



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

Global Engagement Program

Improving veterinary and cultural skills through individual immersive experiences.



Global Engagement Program

Administrative Details

The Global Engagement Program **organizes, enhances** and **promotes** global engagement within the College of Veterinary Medicine by providing immersive experiences for students that take place anywhere from internationally to in the local community.

ESTABLISHED: November 2018

BUDGET: \$20,000 (for travel scholarships)
\$ 6,000 (for leader)

WEBSITE: <https://vet.osu.edu/departments-offices/global-engagement-program>



PROGRAM LEADER:



Rebecca Garabed, VMD, MPVM, PhD
Associate Professor
Department of Veterinary Preventive Medicine

FACULTY STEERING COMMITTEE:



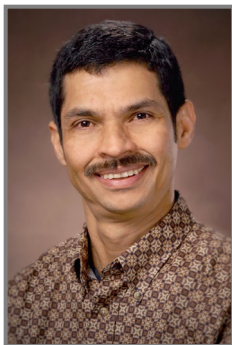
Amanda
Berrian, DVM, MPH, PhD



Armando
Hoet, DVM, PhD



Nongnuch
Inpanbutr, DVM, MS, PhD



Ramiro
Toribio, DVM, MS, PhD



Jeanette
O'Quin, DVM, MPH



Wondwossen
Gebreyes, DVM, PhD

Global Engagement Program

Summary of Progress

In our first year, we created the organizational framework to support student and faculty-initiated engagement programs. In April 2019, we awarded our first travel scholarship for globally engaged summer research in South Africa. In October 2019, the travel scholarship program gained momentum and awarded 13 scholarships to support travel between December 2019 and July 2020 to three different continents. We are also in the final stages of formally recognizing a new international partnership with University of Pretoria and bringing existing study abroad and exchange programs into compliance with university policies. There are several additional partnerships, trips and exchanges in the pipeline for 2020-2021. The largest barrier for new study abroad and exchange programs remains the high cost of tuition for summer courses. The travel scholarship program is an important first step in defraying costs associated with engaged experiences that should be continued and expanded.

ORGANIZE COLLEGE RESOURCES

The steering committee met several times in 2018 and developed a document outlining types of student opportunities and pathways for faculty to create programs that are aligned with university policies. Through this process we arrived at the categories: individual research, course work, and service learning. In 2019, the program coordinator assembled a list of existing opportunities in the College of Veterinary Medicine. She also began contacting students and faculty who organized these activities to collect details into a searchable online resource for interested students and to bring these programs into compliance with university policies. The database is being assembled and will be put online as part of the overall update of the College of Veterinary Medicine website. Currently, our most-used opportunities include:

Courses – All students (160+ per year) participate in the Shelter Medicine & Surgery (VMCOLL 7700.02) and Community Practice (VMCOLL 7700.01) rotations in their fourth year of the DVM program. Both rotations include service learning components that put students in real-world settings providing service for underserved populations of animals and people. Dr. Inpanbutr has taken one or two study abroad trips (VETBIOS 7802) to Thailand each year since 2004. During the trips, students practice hands-on techniques with exotic species in production, zoo, and sanctuary settings and learn about the practice of veterinary medicine in a Buddhist culture. Dr. Garabed's study abroad course (VETPREV 7761 – Tropical Animal Health and Husbandry) has been offered twice (Cameroon Summer 2017 and Nicaragua and

Cameroon 2018). Only one student completed a trip due to concerns about insecurity and expense. This course is being revised to address concerns.

Service learning – The Veterinary Outreach Medicine Program organizes vaccine clinics with Central Community House and Faithful Forgotten Best Friends to give students experience working with underserved populations of humans and animals. Since June 2019, 61 students have participated. Vida, a private not-for-profit company, has been doing veterinary outreach trips to Central America and has student representatives on campus to coordinate trips. Based on their data, 175 Ohio State veterinary students have participated in trips since 2013 (~ 10% of our DVM student population during that time). MPH-VPH students are required to complete 120 hours of a practicum imbedded in a public health organization. This puts approximately 9-14 of our students in engaged experiences every year.

Individual research – We have been unable track this category as of yet, but are aware of many instances in recent years of DVM, MPH-VPH and PhD students traveling and working in communities as a part of their dissertation research, thesis research, summer research, or culminating project. This is perhaps our most well-developed and best academic offering in global engagement as students tend to spend long periods doing very engaged work.

ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

As part of the effort to collect and organize opportunities for students, a new “global engagement” designation was added to the database of external externships that is available to fourth-year veterinary students and managed by the Office of Professional Program Support. This allows students planning their fourth-year rotations to search for globally engaged opportunities that other students have developed and reviewed. As site mentors have updated their information in the database, this designation has sparked conversations on how opportunities in locations like Australia and Japan could be adjusted to enhance the cultural aspect of the experience on top of existing excellent veterinary technical training. We are also working to add the “S” (service learning) designation to our existing courses that provide service learning to track activities and credit given to our students on their transcripts.

With the initiation of a travel scholarship opportunity in 2019, funded as a one-year pilot by Dr. Thomas Mack, we are able to make globally engaged travel more accessible to students. In April 2019, we received two applications and awarded one scholarship (see profile). In September 2019, we received 20 applications and were able to award 13 (see profiles). These travel scholarships allowed students to spend more time in their engaged experiences. For example, two students funded in Autumn 2019 were able to extend their travel with Dr.

Inpanbutr's Thailand course to explore independent interests in biomedical research and wildlife conservation.

Having a website and a designated contact for global engagement has helped students who are looking for global engagement opportunities. The program director has also taken on the role of advising the International Veterinary Student Association chapter at Ohio State to help insure that student-driven activities are shared and are compliant with University policies. The program director is also adapting the curriculum of the VETPREV 7760 (Global Opportunities in Veterinary Medicine) course to adapt the curriculum and make it a better wrap-around course to help students prepare for the learning they do during engaged experiences.

In the process of enhancing compliance, we are working on harmonizing the College's travel policy to comply with zoosanitary recommendations of USDA and other international animal health organizations. We are also re-writing the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee's guidance document on external collaborators to cover the ethics of use of animals in teaching and service learning activities conducted by our students. This will aid in vetting of courses and service learning activities offered by third-party providers, so that we can be sure to promote only those programs with high standards to our students.

PROMOTE CVM GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

We have begun the process of promoting CVM Global Engagement both internally and externally through social media and press releases about our opportunities and the experiences of our students. This year we created the program website and hashtag and produced ten internal and three external press-releases. We also offered a fireside chat and international beverage sampling event in conjunction with IVSA to talk about the scholarship program and what opportunities students want to pursue during their time at the College of Veterinary Medicine. The program director also actively participates in campus-wide programs with the Office of Service-Learning, Office of International Affairs, Global One Health initiative, and Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Global Health to keep abreast of new opportunities and participate in creating new opportunities for our students.

Global Engagement Program

Travel Scholarships



PALLAVI ORUGANTI

DVM, Class of 2022

Spring 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient

Pallavi Oruganti was the first Travel Scholarship Recipient, her award supported part of her travel to Mpumalanga, South Africa, for one month to study daily life and zoonotic disease risk of families. With interdisciplinary mentors from South Africa (Dr. Ilana van Wyk - Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station, University of Pretoria) and The Ohio State University (Drs. Amanda Berrian - Veterinary Preventive

Medicine and Elisabeth Root - Geography) she studied how sociodemographic factors relate to people's zoonotic disease risk and how people mitigate household zoonotic disease risk. She will be presenting her research findings at the Consortium of Universities for Global Health annual conference in Washington, DC, in April 2020.

“The villages in the study area are unique in that they stand at a critical human-livestock-wildlife interface, with many villages and cattle grazing areas bordering wildlife game reserves. I was humbled by how welcoming people were to allow me to visit them in their homes and share their culture with me. This experience reaffirmed my career goals in global One Health and public health and was an opportunity to demonstrate the relevance of applying social science methods to issues of veterinary medicine and public health.”



CHRISTIE HAMMONS

DVM '18

MPH/VPH Resident

Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient

Christie Hammons, an Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient, has been working in her public health residency with Dr. Hoet and government agencies in Belize to develop their national surveillance program for antimicrobial resistance. This scholarship will support her travel to Belize for in-person finalization and implementation of their National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System. This in-person experience working with different agencies in another country will be useful in her future career as a public health veterinarian.

“Not only are there the cultural aspects that I will encounter collaborating with individuals in a country in Central America, but there is also the culture of collaborating between government agencies that might not necessarily have a strong history of positive collaboration. So far, for development of the surveillance program, I have been working with Belize colleagues at a distance through telecommunication. The interpersonal skills and cultural competencies gained through working in-person with my colleagues in Belize will help me for my future career goals of working with a variety of communities and cultures locally and abroad.”



ANDREA BESSLER

DVM, Class of 2021

Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient

Andrea Bessler, an Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient, has been working for a long time towards a career in global health including getting a bachelor's degree in international politics and working with the Ohio State-Eastern Africa Global One Health Security project. Andrea will use her scholarship for a month-long, fourth-year externship at the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome to learn about international global health policy and programs.

“The FAO, to me, is one of the pinnacle institutions representing Global One Health and the trajectory of my career. While at OSU, we obtain some knowledge through our coursework that covers infectious zoonotic diseases and public health concepts. However, we don’t have the opportunity to delve deeper into how infectious zoonotic diseases, climate change, political/economic instabilities, antimicrobial resistance, and food insecurity all interplay with each other in an all encompassing global health framework, like the FAO fulfills.”

“This experience will improve my veterinary skills in that I will be able to learn more about improving agricultural food systems, fishery practices and ensuring good nutrition and food security for all nations. I will also have access to more knowledge on strategies for reducing rural poverty and increasing preparedness and response efforts in times of conflict, natural disasters and economic crises. ... Working daily at the FAO is a cultural immersion experience all by itself, with representatives working for the FAO from across the globe. Every day my cultural competency will improve through my interactions with native Italians and other representatives of the FAO from other countries around the world.”



ADAM ANDREW MORENO

DVM, Class of 2022

Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient

Adam Andrew Moreno, an Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient, reached out to Save Vietnam's Wildlife veterinary hospital, who specialize in pangolin medicine, and they granted him the opportunity to work at the hospital for the week following Dr. Inpanbutr's course (Elephants, Zoo and Aquatic Medicine) in Thailand this December. This hands-on experience will help him in his goal of becoming a conservation medicine veterinarian who can work across species and cultures.

“This trip will expand my understanding of how hospitals can safely and effectively treat patients that vary in size from mouse to elephant while relying on limited funds and equipment. This multi-approach problem solving will serve me greatly as a conservation veterinarian. I look forward to working with species like pangolins, elephants, and cobras again while simultaneously gaining knowledge on animals less familiar to me. These experiences will add to my versatility as a conservation veterinarian in ways that no class at the college currently allows. On this trip I will learn approaches to medicine with unique cultural influences not commonplace in Ohio which will serve me greatly as an advocate for animal and ecosystem health.”



REBECCA MAKII

DVM, Class of 2021

Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient

Rebecca Makii, an Autumn 2019 Travel Scholarship Recipient, is working with faculty at Kasetsart University in Thailand to learn about international perspectives in biomedical research in conjunction with Dr. Inpanbutr's course (Elephants, Zoo and Aquatic Medicine) in Thailand this December. This experience will provide her with additional first-hand knowledge of international scientific collaboration that will help her prepare for a career in academic veterinary medicine and biomedical research. In her words:

“Thinking comparatively, it is important to remember that our location and local culture tends to influence what we are taught and how we focus our studies—both of which can limit or expand the scope of our medical research. Ultimately with comparative medicine, you are helping and serving the public and their animals, so an opportunity for me to broaden what comparative medicine means to me through international travel and exposure to differing cultures with the goal of improving health for all is priceless.”

Plans for 2019-2020

To provide additional curated student professional development opportunities as well as move the CVM Global Engagement Program forward in its mission to organize, enhance, and promote global engagement within the College, the Program is seeking to **continue the successful travel scholarship program** as well as to **create a new Global Engagement Fellowship**. The Global Engagement Fellow will work with the Program Leader and Faculty Steering Committee to:

- Develop communications and strategic marketing materials
- Assist with global health and education research and grant writing
- Develop student support materials and resources for CVM-supported travel
- Develop and curate global health educational resources and content
- Coordinate internal informational sessions and events
- Maintain and update the Program website

We will work with students, third-party providers, and the global engagement community to create rubrics to evaluate different opportunities for students and recommend only those that meet the highest educational, engagement, and animal welfare standards. We will also complete efforts to have at least one course listed with Office of International Affairs and Office of Service Learning, and improve the Global Opportunities in Veterinary Medicine course to align it better with current best practices in supporting immersive academic experiences.

Recommended Annual Budget

Item	Cost
Travel Scholarships	\$20,000
Leader	\$6,000
Global Engagement Fellow	\$10,000