Global Education
Opportunities in Imaging Programs

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Objectives

• Gain a further understanding of global learning at the community college level.
• Explore opportunities with the RAD-AID organization.
• Learn how to establish sister school relationships with international programs.
• Discuss global service learning.
A closer look at Ghana

- Population: 28 million (represents 0.36% of the world’s total population or one in every 279 person in the world lives in Ghana)

- Living wage Family: $1700
- Living wage Individual: $660 (personal income tax rate 25%; sales tax rate 15%)
- Wages high skilled: $1950
- Wages low skilled: $588
A closer look at Ghana

- Currency: Cedi (1 cedi = .23 USD)
- Religion: Christianity is predominant with Muslim second
- More than 250 languages and dialects are spoken in Ghana, however, English is the official language
- Main exports: gold, cocoa (Cadbury), petroleum oils, coconuts, manganese, lumber, and aluminum
- Gained independence from Great Britain in 1957
A closer look at Ghana

- Staple foods include:
  - Jollof rice
  - Fufu (pounded plantain or yam)
  - Banku (cooked fermented corn dough)
  - Goat
  - Fish (smoked)
  - Chicken
  - Plantain chips
  - Palm nut soup
  - Red Red
A closer look at Ghana

- Temperature: HOT & HUMID!
  - Ghana is just a few degrees north of the equator
- Tropical
- Average is approx. 86°F and 77%-85% humidity
A closer look at Accra...Capital City

• Population: 2.27 million with approximately (33,985 per square mile); 4 million in the greater Accra area (11th largest metro area in Africa)

• Accra is 53.93 square miles

• Accra is a coastal city with two main seaports for export.

• Experiences high inflation rates with a 17.8% inflation rate in 2016.
Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital

- Established in 1923
- 2000 bed tertiary hospital and 17 clinical and diagnostic units
- 3rd largest hospital in Africa
- Leading referral facility in Ghana
- Affiliated with the University of Ghana which has a medical school and five allied health teaching programs
Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital

• Medical Specialties
  • Surgery
  • Obstetrics & Gynecology
  • Child Health
  • Radiography
  • Accident Center
  • Psychiatry
  • Cardiothoracic
  • Chest Diseases
  • Plastics & Burn
  • Many More
Korle-Bu Imaging...a look inside

- Routine & Fluoroscopy
- Computed Tomography
- MRI
- Mammography
- Interventional/Angiography
- Portable/Mobile
- Ultrasound
- Radiation Therapy
- Nuclear Medicine
Radiography Programs in Ghana

- University of Ghana
- University of Cape Coast
  - Bachelor’s Programs
  - Four year coursework
  - One year internship 5th year
  - Required post internship examination administered by Allied Health Professions Council (licensed)
  - Practiced regulated by Allied Health Professional Council
  - Two programs produce approx. 26 radiographer/yr.
  - Choose between radiography, ultrasound, or radiation therapy after second yr. in curriculum
Radiographers in Ghana

- Highly specialized (give preliminary reports)
- Currently a little over 100 radiographers in public service (i.e. teaching hospitals and Ghana Health Service)
- As of 2015 only approx. 250 radiographers nationwide
- Approx. 1 radiographer to more than 100,000 people in Ghana
- Poor attrition rate due to poor conditions of service
- Effects of ionizing radiation
- Volume of work
- Majority of radiographers are men
- Monthly salary approx. $350 USD
- Membership dues in professional society are automatically deducted from payroll
RAD-AID in Ghana

- RAD-AID has been in Ghana since 2012
- Major implementation project was PACS and RIS
- RAD-AID supports a full time IT specialist at Korle-Bu
- 2016 IBM gifted a PACS system to KORLE-Bu which is maintained by Ben Gyimah
- Ongoing updates and maintain PACS, RIS systems
- New initiatives for additional systems in Cape Coast and Kumasi
Our Team...

• RAD-AID Team 2017

• A **mixed** crew...
  • Radiologist (retired, living in SC)
  • 2 Radiology Residents
  • Statistician (native South Africa, living in Japan)
  • CT technologists (native Ghanaians', living in NYC)
  • MRI technologist (NC)
  • SIEMENS rep (native German, living in Japan)
  • Radiography educator (NC)
  • IT brainiac (PA)
  • Film director (CA)
How Did We Fit In?

• Primary Responsibilities:
  • Continue to assess needs of radiography programs at
    Univ. of Ghana & Univ. of Cape Coast
  • Review Curriculum
  • Conduct Seminar to Faculty & Students
  • Speak to each level of students at each University
  • Present textbooks & shirts to faculty at Univ. of Ghana
  • Present gifts to Korle-Bu Technologists
    • Lead apron to pediatric technologists
    • Supplies (i.e. medical tape, books, notebooks, etc.)
What We found out...

• Radiography programs have STRONG curriculums (very British based education)
• Curriculums are more theory based; Less “hands on” approach
• Basic classrooms (dusty & no air conditioning)
• No lab space
• No textbooks or visual aids
• Faculty hold many degrees (mostly doctorate degrees)
• Students are interested in higher degrees beyond bachelors
• Many clinical rotations during holiday breaks
Beyond Ghana ...

- Textbooks for University of Ghana & University Cape Coast
How Do You Fit In?

• Opportunities with RAD-AID International
  • Half the world has no radiology!
• Volunteer
• Donate
• ASRT Scholarship
• www.rad-aid.org
RAD-AID/Ghana Needs

• Technologists!!!
• CT, MRI, Mammo techs who specialize in their equipment
• Recently been approached for CT/MRI techs for 3-6 month stays in Monrovia, Liberia - installing new equipment and staff needs training
• Educators - several other programs have great need for educators to teach online and have short stays (2 weeks) in semester, Cape Coast, Kumasi
Challenges Faced...

- Finances
- Work/Time off
- Vaccinations
- Visa/Passport
- Logistics of Travel
- Weather
- Clean Water, etc.
- Separation from Family
- Unexpected delays, injuries, etc.
- Acclimation to Africa (culture)
Globalizing Radiography Curriculum

- Sister Schools
- Senior project
- Assignments
- Google Classroom - Discussion Board
- Skype sessions
- Study Abroad
  - CCBC
  - January 2019
  - Accra and Cape Coast
CCBC’s Community Book Connection

- CCBC chooses one book for cross-study instruction
- *Homegoing* is about the slave trade in Ghana to US
- Tie in book with theatrical performance with donation to Nana Afrakoma Vocational Training School
Odeneho Kwafo Akoto III, Akwamuhene, King of the Akwamu
Best part of teaching...having the pleasure to serve with a former student/graduate as a RAD-AID Volunteer.