AOA Bureau of International Osteopathic Medicine

2014 Report on International Activities at U.S. Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine
BIOM Report on International Activities at U.S. Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

I. Foreword

Introduction

The Bureau of International Osteopathic Medicine (BIOM) is charged with overseeing and reporting on the international activities of the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) Board of Trustees. BIOM’s mission is to promote the highest standards of osteopathic medical education and practice throughout the world. The Bureau’s vision is acceptance of osteopathic medicine as a complete system of medical care throughout the world.

The Bureau will do this by providing organizational leadership that promotes the highest standards of osteopathic medical education and practice throughout the world and facilitates positive interactions between the AOA, AOA affiliates, and international health care organizations. The purpose is to ensure the continued contribution of the American model of osteopathic medicine in the United States (U.S.) and internationally.

The International Bureau seeks to facilitate those public and professional interactions, which increase the understanding and advancement of osteopathic medicine as a complete system of medical care. BIOM will promote the osteopathic philosophy that combines the needs of the patient with the current practice of medicine, surgery, and obstetrics, emphasizes the interrelationships between structure, function, and provides an appreciation of the body’s ability to heal itself.

About the Report

In a continuing effort to expand opportunities for the international osteopathic profession, BIOM conducts an ongoing survey of all colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) and their programs and activities in international student clinical electives, medical outreach, and professional interactions with international organizations.

As the osteopathic profession continues to expand its international reach, sharing this information among different osteopathic bodies becomes more and more important. The intent of this report is to help raise awareness of the opportunities and interactions available for osteopathic medical students and physicians in the international community. The report will also provide knowledge to potential osteopathic medical students about existing opportunities.

The Bureau strives to maintain the most current information, and therefore, this document is revised on a regular basis. However, please note that this information is self-reported by representatives at each college of osteopathic medicine; accurate reporting is the responsibility of each COM.

Beyond the Report
In addition to the information and data contained within this report, the AOA offers several resources regarding international practice, licensure, interactions, cultural competencies and more. Links to these resources can be found in the Appendices.

II. Summary of international activity by U.S. Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student Rotations in Foreign Countries</td>
<td>91.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Participating in International Activities</td>
<td>70.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Clubs or Interest Groups</td>
<td>62.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encourages OMM Faculty Participation in International Mission/Outreach</td>
<td>62.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established International Educational Agreements/Affiliations</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsor Established Rotations in Other Countries</td>
<td>37.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintains Professional Contacts with WHO, PAHO, GHC or other group</td>
<td>37.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows Students from Other Medical Schools to Participate in International Rotations</td>
<td>33.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Organization Affiliations/Joint Academic Research Programs</td>
<td>33.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Students at COM/Participates in an Exchange Program</td>
<td>29.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Cultural Competency Curriculum</td>
<td>20.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financially Support Students in International Rotations</td>
<td>20.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assist Students with Obtaining Travel Documents/Visas</td>
<td>16.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint International Research Programs</td>
<td>16.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Considering Opening an International Site</td>
<td>12.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal Linkages with Osteopathic Schools Outside the U.S.</td>
<td>8.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Established Permanent Clinic Outside the U.S.</td>
<td>4.20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. College specific international activities information

A.T. Still University of Health Sciences/Kirkville College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCOM)
Margaret Wilson, DO, Dean
mwilson@atsu.edu

Although they do not themselves sponsor, or have in place, international electives, students have completed international electives on their own. The school does have procedures in place in order to evaluate the various international electives to meet requirements for the students. These opportunities are available for 4th year students who are responsible for setting up the rotation. The school will assist
in the required paperwork. In addition, KCOM offers a 2nd year course in Rural Remote and Global Health to provide students with knowledge about international rotations.

Clubs/Groups: Rural Remote Global Health Committee, DOCARE, SNMA, UNICEF

http://www.atsu.edu/student_services/kirkville/leaders/orgs/DOCare.htm

Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine (DMU-COM)
Yogesh Shah, MD, Assistant Dean of Global Health
Yogesh.shah@dmu.edu

Currently DMU-COM has established rotation sites in Mexico, Uganda, South Africa, Tanzania, Rwanda and India, and is preparing an additional site in Rwanda. The assistant dean of global health visits each rotation site before sending students to work. There is a curriculum and evaluation process in place for these rotations. There is also an established international cultural competency program. Faculty is involved in international outreach and practice. Each site has a local preceptor that is in regular contact with the global health department. Participating students are required to write reflections about their experience. There is scholarship opportunity for students for international rotations.

The school also has in place an exchange program where each site can send a foreign student to DMU-COM to study. The school has professional contacts with the WHO and PAHO.

Clubs/Groups: Global Health Student Club

http://www.dmu.edu/globalhealth/

Georgia Campus-Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (GA-PCOM)
Allan McLeod, DO, JD
alanm@pcom.edu

There are currently no specific international affiliations, but students are welcome to rotate anywhere of their choice during an elective month. There is no formal international elective curriculum and no evaluation process in place at this time.

http://www.pcom.edu/Student_Life/Student_Affairs_Main/Clubs_ORgs_part_2.html

Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences College of Osteopathic Medicine (KCUMB-COM)
Gautam J Desai, DO, FACOFP, Professor, Department of Family & Community Medicine
gdesai@kcumb.edu

There is currently an established rotation in Guatemala and an affiliation/joint research program with the Dominican Republic. Students have rotated in Guatemala and the Dominican Republic, as well as through INMED. There is no set curriculum, but there are site visits and a pre & post-test for assessment. Students are selected based on service hours, language skills, and an essay, and 20 students get $600 based on their application. KCUMB-COM also allows students from other medical schools to participate in their programs. OMM is encouraged and faculty is heavily involved with going on rotations at least once a year.
Clubs/Groups: DOCARE international student chapter

http://www.kcumb.edu/outreach/serving-others/medical-missions/

Lake Erie Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM)
Regan Shablowski DO, Associate Dean of Clinical Education
reganthedo@aol.com

LECOM does not coordinate international rotations, but students can do selective rotations if approved by Dr. Shablowski.

http://www.lecombsga.com/clubs/international-medicine-club/
http://medicine.lecomsga.com/student-clubs/ims/

Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (LMU-DCOM)
John Williamson MD, Director of International Medicine
John.williamson@lmunet.edu

LMU-DCOM has an affiliation in place with a rural clinic in the Dominican Republic "Centro de Salud Chadasha" where their students participate in medical outreach programs over spring break and winter break. They have had approximately 200 students participate in this program over the past 5 years. Students will be eligible to begin 4 week rural medicine clerkships beginning in summer 2014. DCOM also has an affiliation in place with James Cook University in Queensland Australia and will start a student exchange beginning with the 2014-15 academic year. There are approximately 10 students who have been placed in various international locations (UK, New Zealand) through "Work the World" and are in the process of establishing an affiliation with Work the World for additional placement of students internationally. They have had several students participate in medical outreach in Belize through Body and Soul Ministries; a group of 12 students and 2 faculty will be traveling to Belize July 2014 for a DCOM-sponsored medical outreach. Approximately 20 students and 2 faculty members traveled to Honduras during spring break 2014 and approximately 20 travel to Jamaica during spring break 2013. DCOM is also exploring exchange programs with medical schools in Kenya and China.

Clubs/Groups: Yes

Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MSUCOM)
Reza Nassiri, Associate Dean of Global Health Programs, Director of MSU Institute of International Health
Reza.Nassiri@hc.msu.edu

MSU-COM has established rotations in Mexico, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Ghana, China, Turkey, Uganda, Japan South Korea and Nicaragua. There are established MSU-COM clinics in Blantyre, Malawi, Africa and Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. Students can rotate through established sites or in any other country with WHO-approved teaching hospitals. Rotations are not allowed in Iran, Syria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, North Korea or Sudan. MSU-COM also houses international students for exchanges from Italy, Germany, Brazil and Mexico. There are affiliations or joint academic programs with the British School of Osteopathy in London and the Osteopatia a Milano in Milan. Rotation sites are heavily evaluated by on-site visits, credentials, and CV reports. International global health faculty teach modules such as infectious disease, tropical medicine, community medicine and cultural competency. 4th year students
may choose to rotate in cardiology, OB/GYN, surgery, tropical medicine, ID, IM and GI through the schools international partnerships.

The selection process includes good academic standing, ability to work in the international environment, cultural respect, proof of immunizations, personal interview and pre-departure orientation. Students will submit an application with site-related questions and an essay, which are scored and the highest scores are approved. Normally there are 2-4 faculty with 2-3 years of experience participating. No financial support is provided directly from MSU, but 2 scholarships are available to apply for.

Clubs/Groups: 28

www.com.msu.edu/students/Student_Gov_Organizations/Student_Organizations.htm

**Midwestern University/Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (MWU/CCOM)**
Karen Nichols, DO, Dean
knicho@midwestern.edu

There are currently no established rotations, but students can rotate overseas. Site evaluation is performed by student and the selection process is via application and approval. There is currently no faculty involvement and no financial support.

**Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine (NSU-COM)**
James Howell, MD, MPH, Assistant Dean for Professional Relations
jhowell@nova.edu

Nova’s International Medical Outreach Programs completed or scheduled this school year (2013-2014) are in Brazil, Jamaica, Peru and Vietnam. The international 4th year clinical rotations this year were in the following countries; Argentina, Costa Rica, Israel, Japan, Korea and South Africa. In the 2012-2013 school year clinical rotations were completed in Colombia, Ghana, India, Peru, Scotland, Slovakia, South Africa, Thailand, and Vietnam. Nova hosts students from Argentina and Slovakia for exchanges. The school evaluates all sites and there is an established curriculum for international rotation sites. Students are selected to participate in outreach programs by the IMOC. The Chair of Rural Med selects participants for core rotations and selective months.

Clubs/Groups: International Medical Outreach Club.

http://medicine.nova.edu/aboutus/outreach_programs.html

**New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic medicine (NYITCOM)**
Edward Gotfried, DO, FACOS, Director of Global Health at NYIT
egotfrie@nyit.edu

NYIT-COM maintains a current academic agreement with Jordan University of Science & Technology. The college is in the process of affiliation or joint research programs with University of Benin, Nigeria, and with a mission in Kwahu, Ghana. Additionally, students have rotated previously in Jordan, Africa, Argentina, China, France and Germany. The college evaluates sites and a core curriculum is in place with student evaluations established. Participants may be medical students in good standing, 3rd/4th year RN
students in good standing and graduate students in good standing. Faculty participation and evaluation is also in place.

Clubs/Groups: AMSA, SOMA, PHR

http://www.nyit.edu/global_health/

**Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine (OU-HCOM)**

Gillian Ice, PhD, MPH, Director of Global Health
iceg@ohiou.edu

Debra McBride, MA, Coordinator of Global Health Programs
mcbrided@ohio.edu

Deborah Meyer, PhD, RN, Director Global Health Certificate
meyerd1@ohio.edu

OU-HCOM has programs established in Ecuador, Botswana and South Africa (also Kenya, El Salvador, Honduras but these are on hold due to security issues). They are currently looking to establish other sites as replacements. Students can rotate in any country that is not on the State Department High Security Risk List. The university has a tropical disease research program set up with the Catholic University of Ecuador-Quito. They participate in the IFMSA Exchange Program. Rotations and sites are very stringently evaluated before approval through a strict process for safety. They are also working on a Global Health Certificate Program, and willing to host students from other medical schools on rotations. The selection process includes an application and essay, with a supplemental application if it is an independent rotation site, 2 faculty letters and a current LOR from rotation site preceptor, as well as personal interviews. There are multiple faculty participating in international activities. A student evaluation process is in place and financial support is available for 5-10 students with $200-$1000 travel awards, as well as other opportunities though the university’s Office of Education Abroad. There is a strong affiliation with the AOA’s BIOM, working to promote guidelines for ethical practice internationally, increase connections and encourage acceptance of osteopathic medicine outside of U.S.

Clubs/Groups: IFMSA, AMSA-IFMSA Bilateral Clinical Exchange Program
Contact: globalhealth@ohio.edu

https://www ohio.edu/globalhealth/

**Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine (PCOM)**

(No assigned faculty at this time)

PCOM currently has no established international rotation sites, but there are opportunities to study abroad through a student-driven process including self-selection of sites and a follow up evaluation form. Faculty does not currently participate in international outreach but are active in local outreach efforts.

Clubs/Groups: None

http://www.pcom.edu/Student_Life/Student_Affairs_Main/Clubs_ORgs_part_2.html

**Pacific Northwest University of Health Sciences, College of Osteopathic Medicine (PNWU-COM)**
PNWU-COM currently does not have rotation sites open in other countries but is actively working on establishing sites. The preliminary sites are located in Guatemala and Peru. Sites in Ghana and Kenya are also being considered.

Clubs/Groups: Global Health

http://www.pnwu.edu/students/student-government/clubs/.

**Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine (RVUCOM)**
Camille Z. Bentley, DO, MPH, ACOFP
cbentley@rvu.edu

RVUCOM allows students to partake in international rotations approved through the Global Medicine Department. There is also a curriculum for a global honors program for students starting their first year. This is not an elective rotation course however, students enrolled in the Global Honors Track must complete three international rotations during their clinical years.

http://www.rockyvistauniversity.org/community.asp

**Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine (RowanSOM)**
Thomas Cavalieri, DO, Dean
cavalita@rowan.edu

RowanSOM does not have any established international rotation sites, but students may arrange rotations at international sites. If a student registers with a site, RowanSOM includes information about that site in the student's academic file. If the student registers with a preceptor, RowaSOM requires a copy of the preceptor's CV and proof of medical training.

http://www.rowan.edu/som/education/undergraduate_medical/forms.html

**Touro University College of Osteopathic Medicine (TouroCOM)**
Eiman A. Mahmoud MD, MPH
eiman.mahmoud@tu.edu

TUCOM currently has affiliations with sites in Israel, Bolivia, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Mexico, and Taiwan. They also offer curriculum for students seeking a dual DO/MPH degree and a Global Health track.

http://com.tu.edu/globalhealth/index.html

**University of North Texas Health Science Center Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNTHSC/TCOM)**
Ryan Ziller, EdD, Director of Clinical Education
rynn.ziller@unthsc.edu

UNTHSC does not currently have any international rotation sites established by the school itself, but students may apply to any preceptor or site of their choice.
University of Pikeville-Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine (UP-KYCOM)
Boyd Buser, DO, Dean
boydbuser@upike.edu

UP-KYCOM currently allows students to rotate at a site in the Dominican Republic through the Christian Medical and Dental Association.

Edward Via Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM)
Dean Sutphin, PhD, Assistant Vice President for International and Outreach
dsutphin@vcom.vt.edu

VCOM currently has three permanently established sites in the Dominican Republic, Honduras and El Salvador. One-week outreach trips are available to first and second year students along with month-long rotations for third and fourth year students. Students may also apply for approval of other rotation sites if proper credentials are met.

West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (WVSOM)
Adrienne Biesemeyer, MA, LPC, Coordinator, Center for International Medicine and Cultural Concerns
abiesemeyer@osteowvsom.edu

WVSOM currently has established rotations in Sierra Leone; Dabhoi, India; Western Cape, South Africa and the Dominican Republic, as well as allowances for rotations in Malawi and Lesotho. WVSOM allows student to additionally rotate in any country not listed in the U.S. State Department Travel Warning List, or where the school leadership may not feel it is safe. The International Coordinator either visits or receives information from preceptors and participating students on all sites to ensure the student is gaining expected educational experiences. OMM is encouraged in the programs. WVSOM has an affiliation in Japan for international osteopathic students to come to the U.S. for dissection-based anatomy learning. Sites are evaluated not only through staff, faculty and student recommendations, but also through 3rd party organizations such as Programs Abroad, Anir Experience and DOCARE International, among others. There is a list of additional requirements that students must complete in order to do international rotations, beyond those in regular rotations. Rotations will become open to students from other medical schools starting in summer, 2014.

WVSOM is working to establish relationships with WHO, NIH and UNICEF and already has a relationship with Doctors Without Borders South Africa. Faculty members participate in CMDA and Red Cross programs. WVSOM does not provide funding but does direct students to potential funders.

Clubs/Groups: PAX International Medical Service Club, CMDA Club
Western University /COMP

Western U currently has student rotations in Mexico, Kenya, Peru, Honduras, India, Argentina, Ecuador, Vietnam, and Hong Kong. Students also have opportunities with countries affiliated with the organization Child Health International.

William Carey University College of Osteopathic Medicine (WCUCOM)

James Turner, DO, Dean
jturner@wmcarey.edu

William Carey University COM is a newly established school but is working on setting up a disaster preparedness curriculum and a third world medicine elective.

Appendix A: Licensure Map

The AOA Licensure Map can be accessed on the public pages of Osteopathic.org. For the full listing of countries where U.S.-trained DOs can practice, you can search our members’ only international section, or email Joshua Kerr, director, division of international affairs, at jkerr@osteopathic.org.
Appendix B: Resources for COMS

COM Work Map

Appendix C: Additional Resources

FAQs: http://www.osteopathic.org/inside-aoa/development/international-osteopathic-medicine/Pages/international-faq.aspx


International Links

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine's International Collaborative

American Medical Student Association Clinical Exchange Program

American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Avicenna Directory (formerly the WHO Directory of Medical Schools)

Child Family Health International

DOCARE International
Doctors Without Borders
Global Health Council
Global Health Education Consortium
Global Health Service Partnership
Heart to Heart International
Institute for International Medicine (INMED)
International Association of Medical Regulatory Authorities (IAMRA)
International Federation of Medical Students’ Associations (IFMSA)
International Medical Corp
International Medical Education Directory (IMED)
The Lancet - Global Health
Osteopathic International Alliance
The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)
Partners In Health (PIH)
Physicians for Humanity
Seed Global Health
Shoulder to Shoulder
Student Osteopathic Medical Association - International Health
Timmy Global Health
World Health Organization (WHO)

AOA White Papers on International Work and Cultural Competencies & Electives:


This White Paper serves as a resource for osteopathic physicians-in-training (students, interns and residents) and osteopathic training institutions. Its suggestions and guidelines will hopefully enable osteopathic medical students, as well as interns and residents, to experience quality clinical clerkships
both outside and across the United States while developing competencies in delivering care for patients of diverse cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds.

The White Paper is intended as a tool to outline the pertinent educational and logistical issues of preparing osteopathic physicians-in-training for the challenges of international clinical electives. It also addresses ethical interactions between components of colleges of osteopathic medicine (COMs) and international partners in delivering quality clinical clerkships consistent with the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM) and AOA educational standards. The Paper aims to encourage educational standardization of key component elements for international and cultural enrichment programs completed by those institutions, in order to foster safety, maximize educational outcomes and positively impact outcomes for osteopathic physicians-in-training.


BIOM White Paper III

White Paper III provides background and information for interactions with various governmental and regulatory bodies, scientists, educational institutions, and health care practitioners within the international community. It also speaks to the responsibility of integrating ethics and respect for the known history, authority, and relationships currently governing international health and medical policy when communicating information concerning the AOA and the osteopathic profession in the United States to individuals or organizations unfamiliar with same outside the U.S. border.