Site and Program Changes + Updates: 2014 and 2015

**Central America**

* New Spanish language offerings, bringing the total offerings to 10 with all levels offered
* Program moved from El Salvador to Costa Rica in 2013. We are now in our 2nd semester in Costa Rica and it is going well.
* Besides our semester program, we can customize International travel seminars to Costa Rica on different themes: liberation theology, migration, ecotourism and the environment, sustainable, development, health and education as a human right, women’s rights, etc.
* Given the increase in the wave of child migrants to the U.S., schools should know that we can set up very interesting programs to help participants understand this reality, as well as the causes. Most of the children come from countries were we work: Guatemala, El Salvador.
* CGE Nicaragua has set up international travel seminars focused on sports and can provide educational and fun experiences for schools. Teams have an opportunity to play against local teams, while learning about the reality of the country.
* We have experience setting up educational programs for high schools

**Southern Africa**

* The summer program is no longer offered due to low interest
* A new Environmental Studies course has been added

**Mexico - Fall**

* Over the past 3 years, business classes have been offered as a “track” in the fall Crossing Borders program. These course were some of our most popular and the fall semester continues to attract a high proportion of business students. Therefore, we have created a cohort called International Business and Global Citizenship. Additional business courses have been added for a total of 7 business class offerings.

**Mexico – Spring**

* There has been some shifting of courses and an enhancement of Environmental studies (interdisciplinary), including a Biology course and an Environmental Ethics course.
* Visitors are encouraged to continue to seek out schools that may want to join the social work consortium as a full member or affiliate. The newest version of the brochure has information about where to find out details on joining and who to contact. We have not met capacity in the social work program and are therefore excited to welcome new interested schools.

**ITS - Cuba**

CGE is only able to work with faculty-led groups who are associated with an accredited course. These groups must have previous experience with MLK Center. Topics are limited to the following; these are topics with which MLK Center has experience:

* Church/State Relations and Religion
* Government/Politics
* Popular Education
* Gender and LGBT Issues
* Culture/Arts/Music
* Environmental Sustainability

Other parameters have been placed around Cuba due to various logistical, legal, and staff time issues. These are:

* Travel seminars in Cuba can be no longer than 2 weeks
* Overnight excursions are limited in location
* EMPHASIZE that lodging is modest – either at the MLK Center or a simple hotel
* Registration timelines are tight and non-negotiable – 4 months prior to departure

**ITS – Other**

* Note Professional Development seminar (brochures in box) in summer 2015.
* Please note that we have officially announced publicly that we are willing to offer a limited number of reduced-fee seminars. These are only offered only in our permanent locations and discounted trips will have fewer programming and lodging choices. In other words, they will not be fully customizable. We do not want to offer these to sponsors who have worked with us many times as the intention is to introduce new sponsors (or at least new faculty) to our programs and style. Specifically, the offer is meant for institutions where our programming may be out of financial reach based on the student economical profile, etc. Therefore, this is not something to offer to the “average” college but rather community colleges, HBCUs, tribal colleges, and colleges with a high percentage of first-generation college students.