

Post-Visit Report

James M. Niemann Faculty Exchange with UWC

Funded by a grant shared by the University of Missouri's ("MU") South African Education Program ("UMSAEP") and the University of Western Cape ("UWC"), J.M. Niemann, traveled to UWC from January 30 through February 7, 2019. The purpose of the trip was to promote collaboration between MU's School of Law's Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic ("ELC") and UWC, with the opportunity to lead to the establishment of an entrepreneurial legal clinic at UWC's law school. As set forth in the grant proposal abstract, each of the intended outcomes was achieved.

Intended Outcomes:

1. Development of an actionable framework for an entrepreneurship legal clinic at UWC's law school
2. Cultivation of lasting, meaningful relationships between the University and UWC for future assistance in the entrepreneurial ecosystem at UWC
3. Sharing legal and curricular substantive information that will that will be restricted to current and future UWC faculty to be more impactful with fostering innovation by leveraging its law school's talent in collaboration with the Cape Town and UWC Entrepreneurial Ecosystems.

The itinerary for the trip was carefully crafted by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, Dr. Mennie Lawack, and her director of academic affairs, Dr. Andrea Martin. Dr. Martin directed the planning and also led the planning while also attending each of the meetings and events planned. The trip was an enormous trip, both as a facilitator and a participant. The preparatory meetings included substantial visits with the Dean, Jacques de Ville, of the Faculty of Law, the Entrepreneurial Legal Clinic director, Shamiel Jassiem, DVC-Academic, Dr. ... and Dr. ... Davies, coordinator of the Faculty of Natural Sciences, and up administrators from the Natural Sciences and Economic and Management Sciences (EMS) programs.

The pinnacle of the trip was my presentation on the potential of UWC's ecosystem as a generational success. The event was hosted by DVC Lawack and Dr. Martin and attended by Dr. ... of the Faculty of EMS, Dean de Ville, Professor Jassiem, and his law clinic faculty and other faculty at EMS and Natural Sciences. During an interactive discussion, Dr. ... and the Natural Sciences designee both responded with excitement and support for such a program for UWC, which would offer experiential learning in entrepreneurial law while developing a new global leader in the entrepreneurial ecosystem on campus and in the community. During the discussion, DVC Lawack announced that she would budget for the creation of an entrepreneurship legal clinic at UWC's law school, and further promote experiential learning for all UWC graduate and undergraduate students.

I am happy to share my review of UWC's DVC Acad. and Law Clinic, and to thank you for the opportunity.

To whom it may concern:

Jim Niemann, Director of the Law Clinic at UWC, first met with me and Dr. Anita [redacted], Director of Strategic Academic Projects in my office, during July 2018. I was most impressed by the work we did together, and the great overview of the work conducted by the ELC, the involvement of the students, alumni and other strategic partners, as well as the value of the ELC.

As a result of this interaction, I invited Jim to [redacted] the beginning of July 2019. He conducted a fantastic, in-depth workshop with the [redacted] that I received excellent buy-in for the start of an ELC at UWC. I do this without his wonderful insight and the assurance of his continued commitment to starting an ELC at UWC.

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The ELC is a program that I pivoted my career at my alma mater. This opportunity to share my program with UWC and its various leaders is a career highlight. I am excited to see the potential at UWC for immediate impact on the students. Furthermore, there appears to be a significant opportunity for UWC and other partners to support for its noble mission, particularly with a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. I remain committed to see them succeed in this effort, and I eagerly offer my continued support going forward.

Submitted by:



James M. Niemann

Founding Director, ELC

Executive Director for Legal Programs

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