IU Optometry Students Join With I-Care International on Mission to Mexico

The Indiana University Student-Voluntary Optometric Services for Humanity (IUS-VOSH) is a voluntary group associated with the School of Optometry that involves 62 active members. Our group receives used eyeglasses from the public and recycles these glasses by donating them to people who are less fortunate. We recognize that the citizens of many other countries often do not have access to the same quality vision care that is so widely available in the United States. This year, we organized a one-week mission to Guanajuato, Mexico, from March 12-20.

The trip involved 34 participants and was organized in coordination with I-Care International, a group based in the Chicago area. As student leader, Stephen Hunter served as coordinator for the 19 IU Optometry students whose participation was instrumental in the success of the mission. Stephen Storey, an optometrist in DeKalb, Illinois, was mission leader and organized the 14 I-Care International volunteers who assisted the IUS-VOSH participants. The IU School of Optometry students taking part in the program were Greg Hill, Michelle Reames, Michelle Heil, David Arendt, Missy Shafer, JoAnne Takara, Adrienne Micuda, Carissa Schaeffer, Gina Ferguson, Mike Thomas, Mike Ashman, Kevin Liedel, Amy Cole, Cindy Foster, Aaron Goffinet, Amber McIntosh, Pam Rupnow, and Carol Lecher.

This international venture was a tremendous success for everyone involved. A total of 4,000 Mexican citizens were assessed for ocular pathology and refractive status. Through this screening, we were able to detect 264 cases of ocular diseases - such as glaucoma, cataracts, and retinal defects that needed immediate treatment. Each of these cases was then referred to a qualified optometrist in the area for follow-up care and future evaluation.

The ability to give the gift of sight is a powerful and rewarding experience. The gratitude on the faces of these Mexican citizens provided clear evidence of the significant impact achieved by our efforts.

STEPHEN HUNTER
IUS-VOSH PRESIDENT

Indiana University Summer Language Institutes

East Asian Summer Language Institute offers five levels of Japanese, four levels of Chinese, and three levels of Korean in a 9-week summer living and learning program, starting June 10. More than a summer class, the Institute's round-the-clock cultural immersion approach is the closest thing to an overseas experience in the U.S. While the official deadline is past, applications will be accepted until the classes are filled. For further information contact the East Asian Summer Language Institute, Memorial Hall West 206, IU-Bloomington, tel. 855-5246.

Indiana University's 44th Summer Workshop in Slavic and East European Languages will be held June 17-August 12. First to sixth-year Russian courses, including a translation seminar and Business Russian, are being offered. The Workshop also offers first-year Polish, Czech, Serbian and Croatian, Bulgarian, Slovene, Romanian, Hungarian, Turkmen, Uzbek, Georgian, Estonian, Kazakh, and Kyrgyz. Tuition costs will be waived for graduate students in East European studies taking first-year Bulgarian, Hungarian, Romanian and Slovene, or second-year Czech and Polish. For additional information, contact the Director of the Summer Workshop in Slavic and East European Languages, Ballantine 502, IU-Bloomington, tel. 855-2608.

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