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Jo Sias Daniel, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, CEPS travels to Italy, Spain, France, United Kingdom

Jo Sias Daniel

University of New Hampshire, Durham

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UNH Global

Jo Sias Daniel

Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering - Italy, Spain, France, United Kingdom



Dr. Daniel (l.) and family in Venice after visit to Parma

The UNH Center for International Education and Global Engagement grant provided financial support to meet with several European colleagues and attend meetings while I was on sabbatical in the UK at the University of Nottingham and to return after several months to continue collaborations and to attend an international conference in France. I was awarded a Fulbright for the fall semester to work with the Nottingham Transportation Engineering Centre on research

related to recycled materials in asphalt concrete and the impact of climate change on pavements; my family was able to join me as well.

The first European trip was to Italy where I visited my colleague Dr. Gabriele Tebaldi at the University of Parma to discuss several research proposal ideas around recycled materials and sustainable pavements as well as opportunities for twinning US and EU projects. We also began the process of developing an MOU for student exchanges between UNH and Parma. We enjoyed a traditional dinner at his home with delicious Parma ham and cheese (along with 7 or 8 other kinds of meat and cheese). We also spent time in Rome, Tuscany and Venice on our trip – places we'd wanted to visit for ages and an amazing experience for our three daughters.

The next trip was to Barcelona, Spain to attend RILEM asphalt technical committee meetings. Several colleagues from NTEC attended, along with colleagues from the States and around the world. I was able to meet many new European colleagues and learn about the different types of research programs and priorities. I presented a summary of one of the approaches to fatigue testing and analysis of asphalt



Cheering on the home team in Camp Nou

concrete that our research group at UNH uses. Although the days were filled with meetings, there was plenty of time in the evenings for socializing over late tapas dinners and we also were able to go to an FCB match at Camp Nou. We had an extra day after the meetings to tour the city and visit many of the Gaudi sites – Sagrada Familia is just absolutely amazing and an engineering marvel.

The last trip of the fall was to Lyon, France in early December to visit Dr. Herve di Benedetto at ENTPE. My family and I flew to Zurich and took a train across the Alps (there was some snow and Christmas decorations in all the towns) to Lyon. Although the yearly light festival had been cancelled due to security concerns, there were some displays and we enjoyed visiting the city. I had a great tour of the facilities at ENTPE and a very good day talking to the graduate students and faculty – they do very similar research and we found lots of discussion topics and potential future collaborative opportunities.

I returned to Nottingham and NTEC in early June to visit with students and faculty and also to attend the RILEM International Conference on Mechanisms of Cracking and Debonding in Pavements held in Nantes, France. I presented three papers at the conference and was able to catch up with many of the new colleagues I'd met in Barcelona in November. The conference was well organized and a nice blend of technical presentations with social times over lunches and during poster sessions and in the evenings. It was a great experience being in Nantes during the opening of the Euro 2016 football tournament with squares full of folks outside watching the game on big screens. After the week in Nantes, I went back to NTEC and was able to spend a few days in the office there catching up with graduate students to discuss the progress they'd made since December and a new collaborative research project that is underway between NTEC and UNH. I also had Ali Ford, one of the



Jo Daniel (l.) and host Dr. Herve di Benedetto
at ENTPE in France

researchers that I'd met in Newcastle in November (during Jennifer Jacobs' visit), come down to NTEC to discuss collaborations around climate change and infrastructure. I enjoyed commuting by bike with Dr. Gordon Airey (my host and director of NTEC) and visiting some of my favorite places in Nottingham during my time there, along with spending time with great friends and colleagues. I'm looking forward to continued collaborations and my next visit!



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Rare opportunity to climb inside RAP drum
at asphalt plant outside London



Wollaton Hall and Deer Park in Nottingham

with host Dr. Gordon Airey



Some unique sites in Nantes with NTEC colleagues

Dr. Gordon Airey and Dr. James Grenfell

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