Collaboration with the Cuban National School of Public Health on Health Project Evaluations

Joan O’Connell, PhD
Associate Professor, Colorado School of Public Health

Collaborators include faculty at the Cuban National School of Public Health
Basic Information on Internship or Practicum:

The Cuban National School of Public Health (ENSAP) provides graduate education to working professionals. Students in the ENSAP masters program conduct research for their masters’ thesis that is pertinent to their work in the Ministry of Public Health.

The goal of this collaboration with ENSAP is to match Colorado students with ENSAP students, based on aligned interests. The Colorado student provides assistance for an ENSAP student project and learns about Cuban Ministry of Public Health’s work in that field.

- Funding to support student time and travel is not provided
- Ongoing opportunities
- Language: Spanish
- Travel to Cuba is required
Project Specifics for an Internship or Practicum

**ENSAP student project topics:** Topics may include evaluations of public health programs and policies and cost studies on a variety of health topics (e.g., diabetes, oral health, dengue).

**Types of assistance:** Conduct a literature review on the topic and summarize findings, review existing program documents, and compile data and conduct basic data analyses. Work will start in Colorado, be ongoing in Cuba, and may be completed in Colorado. Optimal time for travel to Cuba is May/June.

**Prerequisite:** Some experience in global health (e.g., classes, previous projects) and knowledge of the Cuban health system.
Background on Internship or Practicum and CSPH’s relationship with ENSAP:

CSPH has collaborated with ENSAP for over seven years. This collaboration has involved students and faculty.

One current collaboration is an oral health research project. One CSPH student provided technical assistance for the evaluation of the project.

One CSPH student, with a background in nutrition and diabetes, engaged with faculty, providers, and student on a diabetes-related effort to prevent complications.

CSPH is currently exploring current opportunities identified by ENSAP.
Application process: Email Joan O’Connell information about your interest in this opportunity. Include information on education program, your educational program goals, experience in global health, your knowledge of the Cuban health system and how you plan to learn more about it, and possible topics of interest for an ENSAP internship or practicum.

Contact information: Joan O’Connell, PhD; Joan.OConnell@ucdenver.edu;