

Urban Planning and Sustainability Project – US/Brazil

Fund to Improve Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE)/U.S.-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program

The Department of Urban Studies and Planning (URBS) has been awarded a four-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education's highly competitive Fund to Improve Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE)/U.S.-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program. Led by Professor Euripedes De Oliveira, the "Urban Planning and Sustainability Project (UPSP)" consists of an international partnership between California State University, Northridge (CSUN/US), University of Massachusetts, Amherst (UMass/US), and the Brazilian Federal University of Goiás (UFG/BR), and Federal University of Uberlândia (UFU/BR).

Under the supervision of U.S. and Brazilian faculty students will focus their study abroad in urban planning and sustainability by examining subjects including transportation, environmental policy, comprehensive planning, energy and technology, housing and urban life quality, and urban migration. The project will offer students the opportunity to advance language learning while experiencing U.S. and Brazilian cultures. Additionally, students will engage in a network of U.S. and Brazilian student associations, and discuss sustainability in university environments.

A total of nine URBS/CSUN students will receive a stipend of **US\$4,000** to spend a semester studying urban planning related topics in the Federal University of Goiás or in the Federal University of Uberlândia. Since CSUN does not offer courses in Portuguese language an additional **US\$1,000** will be awarded to selected URBS/CSUN students to cover language preparation. The first group of three URBS/CSUN traveling students will take place in Fall 10, and additional groups of three students will be traveling subsequently in Fall 11 and Fall 12. Professor Euripedes (Euri) De Oliveira, the project director, will assist students in pre-trip travel planning and in preparing for arrival and adjustment to living and studying in Brazil.

The selection criteria of students to participate in the **UPSP** will be held on an equal opportunity basis, and will consider (1) minimum Portuguese language proficiency at intermediate/advanced levels, (2) junior or senior status in urban studies and planning, though other related majors may be considered, and (3) meet academic acceptance from participating universities. Students interested in participating in the **UPSP** should contact Professor De Oliveira (euri@csun.edu) as soon as possible. Other department faculty participating in the program include Drs. Covington, Kent, and Toker.