UNC School of Medicine
Global Health Elective
Student Feedback Form

Information that you provide will be made available for future UNC students to use in planning educational electives in global health and international medicine. It must be completed in order to receive elective credit for your rotation OR funding through the Office of International Activities (Becton-Tannenbaum, Perkins Burke, Medical Alumni Loyalty Fund Global Enrichment Fellowships and International Health Fellowships). Please complete and return to the Office of International Activities (shawes@med.unc.edu or Martha_carlough@med.unc.edu)

I. STUDENT INFORMATION
A. Student Name: Eric Kiechle
B. Email: eric.kiechle@gmail.com
C. Phone/cell number (optional): (512)800-4272
D. Graduating year from UNC Medical School: 2014
E. Check when you took this elective:
   ☐ Summer between 1st and 2nd year ☐ 3rd year ☑ 4th year ☐ Other:
F. What UNC Department and course did you register for this elective through? n/a
G. Faculty advisor: n/a
H. Dates that you completed the elective: 4-6-14 to 4-25-14 Year: 2014
I. From the list below, select the one choice that best describes your motivation for taking this elective:
   ☐ interest in global health ☐ desire to get experience for CV/job opportunities
   ☐ interest in travel ☐ family of origin reasons
   ☐ interest in helping others ☐ other: desire to learn/improve Spanish skills
J. What was the major emphasis of this elective:
   ☑ medical Spanish and Latino health
   ☐ global health research
   ☐ clinical care in an international setting
   ☐ community health/development
   ☐ Other:

K. Was this a ☑ group experience or ☐ individual experience?

II. ELECTIVE PROGRAM INFORMATION
A. Country where you completed the elective: Guatemala
B. City: Xela (Quetzaltenango)
C. Name of Program or Hospital where you worked: Celas Maya Spanish School and Olintepeque Clinic
D. Website address (if available): www.celasmaya.edu.gt
E. From the list below, select the choice that best describes how you first learned about this program:
   ☑ referral from a friend/personal contact
   ☐ another student who went there
   ☐ web site information from: ✗ ☐ other: 
F. Name of program person you worked with and contact information: Amanda BeIows, celasmaya@gmail.com
G. Costs
   Tuition: 750 Roundtrip travel: 500
   Other expenses you incurred, including vaccinations, supplies (please list type and amount):
   n/a
   n/a
   n/a
H. Did this program/hospital have a religious affiliation? ☑ YES ☐ NO
If yes, with what group: __________________________________________

I. Did this program/hospital have an academic affiliation? ____YES  ____NO
If yes, with what institution: ____________________________

III. GLOBAL HEALTH EXPERIENCE CHARACTERISTICS
A. List three educational outcomes you achieved with this elective
1. Full immersion in Central American culture through school and homestay experience
2. One-on-one Spanish instruction with a directed clinical focus
3. Application of skills learned through work at a local clinic

B. Was the experience a good use of time for you during medical school? ____YES  ____NO
C. Did you have adequate clinical supervision? ____YES  ____NO
D. Did you have adequate opportunities for hands-on clinical work? ____YES  ____NO
E. Would you recommend this elective to other medical students? ____YES  ____NO

If YES, Why?  Great setting for economical personalized Spanish lessons, with opportunity for clinical application
If NO, Why? ______________________________________________________

F. Was the program responsive to your needs? ____YES  ____NO

G. Did you have appropriate arrangements for housing, food and safety/health issues? ____YES  ____NO
If NO, please describe: _____________________________________________

H. Did you have adequate information about what to expect in advance? ____YES  ____NO
If NO, what would have been helpful: _________________________________

I. Did you feel that you had adequate support from UNC in setting up this opportunity? ____YES  ____NO

THANK YOU!!! THIS INFORMATION WILL HELP FUTURE STUDENTS !!!

I had a fantastic time learning Spanish at Celas Maya. I would particularly recommend the homestay experience since I feel I learned as much from the 90 minutes or so I spent everyday talking with my host family as I did during the excellent goal-directed 1-on-1 Spanish lessons in the afternoons. Switching instructors weekly is offered, which I recommend in order to benefit from multiple teaching angles. The clinical experience was somewhat weaker. Because local hospitals and clinics are saturated with Guatemalan students, Celas Maya will place students in clinics further out of town, up to an hour commute each way, with varying quality. In my own case, the clinic in Olintepeque was extremely cramped with little opportunity to see patients on my own simply from a space standpoint: there were two beds and two providers. This led to a more shadowy experience than I would have desired. That being said, other students reported extremely positive experiences. What didn't change is that the days could be very long accounting for 2 hours of commuting, 4 hours of clinic and 5 hours of Spanish every day. The single thing I might change about my experience down there would be attempting to set up my own clinical experience separate from Celas Maya, or if that were not an option specifically requesting the Primeros Pasos clinic, where other students seemed to have a better experience. Alternatively, other local Spanish schools, such as Pop Wuj, have more established clinical opportunities. Finally, Xela itself felt extremely safe to me, and was small enough to explore comfortably on foot, but large enough to insure plenty of great experiences throughout. Between markets, volcano hikes, hot springs, adrenaline fueled soccer games (both as a spectator at Xelaju FC or playing with locals) beautiful churches, and great restaurants and bars, there was always something to do. I'm always happy to answer specific questions by email, eric.kiechle@gmail.com

Return to: Sam Hawes, MPH (Program Manager) shawes@med.unc.edu
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