Yuejun Lu; it was published by the Journal of Engineering Geology.

But earthquake science hasn’t been the only benefit from the decade of exchanges. Friendships and mutual respect have grown between the researchers as well.

The director of the Lanzhou Institute of Seismology, Lanmin Wang, who was among the first group to visit UK, hosted visitors from UK on cultural trips and other sightseeing outings in China. He presented Chinese cultural art pieces to the former UK vice president for research, James Tracy, Ph.D., during a trip to UK. Cobb returned the hospitality by showing visiting scholars around the Bluegrass State, visiting horse farms and the home of Kentucky Fried Chicken, China’s most popular fast food, and hosting dinners at his home during the scholars’ stay in Kentucky. Cobb also arranged for Lanmin Wang and others in Chinese delegations to be named Kentucky Colonels during their stay.

The former USGS geologist, Hoover Cobb, gave the presentation on Chinese culture, history, and art as part of a cultural exchange between Lanzhou and Kentucky. The director of the Lanzhou Institute of Seismology, Lanmin Wang, who was among the first group to visit UK, hosted visitors from UK on cultural trips and other sightseeing outings in China. He presented Chinese cultural art pieces to the former UK vice president for research, James Tracy, Ph.D., during a trip to UK. Cobb returned the hospitality by showing visiting scholars around the Bluegrass State, visiting horse farms and the home of Kentucky Fried Chicken, China’s most popular fast food, and hosting dinners at his home during the scholars’ stay in Kentucky. Cobb also arranged for Lanmin Wang and others in Chinese delegations to be named Kentucky Colonels during their stay.

UK and China earthquake institutes mark 10 years of scholar and research exchange
By Michael Lynch
UK Has First Faculty-directed Full Semester Program Abroad

By Hannah Simoff

The College of Education has launched the University of Kentucky’s first ever faculty-directed semester-length program, Kinesiology and Health Promotion in Valencia, Spain, which is directed by Joaquin Fenollar, lecturer in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotion.

Fenollar’s program is a huge step forward for international faculty-directed programs in the College of Education and at UK.

“After I conducted my Summer II intersession program, I realized a whole semester abroad would be an even richer experience for our students,” Fenollar said.

His semester-length curriculum offers an array of kinesiology, health promotion, and Spanish course opportunities for academic credit. It ran from Jan. 8 to June 5.

During the program, students took two program courses from Fenollar and two courses offered by the Catholic University of Valencia.

“Catholic University of Valencia has medical and dental, physical therapy, physical education, exercise science, and physiology schools,” said Fenollar. “They have great facilities and they are excited to establish a partnership with the University of Kentucky to place our students.”

Students have had the privilege of visiting The Nou Camp Stadium in Barcelona, which is the largest soccer stadium in Europe. Students also learned about Spain’s health care system, which is ranked No. 7 in the world by the World Health Organization. The U.S. is ranked No. 32.

A faculty-directed program closely aligns with UK’s curriculum in a way that programs offered by third parties cannot.

“Students are also more likely to participate in a faculty-led program because they know the program will complement their program of study, and they want to travel with their professors and fellow students,” said Anthony Ogden, executive director of Education Abroad and Exchanges.

A native of Spain, Fenollar came to the U.S. to study English and obtained a master’s in youth and family recreation at Brigham Young University and a doctorate in health promotion and education from the University of Utah, where he taught before coming to UK. Fenollar said his time in the U.S. has made a meaningful impact on his life, which inspired him to teach a semester abroad for his students.

“It truly stretches the students way beyond what they thought they could do or be,” he said.

Fenollar’s past students from his Summer II program, Health & Wellness in Valencia, Spain, have warmly shared their reflections of him.

“He has been the most influential professor I have had in my life. He is an open book and always willing to understand the perspective of another individual,” said Edmund Allen, senior at UK. “He is a great man and his program in Spain was one of the best experiences I’ve had in my life.”

+ ‘Nepal I am With You’ fundraiser (continued from page 1)

19 of us, were on campus housing when the earthquake happened,” Suraj Upadhaya said. “Our family members and friends were there. We were so far and it was very hard for us. We couldn’t concentrate to study or do anything. We wanted to relieve ourselves and to help our families over there so we thought, what can we do to help them from here?”

According to an article by The Guardian, there are “6,260 fatalities, with about 14,000 injured and thousands still unaccounted for.”

Homes were destroyed and people have been living in tents without relief.

Traumatized by a multitude of aftershocks, hundreds of children and their families have gone missing. Former schools and historic buildings have been crippled and monuments listed in world heritage sites have been ruined.

Upadhaya said that even though they didn’t meet the target of $10,000 to fundraise, awareness about the earthquake in Nepal increased in the community. He said President Eli Capilouto invited the group of students to his house and was very sympathetic towards their suffering. “We were about 19 grad students and he acted as a parent when we were sad or in sorrow,” Upadhaya said. “The support of the community motivated us and made UK home away from home,” Upadhaya said.

He added that thanks to UK’s involvement, more people learned about what was happening in Nepal. “Media wasn’t there to cover issues from Nepal so with this fundraiser and by getting in touch with the UKIC, the media in Lexington covered our issues and our fundraiser. It was great to convey what was happening there.”

The funds raised by this initiative were used to help rural villages of Sindupalchowk and Gorkha Districts of Nepal located outside of Kathmandu.
Two UK students awarded Diversity Scholarships to study abroad

By Zachary Dodson

The University of Kentucky International Studies Abroad Diversity Scholarship has been awarded to two students to help them further their studies through education abroad.

Derrick Quarles, a kinesiology major, and Miyana Sarver, a human communications major, will receive between $2,500 and $5,000 that can be applied to an International Studies Abroad (ISA) program of their choice within two years.

Quarles, who is involved in Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc., Black Student Union, and the University of Kentucky Club Basketball Team, plans to use his scholarship to study kinesiology in Valencia, Spain.

“I’m so grateful for this opportunity to study abroad and this scholarship really made it possible,” Quarles said. “During my first time out of the country, I will have some guidance and peers that I can relate to.”

Sarver currently serves on the executive board as an activities chair member for Black Student Union. She is also a peer educator for UK Catalyst Coalition and was previously a mentor for the College Mentor For Kids Volunteer Organization.

Sarver plans to use her scholarship to study communications in Dublin, Ireland, where she aspires to learn about other cultures and gain experiences that will set her resume apart from others. She also hopes to inspire others to reach for their goals.

“The ISA-UK Diversity Scholarship offers two award cycles a year and is not tied to a specific term. Students who contribute to the university’s growing interest in the educational benefits of a diverse student body will be considered for the award.

“What’s really beneficial about the scholarship is that students apply for it before they choose an education abroad program,” said Patrick Barker, ISA custom program and outreach coordinator. “This gives them time to consider their options personally, and academically to choose a program that best suits them and their own goals.”

ISA is a UK partner affiliate that offers education abroad opportunities to UK undergraduates in different countries across the globe.

Two UK International Students Received the Viji Jeganathan Award

By Abigail Shipp

Two University of Kentucky students, Shabika Arvijanti, a senior from Indonesia studying hospitality management and tourism, and Sun Lei, a junior from China studying biology, have been awarded the Fall 2015 Viji Jeganathan Scholarship. This scholarship recognizes students’ excellence in promoting cultural awareness and inclusion on campus and in the community.

Award recipients are chosen by a competitive selection process and must use the funds to cover tuition, books, room and board, course fees and other expenses at UK.

“I am proud to promote cultural awareness on campus with other fellow students, especially with other officers of International Student Council,” Arvijanti said.

Arvijanti is secretary for the International Student Council, where she implements methods to bridge the gap between international and domestic communities by holding discussion panels, planning events and hosting retreats. In March 2015, she represented the International Student Council at the third annual Association for International Student Organizations conference at Iowa State University.

She is passionate about breaking down cross-cultural barriers and learning about other cultures.

“After this, I will continue promoting cultural awareness everywhere I go,” Arvijanti said.

Throughout Lei’s years at UK, he has greatly overcome cultural barriers through campus involvement.

“I think UK is a great place for international students, because it has a lot of different activities for us to join,” Lei said. “It helps me to learn and meet new friends.”

Lei currently serves as secretary to the Chinese Student and Scholar Association. He exhibits his Chinese heritage by teaching elements of Chinese culture such as Kung Fu and singing.

“Because of us, other Chinese students can easily integrate into life at UK; the Chinese Student and Scholar Association is here to help students,” Lei said.
“One of the fastest growing offices in the U.S.,” EA Enrollment Up 184 Percent Since 2010

By Andrea Gils

The number of University of Kentucky students participating in Education Abroad programming increased to 1,098 in 2014-2015, accounting for a 184 percent total enrollment increase during the last five years.

“We are one of the fastest, if not the fastest, growing offices in the country,” said Anthony Ogden, executive director of education abroad and exchanges at UK. “Many international educators from around the country are watching UK closely. We have a lot to be proud of here and people are taking notice.”

To put this rate of growth into perspective, Ogden said UK sent the equivalent of Transylvania University abroad last year and if growth continues, he hopes that in 2015-2016, UK will send the equivalent of Centre College.

“While growth is important, it is also important that the growth represents the student profile,” Ogden said. “The profile of the contemporary education abroad participant is white, middle to upper-class, female, studying arts or social sciences, studying abroad in western Europe in short term programs (less than 3 weeks). She comes from a highly educated family and has little or no financial need. We are working hard to ensure that all UK students have the opportunity to study abroad.”

Education abroad enrollment continues to increase as a result of EA’s focused and strategic efforts in multiple areas:

- **Extensive promotions and outreach:** by targeting new, incoming UK students to ensure all students are reached and find education abroad more accessible;

- **Increased scholarship funding:** by working with program providers and colleges to create targeted scholarships and building new relationships with donors, businesses and other community members;

- **Website enhancement:** by providing search-engine-optimized content and simplifying the application process;

- **Strategic portfolio:** by constantly reviewing the portfolio of program offerings for improvement in cost, diversity of offerings, and experience types, such as internships and international service-learning;

- **Curriculum Integration:** by developing discipline-specific, Major Advising Pages (MAPs) and other advising tools for students and faculty members to more easily locate programs aligned to particular disciplines;

- **Information sessions:** by offering scholarship information and writing preparation workshops every semester;

- **Materials development:** by creating new print and digital promotional materials to reach the millennial student body.

The need for college graduates to become global citizens who demonstrate intercultural competency, cross-cultural communications skills and knowledge of a foreign language are vital to succeed in the interconnected world of today. With this pressing need in mind, EA has made it a priority to provide students with education abroad opportunities that are academically sound and enduring, accessible and affordable.

According to the UK Education Abroad Student Funding Report of 2014-2015, “increased scholarship funding is critical for meeting increasing demand for education abroad and to further enhance the ability to support students with rising educational costs, balancing the level of scholarship support with financial needs, and expanding the percentage of students who might otherwise not participate in this invaluable experience.”

**EA student funding has increased by some 12 percent since last year, representing more than $355,000 awarded in scholarships and grants to UK students.**

Additionally, EA created a new endowed scholarship in 2014-2015, “Meredith Leigh Buscher Memorial Scholarship,” and worked with several campus partners and external organizations to offer the ISA-UK Diversity Scholarship, Dr Pepper SEC Summer Awards and Woman’s Club Travel Abroad Scholarship. The results of these efforts generated $26,500 for additional funding awarded to UK students.

The UK Education Abroad scholarships are awarded twice a year (winter/spring and summer/fall), with individual award amounts ranging from $750 to $1,500.

In addition, EA has awarded more than $67,700 to 57 faculty recipients, to foster faculty guidance of and participation in EA’s growth. Some of these awards include:

- **Education Abroad Program Development Grant**
- **Outcomes Assessment Research Grant**
- **Education Abroad Site Visit Grant**

For more information on EA scholarships and grants, funding and available education abroad programs, please visit [http://www.uky.edu/international/educationabroad](http://www.uky.edu/international/educationabroad).
ACE Peer Review Team “Admires” UK’s Progress in Comprehensive Internationalization

By Andrea Gils

A team of American Council on Education (ACE) representatives visited the University of Kentucky to conduct a peer review in early September, as part of UK’s participation in the ACE Internationalization Lab 2.0.

“The internationalization division of ACE is known to represent national and global best practices,” said Susan Carvalho, interim associate provost and dean of Graduate School, and associate provost for Internationalization. “While we know that we have made great strides in all areas of internationalization, it is still very beneficial to bring in their objective peer-review process, to let us know what opportunities we might be missing, what vulnerabilities we should think about, and how best to partner with our colleges, our faculty and staff, and our students.”

After the analysis of several documents provided by UK International Center and face-to-face meetings with leaders on campus, the ACE team provided the UKIC a comprehensive report highlighting its strengths and recommendations.

The ACE team met with Provost Tim Tracy, Carvalho, each of the UKIC’s unit leaders, members of the International Advisory Council, as well as deans, professors and staff members from multiple colleges and departments.

Throughout the report and feedback gathered during interviews, the ACE team noted the concept of comprehensive internationalization to be “on everyone’s radar” and that students whom they met conveyed positive responses to UK’s academic community and leadership opportunities.

“UK has undergone a culture shift in the last five years, from a parochial institution to one that takes its engagement with global issues and problems seriously,” the report described.

**Strengths**

In the report, the ACE team noted that the UKIC staff is professional, and up-to-date on trends and best practices, which, according to the report, “is why the peer reviewers as individuals have long followed and admired UK’s continued progress in comprehensive internationalization.”

“Even though we invited ACE here to tell us how we can improve and accelerate internationalization at UK, we were thrilled to hear the reviewers say that they often look to and cite UK as a model in particular areas,” Carvalho said.

Additionally, the report identified UK Education Abroad as a “revamped and energized” office, praising the equitable pricing structure for programs and noting the creation of Major Advising Pages (MAPs), which places UK “ahead of most institutions.”

The report highlighted the UK Confucius Institute’s focus on the arts, which gives a public dimension to the institute and made it easily accessible for both UK and the surrounding community.

Another strength ACE identified was the Global Health Initiative, which showed strong opportunities for UK to integrate the unit into UK’s overall strategic plan, build partnerships with other institutions and tackle world-wide problems, given UK’s cutting-edge research capabilities and leadership in the healthcare field.

“We consider the university’s strengths in chronic health issues to be a major advantage in creating a niche that can address an emerging global health concern, the aging of the population, occurring in China, Japan, all of northern Europe, and of course, the United States,” the report said.

**Opportunities & Recommendations**

The ACE team identified areas of opportunities and improvement for both UKIC and UK as a whole.

“Perhaps internationalization and the land-grant mission could be further articulated as cross-cutting themes, which would make it easier to link internationalization to the directions that UK is taking,” the report said.

**White Paper on Internationalization**

The ACE team said the “White Paper on Internationalization,” which UK’s Internationalization Task Force published in 2010, “has been widely distributed by ACE because of the clarity and cogency of its message,” the report said.

ACE strongly urged UKIC to distribute the white paper internally and externally so that the benefits of internationalization become clear not only to the Commonwealth but also to the nation.

**Cross-university Strategic Partnerships**

The report noted UK’s advantageous location to build partnerships with international companies and corporations, as well as opportunities to build cross-university strategic partnerships.

The report recommends UK to “…invest resources in these strong partnerships, particularly those that engage an increasing number of schools and departments, and go beyond student exchange to include other opportunities for collaboration.”

The ACE team also recommended that UK encourages faculty to incorporate “global learning beyond education abroad and to infuse it into all programs.”

**Strategic Plan on Research & Community**

Additionally, the ACE team said there are research and community engagement sections in the current UK-wide strategic plan that could incorporate the global perspective even more.

“We see that there are areas for development and expansion here, and we find that some of the items in the strategic plan for the International Center have direct relevance and could be incorporated into those sections,” the report said.

**Additional Recommendations**

Other areas identified for improvement and expansion included the Center for the Study of English as a Second Language, risk management, and fundraising for faculty development, scholarships and grants for research.

“A world-class higher education institution must be globally engaged, which UK is,” the report concluded. “It also must prepare students to be citizens of a multicultural community both at home and in a globalized world, which UK is beginning to do. We encourage UK to continue to be a leader in the Commonwealth and the nation.”
Currently in its third year, the University of Kentucky Confucius Institute short-term teaching program in China has grown to include four universities. The program enables UK and Chinese faculty to explore collaborative teaching and research opportunities at Shanghai University, Jilin University, Tianjin Foreign Studies University and Qingdao Technical University.

Eighteen UK faculty participated in the program this year, representing a range of academic disciplines.

The UKCI hosted a reception October 9 to recognize faculty and staff who have participated in these programs, and to gather feedback about each individual’s overall experience. The reception included a photo presentation of the trip and the guest performances by two UK international students.

Adam Evans, who taught a managerial communications course for undergraduates and gave several lectures to graduate students at the Tianjin Foreign Studies University and Beijing University, said it was his first time teaching in China.

“I was very intimidated but excited to go,” Evans said. “I felt treated like royalty while I was there and had a fantastic once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

Evans said many of his students had not participated in a group project before his class.

“They loved it,” Evans said. “Although the traditional format has its value, it seems the younger generations like the freedoms to create on their own. They want to work in groups. Cell phones are normally banned from Chinese classrooms. I used them in class as translators and they loved it.”

Evans said his teaching experiences with students and staff in China has helped him to modify his educational practices in the United States.

“I realized from the language barrier that I would often explain things too quickly and I fear I do this in native classrooms as well,” Evans said.

He added that professors are given highest regard in China and this helps ease any homesick feeling as they practice what they love with an audience “enthralled with the accents and desire to teach that can only come from a foreign teacher whose excitement is renewed by being in a foreign land.”

“It is easy to forget that the world is bigger than the city we live in and living life often means a little bit of travel to find adventure,” Evans said. “I found it, and found new friends that I will most likely have for life.”

Six faculty taught at Shanghai University: Charles Pike (Computer Science), Irina Voro (Music), Paul Vincelli (Food and Environment), Stanley Brunn (Geography), Brent Seales (Computer Science) and Robert Grossman (Chemistry).

Three faculty taught at Tianjin Foreign Studies University: Adam Evans (Communication), Emina Herovic (Communication) and Derrick Jenniges (International Economics).

Seven faculty taught at Jilin University: Robert Grossman (Chemistry), Brian McNely (Technical Writing), Dan Stone (Business), Lynne Rieske-Kinney (Entomology), Buck Ryan (Communication), Rita Basuray (Food Science) and Scott Yost (Civil Engineering).

Lastly, two faculty taught at Qingdao Technical University: Carla Bevins (Communication) and Robert Bevins (Advanced English).
Representatives from 15 University of Kentucky colleges traveled to China during the summer to learn about Chinese higher education and expand education abroad opportunities in China for UK students.

The collaboration between UK Education Abroad and the UK Confucius Institute enabled participants to experience first-hand important educational and cultural sites.

Dr. Huajing Maske, director of the UKCI and executive director of the Office of China Initiatives, saw this trip as an innovative opportunity to join hands with EA to expand the horizon of educating UK students about China.

"Creating opportunities for UK students to become globally knowledgeable and competent has always been the mission of the Confucius Institute," Maske said. "We are very thrilled to see the synergy that was generated among the UK faculty and staff on this two-week long trip to China."

Dr. Anthony Ogden, executive director of Education Abroad and Exchanges, saw this site visit as an opportunity to support UK’s vision to develop international education and global collaboration.

"China is now among the top five most popular countries for U.S. universities and college students studying abroad;" Ogden said. "Only 51 students, or 3.7 percent of the UK students who studied abroad in 2014-15 chose to study in China. We would like to see these numbers grow to match national trends."

Increasing student participation in study abroad begins with faculty engagement, Ogden explained.

"To advance campus internationalization at UK requires that we engage our faculty in opportunities to internationalize their curriculum and support their research and scholarship at an international level," Ogden said. "With this goal in mind, we invited representatives of each college on this site visit to become more familiar with Chinese higher education and society and understand the broad range of education abroad potential there."

Outcomes for the programming will vary for each college, with exciting opportunities for students already underway. Dr. Samuel C. Matheny, assistant provost for Global Health Initiatives, participated in the site visit to develop international medical education at UK. While in China, Matheny forged a relationship with Fudan University, where fourth-year medical students will spend one of their monthly rotations developing intercultural competencies and a broader knowledge of global healthcare.

The College of Education is also actively expanding international education opportunities for its students. Dr. Katherine McCormick took part in the site visit to develop an interdisciplinary, service-learning program in China.

Faculty and staff traveled to Shanghai, Tianjin, and Beijing to meet with university faculty, education abroad professionals, and government officials to discuss the factors that shape the student experience in China.

A particular emphasis was placed in understanding the many challenges and opportunities involved in sending U.S. students to study in China. Cultural destinations included visits to the Shanghai Museum, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven and the Great Wall.

These faculty delegates have already met on campus this fall to discuss findings and develop college-specific action plans to enhance education abroad programming in China.
Chinese Universities Partner with UKCI, UK Library and University Press of Kentucky
By Andrea Gils

The University of Kentucky Confucius Institute led a two-week trip to China for the UK Libraries and University Press of Kentucky, where each office’s representatives visited several state libraries, as well as various university libraries and presses:
- Beijing Language and Culture University Press & Library
- China Social Sciences Press
- Chinese University of Political Science and Law Press
- Jiaotong University Press
- Nishan Press
- Qilu Press
- Science China Press
- Shanxi Normal University Press & Library
- Shandong Friendship Publishing House
- Shanghai University Press & Library
- Shanghai Normal University Press & Library

Dr. Huajing Maske, director of the UK Confucius Institute and executive director of the Office of China Initiatives; Mary Beth Thomson, senior associate dean of Collections, Digital Scholarship and Technical Services at William T. Young Library; and Stephen Wrinn, former director of the University Press of Kentucky, met with representatives of each press and library to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

"The CI has been the leader on campus in establishing the partnerships with China, and the connections of the CI facilitate forging new relationships or expanding current ones," Maske said. "We've worked with 13 colleges out of 16 in the past five years. Working with the Library and the University Press is our latest attempt to try to find ways to work with the Chinese libraries and increase availability of research resources to our students, faculty and partners."

Maske said many Chinese scholars are able to read English-language publications. However, not all Western scholars can read Chinese-language publications. Therefore, Maske said she wanted University Press of Kentucky to be involved and facilitate the work in both languages.

Maske explained that after visiting different libraries, the team found that what is most beneficial to UK are books about Chinese tradition, art, indigenous art and folk culture. "We have not touched upon scientific areas yet but I'm hoping our Library will continue their communications with Chinese libraries," Maske said.

Maske said that because UK has many college-specific libraries besides the William T. Young Library, every college could benefit from these partnerships.

“So many connections and contacts were made and so many ideas surfaced in different meetings," Maske said. “Things we all took back to discuss with our teams. If they continue their connections with these new partners, we can achieve a campus-wide collaboration with China."
Three UK representatives appointed to Mayor’s Commission

By Andrea Gils

Three University of Kentucky representatives have been appointed to a two-year and four-year term on the Mayor’s International Affairs Advisory Commission.

These include Dr. Huajing Maske, UK’s director of the Confucius Institute, executive director of the Office of China Initiatives and faculty member of the College of Education; Dr. Francis Musoni, assistant professor of African History; and Elizabeth Leibach, director of International Student and Scholar Services at UK’s International Center.

The Commission will provide information and counsel on issues related to Lexington’s international residents, who represent close to 20 percent of the city’s total population, and the surrounding communities.

“Lexington’s vibrancy depends in large part upon its growing international community,” Leibach said. “As a member of the Mayor’s International Commission, I’ll be proud to help represent UK’s collective international voice.”

The Commission, consisting of 23 members, will support GLOBAL LEX, the City’s new Global Engagement Center. GLOBAL LEX will collaborate with the Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, local businesses, universities and cultural organizations to “support and encourage civic engagement, mutual understanding, economic development and artistic diversity,” according to an LFUCG press release.

“One in every six people you come across in the Bluegrass area immigrated from somewhere outside the United States. From a service-delivery perspective, that is a big deal for the leadership of the Lexington-Fayette Urban Government. But this is also a big deal for local businesses and the community at large, who cannot afford to ignore that demographic reality.”

- Dr. Francis Musoni, assistant professor of African History at UK

Maske, representing Asia, Musoni, representing Africa, and Leibach, representing the community-at-large, will look for ways to help UK’s domestic and international students connect with the global community, as well as ways in which the community can help support UK’s own global projects and ambitions.

“We are proud to have Huajing, Francis and Elizabeth represent UK on this board, and I look forward to periodic updates to the leadership team about the goals and work of the Commission, as well as being confident that they will also hear about our good work,” said Susan Carvalho, associate provost for internationalization and interim dean of The Graduate School at UK.

GLOBAL LEX will also serve as a useful professional resource and network hub for international students, faculty and staff at UK. Some of GLOBAL LEX’s goals include providing internships and training for students and staff, outreach to local and international communities, and educational programs and workshops.

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For more information about GLOBAL LEX and the resources the center will provide, please visit www.lexingtonky.gov.
+ New Travel Medical Insurance (continued from page 1)

Registering will be of utmost importance since it will provide UK with the information on travelers that is needed to provide the best possible service and protections while abroad. This information will be used to connect with the health insurance company in case medical services are needed overseas, and will allow the International Center to quickly liaise with faculty or staff members if there is a major incident or emergency in the region in which they are traveling.

The IHSS website also includes information for individual students traveling under UK auspices and not earning academic credit, and for faculty or staff members who may be leading non-credit groups of students overseas.

These students and groups must register with the International Center in order to be in compliance with UK Administrative Regulation 4.9. By registering, non-credit students are covered under the same protections and insurance as faculty and staff.

In addition to the faculty and staff registry, the newly created IHSS website includes information technology security tips as well as other resources useful to international travelers.

More information on the international travel medical insurance and evacuation coverage can be found below.

Where do I register?
The registry can be found at https://ihss.uky.edu. Please note that a faculty or staff traveler can register him or herself, or that a proxy (e.g. department staff assistant) can do it on his or her behalf. Student travelers must register themselves. It is recommended this process to be integrated into the travel approval process for each college and unit.

When should I register?
• Any non-credit students, faculty or staff traveling internationally should attempt to register their travel at least two weeks prior to departure.
• Individuals traveling internationally for purely personal reasons should not register, as these trips are not included in the insurance coverage.

How much will it cost?
• UK faculty and staff will not be charged for this coverage.
• All students covered by this required insurance will be charged $10.50 per week for this coverage. Graduate students working as graduate assistants, teaching assistants, etc., are considered students. This charge will be reflected on each student’s account statement, but departments may reimburse students traveling on their behalf if so desired.

For questions about the protections or how the insurance and evacuation coverage works, please visit https://ihss.uky.edu/or contact Jason Hope, manager of IHSS at jasonhope@uky.edu.

+ Free Passports to UK Students (continued from page 1)

CIEE will sponsor up to 150 passports. UK’s Education Abroad office will launch a fundraising campaign to match CIEE’s donation with 150 additional passports, to offer a total of 300 free passports to UK students.

“This is a really great opportunity for us to, in a very fun way, remind students of their place in the world,” Ogden said. “A passport is a symbol of one’s intended plans to engage in the world and I think it’s very important for us to remind our students of that.”

Ogden said he hopes the UK campus and local community can help Education Abroad reach its goal of 300 passports. With processing fees, each passport costs $135.

“As educators, our job is to enable students to engage in their disciplines in the world and to understand that their local decisions have global consequences,” Ogden said. “A passport is a symbol of that.”

Ogden added that a donation of $135 can really change a student’s life forever. “I hope others will join me in sponsoring a passport for a UK student,” he said.

According to the Institute of International Education (IIE), only about 300,000 U.S. students study abroad each year.

“With 2.6 million students earning undergraduate degrees each year, that means less than 10 percent of U.S. students graduating with associates or baccalaureate degrees will have studied abroad,” according to the IIE.

The number of UK students who studied abroad for credit during academic year 2014-15 increased by 1.6 percent, to 1,098 enrollments. Approximately 15 percent of the 2015 graduating class earned credit abroad at some point during their education at UK.

“UK’s good students study abroad,” Ogden said. “Good students do well and when good students do well, it’s good for Kentucky.”

Donations can be made by check or online. To learn more about UK’s Passport Caravan initiative, UK student eligibility requirements and how to donate, please visit www.uky.edu/international/Donate.