

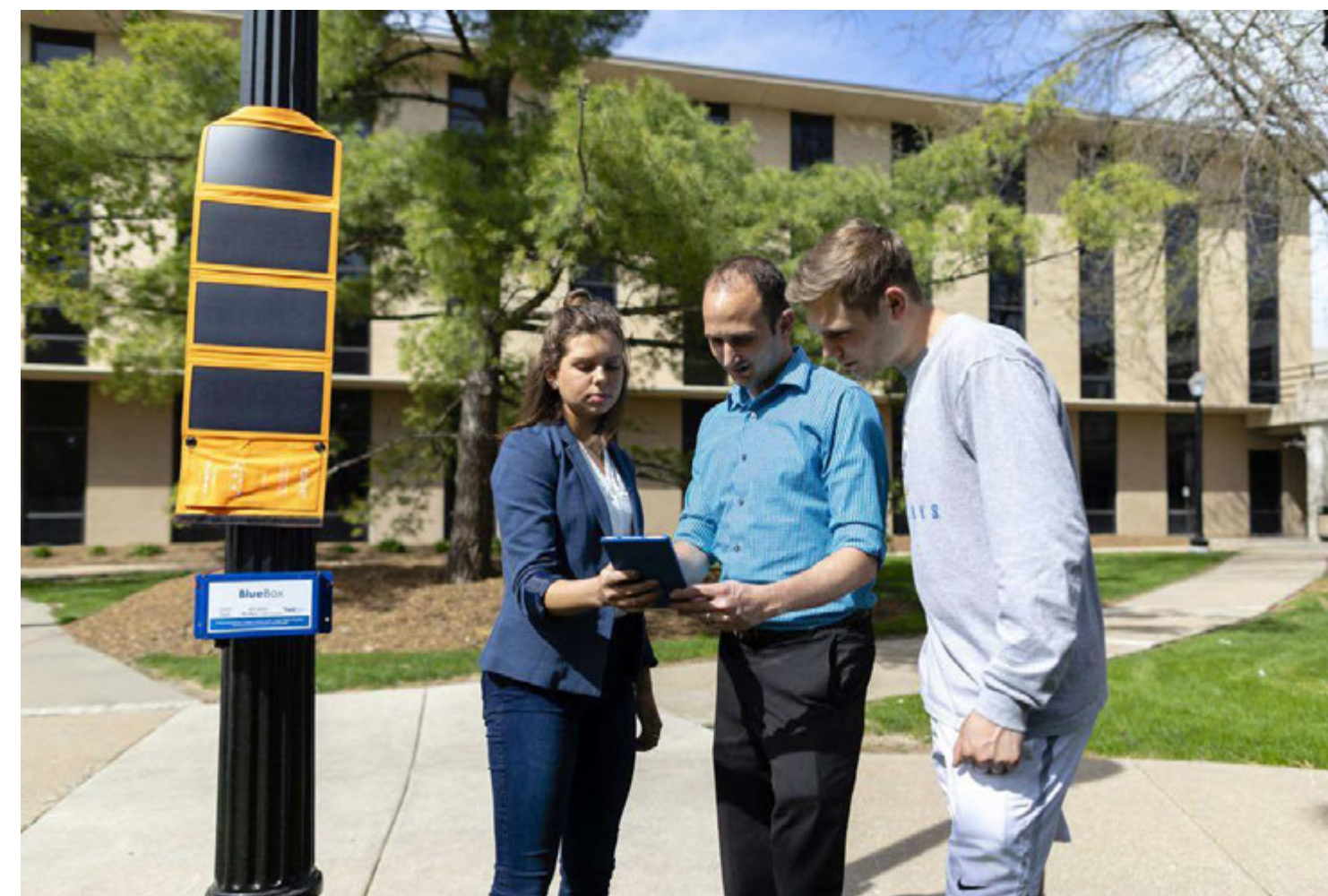


The BlueBox Project

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The BlueBox is a small digital library containing preloaded educational material to facilitate education in the most remote areas of the world. Even without Internet, the material on the BlueBox is free and accessible to any device that connects to the BlueBox hotspot. Using either a wireless or a wired connection, communities, teachers, and students can connect to the BlueBox and view the materials on their device. A solar version of the BlueBox can also be deployed in areas without electricity. The BlueBox is a Raspberry Pi-based system that runs Wikipedia, TED Talks, The Gutenberg Project, World Possible's OER2Go library, Khan Academy, and more. It will also soon connect to our own BlueBox Mobile app.



The Practicum Course

This interdisciplinary, service-learning course focuses on the deployment of educational technology at numerous sites in the Dominican Republic. Students enhance discipline-specific knowledge through their engagement with interdisciplinary teams, technology, Spanish-language training, and analysis of the project and environment. Students travel to multiple sites in the Dominican Republic to train teachers on how to use educational technology provided to schools and to conduct a dialogue with school and community leaders. Students examine the cultural and economic realities of life in the rural Dominican Republic and utilize feedback, dialogue, and surveys from community visits to promote reflection on the experience. Following travel to the Dominican Republic, students identify new ideas and/or enhancements to the BlueBox project then self-select into interdisciplinary project teams to bring these ideas to fruition.

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