



# Agenda

## **SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, December 12, 2018**

**Administrative Conference Room, TOURISM Santa Fe**

**201 West Marcy Street**

**505-955-6707**

**4:00 to 5:00 PM**

### **Goals of the Sister Cities Committee:**

- More effectively market Sister Cities and what they do
- Develop educational programs in schools
- Strengthen relationships with existing Sister Cities
- Involve greater community in work and activities of Sister Cities
- Re-enforce and build existing relationships through trade and tourism efforts

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
  - a) November 14, 2018
5. Report of Chair
6. Reports & Updates
  - a) YAAS Showcase - Jeff Case
  - b) Education Committee—Jeff Case, Sky Stith
  - c) Bukhara, Uzbekistan
  - d) Holguin, Cuba
  - e) Icheon, South Korea
  - f) Livingstone, Zambia
  - g) Parral, Mexico
  - h) San Miguel de Allende, Mexico
  - i) Santa Fe de la Vega, Spain
  - j) Sorrento, Italy
  - k) Tsuyama, Japan
  - l) Zhangjiajie, China
7. Report of Staff (*Jackie Camborde, Arts Services Coordinator, jncamborde@ci.santa-fe.nm.us, 955-6707*)
8. Adjourn

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office  
at 955-6520 five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

**RECEIVED AT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE**

**DATE: 12/04/2018**

**TIME: 10:44 AM**

Sister Cities Committee  
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Call to Order	Sister Cities Committee meeting was called to order by the Chair, Carol Robertson-Lopez at 4:00 pm; Administrative Conference Room, Tourism Santa Fe. A quorum is reflected under roll call.	Page 1
Roll Call	Minutes reflect a Quorum	Page 1
Approval of Agenda No changes from Staff	<b><i>Mr. Fernandez moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Mr. Olivas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i></b>	Page 1
Approval of Minutes, November 14, 2018	Corrections: Listed Mr. Rudy Fernandez not present twice.  <b><i>Ms. Olivas moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Mr. Fernandez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.</i></b>	Page 2
Report of the Chair	<i>Informational</i>	Page 2
Reports and Updates a. YAAS Showcase b. Education c. Bukhara, Uzbekistan d. Holguin, Cuba e. Incheon, South Korea f. Livingstone, Zambia g. Parral, Mexico h. San Miguel de Allende, Mexico i. Santa Fe de la Vega, Spain j. Sorrento, Italy k. Tsuyama, Japan l. Zhangjiajie, China	<i>Informational, no formal action</i>	Page 2 - 5
Report of Staff	<i>Informational, Budget Information</i>	Page 5 - 6
Adjourn/Signature Page	<i>There being no further business to come before the Sister Cities Committee the Chair called for adjournment at 5:00 pm</i>	Page 6

City of Santa Fe

## Sister Cities Committee

Minutes, December 12, 2018

Frances Lucero, Stenographer  
12/12/2018

SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, December 12, 2018  
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

MINUTES

Goals of the Sister Cities Committee

- More effectively market what Sister Cities is and what we do
- Development of educational programs in schools
- Strengthen our relationships with existing Sister Cities
- Involve greater community in work and activities of Sister Cities
- Re-enforce and build existing relationships through trade and tourism efforts

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robertson-Lopez called the Sister Cities Committee to order at 4:00 pm, roll call reflects a quorum.

2. ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Carol Robertson-Lopez, Chair  
Rhonda Faught  
Dr. Jeff Case  
Arthur Olivas  
Rudy Fernandez  
Bernard Rubenstein

NOT PRESENT:

Sky Stith  
Carlene Carey, Excused  
Carl Moore, Excused  
Clara Padilla Andrews, Resigning

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jackie Camborde, Art Services Coordinator  
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No changes from staff or committee members.

***Mr. Fernandez moved to approve the agenda, second by Mr. Olivas, motion carried by unanimous voice vote***

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 14, 2018

Corrections: Listed Mr. Rudy Fernandez not present twice.

***Ms. Olivas moved to approve the minutes as amended, second by Mr. Fernandez, motion carried by unanimous voice vote.***

5. REPORT OF CHAIR

Introduction of Mr. Neal Morrison who is an RN at Christus Hospital and interested in participating in Sister Cities Committee.

Dr. Jeff Case introduced Mr. Morrison, he is also a Peace Corp volunteer and his participation in Sister Cities would be a good coupling of our service. Dr. Case would like Mr. Morrison to be the contact at Christus where we as a committee could share information consistently and be involved in projects together. We have a sister city in Zambia that is challenged with health care and has medical needs. During their conversation it led in to talking about outdated but good equipment and what they do with it, do they ever donate it to those who have medical needs. There was a question related to expired medications. A call was returned to Dr. Case by Mr. Morrison's colleague to start the dialogue on this opportunity. It was learned that there are Christus Hospitals who have done this to help underserved communities and also in Mexico. Dr. Case said that their discussion will also include professional exchanges.

Mr. Rubenstein talked about the program in Cuba, they do not accept any expired medications. Mr. Rubenstein is working with the school and a Medical Association in Havana who assist with tuition and training if they study in Cuba and practice there.

Dr. Case expressed his thanks to Mr. Morrison for attending today's meeting. He will serve under Dr. Case' Education Committee. There is not an opening in the Committee at this time. An annual review will be done at the new year and more information will follow.

Dr. Case recognized the Chair; she gave an excellent speech to 800 delegates at the Chinese Friendship Association meeting.

6. REPORTS AND UPDATES

a. YAAS Showcase – Dr. Jeff Case

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row we have been included in the showcase. Due to a personal family health commitment some time has passed and it has delayed the installation of this exhibit in some of the schools. Dr. Case made a great contact with the Academy of Technology and they would be interested in hosting it in 2019. The

Mayor has become very interested in Sister Cities and he would like some of this artwork in his office. Dr. Case met with the Mayor's wife and they selected the art together.

There are 12 framed pieces, and we have them available until December 26, 2018.

The Chair reiterated that she is very happy that the Art is in the Mayor's office and thank you to Dr. Case for his outreach and acquisition of this art.

Dr. Case shared a local contributed framed piece from a trip to Tsuyama for Monte del Sol school. Dr. Case said that possibly he and Mr. Morrison could submit the name of the teacher at Monte del Sol School for all that she contributes.

Dr. Case received a nice thank you email from Rod Mehling at Mandela and a congratulatory letter from Rubi Meyer our educator collaborator from Parral on the Sustainability Journal.

b. EDUCATION

Dr. Case expressed his thank to Mr. Fernandez for connecting him to Rubi Amaya Beyer from Parral, Mexico who sent a wonderful thank you. She offered to help and collaborate on projects, even though she is not in Parral.

c. BUKHARA, UZBEKISTAN

The New Mexican printed an article on two New Mexico faculty at Mora High School, Renee Moody, and Highlands University, Edgar Blanco, who traveled on a Fulbright-Hayes State Department grant to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Renee Moody was with us when we visited our Sister City artists on Sunday at the Folk Art Market. The article specifically mentions their travel to Bukhara, Uzbekistan, a Santa Fe Sister City.

The Chair noted that one of our favorite artists was not accepted to the Folk Art Festival. There is a policy where you have to sit out 1 year unless your country is in severe hardship and this was not the situation in this case.

d. HOLGUIN, CUBA

Cuba is going through major changes with a new President. Capitol Building in Havana (Capitolio) is modeled after the United States Capitol in DC, extraordinarily beautiful.

Cuba has a great system of education; we know that, but especially arts education. For example if a young woman is a very talented musician or a painter, they recognize them at an early age and they get free education all the way up to the higher classes. When I first heard of Holguin as our sister city, about 15 years ago, I became acquainted with a young conductor who was a teenager at that time; she was about 15 years of age. I have been mentoring her for about 20 years. She has a complicated life history and I continued to work with her throughout these years. Conducting is very competitive, if you want to get a job as a conductor you are amongst 250 applications and when it winds down approximately ½ dozen are invited. She was one of the ½ dozen young conductors to the Buffalo Philharmonic in Buffalo, New York. Everyone thought she was the most talented person there but they chose a young African American individual from Buffalo because it involved community things. She heard while she was there of an Assistant Conductor job in Edmonton, Canada and she did get this position.

e. ICHEON, SOUTH KOREA

There is a proposal that may be possible to partner with South Korea. More information to follow.

f. LIVINGSTONE, ZAMBIA

Dr. Case talked about a relationship that opened up with IFAM Africa Coordinator Bill Zunkel and Mayor Eugene Mapuwo in Livingstone, Zambia. Bill was traveling to identify local Livingstone, Zambia artists who would benefit from the Folk Art Market experience/Santa Fe galleries. He made great connections and met with 5 artists who shared their places of sales of art and where it was made. Bill brought back many photos and made introduction to experience the Folk Art Market.

g. PARRAL, MEXICO

Mr. Fernandez expressed his thanks for keeping the students involved from Parral. The Mayor from Parral would like to continue the relationship with Santa Fe Sister Cities and he will be extending an invitation for Santa Fe delegation to visit Parral. Mr. Fernandez would like us to send an invitation from the Mayor to reciprocate and invite them to visit Santa Fe, NM.

h. SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, MEXICO

The Chair will meet with Mr. Joe Schepps to see what more we can do to nourish this relationship. The Chair will keep this on her list of priorities and invite people who are interested in San Miguel de Allende. She talked about HIPICO as it will be in San Miguel de Allende in February.

- i. SANTA FE DE LA VEGA, SPAIN – Rudy Fernandez/Bernard Rubenstein Augustine sent a Christmas card from Santa Fe de la Vega, Spain to the Sister Cities Committee.

Mr. Rubenstein reported about his trip to Spain. He was in contact with Augustine from Santa Fe de la Vega and had a wonderful day with him. Mr. Rubenstein will show photos at a future meeting.

Rhonda Faught talked with Tony Gerlitz and they are going to make connection with the Spanish teacher at St. Mikes to re-ignite the program.

- j. SORRENTO, ITALY

Chair reached out to John and no word or report at this time.

- k. TSUYAMA, JAPAN

Mr. Olivas said he has received short message from Japan. The advice is for Mr. Olivas to reach out to them after the new year to find out what is the next step to get involved with the City. We are nearing our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Mr. Olivas will know more after the first of the year as to when an invitation could be extended. At that time he will follow the formality through the Mayor.

Matsuri: May 11, 2019  
Santa Fe Convention Center

The Chair would like to have a table for the Sister Cities at the Matsuri.

- l. ZHANGJIAJIE, CHINA

Next year is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the diplomatic relationship in China. The relationship is still a strained relationship. The Chair talked about an experience she had in a Harbin, China, the capital of Heilongjiang, China's northernmost province. Another great experience is the Bread Basket of China where the environment is beautiful. Harbin Ice and Snow Festival is the largest ice festival when the rivers freeze over. It was also the horrible site of war with Japan.

## 7. REPORT OF STAFF (Jackie Camborde)

Ms. Camborde stated that the Arts Commission Office is very busy right now in closing the year with the Grantees. The city is realigning positions in the administration with their job responsibilities.

International budgets were reduced and consolidated for FY18-19 by the Governing Body. Budget reflected in table below:



\$1000	For registration
\$1000	For promotional sponsorships
\$790	For Sister Cities International Dues
\$2000	In consulting fees for meeting, travel and event coordination for inbound visits from Mayoral delegations of current and active Sister Cities
\$1500	Familiarization for inbound visits (transportation, lodging, meals, etc.) from Mayoral delegations of current and active Sister Cities

Currently all but \$600 of these funds remain expendable, subject to City procurement policies and rules. Budget term is July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Rubenstein asked who presented these numbers.

Ms. Camborde stated that Tourism prepares the budget. The categories have not changed for a number of years.

Dr. Case talked about the YAAS display and he inquired about the return of the exhibit. He inquired about the type of service the city uses as he would like to use Fed Ex. when he returns it to California.

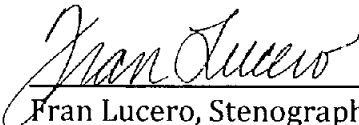
Ms. Faught asked Ms. Camborde to research where the cost of a Facilitator would come when Sister Cities Committee has a retreat. Ms. Camborde will research this question.

## 8. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Sister Cities Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Signature Page:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Robertson-Lopez, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fran Lucero, Stenographer

## December 2018 Report

1. Carol gave an excellent speech to 800 delegates to the Chinese Friendship Association. See Attached.
2. For The Sustainability Journal we receive a nice thank you email from Rod Mehling at Mandela and a congratulatory letter from Rubi Meyer our educator collaborator from Parral. See below.

On November 25, 2018 at 4:38 PM Rubí Amaya Beyer <[rubibeyer@hotmail.com](mailto:rubibeyer@hotmail.com)> wrote: Hi Jeff, I hope you are fine and I wish you had a great Thanksgiving Day. I am very grateful for the invitation to collaborate on this project. I think we reached the goal we set at the beginning. As I told you before, although I'm not in Parral, you should know that I will always be in the best position to continue collaborating with all of you. Best Regards, MBA Rubi Amaya Beyer Cel. +52 1(871)2 192204 Enviado desde mi iPhone

3. We were able to arrange a meeting with IFAM Africa Coordinator Bill Zunkel and Mayor Eugene Mapuwo in Livingstone, Zambia. Bill was traveling to identify local Livingstone, Zambia artists who would benefit from the Folk Art Market experience/Santa Fe galleries. See below.

Hi Eugene,

Yes we had a great time with 5 artists and went to places of sales of art and where it was made. Your people were excellent with kind hospitality, and care. We spent 3 hours together and all went well. I have many photos and made introduction to experienced Folk Art Market regular in Namibia, for Florence Chileshe from Department of Art and Culture.

All good and with many thanks,

Bill

On 11/24/2018 9:15 AM, Eugene Mapuwo wrote:

Good day Bill,

This is fantastic. Did you manage to meet artists

Kind regards

Eugene

*Exhibit A - 10 pages*

Jeff, The Mayor was out of town, but he had arranged for a representative from Department of Arts and Culture and five artists to be with me 3.5 hours. We visited sites where they either work or sell their art. I have a hundred pictures and told them that when I got back to Santa Fe December 16 I would screen the photos and determine the ones eligible. More later, but that is the overview. Thanks for arranging, it was extremely valuable time spent today. Best, Bill

On 11/22/2018 11:40 PM, Jeff Case wrote:

Great. Let me know how it goes so that I can give a report to Mayor Webber. Thanks. Jeff. On November 22, 2018 at 6:12 AM William Zunkel <afrizunk@cybermesa.com> wrote: All set for tomorrow. Bill.

4. The New Mexican printed an article on two New Mexico faculty at Mora High School, Renee Moody, and Highlands University, Edgar Blanco, who traveled on a Fulbright-Hayes State Department grant to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Renee Moody was with us when we visited our Sister City artists on Sunday at the Folk Art Market. The article specifically mentions their travel to Bukhara, Uzbekistan, a Santa Fe Sister City. See attached.
5. I have been working on how to teach geography by using Sister Cities. There is the possibility of using the GEOBEE which is the National Geographic version of a spelling bee. I've had some interesting conversations with Kerry Cottle at the Rio Grande School. Kerri is also helping us with Sandra Cisneros. See below.

Jeff

On November 15, 2018 at 9:15 AM Kerri Cottle

<kerri\_cottle@riograndeschool.org> wrote:

Dear Dr. Case, I hope your trip was wonderful to South Korea. I wanted to apologize for not getting a letter out before my trip. I only had a half day on Wednesday and had two parent meetings before I left so my normal

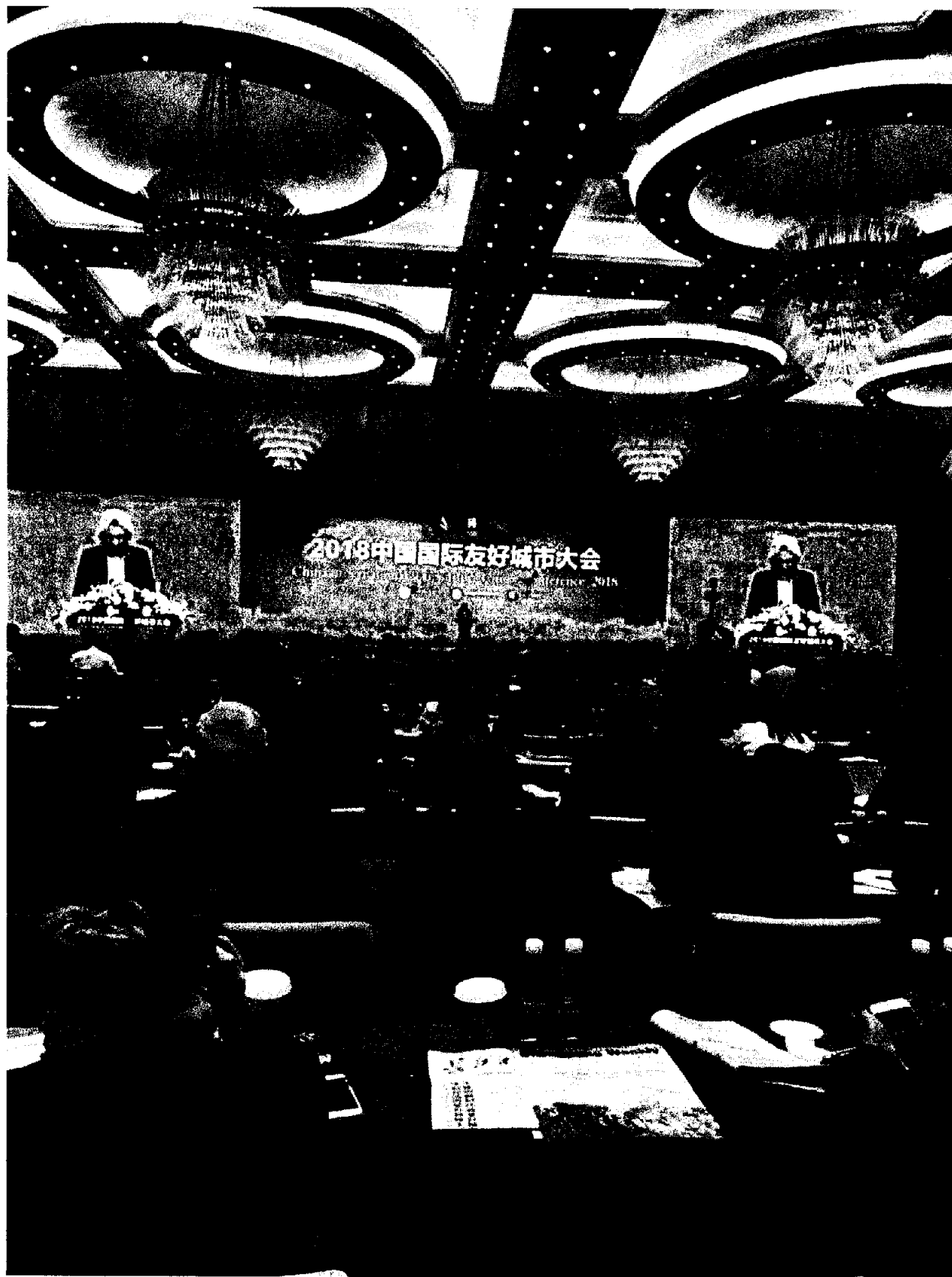
class time schedule did not work. The students are still excited about Sister Cities and I think it could be a really focus in the spring and throughout the year. The students just did a wonderful play in 5th grade written about Sandra Cisneros. She lives in our Sister City of San Miguel, Mexico. Her most recent book is about her move to San Miguel. I have seen her many times lecture in Santa Fe and been wanting to have her visit the school. The 5/6 grade teacher was going to have her class write letter to ask her to come to the school when she visits Santa Fe. Another connection.

I do have some exciting news I was interviewed by National Geographic and have been given the job as the National Geographic New Mexico State Bee Coordinator. It is a stipend position, one that I am very excited about. There are 52 coordinators in the country and they will be sending me to attend the National Bee in May as part of position. I talked to National Director about the Sister Cities Program and CIR programs (trip to Turkey). I will keep the state Bee in ABQ this year and follow the model that was done last year but hopefully will add some changes (a lead guest speaker). I hope to bring the Bee the following year 2020 to Santa Fe. They have a group of volunteers in ABQ but I am hoping to engage some Santa Fe people this year in helping out.

Warmest regards, Kerri  RIO GRANDE SCHOOL

6. YAAS. There are YAAS entries in Mayor Webbers office.

Carol's SCI Photos...."Honored to deliver speech at opening of China International Friendship Cities Conference. VP of China, Governor of Province, and others spoke as well."





2018中国国际友

City International Friends

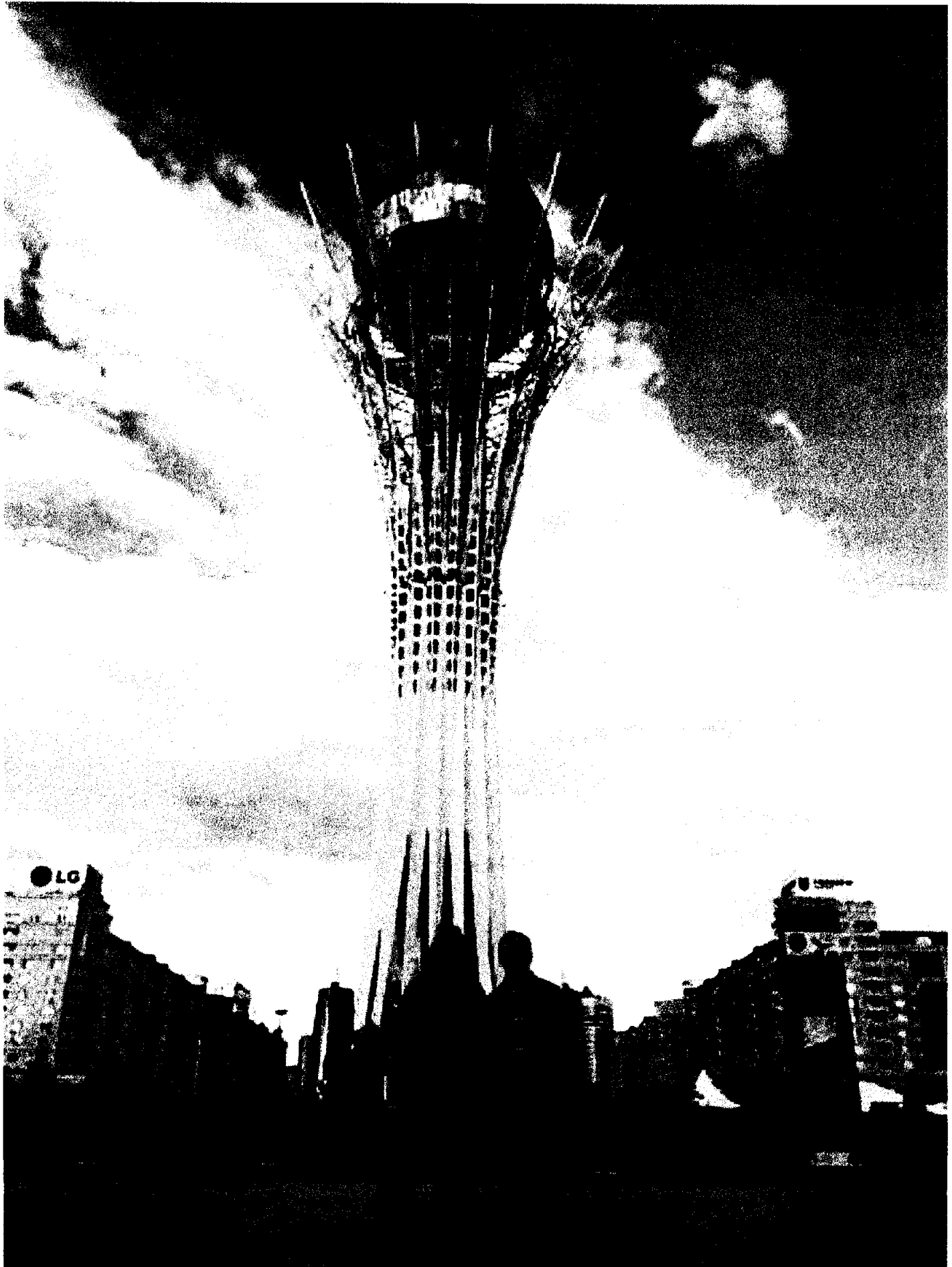
城市大会

Conference 2018

## **Traveling to Central Asian gems: Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan**

- By Renee Moody and Edgar Mauricio Vargas Blanco





Renee Moody and Edgar Mauricio Vargas Blanco in front of the Baiterek Tower in Astana. Courtesy photo

The opportunity to travel to Central Asia and learn about new cultures and languages while bringing back knowledge for the classroom seemed like any educator's dream. We were part of a group of both college and high school educators from Arizona and New Mexico who participated in a Fulbright-Hays Seminar to Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan in June.

Not only did we have an intensive crash course in Russian, a language spoken in both countries, but we also were given extensive study materials on the history and culture of each country. While we communicated online, none of us knew the other participants. Added to the unfamiliarity of the region we were traveling to, was the strangeness of rooming with and being in the company of complete strangers for a month.

Both Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan are former Soviet-satellite countries; since gaining independence after the fall of the Soviet Union, they are essentially one-party systems. When we arrived early in the morning hours of June 2 at Astana Airport, in the capital of Kazakhstan, we were shocked at the modernity of the buildings. It looked to us like a combination of Las Vegas, Nev., and Dubai, United Arab Emirates. There even was neon on most of the buildings. The next two weeks were spent touring the capital, studying Russian, listening to lectures and returning to our dorms at Nazarbayev University in the evenings. Since the time difference was 12 hours, we were often exhausted by the time the day ended — which, by the way, was around 10 p.m., the same time darkness finally fell.

The cult of personality surrounding the first and only president of the country, Nursultan Nazarbayev, was one we'll never forget. His name was on not only the university we were staying at and attending classes at, but on streets and various monuments throughout not only Astana, but also in other cities such as the former capital, Almaty. His palm print was embedded in bronze with the motto, "Choose and Be in Bliss" at Baiterek Tower.

The almost otherworldly aspects of Astana disappeared once we left for Uzbekistan. Tashkent, its capital, did not have the same brand-new feeling that

Astana did. There were remnants of the old Soviet regime in many places we visited, including a subway system installed by the Soviets and a World War II memorial near our hotel. Most people there, although they spoke Russian, communicated in Uzbek.

One high-speed train ride later, we were in Samarkand, a stop on the Silk Road of Marco Polo. It was night and day different from anything we had ever seen, straight out of a fairy tale. Rising blue-tiled domes, towers and squares, which were built before America was even a colony, dazzled our eyes and imaginations. It was a vibrant place, with bazaars selling everything from meat and fruit to fresh bread and custom-made garments. The madrassas, once places of learning, now housed artisans and all manner of crafts, from seamstresses to rug-makers, who all called to us to come in and take a look.

We had one last destination on our Asian odyssey, Bukhara, sister city to Santa Fe, a direct stop for traders on the Silk Road, complete with trading domes from the 16th century that are still being used to barter for bargains.

One amazing thing happened along the way: We became a bonded unit, a kind of tribe of travelers, hunting for ideas for our classrooms. We laughed together, spent time exchanging stories and learned together about faraway places no one ever thought they would visit.

Renee Moody is an educator at Mora High School. Edgar Mauricio Vargas Blanco is assistant professor of Hispanic Linguistics at New Mexico Highlands University.