

Workshop A: How to Develop International Faculty/Student Exchanges and Internships

Three Models
Employed by
Community Colleges in
Washington State

Presented by Colleen Cooper Ferguson
Shoreline Community College

Washington Community College Consortium for Study Abroad

- 14 member colleges
- Goal – to provide study abroad opportunities for students and teach abroad opportunities for faculty
- Programs in London, Florence, Costa Rica
- Memorandum of Understanding; Faculty replacement/membership fee; College rep
- Non-profit study abroad service organization provides on-site services, transportation & housing

Benefits of the Consortium Model

- Community College students offered educational opportunity traditionally reserved for university students
- Faculty able to teach abroad with little research, development time; Have home & on-site assistance
- Cost to colleges relatively low – staff time for program development/delivery and expenses shared
- Pooling students = more program options & reliable, consistent programming

Challenges of the Consortium Model

- One-way exchanges only
- Difficult to include professional/technical courses due to need for broad marketability across multiple campuses and largest contingent of students
- Programs are relatively expensive for students

International Sister College Partnerships

- Colleges with similar internationalization goals and similar academic/professional/technical programs partner to expand educational opportunities for students, faculty and administration
- Geographic- or program-specific locations
- Agreement of Cooperation

Benefits of Partnership Model

- Two-way exchanges
- More activity options – research & development, internships, joint class projects
- More of the college community benefits - faculty, students and staff at home campus can learn from visiting faculty/students
- Less expensive study abroad option for students
- Dynamic; Programs not faculty driven

Challenges of Partnership Model

- Articulation / determining course equivalencies difficult
- Fiscal management – Who pays? How much? Reciprocal exchanges?

Faculty Grants for International Program Development/Delivery

- Colleges commit financial resources to encourage new program development and delivery or continuing program delivery
- Fair and equitable process for applying for resources, including administrative support

Benefits of Grant Funded Model

- Generates new, creative programs
- Flexibility to create programs anywhere in world; with prof/tech focus; or that incorporates alternative teaching methods such as service learning
- Faculty personality/faculty “following” helps sell these programs
- Less expensive for students than programs organized by service providers

Challenges of Grant Funded Model

- Risk management – similar to sister-college programs, liability rests with college rather than with service organization
- Time/resources spent developing new programs greater than that spent on developing programs with a partner school
- Securing renewable funding to support grants

Three models are not mutually exclusive!

Program Examples:

- Nursing Program in Mexico
- Culinary Arts Program in Mexico