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Chairperson
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Value Statement
Project: Yellowstone-CCE

During the week of October 9-14, 2019, I had the opportunity to travel to Yellowstone, National Park in Montana. This trip was a continuation of the Yellowstone CCE project established in 2018 in junction with a remarkable group of CCM faculty: Professor Samantha Gigliotti (Biology & Chemistry), Dr. Michelle Iden (History & Political Science) and Prof. John Soltes (Communication). I would like to thank the Center of Teaching and Learning at CCM for giving me the opportunity to go on this trip and to learn more about this wonderful place.

Activities included:

1. Visits with Dr. Shane Doyle to the Museum of Beartooths, the Crow Nation Reservation in Montana, Little Big Horn College - Tribal College and the site of the Battle of Little Bighorn.
 - a) At the Museum of the Beartooths, the team met with the curator of the museum and set up plans for a possible visit in 2020. We exchanged contact information and received educational literature (brochures, maps, and books), and plans to visit the second Crow agency in 2020.
 - b) At Little Big Horn College, team members met with students and the director of Student Life to talk about a possible exchange of students in the future. The team also had the opportunity to meet the librarian and tour the campus. CCM promotional items, donated by the Department of Nursing and the offices of Dean Maraska and Kathleen Brunet, were delivered to the Little Big Horn College.
2. Attended a lecture on grizzly bears by Tyler Brasington, Park Ranger- Bear Management at Grand Teton National Park. Team members toured the educational facilities at the Track Educational Center in Gardiner, Montana. This was the location of a lecture on grizzly bears, but can also be used to host to students in 2020. The team toured the bunkrooms, restroom facilities, and classroom. (<http://www.tracknature.com/x/>)
3. Explored the park and used sites to promote the **Yellowstone Trip Instagram Participation activity** for students. The team members experienced the educational displays and museums at visitor centers located at Mammoth Hot Springs, Canyon, and Old Faithful.
4. Team members made an email connection with the Tom Miners Basin Association, a community group that collaborates with ranch owners, hunters, environmentalists and the government to improve land use and protect species such as the grizzly bear. The team toured Tom Miners Basin on their own and received an invitation to return with students.
5. Team members met with a representative from Optics Yellowstone, a company that provides rental equipment (spotting scopes and binoculars), which may be used next

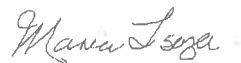
year with students. The team also connected with Yellowstone Forever, the park's nonprofit partner, and inquired about their scopes and binoculars for next year. This equipment will help the team view flora and fauna from safe, long distances.

This trip was completed as part of the Civic Engagement Project, developed in 2018. Starting in the spring of 2019, "Project Yellowstone" was brought into the classroom and to the CCM community. Some of the activities that were done in the spring included a visit to the New York Wolf Conservation Center, a trip to the American Museum of Natural History, a guest lecture by Dr. Shane Doyle (whose heritage is Native American), a film screening of a documentary on the Great Swamp and various readings from scientists, historians, and other experts.

In the fall 2019, the team has continued with the project and have many other activities planned. These activities include, a visit to the Great Swamp, a film screening of the National Parks documentary, a visit to the National Museum of the American Indian, Skype a Scientist, a Bear panel and a reading of *A Sand County Almanac* by Aldo Leopold at Mount Olive Library.

In addition to these activities, students were also able to participate in the ***Yellowstone Trip Instagram Participation activity***. Students were encouraged to post comments on Instagram with the Project Yellowstone professors while on the trip. There was an overwhelming response to the videos, pictures and posts. Our group analyzed the activity on Instagram and determined that during the Yellowstone Project takeover, the activity on CCM's Instagram page was at its highest.

Respectfully submitted,



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