



Global Clinical Engineering Impact:

University of Vermont named WHO Collaborating Center for HTM

The Technical Services Partnership (TSP) at University of Vermont has a long history of global clinical engineering work. The shared service clinical engineering group serving Vermont, New Hampshire and New York has been in existence since 1973 when it was conceived and funded through a Kellogg Foundation grant.

TSP first began working internationally by contributing as American College of Clinical Engineering (ACCE) faculty to Advanced Clinical Engineering Workshops in 1992 with staff participating in a total of seventeen workshops worldwide primarily with ACCE International Committee chair, Antonio Hernandez when he was at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). Although offering clinical engineering internships since its inception for Univ. of Vermont students, it first began implementing international student internships in 2005. Over the twelve years, thirty-seven interns from Argentina, Colombia, Peru, China, India, and Spain have been trained by TSP's staff of Certified Clinical Engineers. Through a grant from the Pan American Health Organization's foundation, bilingual BMET and HTM online courses have been developed which have been taken by over 1000 students from 40 countries. Other contributions by TSP include volunteer mission work on the ground supporting clinical services and training staff in Guatemala, Rwanda, Peru, Colombia, Paraguay, and other low and middle income countries. TSP has also contributed to international meetings, conferences, joint publications, and training events on HTM.

In August, the Technical Services Partnership (TSP) was designated as a [World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Healthcare Technology Management](#). TSP is the only Collaborating Center in the United States focusing on healthcare technology management. The project plan is to develop and conduct virtual, online educational courses on healthcare technology, live workshops for clinical engineering and technical training, publications, consulting, and studies in the area of HTM. The TSP team will be coordinating work to strengthen evidence-based selection and rational use of health technologies with the PAHO, WHO regional office for the Americas, and its HTM other collaborating centers at Instituto de Engenharia Biomédica, Universidad Federal de Santa Catarina (Brazil) and Centro Nacional de Excelencia Tecnológica en Salud, Ministry of Health – CENETEC (Mexico).

Tobey Clark, Engineering Supervisor, and Michael Lane, Director, Instrumentation & Technical Services, were named as Directors.