



**Newcastle
University**

*School of Dental
Sciences*

VIRTUAL ELECTIVE EXCHANGE GUIDE

June – July 2022



in partnership with,



**University
of Dundee**



**UNIVERSITAS
INDONESIA**



IUPUI

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
School of Dentistry



**FIJI NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY**



**GSL DENTAL
COLLEGE**

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Welcome!

Welcome to the Virtual Exchange Elective programme! We hope you enjoy the next 5 weeks of exploring the world beyond your institution without getting on a plane and hopefully making some lifelong friends.

This guide will give you all the information you need for this Virtual Elective Exchange. If you have any questions after reading this guide, please refer to the contacts at the start of this document. There will also be an opening meeting held at 2 different times, you only need to attend one. The meetings are on Tuesday 14th June at 8am and 8pm UK time. Here we will all be able to virtually meet for the first time and you can ask any questions you might have.

Structure of the Elective

The elective is split into two main parts. The first part is getting to know one another and learning about life and dentistry in different parts of the world. The second part is working together on a joint project and presenting your work.

Your Groups

In a separate email you will have received details of your exchange group. Each group has students from 3 different universities. We have tried to match you up with students with similar interests (as expressed on the form you completed). These are the people you will get to know and work with over the next five weeks.

Communication

Communication is key! In this exchange you are going to have to work on when and how you communicate. We have set you all up in a Microsoft Teams and in smaller break out exchange group channels. We suggest that you initially use Microsoft Teams to

communicate as it will allow you to communicate in a delayed fashion in view of the time differences between countries. Teams also has the capacity to video chat as a group. Obviously, there are a number of different ways you can communicate, not only conferencing software but also social media and communication applications like WhatsApp or Messenger. If you find that another way is easier for you to work, then please feel free to move off Teams for informal chat. Just remember it needs to be something that everybody in your exchange group is able and happy to access. The number of 'live' video calls you arrange is up to you and your exchange group, we do however suggest that you arrange a minimum of 4 calls over the elective.

The electives team will communicate with you via the General Channel on the Microsoft Teams.

Cultural Sensitivities

It goes without saying, but please be respectful of others. Treat people the way you would be like to be treated. This exchange is an amazing opportunity to explore and learn about different cultures and we encourage you to do so. What we ask is that just as if you were physically visiting these countries please do a little research into what is socially acceptable and what is not. In some parts of the world certain topics and issues may spark controversy, we are not saying do not discuss such issues, just handle them with tact. If you find during the exchange the behaviour of somebody in the group upsets you, then please do not be afraid to mention it. You can either do so directly in the group as these should be safe spaces to share and it is likely that the person is unaware of any offence caused. Alternatively, you can contact the electives team and we will do our best to help.

Elective Details

Part A

Who are you and where are you?

This is an opportunity to introduce yourself, your country and your city! How you present it to your exchange group is your decision. You could just talk and explain it, you could make a presentation, film a video, take them on a walk around the city, your house, or share your photo album. You could even talk about your favourite food and have a live cook along session! The possibilities are endless! Be creative!

Things to think about covering:

- You, what are your interests?
- Where do you come from?
- Who is in your family, do you live with them or did you move away for university?
- What is your university city like? Who lives there?
- What are the locals like, any unusual/ interesting quirks associated with the city?
- What is the major sport?
- Are there any special foods or customs?
- What is the history of your city?

Dentistry where you are

Again, think creatively about how you might present this. Things to think about covering:

- Why did you want to become a dentist?
- What is it like being a dental student in your country?

- How is dental care provided in your country, what is the health care system?
- Are there any challenges to health care and dental care?
- How easy is it to access a dentist in your country, does it cost money?
- How well are the health care needs of your local population met.

Part B

Collaborative Presentation

In this section you will work on a presentation together. The topic of this may be something which came to light while you were getting to know one another such as differences between healthcare systems, differing population needs and trends or how the pandemic has affected you. Equally you may wish to explore a new topic which interests you all. As mentioned earlier, your exchange groups have been set up to try and put you together with people who expressed similar interests. Your matching interests have also been provided, but please do not be limited by these. If the topic is not on the list, you can still explore it so long as everybody else agrees!

Excitingly, the North of England Odontological Society have offered to give a cash prize for the best presentation (as judged by the leads from each institution).

Sources of Information

To explore your topic, you will need to access information and resources from a variety of places. Depending on the topic, you may find some of your teaching material is a good place to start. Looking at the websites of professional bodies and societies can yield useful information or give further links you can follow. A lot of academics and professional societies are very active on Twitter and will engage much quicker than contacting them via email. Speaking to someone who works or has experience in your chosen subject is often the most rewarding. Remember that all of you are students in Universities which employ a wider range of clinicians and scientists who are often world leaders in their field, don't be afraid to approach these people and ask for advice and

help. You may even be able to convince one of them to speak to your exchange group! You may also source material online, such as TEDtalks, government or healthcare websites. Please do try and make sure these are reliable as possible.

Format of the Presentation

How you choose to present the topic is entirely up to you and your exchange group. You could do a PowerPoint presentation, a podcast, a newsletter, an advert, a video or a poster (which could be in a traditional scientific format or something more creative). You could be extremely creative and write a song! Anything goes! We will provide you with more detailed information on timings of the presentation, content criteria and submission processes nearer the time.

Reflective Journal

During your elective we would also like you to think about and document your experiences using the reflective journal attached. This document will only be viewed by the elective team and will be used to informally evaluate the exchange. We may wish to tell others about this project, if we do we might use quotes from the journal. Any quotes will be completely anonymised and only presented informally at academic meetings. If we use the journals for research separate consent will be obtained from you. Please could you submit the reflective journal via email to Amanda Stane a.stane@newcastle.ac.uk by Friday 29th July 2022.

Presentation Session

We want to give you an opportunity to develop your presenting skills and what better opportunity than sharing with the wider exchange group your experiences and hard work. Therefore, we will be holding a virtual presentation sessions on Wednesday 20th July and Thursday 21st July. You are encouraged to attend both sessions if you can but you will only present at one of them. Further details regarding the presentation will be sent out separately.

Any problems

If you find you are struggling with any aspect of the elective then please get in contact with the electives team. We are available via email, contact details are at the start of this document.

Suggested Weekly Schedule

We have suggested a weekly schedule of activity. You do not have to follow this robustly and may wish to have more video calls but it will give you a good place to start.

Opening Meeting

Tuesday 14th June 2022 8am and 8pm UK time- choose which is best for you to attend.

Week 1 (14th – 19th June)

- Personal Preparation – Who am I? (Suggested time 1 hour)
- Video Call – meet everyone (suggested time 1 hour)
- Messaging Chat – start to think about topics you would like to explore

Week 2 (20th – 26th June)

- Personal Preparation – Dentistry in my area (suggested time 1 hour)
- Video Call – share a little bit about your area and dentistry (suggested time 1 h 30 minutes)
- Messaging Chat – start to think about topics you would like to explore

Week 3 (27st June – 3rd July)

- Personal Preparation – Perhaps pitch your idea for the presentation
- Video Call – discuss everyone's ideas
- Messaging Chat – finalise your presentation topic, come up with a plan of action and fair division of jobs

Week 4 (4th July – 10th July)

- Personal Preparation – gathering information for the presentation topic (suggested time according to work required)
- Video Call – discuss the topic further, this might include input and feedback from an 'expert'
- Messaging Chat – continue to develop the presentation.

Week 5 (11th – 17th July)

- Personal preparation – bringing the project together (Suggested time according to work required)
- Messaging Chat – finer details of the presentation

- Video Call – finalising and practicing your presentation

Week 6 (18th-21st July)

- Personal preparation – final recording of the presentation
- Messaging Chat – finer details of the presentation
- Video Call – recording the presentation and submitting by 19th July
- Presentation sessions via zoom

Presentation Meetings

Wednesday 20th July 2022 at 1pm UK time and Thursday 21st July 2022 at 9am UK time.