

Report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee
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1. The International Programs

The CSU International Programs (IP) offers study abroad opportunities in the following 19 countries at 23 locations: Australia, Canada, Chile, China (Beijing and Shanghai), Denmark, France (Paris and Aix-en Provence), Germany, Ghana, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico (Queretaro), New Zealand, South Africa, Spain (Granada and Madrid), Sweden, Taiwan, and United Kingdom. Students earn CSU resident credits and pay CSU tuition while studying in a foreign country.

Study abroad offers a life-changing experience. Acquisition of a language and cultural literacy gives students a competitive edge in their professional careers. Yet the number of study abroad participants is very small. In 2007-08, 674 students (1.5% of the CSU student body) participated. 48 CSUN students participated (0.16% of the overall CSUN enrollment). Students should be encouraged to take advantage of the CSU IP opportunity. For information on CSU Study Abroad Programs, please see: <http://www.gateway.calstate.edu/csuienet/index.cfm>.

The CSU International Programs budget for 2008-09 is not yet set. Selection from among the 2008-09 study-abroad applicants is currently underway. Concrete numbers are not available at this point. The OIP is facing budget challenges: costs of operation overseas are increasing, and the dollar is falling in currency exchange rates. The newly instituted Technology Fee (to provide access to the Internet), Summer Fee (for the preparatory language program), and IP Study Abroad Fee (to be assessed much like the campus-based student fees, which students do not pay when participating in study abroad) will help but will still leave a significant gap between revenue and expenses. The IP may have to consider reducing the number of students it can accept.

2. Opportunities for faculty members

The CSU IP offers two excellent opportunities for faculty members:

A. Resident Directorships in 6 locations (China, France, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Spain)

The IP recruits faculty or administrative members to serve as Resident Directors. Selection is made two years in advance of appointment. Applications for 2010-11 appointments will be due December 1, 2008. The Resident Directorship is administrative work (except for the Japan position, which requires one course to be taught during one year), and language proficiency is required. The IP encourages applicants to make themselves more competitive by improving their language ability, gaining administrative and fiscal experience, and actively involving themselves in international educational opportunities on campus.

B. Wang Faculty Stipend

Four \$10,000 stipends for research or teaching in China & Taiwan have been awarded annually since 2003. The deadline for the next cycle for the Wang Faculty Stipend will be December 1, 2008.

For details on faculty opportunities offered by the IP, please see <http://www.gateway.calstate.edu/csuienet/faculty/index.shtml>

3. CSUN Exchange programs and scholarships

Since its current growth potential is limited, the CSU IP encourages each campus to establish its own exchange programs. CSUN offers many short- and long-term international opportunities (<http://www.csun.edu/international/abroad/programs.htm>). CSUN's China Institute offers fellowships to faculty research and student studies in China (<http://www.csunchinainstitute.org/>). The Modern & Classic Languages & Literatures Department (MCLL) administers exchange programs in Japan with scholarships (<http://www.csun.edu/japanese/ip.html>). It also offers scholarships for study in France and Italy.

MCLL is taking part in the federally funded CSU Strategic Language Initiative designed to fill the need for strategic and diplomatic expertise in critical languages. CSUN will offer a Russian Language Program starting in Summer 2008. The program will be free of charge to students meeting acceptance requirements. Students will devote six weeks during Summer 2008 in a residential immersion program on the CSUN campus. This will be followed in 2008-09 with courses in Russian language relevant to the student's major at CSUN. A six week study abroad project during summer 2009 in Odessa completes the program (<http://www.csun.edu/~lc4mcll/russianprogram/>). Other CSU campuses partnering in this Strategic Language Initiative are CSU Fullerton (Persian), CSU Los Angeles (Korean), CSU Long Beach (Chinese), and CSU San Bernardino (Arabic). For more details on the CSU Strategic Language Initiative, see http://www.calstate.edu/FederalRelations/documents/SLI_1.pdf.

The Global Logistics Management Project in the College of Business took students to China during Spring 2008 and will take students to Mexico in Spring 2009. These field trips are generously subsidized by a Department of Education grant (<http://www.csun.edu/~busintl/>). There are many scholarships and opportunities for study abroad of which students can avail themselves.