

Summer and Winter Academy 2019-2020

Hong Kong: The facilitators were from Lingnan University, Rutgers University (USA) and Oberlin College (USA). The sessions were focused on Humanitarian Challenges, Design Thinking, Research Methodology, storytelling, entrepreneurship, social innovation and challenges and unconscious bias. They had hands-on training in Arduino, underwater robotics, solar energy and 3 design challenges (mosquitos on campus, waste management around markets and sub divided flats) to engage with community challenges in Hong Kong.

Kazakhstan (27 students; Partners: Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Lehigh University (USA) and Almaty Management University): 10 LU, 6 KazNU, 5 Rutgers, 3 AlmaU, 2 Montpellier and 1 Symbiosis. The students had classes on sustainable innovation and divided into 5 teams and worked on projects renewable energy, biogas, eco-tourism, waste management and urban planning.

Cambodia (5 students; Partners: Santa Clara University (USA) and InSTEDD | Innovative Support To Emergencies Diseases and Disasters): The students worked on understanding and developing sustainable models to improve income and empower social-economic upliftment of small scale farmers in Kampong Cham province, Cambodia working with InSTEDD.

Uganda (9 LU students Partners: Carnegie Mellon University (USA), Kyempapu (Uganda)): Students focused on understanding community needs working with school students to conduct paper circuitry workshop in a buddy system. The students worked on projects around water, renewable energy (wind), mobile library and waste management.

Nepal (8 students; Partner: ISAP - Institution for Suitable Actions for Prosperity, Nepal): Students focused on working with middle school students to engage them in entrepreneurship activities by organizing a Schoolpreneur program, they organized paper circuitry workshop and mentored the students with the mini-entrepreneurship challenge. The students worked with farmers to understand their socio-economic challenges and came up with solutions for creating additional income during dry seasons with mushroom cultivation and low-tech hydroponic systems.

Takeaways from 2019 summer trips:

1. Partners are as important as finding good students!
2. Students are willing to pay for some part of the expenses: so, flight tickets, visa and vaccinations by students.
3. They want to know the grading rubrics in advance; this time it was impossible as students were going to different places and I was unwilling to share because of the lack of knowledge of how the locations would play out.
4. If I were to rank partners; Uganda, Nepal and Kazakhstan to continue and Cambodia will be discontinued.
5. Lingnan has really good students. Most students after they were convinced, they are doing something useful and worthwhile they were completely different individuals; be it with projects or how they interacted with the local students, community members and partners.
6. No Arduino (Monica) for next summer academy.

Winter academy 2020 (Jan 2/3 to 15/16)

Announcements to be done in 2nd week of September; recruitment by 2nd week of October

Locations: *Drumroll please*.....

Uganda and Nepal confirmed! Still liaising with potential partners from India. Preferably 12-15 students from Lingnan for Uganda and 10-15 for Nepal.

Drumroll again.....

Rutgers University was very impressed with our program and they are very very interested in sending students to our project sites in Uganda and Nepal along with our students. So, we are looking at a 23 people group to Uganda and around 20 to Nepal.

Training workshops and team building activities being planned both physical and virtual to accommodate students from Rutgers.

Activities to engage Summer academy students and attract new students

- Karaoke on 8th September for summer academy veterans.
- Students to share their experience and projects to the CLA9021.
- Making our own Lingnan's **Ironman** 6-class course from mid-September to late November.
- Engage them in writing papers
- Conduct paper circuitry workshop for fellow Lingnan students (TBD).

Service-Learning Project in China (Partners: Wu Zhi Qiao (Bridge to China) Charitable Organization and South China University of Technology, Guangzhou): A group of 20 students from Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Xi'an visited Macha Village, Lanzhou to conduct a survey about waste management and sanitation facilities on 5 – 10 August 2019. The survey included 1 session of latrine mapping and 3 sessions of village household interview. Approximately 20 villagers have been interviewed to collect the first-hand data on the current situation of the above-concerned areas.