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I am grateful to have the opportunity to attend the faculty development program exploring "*Perspectives on Global Issues Workshop – Partnerships for the Future*" at the European Academy of Otzenhausen (EAO) from May 10-17 2019. The benefits of this experience were on a variety levels and each day tackled a particular issue from examining: 1.) Issues about sustainability – challenges for the global citizens of tomorrow and learning about European political structures; 2.) Managing "the Commons" via governance and the challenges of climate change; and 3.) Incorporating global learning and ESD methods into the curriculum. Being afforded the opportunity to be focused on current global issues and partnerships in a '*think-tank*' like atmosphere with colleagues was an enriching and invaluable experience. Above and beyond the intellectual exchange, of particular note, was the tour of the European Parliament building and discussion of EP's role in sustainable development and the political landscape of Europe with examples of understanding successful ways to strengthen partnerships for sustainable development.

The EAO's campus itself was as beautiful as it is remote with hiking trails surrounding it for evening walks with colleagues and local organizers of the program. As a group, we hiked to *Hunnenring*, a Celtic Hill Fort built by Gauls of the Treveri tribe that remains one of the largest fortifications of the Celtic world. From its past glories and countless untold tales shared by our tour guide Alexander Metternich, *Hunnenring* is slowly and quietly crumbling away at an impressive 675m+ above sea level. The daily meals served to us were prepared by an inhouse chef with local ingredients that naturally created extended conversation from the talks and presentations. These lunchtime/dinnertime conversations are where much of the faculty development took place and where I was able to engage with faculty outside my department, exchange ideas and create partnerships/ friendships back on campus.

Prior to joining the group at Otzenhausen, I had an opportunity to tour Munich and Berlin, specifically looking at cultural sustainability and how to (re)contextualizing public spaces and public art. I conducted research at an archive in Munich, attended a symposium in Berlin, and met with local academics that toured me through their cities where I had the opportunity to learn from not only their expertise but also their daily lives. This week also prepared me for the Perspectives on Global Issues Workshop at the EAO and to expand upon my previous research on sustainable development.

Global/Local issues regarding sustainability is in my teaching, professional practice and community outreach. Upon returning to KSU, I have implemented the valuable information gained at the workshop in the following ways:

**Teaching:** Within my Environmental Technology course, I have incorporated an interactive exercise where students actively debate, and analyze the SDG's as an introduction to sustainability above and beyond construction and carbon footprints. A colleague carried back 12-books published by the EAO each with a

particular sustainable theme and I was able to also share the information with my class, where students were exposed to climate change, food cycle issues, pollution, and water, to name a few, and create a second-class activity analyzing each issue. Further, as thesis coordinator within the architecture department, I am able to bring a third activity into the classroom where I ask students to define the traits of good citizenship beyond the narrower definition of sustainability as it relates to the built environment. In addition, several colleagues from other departments that I meet at the EAO have come and presented their disciplines notion of sustainability and engaged with my students discussing citizenship, global democracy and sustainable development.

**Community Outreach:** Having attend the EAO faculty development program, The Climate Reality Leadership Project training and participating in our university's sustainability faculty fellowship program, I feel more empowered to engage and confront local community issues. After attending the EAO and being exposed to successful global partnership, I take to heart the phrase: *Think globally, Act locally*. As such, as a member and chair of the newly formed Climate Reality Project Cobb County Chapter, I spoke up at the EPA hearing regarding the Aktinson-McDonough Coal Ash issue citing an case study I learned about at the EAO. I also was inspired to assisted in coordinating the community meeting at Cobb Civic Center to discuss the Sterigenics Plant polluting the environment. On our campus, there were many students that are inspired by Greta Thunberg's youth climate strike and her book *No One is too Small to make a Difference*; therefore, I helped coordinate a new student organization--KSU Climate Reality Project campus chapter--that had their first event and had John A. Lanier introduce his grandfather Ray Anderson's legacy and how Interface paved the way for corporations to pursue a more sustainable path, proving that you can "*do well by doing good*." John presented his new book, *MidCourse Correction Revisited*, a reissue of Ray Anderson's groundbreaking book on leadership in corporate responsibility and the implications for the next generation in business and industry.

**Scholarship:** I am working on a scholarly article exploring possible connections between landscape of sustainability in post-war Germany and the current issue of re-contextualizing confederate public art here in the US. The essay is part of a larger project that will disseminate the research to the local, national and global sustainable communities. Specifically, examining undergraduate research exploring sustainability in the classroom, I completed an article entitled *Environmental Humanities: Evaluating the Theory-Practice Gap* that was accepted to be presented at the John Reynolds Sustainability Symposium organized by the University of Oregon in October 2019.