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## Students create library and learning center in Nepal



Graduate Institute students have been working around the world through the summer vacation. Three second-year Master's students, Prakash Pathak, Taylor Clayton and Vivian Marcelino, recently traveled to rural Nepal where they created a library and multimedia-learning center in the village of Udiyachaur.

Shree Saraswati Higher Secondary School, home to approximately 700 children of all ages, lacked educational resources, enriching learning materials and space dedicated to studying. The students sought to change in June when they supplied over 2000 Nepali and English books, along with nine computers, e-learning software, a projector, a printer, and arts and crafts supplies.

Throughout their month-long stay, Pathak, Clayton and Marcelino collaborated with school staff to identify the specific needs of the school in an effort to provide relevant, culturally appropriate materials for the students.

In tandem with basic training sessions on technology and library usage, they also worked in partnership with 30 students – selected by the teachers for their academic performance and leadership – to organise, catalogue, and prepare thousands of books before they reached the shelves.

The three Master's students strived to instill a sense of ownership in the young leaders and hoped to inspire them to propagate future change.

Pathak, an International Economics Master's student and a native of Udiyachaur, had dreamed of empowering the youth in his village through education for many years.

Thanks to the generous support of Le Prix Christophe Pralong, the Graduate Institute and several private sponsors, the project was made possible. The three remain in contact with the staff at Shree Saraswati Higher Secondary School and plan to continue to provide remote guidance and support.