

Study Abroad Initiatives Development Grant *Instructions for Applying*

The Study Abroad Initiatives Development Grants are to provide faculty with funds to help create new study abroad opportunities. Possible funding proposals:

- Site Visits - to assess the viability of a program location, organization or institution
- Program Shadowing – to accompany a faculty member currently leading a program abroad
- Faculty Visits – to meet with colleagues at other institutions to discuss new & collaborative program ideas
- Other ideas related to new study abroad program development

Proposals seeking other uses of the funds are also welcomed, but must be related to study abroad or international programs.

Faculty members seeking funding for study abroad initiatives are encouraged to contact Roy Robinson (rrobinson@pugetsound.edu), Director, International Programs to discuss plans for new program development, site visits or other study abroad related initiatives.

Deadlines: March 1

The amount of funds available to support new initiatives will not be determined each year until mid to late February.

Faculty members interested in applying for a study abroad initiative development grant will need to submit:

1. A narrative of no longer than 3 pages which addresses the nature of the proposal and possible future study abroad program or initiative.
2. A budget explaining the need and use of the requested funds
3. A letter of support from the Department/Program Chair explaining how the study abroad program would fit into the curriculum

The International Education Committee (IEC) Advisory Sub-committee will evaluate all grant proposals using the IEC Evaluation Rubric.

The completed application should be submitted to Roy Robinson, International Programs Director, CMB 1055, rrobinson@pugetsound.edu

Sample Initiative:

- Faculty member in Biology is working to create a new faculty-led study abroad program in tropical biology and submits a proposal seeking funding support to visit three possible university collaborators in Costa Rica and visit different sites for the proposed program.

International Education Committee

Program Evaluation Criteria

New and existing international programs¹ will be evaluated on the basis of Puget Sound's objectives for study abroad experiences:

Objective 1: To foster intercultural competence, cross-cultural communication skills, and personal development.

- Knowledge: to develop a richer understanding of another culture, and a broad competence that is applicable across a variety of intercultural contexts.
- Communication: to develop skills and ability to engage in effective cross-cultural communication and understanding.
- Self-Awareness and reflexivity: to develop the ability to contextualize and understand alternative perspectives based on different cultural systems.

Objective 2: To foster global citizenship and appreciation of international diversity and interdependencies.

- To develop a deeper understanding of global interconnectedness and diversity.
- To develop a stronger sense of social responsibility, social justice, and international power relationships.
- To foster civic engagement at home and abroad.

Priority will be given to programs that substantively incorporate the following policies and practices, which have proven to most effectively achieve the objectives outlined above, as assessed through the rubric below.

The rubric below is intended to assess program impact through the following thematic criteria:

- 1. Integration into the Broader Curriculum**
- 2. High Impact Program Design**
- 3. Practices Associated with Intercultural Development**
- 4. Institutional and Breadth Concerns**

¹ The term "programs" in this document refers to specific tracks within multi-track programs as well as single-track programs.

International Education Committee Program Evaluation Rubric

As noted in the Program Evaluation Criteria document, priority will be given to programs that substantively incorporate the following policies and practices, which have proven to most effectively achieve Puget Sound's objectives for study abroad experiences. The IEC should consider the four questions below, **scoring programs on a scale of 1-5** based on a *qualitative evaluation of program structure, content, and its relationship to institutional concerns and curricula (rather than simply adding the bulleted items fulfilled)*. These scores can then be used to compare and evaluate programs.

Individual programs are unlikely to score highly in every category, and some criteria are mutually exclusive from others, but preference should be given to programs with high scores (4-5) in two or more categories.

How well is the program integrated into the broader Puget Sound curriculum?

Examples of curricular integration:

- Substantive, synthetic links between campus learning and study abroad.
- Globalizing and internationalizing the on-campus curriculum.
- Abroad programs that draw on faculty expertise, including direct program design and leadership.

SCORE: _____

Is the program structured in a way likely to yield a high-impact experience?

Examples of high-impact program design elements:

- Long-term (semester or year).
- Perceived "less culturally similar" destinations.
- Integration of foreign language courses (before or during).
- Leveraging partnerships with international universities and non-profits.

SCORE: _____

Does the program incorporate practices that increase intercultural competence?

Examples of practices associated with increased intercultural competence:

- Homestays or related practices that lead to students spending significant portions of their time abroad with locals.
- Faculty mentoring beyond the classroom during program.
- Completing a research experience.
- Completion of a service-learning experience or internship.
- Strong site utilization through interdisciplinary or discipline-based fieldwork or experiential engagement.

SCORE: _____

Does the program comport with institutional concerns and priorities?

Examples of relevant institutional concerns/priorities:

- Programs that provide qualitatively different or unique experiences, as compared with those already offered, and which address the University's objectives for international education.
- Programs that allow students in a particular major/field/department opportunities to study abroad that contribute to their field of study.
- Programs that draw student populations that are historically underrepresented in international education.
- Programs with reasonable costs.
- Programs with clear and effective procedures to ensure student well-being and safety (including response to instances of sexual violence).

SCORE: _____