Nurturing Global Engineering Education During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Webinar: October 21st, 2020 11:00 –12:00PM MDT

The Payne Institute for Public Policy and the Humanitarian Engineering Program at Colorado School of Mines are pleased to host a webinar featuring members of the NSF Partnerships for International Research and Education Program (PIRE) Responsible Mining, Responsible Communities project.

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The Responsible Mining, Resilient Communities project is an interdisciplinary, multi-institutional, global research collaboration whose goal is to co-design socially responsible and sustainable mining practices with communities, engineers, and social scientists. A key component of this work is research investigating how situated learning enhances undergraduate students’ global sociotechnical competency, especially as it relates to their ability to define and solve problems with people from diverse disciplinary backgrounds and life experiences. Under typical conditions, this effort includes an extensive, in-person, field work experience in which undergraduates work closely with Colombian engineering students and artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) communities to develop appropriate sociotechnical solutions to problems identified by working with the miners. The burgeoning COVID-19 pandemic during late spring/early summer 2020 precluded all international fieldwork. This panel will describe how we developed and executed a meaningful distance-based fieldwork experience maintained direct engagement with international students and community members, and we will offer a preliminary assessment of these methods’ efficacy for developing global sociotechnical competency through remote community engagement and learning.

Welcome and Introduction

Panel
- **Robin Bullock** – Teaching Associate Professor, Engineering, Design & Society, Colorado School of Mines
- **Juan Lucena** – Director, Humanitarian Engineering Undergraduate Programs and Outreach, Colorado School of Mines
- **Libby McDonald** – Lecturer, Inclusive Economies Specialist, MIT D-Lab
- **Thomas J. Phelan** – Associate Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering, United States Air Force Academy
- **Jessica M. Smith** – Director, Humanitarian Engineering Graduate Programs and Research, Colorado School of Mines
- **Kathleen Smits** – Associate Professor of Civil Engineering, University of Texas-Arlington