

Communication Studies Training Seminar in New Delhi, India

Training Dates: Oct. 15-Oct. 21, 2017

Location: New Delhi, India

Partnership Objective:

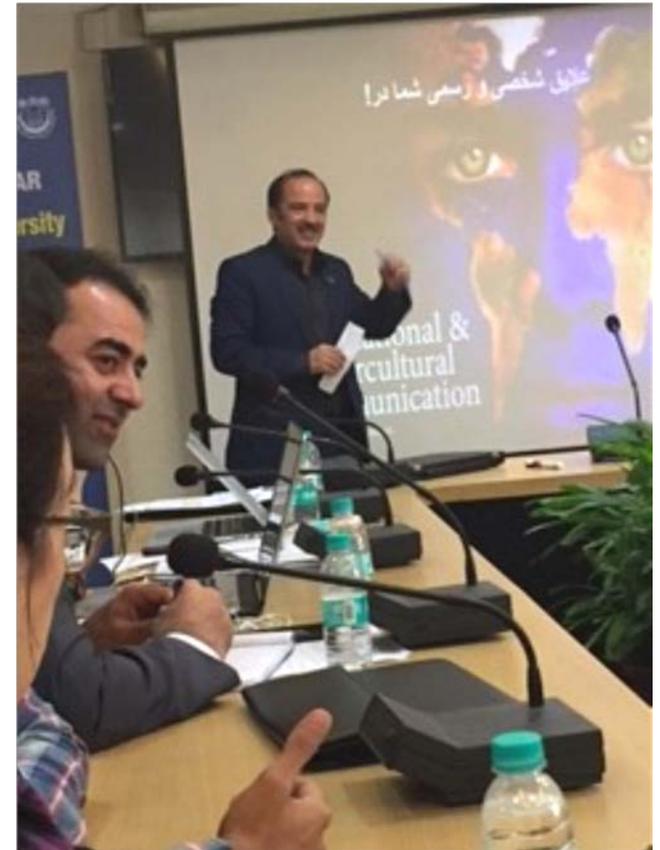
This academic capacity building programs/visit is part of the partnership between Kabul and Balkh Universities and the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO). Through this partnership, the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), as U.S. partner institution, will assist both Kabul and Balkh University in establishing a new Departments of Communication Studies.

Communication Studies degree is not only a unique full degree program in Afghanistan abut also in the region since no other higher education institution offers a full undergraduate degree program in Communication Studies that focuses on relationship between human beings, be they professional, cultural or interpersonal. This department will be housed in Kabul University's College (faculty) of Languages and Literature and Balkh University's College (faculty) of Journalism and Mass Communication.

New Delhi training program was part of our third country training initiatives that are planned in lieu of the Afghan faculty's visit to the United States. Both Afghan and American faculty meet at a third country location such as Delhi for trainings and meetings.

New Delhi Intervention Purpose:

The purpose of this academic training in New Delhi was to assist Kabul and Balkh University faculty start the initial academic and administrative programs and activities required to establish the department of Communication Studies at their respective universities.



The agenda for this training included: • Discussions about policy document • Curriculum development • Syllabus development • Discussion about learning material • Professional faculty development • Presentation of teaching styles by UNO and Afghan faculty • Teaching methodology • Grading and Rubrics • Learning outcomes • Classroom management • Conducting Research • Admissions process • Assessment and Mentorship .

Activities:

As planned, 13 faculty members from Kabul and Balkh Universities attended this training program. Six UNO team members who traveled to India conducted the training. UNO team members offered power point presentations and lead discussions concerning the topics mentioned above. The program was conducted at Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi, India.



During this seminar the UNO helped set up all the different accounts used to deliver information. These accounts included Canvas, a portal used for teaching online classes. We also established the UNO library guest accounts, which will give the Afghan faculty full access to all the resources available at UNO. This accomplishment was great because the Afghan faculty had been granted access to these accounts more than six months ago, but had not accessed them.

We had also discussed the admissions process in the US and in Afghanistan and the implications on the program.

Challenges:

Some of the challenges that we faced or discussed during this seminar include: The question of when the MOHE will approve the new departments and that implication on the Afghan faculty and readiness to establish a communications department and to teach the classes required for the degree. Also if the program starts in 2018, the commitment of UNO to help the Afghan faculty with the support they need. Also the issue of hiring essential faculty members to teach the classes.



Next Steps:

We will prepare for the next trip to the United Arab Emirates. This seminar will be two weeks long and the goal is to cover the topics that were not covered in this trip and to add more relevant information for the Afghan faculty. We will also continue the regular monthly skype calls and continue our weekly communication via email.

UNO, Kabul and Balkh Universities will jointly design further activities to build on these achievements. Part of the collaboration between the universities included coming up with an action plan for goals to be completed before the next seminar. The Afghan colleagues have told us that before the next seminar, they will tell us who teaching the remainder of the classes as they were assigned on the mentor list.

This seminar was very successful. The faculty of Kabul and Balkh University attended 8 days of seminars covering a wide array of material. Afghan and American faculty who attended the seminars were able to learn a lot from each other. It was a great learning and team building opportunity for the attendees. The feedback received was that this seminar was very helpful to the attendees and they appreciated the time spend together.

Attached: The agenda for the trip.

Week 1

Wed. Oct. 11	Thur. Oct. 12	Fri. Oct. 13	Sat. Oct. 14	Sun Oct. 15	Mon. Oct. 16	Tue. Oct. 17
Depart Omaha	Arrive Delhi	9:00 am Introductions Opening Comments Chris 9:30 Review of calendar, activities and outcomes Chris 9:45 Instructional Communication Model Cam 12:30 Lunch Discussion of on-line course and other concerns Everyone, Chris moderate 5:00 End 7:00 p.m. Welcome dinner	9:00 Concurrent sessions: Perspectives in Communication Abbie Interpersonal Communication Ana Persuasion and Social Influence Cam Lunch will be served at 12:30 These sessions will begin again at 1:00 5:00 End	9:00 Mini-lecture assignment Abbie Grading and Rubrics Cam Lunch will be served at 12:30 Concurrent sessions: Perspectives in Communication Abbie Interpersonal Communication Ana Persuasion and Social Influence Cam 5:00 End	9:00 Concurrent sessions Mini-lecture presentations and group activities Ana Abbie Cam Lunch will be served at 12:30 Afternoon Free	9:00 Concurrent sessions Intercultural Communication/ Afghanistan Ana Fundamentals of Public Speaking Cam Small Group and Leadership Abbie Lunch will be served at 12:30 These sessions will begin again at 1:00 5:00 End

Week 2

Tue Oct. 17	Wed. Oct 18	Thur. Oct. 19	Fri. Oct 20	Sat. Oct 21		
<p>9:00 Break into three groups. Ana, Abbie and Cam will deliver a lecture to each group.</p> <p>Intercultural Communication Ana</p> <p>Small Group and Leadership Abbie</p> <p>Fundamentals of Public Speaking Cam</p> <p>Lunch will be served at 12:30</p> <p>1:30 Continue work developing the syllabi and lesson for the three courses</p> <p>5:00 End</p>	<p>9:00 Building effective PowerPoint presentations Abbie</p> <p>11:00 Review of the syllabi, learning outcomes and grading of the six courses taught this session, containin in the policy documents Cam</p> <p>Lunch will be served at 12:30</p> <p>1:30 Continue review of learning outcomes, work on course materials</p> <p>5:00 End</p>	<p>9:00 Beginning the assessment process Chris</p> <p>Lunch will be served at 12:30</p> <p>Assignments and mentorship</p> <p>Awards and wrap up</p> <p>5:00 End</p> <p>Depart Delhi Ana, Abbie, Cam</p>	<p>9:00 Assessment of this session Chris and Sher Jan</p> <p>Admission process Chris and Sher Jan</p> <p>Lunch will be served at 12:00</p> <p>Planning for December-January conference Chris/Sher Jan</p> <p>4:00 End</p> <p>Depart Delhi Chris, Sher Jan, Soraya</p>			

