Office of International Programs
Faculty International Program Development Grants
Report Template

Please complete this form after you return from travel and email to oip@mail.sdsu.edu.

Name Sarah Maheronnaghsh and Patricia Lozada Santone
Faculty/Rank Lecturer, Assistant Dean
Department Policy Studies, College of Education
College: Education
Office phone: 594-3330, 594-1426
E mail address: smaheron@mail.sdsu.edu

Proposal title: Creating International Experiences that involve service learning in international communities for the College of Education

Country/ies visited: Guatemala

Institution visited:

Dates of travel: March 23, 2012 to April 1, 2012

Number of student participants: 24

Previous IP proposals submitted and grants awarded
(list titles, countries and dates): Creating International Experiences that involve service learning in international communities for the College of Education, Mexicali June 2011

Have all required reports been submitted? Yes

Other funding for this activity available/applied for: NA

Proposal Abstract (75 word maximum): Being that the College of Education as of 2013 will be making the International Experience a requirement for all of its students, it imperative that we continue to lay the ground work with countries that provided the most, safe, fiscal and
most thorough experience. Guatemala is such a country. This is an ongoing effort to explore international experiences for students in the College of Education. This project will bring clarity to many service learning opportunities for our varied student population, which can be available to COE students during spring break and beyond.

Travel report:

I. Opening/overview of intentions/activity

II. In preparation for the trip abroad
- collaborated with Via International, Juan Carlos Rivas
- e mail contacts: JuanCarlos@viainternational.org

III. Upon arrival/specific activity
- What/who are the contacts made at the prospective partner university?
- We went through Via International who partnered with SHARE Guatemala. March 24: We traveled by bus from Tecpan to San Vicente Palama where the community school teachers and director with the children held a welcoming ceremony for us. They served us atoll and did a typical dance and welcomed us to their village. March 25: Visit to local Mayan ruins: Iximche
- March 26 The students participated in a community service project of painting the school San Vicente Palama. We explored a local vegetable garden and picked snap peas to take back to hotel and eat. The director of the school gave a talk about Guatemala’s civil war.
- March 27: Students continued their community service project until lunch time. Local young girls showed us how to weave on back strap looms. We drove to another town Comolapa to visit a private school that serves children with special needs. We met the town mayor who gave each student a gift and short tour of the municipal building.
- March 28: We continued our community project. Students participated in an arts and crafts lesson with children of school. We hiked through the community to pick wild blackberries. A local mother gave a talk about migration of her husband to the US. Students played soccer with the children.
- March 29: We visited the local market of Tecpan. And toured the local municipality. Students finished up the community project and played games with the children. Students prepared a lesson for the students of how to wash their hands
- March 30 Students gave their lessons in groups of 6 to the children and had the children practice washing their hands. The school performed a closing ceremony and a small group of SDSU students performed a local dance for the group.
- March 31 We traveled to Antigua and spent the day exploring the city on our own.
- April 1 Flight back to Los Angeles
- What particular major/minor is of interest? Public Health, Liberal Studies, Child and Family Development, Spanish

IV. Conclusion, recommendation, and next step?
- Why is this particular institution valuable for SDSU? SHARE has amazing community based programs in place throughout Guatemala. Our students can benefit from participating in community service work in other countries, such as Guatemala.
- Sustainability of project (is there a high likelihood that students in the department will be interested in studying the proposed subject area at the prospective partner university and vice versa)? There is a high possibility that future groups of students will want to participate in trips to Guatemala.
- How will this exchange program (or expansion) increase participation by students in international activities, or enhance international learning environments for students? This trip makes having an international experience both economical and transformational.
- What students will benefit? Students throughout the university can benefit from this trip.
- What will be their activities (e.g. course work, international internships, field research, etc.)? The course is one unit of credit.
- What will be your role in promoting and supporting these activities? I am the faculty of record for this trip and will recruit students for future trips.

V. Additional Information