

Institutional Relations Report

School ID 47

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Other Key Personnel

Sponsored Customized Program(s)?

Previous Visits:

9/10/08: Orv Gingerich
1/09/08: David Hamilton
10/03/07: Suyen Barahona

Previous Students on Semester Programs

Previous Customized Programs

History/Notes from Previous Visits

9/10/08: Orv Gingerich

I met with Kim Tunncliff, Allen Bertsche and Jane Tiedge for an hour and half in Kim's office at 2:30 pm.

Augustana plans three faculty led fall terms in Asia, Europe and Latin America on a 3 year cycle. The Latin America Term comes up again in fall term of 2009; 60-65 students will be enrolled in the 10 week program. They have decided to schedule the program in Mexico, Ecuador and Peru. They are working with Cemanahuac language program as their program provider in Mexico. Kim mentioned the possibility of beginning an Africa terms program in a couple of years with possible interest in including Namibia component.

The college has adopted an academic calendar of 10 (Fall) – 5 (Dec) – 5 (Jan) – 10 (Spring) which will allow students to study abroad for a full semester across the fall and Dec terms or Jan and Spring terms. The two five week terms will also provide opportunities for faculty led programs abroad.

Kim and Allen mentioned that they would like to create a 10 week term opportunity for Spanish Education students to study in Mexico or Central America. It would be only 4 – 5 students in the Fall Term (Junior Year). The curriculum should include 3 courses: Culture, Literature, History, teaching internship, advanced Spanish. (3 sh = 9 sh). Teaching internship could possibly be in TESL to provide experience teaching language or the

curriculum could be full course work with a non-credit service learning experience in a school. The program would be dependent on Education Department approval. Beginning would be in fall 2010.

*Orv will work with Mexico site to come up with a proposal.

We should definitely stay in regular conversation with Augustana and Kim Tunncliff. He is very interested in CGE programs and Augustana is moving forward with internationalizing the curriculum through study abroad. We are now positioned to promote CGE semester programs to Augustana students and we may be able in the future to do contract programs and customized travel seminars for them.

*Jesse or Margaret could follow up with Jane Tiedge to see what further information and support they need from CGE for promoting or advocating for CGE programs. Find out if they still host a study abroad fair. We have been invited in previous years but were unable to attend, plus their schedule didn't lend itself to AC students enrolling in CGE programs.

A very fruitful conversation that could lead to a more productive relationship.

If possible link the campus visit to their study abroad fair. It has not been scheduled at a good time in previous years but the changes in the office might have resulted in a better schedule for the study abroad fair. I forgot to ask about that.

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1/09/08: David Hamilton

10:00am-2:00pm: Study abroad fair at College Center

2:00pm: Went to study abroad office & Tour with Kim Tunncliff. Left materials at office

3:00pm Met with Kim Tunncliff and two other Latin American Professors to discuss short term Travel seminars.

The visit went really well. Although only 100 people came to the fair, almost all of them came to my table since there were only 7 of us who came and set up tables. I was able to talk from anywhere to a few minutes to fifteen minutes to everyone. This allowed me to have time to discuss why our pedagogy and use experiential education is unique.

I did briefly meet with Jane Tiedge and visit the study abroad office. Jane did not spend that much time at the international fair. She did express great interest in our semester programs and that she had heard good things about them. I would really follow up with her and discuss ways we could work better together. It seems they are in the process of developing their study abroad programs, but are still in need of schools like ours for options they cannot provide.

She did give me a pamphlet on their international office which is attached. In the future I would recommend planning a meeting with her or representatives from her office. I didn't realize that the fair would be so small so she would have time to meet if I would have requested in advance.

I also had a good 1 hour meeting with Dr. Tunncliff and two other Spanish teaching faculty who are planning a short term travel seminar in Fall 2009.

The school is in the process of changing their academic calendar in fall 08.

I don't know if it would be worth going to Augustana just for the school visit, unless it was on route to other nearby schools. Of course my visit was worthwhile because I also visited with faculty interested in short term travel seminars. Rock Island is a challenge to fly to, you have to fly into the Quad cities which is expensive. The school is a 3 hour drive from O'Hare in Chicago.

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10/03/07: Suyen Barahona

8:30 – 10:30 Met with the following people:

- Dr. Kim Tunnickliff. Director of International Office. Associate Professor of Political Science.
- Jane Tiedge. Associate Director. Office of International Programs.
- Allen Bertsche, Associate Professor, Chair of Spanish Department (also in charge of L.A America semester abroad program).
- Esteban Loustaunau, Assistant Professor. Spanish Department.

10:30 – 11:00: Jane set up a meeting with 2 other professors: Robert D. Haak, Director, Center for Vocational Reflection and Vicki Sommers, Women and Gender Studies professor.

11:00 – 1:30: Set up a table at Student Union. Not many students showed up.

Excellent set of meetings. Very warm reception from Dr. Tunnickliff and Jane. They spent all morning with me and set up several meetings with different professors so that I could explain our programs, including our customized travel seminars. According to Jane I arrived at an appropriate time since they have been in meetings revising their fall semester program in Latin America and thinking about providers to work with. They were extremely excited about the possibility of having us do all of the set up and logistics for their semester programs in Latin America and short term faculty led seminars (Similar to what we do with Furman). They feel very comfortable with the fact that they would be dealing with another Lutheran College. They like the focus, the quality and the transparency and are very excited about the possibility of working with us.

Dr. Tunnickliff explained that he is fairly new in that position (only 3 months). There are a lot of changes in the study abroad office. The current president is more committed to internationalizing the university and increasing the number of students that study abroad. Until now, only 27% of their students go abroad, mostly to their semester programs. They are revising their policies and rethinking how they will develop study abroad, whether it will be through more exchange programs, affiliations or a combination of both. They have not decided what financial aid will travel with the students or not. The study abroad office will probably be more of a gate keeper office. Right now, they don't have affiliation agreements or list of approved programs. If students want to study in other programs, they review it case by case and then decide.

Until now, most semester and summer programs were managed by faculty. They did all of the set up work. However they are revamping their semester run programs, especially in Latin America. This is a fall semester program. <http://www.augustana.edu/internationalstudy/index.php> Students take 4 courses and travel to 4 different countries (Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico, Perú) and 10 cities. The number of students that participate are approximately 65-70 students and it is a program that is offered every 3 years (the next one will be in 2009). Different professors teach the courses and they rotate.

The study abroad office is really pushing the professors to re-think and reduce the amount of countries that they visit and the way that they have been managing the program. Apparently, there have been lots of criticisms from students about the number and distance between the countries that they visit. At the same time, some professors felt it was too much work to do all of the set up. The college is pushing the professors to publish more, therefore, they have less time available to be responsible of the logistics of this kind of semester.

Jane, Kim, Allen and Esteban (Spanish department professors involved in L.A program) were interested in the model we use with Furman, where we are in charge of all of the logistics and the professor only has to think about teaching the course. Their idea is to split up the group of students so that one group could be in one country attending a course, while simultaneously the other group would be at another place taking another class. They had lots of questions about logistics, homestays, how we deal with emergencies, insurance coverage, the possibility of taking their spouses, etc. If they decide to work with us it would be for their Latin America Fall term in 2009.

After this meeting I met with Vicki Sommer (Women's studies) and Robert D. Haak (vocation). He is part of the committee that is overseeing the changes in study abroad. I explained in detail what we do, our programs and our experience. After that, Jane highlighted some of the benefits of affiliating with our programs and was providing them with ideas of how we could work together. Initially Dr. Haak was skeptical about sending students on our programs because he noticed that most of our professors do not have a PhD and warned Dr. Tunnickliff that there might be resistance from Augustana faculty because of this. He also made the observation that if they proceeded to partner with us that they would be basically transferring most of their money to us. However, Dr. Tunnickliff explained that when you have affiliation agreements with other schools there were obviously some benefits, as well as some downsides.

At the end of the meeting he basically gave Jane and Dr. Tunnickliff his approval to continue exploring possibilities with us, especially related to our customized travel seminars. He was very impressed with the fact that most of our faculty was full time and had been living in the countries for so many years, as well as with the number of institutions that we worked with and our focus. He is interested in exploring the possibility of organizing winter terms for them. They have 5 weeks before Christmas and 5 weeks after Christmas where students go abroad; their main focus is to do internship. I said that we would have to come back to him on whether we can set up that kind of program, where the main component is internship.

Recommendations for Future Visits:

- Definitely a priority school. Should continue visiting study abroad representatives and professors from other departments (Spanish, Women's Studies, religion)
- Ask whether you can visit classrooms
- In advance ask if there will be a study abroad fair that we can participate
- Not worthwhile to set a table.

2003: warm reception from Jim Winship. We are listed on their website

Try to get to study abroad fair next year

On trimester system