

A COUPLE OF DAYS IN THE LIFE OF A NEW EDUCATION ABROAD ADVISOR

A PHOTO JOURNAL OF MY PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE

By Harrison Gill



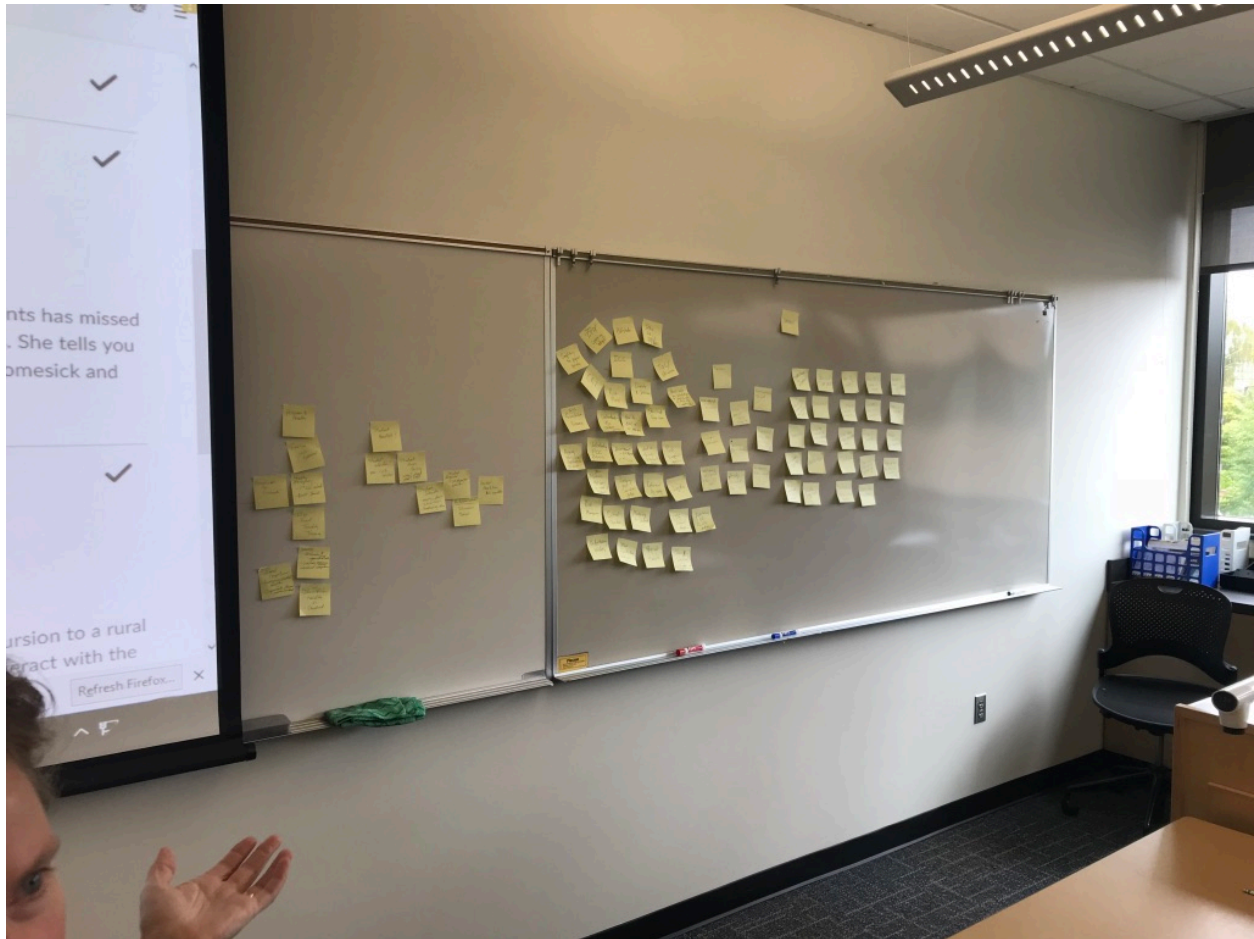
May 22, 2018, 12:13pm: I had the opportunity to complete my practicum at Portland Community College. Right once I finished commencement, I flew up to Portland to figure out where I'd be living for the next six months and to finally meet my supervisor for the first time in person.



July 19, 2018, 8:28pm: Don't forget that the MIIS network is everywhere. Starting practicum was difficult but there were always great people around to give me support – both near and far.



August 2, 2018, 7:28pm: Outside of my practicum organization, I also had the opportunity to volunteer with the IREX Community Solutions Program. CSP is a State Department-funded professional development fellowship for people from more than 80 different countries. After a six-hour flight delay, my fellows from Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Morocco made it to the Portland area.



September 11, 2018, 10:01am: One of the things I learned at MIIS was how to conduct design thinking workshops. Right before the start of our term, I had the opportunity to conduct the first design thinking workshop ever done within our department.



September 17, 2018, 9:31am: Right before the start of new academic year, I had the opportunity to attend PCC inservice. This is the one day of the entire year that all staff convene. During the President's presentation, our office got a shout-out.



October 2, 2018, 11:59am: Given that Portland Community College has four campuses, tabling is crucial to the office. Since we only have an office on one of those four campuses, we all would go around tabling on the campuses we don't have offices on so that we had an opportunity to reach out to more students.



October 16, 2018, 1:07pm: Part of the fun of being an international educator (even if it doesn't get to happen so often) is checking out other university campuses. Who knows when you might have to work with partners here in the near or distant future?



October 18, 2018, 11:12am: Thanks to Student Council Conference Funding, I had the opportunity to attend the NAFA Region 1 Annual Conference in Vancouver, Canada, where I had the opportunity to present my personal research project and network with other international educators based in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, and British Columbia.



December 20, 2018, 2:11pm: After being given the opportunity to interview at multiple locations during my practicum, I ended up with multiple offers. CACS helped me navigate this process and I'm excited to be starting at UMD in the near future and joining the MIIS alumni community in DC.