

# **Global Encounter-India**

## **Health- Making a Difference**

### **Individual Written Responses to Questions Related to the Topic**

Procedure used to generate this document:

This document represents the summary of responses individuals wrote to questions related to their self-selected area of interest/expertise within these topic areas (Education; Environment; Food Systems and Agribusiness; Gender, Poverty and Social Inequalities; Health; and Technology and Economic Development). All responses received are included and are typed verbatim with some explanation of acronyms. There is no significance in the ordering of the topics or comments as presented in this report.

#### **A. What are your current or future focused areas of teaching, research and/or outreach related to India?**

1. ●I am a Lyman Briggs – Physiology major; I will be graduating in December 2006. After graduation I plan on spending three months in India volunteering with outreach, awareness and education on the Global AIDS pandemic. I will also be learning to play classical Indian instruments, learning to speak Hindi, and also spending time with my family before starting medical school at MSUCOM.
2. ●Environmental and Occupational Health from human to animal
  - Human: Occupational Health – Bovine TB, Johne’s disease (a contagious bacterial disease of the intestinal tract of animals, especially ruminants marked by diarrhea, rapid weight loss and wasting)
    - Health effects of environmental pollutants
    - Endocrine disruptions, fetal programming of adult onset diseases – Polycystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS), metabolic syndrome, diabetes, obesity
  - Animal: Augmenting animal health to increase production
    - Anesthesiology, emergency to critical care, imaging, small and large animal medicine to surgery, anatomic and clinical pathology, aquatic animal health, animal nutrition
3. ●Nothing current – I would like to implement and evaluate a telemedicine program using communication technology to deliver a health program with a partner in India.

4.
  - Healthcare Network Management
  - I work with middle class and a lot less fortunate people on different health issues.
5.
  - Recently retired from 23 years of public health (local, state, national) experiences
  - I would like to learn how I may be able to help MSU and India in areas of public health prevention (disease prevention) and health promotion.
6.
  - General interests resulting from working in the Dean's office of International Studies and Programs
7.
  - I work for the College of Veterinary Medicine. We have a formalized linkage with Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS) in Chennai & have several ongoing projects there (study abroad, student exchange & some faculty exchange.)
  - A large group of us (veterinarians) recently attended a symposium there. Out of that symposium several areas of collaborative work were identified including infectious disease surveillance, fisheries, and animal nutrition.
8.
  - I am interested (at the prompting of alumni from India) to participate in efforts to impact the extreme levels of unrealized potential concealed in young children by poverty and disability. Many young children with outstanding potential have no hope of attending college or even receiving a meaningful education because of poverty and societal expectations that keep them from receiving the most basic of tools needed to attend and benefit from education (wheelchairs, canes, crutches, eyeglasses, hearing aids and medical care.)

**B. What resources (existing at MSU or working in collaboration with MSU) should be considered as the University moves forward on any and all work related to India?**

1.
  - Osteopathic medicine – traditional Indian medicine (similarities)
  - Links with medical schools
  - Preventative medicine
  - Distribution of instruments, drugs, equipment
2.
  - Support for travel
  - Support for seed funds to establish research collaboration
  - Support for training in specific research areas
  - Assistance in securing extramural funding
  - International development, ISP
  - College of Veterinary Medicine International programs
  - Faculty, staff and their expertise

3. ●The Health Risk Communication Center in Communication Arts has wonderful faculty in a wide range of fields.
4. ●Participate and contribute.
  - Share knowledge and advance technology.
  - Help them (those with whom MSU works) to set some guidelines.
5. ●Federal Sources: U.S. Health and Human Services
  - U.S. Centers in Disease Control and Prevention
  - Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
  - R.W. Johnson Foundation
  - Consider also, working with other schools of public health such as the University of Michigan, Johns Hopkins, Tufts University in Boston (many opportunities).
  - Connect with public health professionals nationally.
6. ●Asian Studies Center
  - Alumni Office
  - Medical Schools
  - Institute of International Health (IIH) (Note: IIH is under review.)
  - Food Science and Toxicology
7. ●Distance Learning/ Technology – India is very far away and exchanging people on a routine basis may not be reasonable; therefore, can use technology.
  - Corporate resources for medical supplies/ animal feed/ money
  - Technological/extension expertise- MSU has long-established outreach capabilities that should be utilized.
8. ●The Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, Rehabilitation Counseling program, social work, engineering, and computer science have distinctive knowledge of techniques that could be effectively leveraged to impact the availability of many/most of the tools and understandings needed to facilitate possibility for youth with disabilities.

**C. What are the top three to five things that MSU should be doing in regards to this theme/area of concern in India over the next five to ten years? How would we know that we had been successful?**

1.
  - Increase relationships with medical schools.
  - Offer study abroad programs focused on health care in India.
  - Establish satellite sister schools and research labs in India.
  - Offer Indians scholarships to attend MSU.
  - Increase cultural awareness through experience.
  - Improve relations and create relationships with Indians abroad in the community and in the university.
  - Work along side organizations already in place in India to arrive at a goal in unison.
  - Learn Hindi basics.
  
2.
  - Occupational Health (human to animal)
  - Environmental Health (human to animal)
  - Develop an environmental and occupational health resource center in India.
  - How would we know that we had been successful?
    - A decrease in disease outbreaks associated with occupational health
    - Increase in awareness about environmental pollutants
    - Increased activities to decrease environmental pollution
    - Increased number of research efforts in the area
    - Increased number of publications in the area
    - Increased participation (both in MSU and India)
  
3.
  - Given my bias and personal interest, I would like to see MSU link the following issues to address health issues in India:
    - link technologies to health service
    - telemedicine
    - mobile devices to manage public health and acute health problems
    - develop data repositories for health information management.
  - Tie communication themes to health services, e.g.:
    - public health campaigns
    - organization and delivery of health care services
    - persuasive message design
    - risk communication
  - Basic and advanced health provider education (incorporating online opportunities as well)
  - We will know we have succeeded when we demonstrate access and outcome impacts.

4.
  - Educate people about new health related issues – increase the awareness of disease and pollution.
  - Study programs
  - Get involved with hospitals, clinics – help them in learning new technology, new procedures and prevention programs (rabies vaccination, malaria, etc.)
  - Extend the invitation to physicians and lab related staff to come here to learn and exchange information.
  - Benefit of herbal medicine
  - Wide database of information
  - Success
    - increase in outcome of people's education, health
    - see all the programs established and running well
  
5.
  - Human and environmental health assessment:
    - identify major health problems/issues/concerns
    - identify underlying factors of health problems
    - risk assessment
    - risk reduction
  - Health education programs:
    - health promotion
    - disease prevention
    - capacity building
    - best practices adapted to context in India
  - Program, project implementation with outcomes monitoring and feed back, compare to goals (knowledge, attitudes/beliefs, behaviors, health status/condition)
  - Need to have accountability in our pursuits
  - Community engagement and project sustainability
  - Identify and develop synergies.
  
6.
  - Utilization of Medical Schools in establishing linkages with peer partner institutions in India focusing on collaborative health issues and in establishing study abroad programs
  - Utilization of food science and toxicology MSU unit in exploring health issues related to animals, agricultural products, and benefits or ill affects of herbal medicine
  - Environmental issues are linked to health and should not be underestimated; for example, industrial pollution, animal waste, and water pollution.
  - Data on what colleges and departments including their core faculty are doing in India. **We do not have a complete informational comprehensive data base.**
  - To what extent are we utilizing the alumni in India which is one of the largest groups in terms of their skills, positions, etc.?
  - Impact and assessment will determine the success of programs.

7.
  - Livestock well-being & health would have huge impact on not just human health in terms of infectious disease but also in terms of nutrition. We would know we were successful if health improved (according to any number of statistical measures) in a specific area.
  - Training of doctors & vets – better health infrastructure would be a measure.
  - Food safety/water safety – would/could dramatically improve lives.
8.
  - Identifying thematic topics like inclusion of youth with disabilities in education will create possible working group collaboration to discover ways of impacting this issue.
  - Identifying alumni with interest in the region and thematic issues will help us leverage our skills and may serve to create new ventures which are interpersonally and financially supported by alumni.

#### **D. Additional Comments**

1. **\*\*NO RESPONSE\*\***
2.
  - Encouragement to develop collaborative proposals to secure extramural funding is critical.
  - Recognition of efforts
3. **\*\*NO RESPONSE\*\***
4. **\*\*NO RESPONSE\*\***
5. **\*\*NO RESPONSE\*\***
6. **\*\*NO RESPONSE\*\***
7. **\*\*NO RESPONSE\*\***
8. **\*\*NO RESPONSE\*\***

**This material was generated from Global Encounter-India, <<http://www.isp.msu.edu/globalencounter/india>>, held at Michigan State University on September 22, 2006. This interactive and participatory event was designed to obtain input and to elaborate in a country-specific forum on relevant themes, opportunities, issues, and opportunities affecting MSU's current and future engagement in India and to a lesser degree southeast Asia.**