This project aimed to support the expansion of the University of Washington (UW), University of Nairobi (UON) and Kenya Ministry of Health Clinical Education Partnership Initiative (CEPI) to integrate UW and Kenyan Nursing students and faculty into an ongoing, applied, clinical education program in Naivasha, Kenya. Through the SIPT grant, we were able to convene a series of strategic planning meetings including representatives from the UW Departments of Global Health and Medicine, the UW School of Nursing Department of Psychosocial and Community Health and Advancement Office, the Jomo Kenyatta University School of Nursing, the University of Nairobi School of Nursing, the Naivasha County Referral Hospital, and the Karangita Public Health Dispensary. A summary of major activities, as well as proposed next steps follows.

University of Washington Participants and Planning Process
We had four participants from the University of Washington Schools of Public Health, Medicine, and Nursing. Dr. Pamela Kohler, Assistant Professor in Global Health and Nursing led the initiative, in partnership with Dr. Jody Waldron, Chief Resident for the CEPI program. Joining the team were School of Nursing Clinical Assistant Professor and Global Health Afya Bora Consortium Alumni, Dr. Kristen Hosey; as well as Assistant Dean for Advancement in the School of Nursing, Renee Duprel. CEPI Director, Dr. Carey Farquhar and Interim Executive Dean of the School of Nursing, Dr. Pamela Mitchell, also contributed to program planning. Dr. Maggie Baker met with the team prior to travel to discuss issues related to memoranda of understanding and off-site clinical placements.

Activity 1: Meeting with the Jomo Kenyatta School of Nursing
The Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JGUAT) was started in 1981 as a middle-level college by the Government of Kenya. The majority of the ~40,000 students are State funded, while some self-pay tuition. The School of Nursing, recently promoted to “School” from “Department” status, sits in the College of Health Sciences (COHES), formerly the Institute of Tropical Medicine. The School is fairly new, with first undergraduate cohort graduated in December, 2011, formation as a Department of Nursing under the School of Medicine in 2014, and then promotion to a School of Nursing in 2015.

Currently, the SON has an undergraduate BSc program, though they are expanding rapidly and interested in developing future graduate programs. Established specialty areas include medical-surgical nursing, midwifery, nursing education and research, critical care, and pediatrics. Students attach to clinical sites at local hospitals, the closest is Thika, a Level 5 Regional Hospital. In addition to clinical attachment sites, students work with the county nursing officer at various county sites.
After a briefing with the College of Health Sciences Director, our team met with the Dean of the School of Nursing, Dr. Peter Mwaniki and Dr. Kenneth Ngure, Chair of the Department of Research, Nursing Education, and Leadership. Dr. Ngure currently collaborates on HIV-related research projects through the International Clinical Research Center (ICRC). We also had a round table discussion with the JKUAT SON faculty (pictured left). Areas of interest for the faculty include collaborative research activities, staff exchanges and visiting lectures, student exchanges, support in graduate curriculum development, and sharing our sourcing of equipment or educational supplies.

Activity 2: Meeting with the University of Nairobi School of Nursing

The UON and the UW have a 30-year history of collaboration in research and research training, with newer collaborations with the School of Nursing through the Global Health Afya Bora Program. Like Jomo Kenyatta, the UON SON originated as a department under the School of Medicine before being fully established as a school of nursing in 2006. The UON has both undergraduate and graduate programs (including numerous masters degrees and a PhD program), with departments of Medical-surgical Nursing, Midwifery and Gynecology, Community Health Nursing, and Nursing Education and Administration. Masters degrees are offered in Medical-surgical Nursing, Pediatrics, Community Health, Midwifery, Oncology, Critical Care, and Mental Health.

Professor Grace Omoni is the Director of the School, and currently collaborates with the UW through the Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI). We met with her faculty team, including faculty in medical surgical nursing (Samuel Khumani), the head of Midwifery (Hanna Inyama), a lecturer for Community Health (Lucy Bitok), and administrator Jackie Monet. Faculty partnership interests included research, faculty and student exchanges, clinical placement partnerships like the CEPI program, profession development for nurse practitioners, cultural enrichment, collaboratively producing “global nurses”, and specific topics such as non-communicable diseases, infectious disease modeling, and emerging problems. They were also interested in joint supervision of PhD students; for example, the UON faculty is small, and there may be additional expertise that can be identified at the UWSON, or vice versa. Curriculum development, particularly in neonatology and critical care was also an area of interest, as well as online or distance learning opportunities.
Activity 3: Collaborative CEPI Meeting for all Potential Partners

The SIPT activities culminated in a collaborative CEPI meeting, hosted at the Sopa Lodge in Naivasha, Kenya. The meeting agenda included an overview of each of the institutions represented, a discussion of the current CEPI program, identified opportunities for nurses within the program, potential challenges in program operations, and licensing issues for nursing placements. Information on representatives from and the operations of each of the institutions follows:

- Dr. Joseph Mburu: Medical Superintendant, Naivasha Hospital
- Christine Maina: Senior Nursing Officer, Naivasha Hospital
- Purity Thirikwa: Nursing Officer, Naivasha Hospital
- Dr. Oren Ombiru: District Medical Officer, Naivasha Sub-county
- John Gitahi: Public Health Nurse, Naivasha Sub-county
- Helen Githura: Nurse Clinical Educator, Maternal Child Health Center, Naivasha Hospital
- Professor Grace Omoni: Principal, University of Nairobi School of Nursing
- Dr. Kenneth Ngure: Department Chair, Jomo Kenyatta University, School of Nursing
- Renee Duprel, Assistant Dean for Advancement, UW School of Nursing
- Dr. Kristen Hosey: Clinical Assistant Professor, UW School of Nursing; Afya Bora, Global Health
- Dr. Pamela Kohler: Assistant Professor, UW School of Nursing, Global Health
- Dr. Jody Waldron: CEPI Chief Resident, UW Internal Medicine
Site Visits: Karangita Dispensary and Naivasha County Hospital

Following the meeting, the group participated in site visits at the Karangita Dispensary, the Naivasha County Referral Hospital, and the housing facilities of current CEPI residents. The Karangita Dispensary serves a slum area between 20-40,000 people, most of them workers for the flower farms and their families. The CEPI program has been working with the community health workers to identify problems affecting the pediatric population and the dispensary presents an opportunity for a good clinical or community health site. We met with the head nurse, Teresa, who was supportive and welcoming of medical and nursing residents. The dispensary is larger than most sites, with a new maternity ward and examination rooms.

The Naivasha Sub-county Referral Hospital, formerly known as the Naivasha District Hospital, is a Level 4 referral hospital. It is a 213 bed facility, including a new 70 bed maternity ward, male and female in-patient units, surgical, and pediatric wards. Outpatient departments include a consultant's clinic, TB and HIV clinics, Psychiatry, Laboratory, Radiology, and Pharmacy. Their patient to nurse ratio is approximately 15 to 1. Our group visited the male and female inpatient and surgical wards, the new maternity wing, as well as a new casualty department. We also held a meeting with the UON and JKUAT faculty and the Hospital Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Mburu. The prospect of nursing students was welcomed. We also met with some of the current CEPI residents and visited their residence, which is a gated house with an onsite guard for safety.

Conclusions and Next Steps

All groups were highly interested in partnering to promote nursing opportunities. The Jomo Kenyatta School of Nursing is newer, and does not yet have a graduate program. However, they are very interested in partnering with the School of Nursing in curriculum development, research collaboration, and eventual clinical placement opportunities. The UON has a more established graduate program, and is ready to match graduate students with UW students at the Naivasha site as well as partnerships in their PhD program. They are also interested in research collaboration and continue to be a partner through programs like Afya Bora in the Department of Global Health. Finally, the Naivasha Hospital teams were incredibly receptive and looking forward to the presence of nursing graduate students. The Naivasha County Public Health Nurse expressed that there are a number of ongoing opportunities that would welcome nurse interns.
Interestingly, the nursing scope of practice is broad and somewhat dependent on urban/rural location in Kenya. The Kenyan teams were surprised that RNs do not independently deliver babies in the US, and there was some discussion of aligning scope of practice appropriately.

Dr. Hosey will supervise a team of six students this summer in Naivasha through a Summer Exploration Seminar, and plans to engage not only with the hospital, but also with the dispensary and other community public health activities. Initially, students will focus on teaching and community health experiences and not conduct any clinical care. However, there was considerable interest in having nurses work in a clinical capacity from all parties, and it was thought that the licensing may be feasible. Both Dr. Hosey and Professor Omoni have experience and contacts at the Kenyan Nursing Council, which would govern nursing licensure.

Dr. Waldron has shared the existing Department of Global Health MOU with the Naivasha Hospital, and Academic Services within the School of Nursing is reviewing this to see whether we could adapt this to include Nursing or otherwise leverage the existing agreement. We recommend pursuing MOUs with Jomo Kenyatta and UON. UON could be an extension of previous DGH agreements, while the Jomo Kenyatta agreement would be a new partnership. The UW School of Nursing is moving forward with plans for a Center of Excellence in Global Health Nursing, so as this center develops, these partnerships could be part of an ongoing program.

In conclusion, we are grateful for the support of the Provost’s Office and the SIPT Program. The meetings were very fruitful and will ultimately lead towards fulfilment of the UWSON vision for a robust Global Health Nursing research and training program.