

# Final Report

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Yexia Zhang

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

First, I would like to thank H.J Heinz Company Foundation for giving me such a wonderful opportunity to extend my knowledge in public health, public and international affairs, as well as to get know better about the life of USA. In the meantime, I would like to take this chance to thank all staff of UCIS (University Center for International Studies), in particular to Ms. Veronica Dristas, Ms. Melissa Reed, Ms. Elaine Linn, and Mr. Mark Weixel for providing me all help and guidance I needed in terms of both academic issue and my personal life. Also, I would like to take this chance to express my gratitude to my mentor, Dr. Christine Ley. She not only made a very wonderful plan for me according to my background and my goal, but also she gave me lots of help in my personal life, which made me find family feeling in Pittsburgh.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To extend my knowledge in Public Health, and in Public & International Affairs;
2. To understand how local and international NGOs located in USA run their organizations;
3. To get practical experience with multi-national and local NGOs located in USA;
4. To build up net works in USA;
5. To exchange program experience with American professors;
6. To learn culture of USA and let Chinese culture more understood in USA.

## **FACULTY MENTOR, CLASSES AND LECTURES ATTENDING**

It is a great honor to have Dr. Christine Ley as my mentor in Pittsburgh University. Before I came to USA, she has made a detailed and wonderful fellowship plan for me according to her experience and my resume. But after she met and talked with me about my background and my desired goal in USA, she made another plan which matched me so well and was a best way to fulfill my goal. This plan included

attending lectures and meetings in Public Health, taking classes in Public and International Affairs, visiting different local NGOs and their activities, experiencing different events that represent local culture and meeting specialists. Dr. Christine Ley made me fulfill my goal very well in terms of both academic and personal life.

## **COURSES ATTENDED AND LECTURES ATTENDING**

### **1. Classes:**

- Managing International Organizations (PIA-2011);
- Strategic Management for Public and Nonprofit Organizations (PIA-2185);
- Personnel Management in Public and Nonprofit organizations (PIA) ;

### **2. Lectures:**

- Systemic lectures “Current Topics in Health Economic and Policy”;
- About 20 lectures on Public Health, Education, Economic, Culture, Management of various countries specifically;

## **INTERNSHIP**

From April to July in 2010, I did my 4 months internship with Plan International (USA) in Washington DC.. Plan International is one of the oldest and largest children's development organizations in the world. It works in 48 developing countries across Africa, Asia and the Americas to promote child rights and lift millions of children out of poverty. Plan works with more than 3,500,000 families and their communities each year. Plan is independent, with no religious, political or governmental affiliations. Plan international is a child centered, community based international. Plan has 16 National offices to do fund-raising to support the program in 48 countries. Plan USA is one these National offices. I supervised by the Director of Technical Support Unit of Plan USA. My responsibility was to provide technical support to various country offices of Plan to apply for Round 10 of Global Fund and World Bank. Before I finished my internship, one country office succeeded in

applying for PR (principle recipient) of their county R10 Global Fund. Two country offices were successful to be nominated as SPR (sub- principle recipient) of their county for R10 Global Fund.

Also, as a multi-national organization and has staff from different countries, working with Plan USA made me learn a lot how to work in a multi-cultural environment.

## **CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Conferences I attended:**

I attended quite a few wonderful conferences which broad my experience so much and helped me to build up a very useful network in USA. The conferences I attended were as follows.

- **Core Group Meeting:** this meeting was held at the end of April, 2010 in Baltimore, MA. Almost all of local NGOs, USAID and other international organizations participated in this meeting. In this conference, programs were being done around the world and what experience and lessons were presented. It was a very good opportunity for me to know the programs related with public health on going around the world, as well as how to improve our programs in China. Also, I built a broad net work in this meeting which would be so helpful to my career and the programs I will do in China.
- **Women Deliver 2010:** this meeting was held on 7-9 June in Washington DC. The meeting put world leaders on notice that the time for action on maternal health is now, **3,400** advocates, policymakers, development leaders, health care professionals, youth, advocates, and media from **146** countries converged on Washington DC at Women Deliver 2010. More than **800** speeches and presentations were given at the **six** plenary and **120** breakout sessions, and the heads of **five** UN agencies, plus the Secretary-General, were represented. **Thirty** countries, UN agencies, the World Bank, corporations, and foundations helped support Women Deliver. Through this meeting I got to know what is going on

around the world about women deliver and I really broad my perspective.

- Global Health council 2010 Conference: This conference was held for 5 days in Washington DC. More than 2,000 attendees represented the diverse array of global health professionals, which presented not only practical experience, but also research tracks around the world. Through this conference, I got to know the most impressing problems in terms of global health and what programs and efforts various countries and organizations were putting on global health.
- Zambia conference: This conference was held in September 2009 at Pittsburgh University. Professionals from Zambia introduced some health programs in their country. I built up a very good relationship with the experts from Zambia.

## **2. Presentations:**

- The 8-Years Experience of the Hope for African Children Initiative. I gave this presentation on the Global Health Council's 37th Annual International Conference, June, 2010. Washington, D.C., USA.
- Birth Registration in China: Practices, Problems and Policies. I gave this presentation for two times at University of Pittsburgh. The one was in Posvar Hall, Room 4130, Feb. 25th, 2010; the other one was for Ying and Yang class, March 25th, 2010.
- Children's safety program in rural China. International Student Leaving and Learning Community, University of Pittsburgh, Jan. 26th, 2010.

## **ORGANIZATIONS VISITING**

- World Bank and USAID: I participated in activities of visiting different organizations in Washington DC held by Duke University, which aimed to find internship opportunity for the students of Duke University.
- Local NGOs in Pittsburg: I visited various local NGOs in Pittsburgh and their activities. For example, I visited community event at local organization that supports after-school programs; community events for Promoting Responsible Fatherhood, Health Start, Racial issue; fundraising even for Chile earthquake

supported by Latin American Studies; and AHEC programs..... Through these visiting activities, I got to understand the management of NGOs of USA and the difference of the management and covering fields of NGOs located in USA from those of NGOs located in China.

- Local health centers: I visited two hospitals of UPMC and four health centers in Pittsburgh to learn about their management and operation. The management and operation of the hospital and health center in USA are so different from those in China.

## **NETWORKS**

- I was so lucky to get to know and talk to Mr. Kunio who was high lever manager of UNFPA. He introduced me a general picture about the management culture and history of UNFPA as well as the challenges that UNFPA was facing.
- I got to know DR. Michael Ken-Kou Lin, the director of Health Economics Department of Family Medicine, School of Medicine University of Pittsburgh. Meanwhile, I got to know three more staff of this department. They are, Dr. Chyongchiou Jeng Lin, and Dr. Howard B Degenholtz, and Dr. Zhang. Getting to know them made it possible for me to attend lectures they held periodically which was very meaningful to my work.
- I got to know Dr. Carolyn Ban and Dr. Kevin P Kearns at GSPIA. Both of them were with high reputation about classes they giving and their practical experience in the field of the management of Public and Non-profit organizations. Thanks for them letting me take their class for free. I really learned a lot from their class, which would help me a lot about how to deal with management issues in NGOs and public sectors.
- I built up a very good relationship with all staff at Plan USA including CEO. This relationship will be much useful for me to cooperate with them in the future to do programs in China.

- I got to know quite a few leaders and staff from various organizations, like USAID, AED, JSI and some other multi-national and local organizations. Such a broad network would be much useful for me to develop my career and programs in China after I got back.

## **CULTURE EXPERIENCE**

- With the guidance of Global Pittsburgh, Mr. Christine Ley and some of my friends in Pittsburgh, I had chances to visit many wonderful spots and experience many wonderful cultural events in such a wonderful city, Pittsburgh. I visited quite a few museums, Pumpkin Garden, Cemetery, some churches and parks. Also, I attended some very interesting cultural events, like Western concert and drama, Indian celebration events, African-American events, etc. I was my great pleasure to do my fellowship in Pittsburgh.
- I also visited Washington DC, New York, Miami, Disney Land at Orlando, Philadelphia, Niagara Falls, Rhode Island. So many wonderful spots and events of these places gave me a general picture about USA.
- I visited quite a few local families and spent Christmas day at my American's friend home. Also, I attended birthday party of my American's friends. Local family visiting and good relationship with my American friends made me understand more about the life of USA. I love my American friends and American culture.

## **FUTURE PLAN**

After I get back to China, I will continue my work on Population and Development. I hope I can use well the knowledge and resources I got in USA to make more contribution to China's harmonious development.



## **CONCLUSION**

At the end of this program, I would like to say, with the help of Staff of UCIS, my mentor and friends in USA, I got considerable achievements and fulfilled almost all of my objectives. What I learned in USA will be great helpful for me to continue my career in China and for me to contribute more to Population and Development Issue of China. Here, I would like to express my gratitude again to J.I Heinz Company Foundation, all staff of UCIS of University of Pittsburgh, My mentor and all of my friends in USA. Only with your support, I could make a great step forward to my life goal. Also, your help and kindness made me have a wonderful life experience in USA. Thank you all for being so supported and kind.

Best Regards

Yexia Zhang