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Universidade de Vigo

Report

Staff Mobility between Royal University of Law and Economics

(RULE) and University of Vigo (UVIGO)

Staff Visit: Tann Boravin and Tuy Sophorn, Researcher and Lecturer

at the Center for the Study of Humanitarian Law (CSHL), English

Language Based Bachelor of Law Program (ELBBL), RULE to

UVIGO

Visit Period: 23rd March – 07th April 2019

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INTRODUCTION

Background

Doctoral Program in Khmer Universities Strengthening the International Development Environmental and maritime research (DOCKSIDE) is a structural project co-funded by Erasmus+ programme of the European Union - KA2 Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practices. In order to promote research capacity and teaching fields between public universities in Cambodia, in this regard, the Royal University of Law and Economics (RULE) sent two staff, Mrs. Boravin TANN and Mrs. Sophorn TUY to visit the University of Vigo (UVIGO) from 23rd March until 07th April 2019.

Objectives

Main objectives of the mobility between RULE and Vigo are mentioned as followings:

- To contribute for developing DOCKSIDE objectives and activities between the two universities;
- To improve the cooperation between the two universities through research collaboration, teaching capacity, and institutional exchange;
- To contribute on workshop, conferences, and research seminars; and
- To share knowledge and experiences between the two institutions and staff.

Expectations

- To exchange culture and experiences between Cambodia and European country;
- To improve capacity building in research field;
- To share and acquire new knowledge from UVIGO through training, workshop, seminar and conference;
- To enhance cooperation between RULE and UVIGO, and
- To expand networking with UVIGO.

Project DOCKSIDE: <http://www.dockside-kh.eu/>

RULE: <https://www.dockside-kh.eu/the-royal-university-of-law-and-economics-rule/>

UVIGO: <https://www.uvigo.gal/> <http://www.dockside-kh.eu/university-of-vigo/>

ACTIVITIES

I. INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR OF RULE STAFF AT UNIVERSITY OF VIGO, 27th March 2019

As part of sharing of research lines and interests, an international seminar was organized on Thursday 27th March 2019 for faculty members of the Faculty of Law, UVIGO. Mrs. Boravin TANN and Mrs. Sophorn TUY provided presentation of their research lines on human rights in Cambodia to faculty members.

Boravin discussed about her research on the rights of migrant workers, freedom of association, and transitional justice processes in Cambodia. Sophorn shared her research on the protection of women rights in Cambodia, in particular right to access higher education and environmental rights of women in Kratie province who were affected by the hydropower dam. In addition, the researchers presented about structure of master programs at RULE. She focused on the criteria requirement in order to apply to the master program, total students for all master programs, and detailed curriculums which could be used for the establishment of Master Program in UVIGO.

The seminar was hosted by the Faculty of Law, Department of Constitutional Law which created meaningful discussion and further interest in learning more about the topic by the faculty members as well as in building network for future collaboration and network.



II. NATIONAL CONGRESS ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AT SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA UNIVERSITY (UNIVERSIDADE DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA), 6 April 2019

To foster their understanding in the legal regime in the region, Boravin and Sophorn were also able to attend a national congress on constitutional law in the Liberty and Security in a Democratic Society session in Universidade de Santiago de Compostela in Santiago de Compostela. The panel of two experts and facilitator discussed the current situation and legal framework on counter-terrorism as well as collective efforts in the region. Furthermore, authors of short papers were also allowed to present their papers on the topic and received feedbacks and comments from participants.

The National Congress was a two-day program which invites constitutional law experts from various countries in the region and beyond to discuss the issues which were of their great interests. The main language of the congress was however Spanish. Therefore, the researchers were not able to attend other session(s), albeit of very much of interest.

We would like to thank to Prof. Dr. Aday Jimenez ALEMAN for the invitation as well as Ms. Iria Garcio LORENZO and Mr. Pablo Riquelme VÁZQUEZ for their administrative and logistics support.

III. OTHER ACTIVITIES

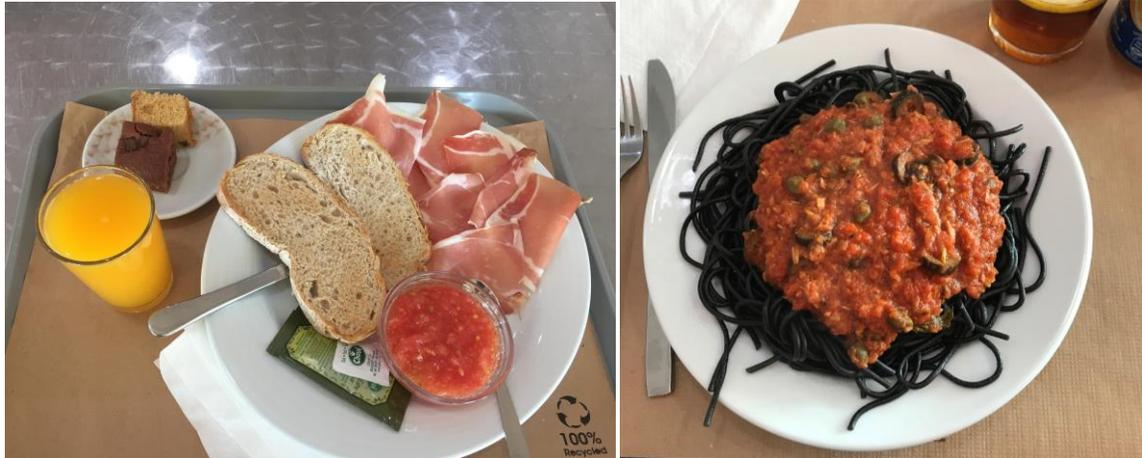
In addition to working on research at UVIGO, we were also able to explore the cultural and social aspects of the University campus and Vigo, a beautiful and hilly town.

Lunch Gathering with Colleagues at Vigo

As the campus of the University was well-equipped and convenient, we would not need to travel far to enjoy meals in light of busy time working.

During our time at UVIGO, we were introduced to a place called Commercial Center where most of faculty members had a good and hearty lunch with a reasonable price. We were mostly accompanied by Ms. Sarra Louredo, a PhD student at the Commercial Law Department. We were introduced to many delicious and healthy local foods and cuisine which were very diverse. We sometimes were joined by other professors and PhD students from the Faculty of Law and had a sharing session with them about Cambodia as well as our university, RULE. We had also visited the cafeteria of the faculty with colleagues for some coffee and lunch as well. Through the lunch gathering, we were also able to witness the tight schedule of professors and liveliness of the faculty and students.

During our time in Vigo, we also met a fellow Cambodian researcher, Ms. Sreyneang SUN, a Master Student from University of Battambang, Cambodia. She was spending her 3 months doing her research on biodiversity and environment at UVIGO which was also under the DOCKSIDE project.



Reconquista Festival (Reconquista de Vigo), 30 March 2019

Reconquista Festival was organized annually in order to celebrate the reacquisition of Vigo and Galician region from France since 1809. The festival was celebrated by street performances, traditional dressing and abundance of local foods and products. It was not only for the sight of tourists or foreigners, but local people together enjoyed and celebrated the festival in music, dancing and performance through the whole weekend. We were able to participate in the festival with our colleague, Sara and Srey Neang, and other colleagues from the faculty and see the Spanish culture through the traditional music and dancing as well as taste various local cuisine for the whole day.





Sightseeing in Vigo

In addition to exploring the huge campus of the university, we along with colleague from the faculty and fellow Cambodia were able to explore the downtown Vigo city center, including the well-known, Fishing Statute, Plaza de España and Plaza de America. And Castro de Vigo.



Visiting Santiago de Compostela, 31 March 2019

On the same day with the national congress in Santiago de Compostela, Ms Iria Garcio LORENZO, colleague from DOCKSIDE project, accompanied us to visit the beautiful old town and had a nice typical lunch and hot chocolate in Santiago de Compostela. We could see the differences in the two cities, Vigo and Santiago de Compostela. Although both are different in terms of landscape and environment, both are very pleasant and beautiful in its own ways. We also experience the dramatic Spring weather in Galicia, the sudden raining and sunshine in the next minutes.



CONCLUSION

Finally, the mobility program, supported by DOCKSIDE, allowed Mrs. Boravin and Mrs. Sophorn to experience European education system by gaining knowledge of best practices from different cultures and environments in an increasingly international educational system as well as access to the well-equipped facilities necessary for their research. Moreover, they had chances to build network of contacts from other European Universities as well as enhancing their own professional development, cultural, language, work experiences and personal development. Further research collaboration and/or capacity program are expected in the future. Future opportunities for staff from RULE to experience new cultures and contexts are highly appreciated for long-term capacity-building and development.

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