Greater Columbus Sister Cities International
Experience Seville, Spain (Andalusian region)
A Delegation led by Commissioner John O’Grady, April 28 – May 6, 2018
Delegation Report
Submitted by Julie Fox, OSU CFAES Representative

Brief Summary
Franklin County Commissioner John O’Grady led a delegation of 12 community leaders to explore an economic development and smart cities focused mission, supported by Greater Columbus Sister Cities International (GCSCI). The Central Ohio delegation visited the Sister City of Seville, as well as Madrid and Malaga. OSU’s CFAES interest in this delegation included innovative partnerships related to food, agriculture, the environment, community engagement, and impact areas identified by OSU Extension. Franklin County Commissioners and the city of Columbus are strong university partners, with many collaborative projects, such as the local food plan. Key insights are based on the delegation visits, CFAES interests, urban context, and university engagement in Spain. Potential next steps align with priorities and shared interests of the city, county, university, and OSU Extension, especially in Franklin County. This report reflects an individual perspective and is intended to advance further conversation. A complete Sister City delegation report will be provided by GCSCI. As with most international adventures, it was clear that while our languages and circumstances may be different, together we can address grand challenges that impact our local and global communities.

Delegates
County
- John O’Grady, County Commissioner, Franklin County Delegation Lead
- Jim Schimmer, Director, Franklin County Department of Economic Development and Planning
- Lauren Rummel, Policy Director, Franklin County, Office of Commissioner John O’Grady

City
- Shannon Hardin, Council President, Columbus City Council

OSU
- Julie Fox, CFAES Department of Extension, Associate Chair

Industry
- Mark Patton, Vice President, Smart Columbus
- Jean Carter Ryan, President, Columbus-Franklin County Finance Authority Board Chair, Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA)
- Emmett Kelley, Law Firm Member, Frost Brown Todd, LLC
- Jim Russell, Executive Vice-President The Pizzuti Companies
- Cassy Sleeper, Strategic Marketing Manager, The Bruner Corporation

Sister Cities
- Tim Sword, President, Greater Columbus Sister Cities International
- Sameen Daftar, Program Manager, Greater Columbus Sister Cities International
Visits

The delegation left Columbus, Ohio on Saturday, April 28 and arrived in Madrid, Spain on Sunday, April 29. Visits began on Monday, April 30 and the delegation returned to Columbus on Sunday, May 6.

**Madrid**
- **U.S. Embassy** Meeting with Tom Reott, Economic Counselor (from Ohio) and Trade Specialists Angela Turrin and Carlos Perezminguez
  *Note: Urban Agriculture Initiatives’ Network*
- **Empresa Municipal de Transportes de Madrid (EMT) visits** with Marta Serrano, Sergio Fernandez, Luis Álvarez
- Juan Azcarate Luxan, Madrid deputy director of energy and climate change
  *Note: Madrid+Natural, nature-based climate change adaptation*

**Malaga**
- **City Hall**, Malaga Mayor Francisco de la Torre Prados
- Malaga City Council, International Economic Development Director, Marc Sanderson (from Texas)
- Tabacalera – **Telefónica’s Innovation Center Smart City**
  *Note: Engaging innovations included Imaginar Kids augmented reality puzzles and the BackBlack App Hologram (demonstration and education possibilities)*
- **Enel/Endesa Smart City Malaga Project & Spanish National Digital Content Hub**
- **Andalucía Smart City Business Cluster**, Daniel Gonzalez Bootello, Director
  *Note: CFAES relevance and alignment with Smart Cities (and Smart Campus)*

**Seville**
- **Seville City Hall**, Mayor Juan Espadas Cejas and division leaders
  *Note: they are sending a Seville Food Plan, built upon urban ag plan*
- Tour of the Port of Seville
- **Solnova solar power towers**
- Urban Agriculture tour with Amy Bodiker Baskes (Franklin county resident, husband on sabbatical in Seville)
  *Note: Urban Gardens of Seville*
- **Extenda** - Scope of agriculture sector
- **Hacienda Guzmán Olive Oil Producers** and **Juan Ramon Guillen Foundation**
  *Note: Research*
Urban Context

A theme shared by central Ohio and the cities in Spain is the urban influence. Locally, nationally, and globally, the urban context influences life along the rural-urban continuum.

By 2050, the world’s urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the twenty-first century’s most transformative trends. Populations, economic activities, social and cultural interactions, as well as environmental and humanitarian impacts, are increasingly concentrated in cities, and this poses massive sustainability challenges in terms of housing, infrastructure, basic services, food security, health, education, decent jobs, safety, and natural resources, among others (United Nations, The New Urban Agenda, 2017).

Nationally, census data show growth in urban and metropolitan areas, as well as differences between urban and rural populations. With 11.5 million residents, Ohio is the seventh most populous state in the nation. More than half of Ohio residents live in 10 of the 88 counties.

The urban context is especially relevant to the university, the college, and OSU Extension. As an anchor institution with “urban” woven into the university’s vision, OSU plays a significant role in addressing the urban context. OSU will be featuring the urban mission as one of the Sesquicentennial Academic Summits, tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, 2020. Nationally, two organizations focus on urban universities – the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities Urban Serving Universities and the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities. The Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) added urban issues to their priorities. A National Urban Extension Leaders group formed and now has steering committee representation from NIFA and ECOP.

Scholars at OSU and around the world have explored the urban context and urban-rural relationships from a variety of perspectives. For example, OSU’s C. William Swank Program in Rural-Urban Policy, OSU’s Center for Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA), OSU Department of Geography’s Urban, Regional, and Global Studies, OSU’s Center for Languages, Literature, and Cultures.
Key Insights and Potential Next Steps

The trip to Spain reinforced the value of urban leaders exploring common intersections to gain insight into alignment of shared priorities. This potential framework illustrates how OSU CFAES leverages a network of resources for impact at many levels. Next steps could include using this draft table to explore the impact alignment and related opportunities of OSU CFAES teaching and learning, research and discovery, and community engagement.

Table 1.0 Common Interest Framework (draft outline and work in progress)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perspective</th>
<th>Global</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>The Ohio State University (OSU)</th>
<th>Central Ohio Urban Community Collaborators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority</td>
<td>UN Habitat III The New Urban Agenda</td>
<td>APLU Urban Serving Universities (USU) and Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU) National Urban Extension Leaders (NUEL) ECOP NIFA Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP)</td>
<td>College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) international programs in agriculture OSU Extension (OSUE) OSU office of international affairs, student life, Center for languages, literatures, and culture</td>
<td>Government Business (Profit &amp; NP) Education Philanthropy Citizens (Volunteers) The Columbus Way Smart City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Environmental Sustainability Protect the Environment (NUEL) Feed Our Future (NUEL) Climate Change (NIFA) Sustainable Energy (NIFA)</td>
<td>Water quality (CFAES) Environmental Quality (OSUE) Sustainable Food Systems (OSUE) Urban Ag</td>
<td>City/County Food Plan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Economies</td>
<td>Job Skills &amp; Careers (OSUE)</td>
<td>My Brothers Keeper (City) Poverty (County)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>End Poverty</td>
<td>Improve Our Health (NUEL) Global Food Security &amp; Hunger (NIFA) Childhood Obesity (NIFA) Food Safety (NIFA)</td>
<td>Food Security (CFAES) One Health (CFAES) Health &amp; Wellness (OSUE)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban-Rural</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rural-Urban Grand Challenge (CFAES) Policy (CFAES) Broadband</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of Life</td>
<td>Leave No One Behind</td>
<td>Enrich the Youth (NUEL) Strengthen Communities (NUEL)</td>
<td>Thriving Across the Life Span (OSUE) Engaged Ohioans, Vibrant Communities (OSUE)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additional potential next steps include:

1. Advance the international perspective detailed in the UN’s Urban Agenda as it aligns with OSU’s urban mission and 150th Sesquicentennial, CFAES Grand Challenges, and Extension’s urban framework.

2. Connecting with other Extension teams who visited the Sister City. For example, Colorado State University Extension hosted a tour of the Andalusian region of Spain in Nov. 2017 to explore food systems, agriculture, and natural resources.

3. Exploring potential connections for OSU Extension leaders with Sister City programs in other urban municipalities.

4. Developing relevant linkages with the Columbus Smart City initiatives (such as 4-H youth engagement) and OSU’s Smart Campus and student interests (potential link to Waterman Master Plan?).


6. Introducing multidisciplinary OSU colleagues to university professionals with other urban leaders in Sister Cities who are working on common interests, such as urban agriculture, food systems, sustainability, and urban-rural relationships. Build on applied research.

7. Visiting with CFAES leaders involved with the college international office and OSU leaders involved in the Sister City to explore potential shared interests.