



Global Beat

:: March-April 2009 :: Convention Edition ::

Commission Website: <http://www.myacpa.org/comm/global/>



Message from the Chair...

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Resources:

- Association of College Unions International (ACUI) <http://www.acui.org>
- Circle K International <http://www.circlek.org/circlek>
- Education International <http://www.ei-ie.org/en/index.php>
- Escape Artist <http://www.escapeartist.com>
- Global Reach Institute <http://globalreachinstitute.com>
- NAESA: Association of International Educators <http://www.nafsa.org>
- Study in the USA <http://www.studyusa.com>
- U.S. Department of Education International Affairs Office <http://www.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/international/index.html>
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) <http://www.unesco.org>
- World Education Services: International Academic Credential Evaluation <http://www.wes.org/academic>

I am extremely pleased to address you as the incoming chair (starting April 1) for the Commission for Global Dimensions of Student Development. I've been a part of the Commission for many years serving in a variety of roles before assuming my current position. Throughout this past year, GDSO Chair Hind Mari and I have worked to build the commission through increased collaborations and partnerships as well as maintaining our other important programs. These partnerships help support and sustain our international initiatives in ACPA. This year, one of our collaborations is a combined social on Tuesday night of the conference. We have invited Semester at Sea, Qatar Foundation, and the International Division of ACPA to join GDSO for a joint event. We hope this provides a great location for you to get to see the international initiatives of ACPA while also networking with others passionate about international issues in our ever-growing global community.

This collaboration is coming at the right time. We are pleased to see

incoming ACPA President, Tom Jackson's focus on internationalizing ACPA and the services and education that it provides. Tom's ACPA priorities, which among others call for increased international collaborations, will help boost our commission and its important role within ACPA. This is a very exciting time and I am thrilled to spend the next three years exploring and solidifying these new international initiatives. To achieve these things, we need to brainstorm, build and launch long-lasting international initiatives that support ACPA's international commitment and endeavors. As you can see we have a full plate of fun but we need your help!

If you are interested in joining the GDSO group, we are looking for dedicated professionals to join our team. Please contact me during the conference or join our Commission meeting time to discuss your interest. Everyone is welcome!

As for a little about me - I have degrees from Southern Methodist

University and Clemson University (go Tigers!). Currently I am pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from the University of Iowa where I also help run the newly established Undergraduate Research Office (www.uiowa.edu/icru). Although residence life has been my longest student affairs tenure, my love of international affairs keeps me traveling in my current Part-Time Alumni Recruiter position with Semester at Sea. Whether you work in International Affairs or not, we all work with diverse students and interact with a global community. And GDSO is here to help make that global connection.



I look forward to meeting you!

Katie Wildman, M.Ed.
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Presenting our Award Recipient

We have a 2009 GDSO Commission **Advancement of Global Dimensions Research Award Winner** and her name is Kaitlin L. Oyler from the University of South Carolina. She is scheduled to hold a workshop at the 2009 ACPA Convention in Washington, DC. Many thanks go out to Claire Goldsby and Katie Wildman, GDSO Awards Committee Members, for reviewing this award packet material and approving her selection as our 2009 Research Award Winner.

Our awardee, Kaitlin L. Oyler, is a Graduate Assistant for the Office of Parents Programs University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. Her research work is her master's thesis entitled: **HIGHER EDUCATION GOES GLOBAL: A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF INTERNATIONALIZATION EFFORTS BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGH EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND AUSTRALIA.**

Congratulations on winning our award.

Jean Snyder
 GDSO Awards Committee Chair

Higher Education Goes Global: A Comparative Study of Internationalization at an American and Australian University

The value of internationalization is increasingly recognized as an important element of higher education today. This study assesses the internationalization efforts of one university in the United States, the University of South Carolina (USC), and one in Australia, the University of New South Wales (UNSW), in order to further explore the effects of internationalization as well as examine the similarities and differences between internationalization initiatives in two countries.

For the purpose of this study, internationalization refers to the integration of an international dimension into the teaching, research, and service functions of higher education institutions (Knight & de Wit, 1995).

A multiple case study approach was used and data collection consisted of oral interviews with administrators, faculty, staff, and students and also included document collection and observation. Data was coded and then sorted into internationalization-related categories which include institutional commitment, student exchange and study abroad, international student recruitment and admissions, international student services, faculty research and exchange, and

internationalization of the curriculum.

The research produced both institutional contrasts and similarities in regards to internationalization. One of the main contrasts between USC and UNSW is the organization of international initiatives. UNSW has a centralized approach with specific offices coordinating the international mission and programs of the university while USC is more decentralized and does not have an office to oversee the bigger picture of internationalization. UNSW and USC also differ in regards to current practices and future goals of student mobility. UNSW is known for their sizeable international student population but they have trouble producing large numbers of students wanting to study abroad. On the contrary, the number of USC students studying abroad is growing rapidly each year, but their number of international students coming to study is not very strong. Another contrast includes regional engagement. UNSW specifically focuses on strengthening ties with the Asia-Pacific region for educational, economic reasons, while USC chooses to increase ties with growing areas of the world such as Asia and India instead of only focusing regionally. Similarities between UNSW and USC in regards to internationalization include the lack of assessment of international initiatives, the need to incorporate more international elements into the general education curriculum, and the

difficulty each institution has integrating international students within the local student population.

It was clear from this study that internationalization is a comprehensive process that involves commitment from all levels of an institution. While USC and UNSW both possess initiatives and programs that increase the international dimension of their institutions, it is difficult to compare their progress due to the complexity of the internationalization process. Even though each university may demonstrate their commitment to internationalization differently, initiatives and future plans show that both USC and UNSW recognize the importance of institutional internationalization and plan to incorporate more international elements into the research, service, and function of their institution.

Reference:
Knight, J., & de Wit, H. (Eds.). (1997). *Internationalization of higher education in Asia Pacific countries*. Amsterdam: European Association for International Education.

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“internationalization is a comprehensive process that involves commitment from all levels of an institution”

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***Interested in becoming the Showcase & Publicity Coordinator, or a member of any of our committees? Let us know! We are always looking for people to become involved.



Did you know...

GSDS is co-sponsoring an institute at the 2009 ACPA Annual Convention

CHECK US OUT!

Did you know...

GSDS is collaborating with other organizations for a social at the 2009 ACPA Annual Convention



GSDS INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Commission for Global Dimensions of Student Development Open Business Meeting

Sunday, March 29, 2009 | 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Gaylord National, National Harbor 14

Opening Ceremony and Reception

Sunday, March 29, 2009 | 6:30 PM
Gaylord National, Potomac Ballroom

Convention Showcase

Monday, March 30, 2009 | 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
Gaylord National, Potomac Ballroom

Commission for Global Dimensions of Student Development Open Business Meeting

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 | 2:30 PM - 5:00 PM
Gaylord National, Annapolis 2

Town Hall Assembly +

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 | 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Gaylord National, Cherry Blossom Ballroom

GSDS, Qatar Foundation, & Semester-at-Sea Social

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 | 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
Gaylord National, National Harbor 6

Culture Fest

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 | 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Gaylord National, Potomac Ballroom

+ACPA Town Hall Assembly: Your voice matters in ACPA. It is one of our association's distinctive values. The Assembly, an enhancement under our new Governance structure, is designed to hear the voice of ACPA members and welcomes your involvement at this first-ever Convention Assembly. You will have an opportunity to learn about and provide input on ACPA's strategic plan and current priorities. Join your elected leaders for this participatory town hall gathering.

GSDS Sponsored Programs

Roundtable: Where Have My International Students Gone?

Monday, March 30, 2009 | 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM | Gaylord National, National Harbor 15

Amjad O Abdo & Denny Santos

The Association of International Educators (NASFA) issued warnings during the past two years indicating that the United States is losing its position as the choice destination for international students. In accordance with these warnings, the enrollments of international students in American schools are continuing to drop or show no signs of growth. This particular workshop will discuss the key issues and challenges facing our institutions today and share some of the strategies to remove these obstacles.

Academic Affairs Institute-II: Inclusion of International Students in the Discourse

Monday, March 30, 2009 | 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM | Gaylord National, National Harbor 5

Abed Jaradat & Hind Mari

In 2006-2007, international students attending US colleges and universities comprised 3.9% of total enrollment. These students play an important role in internationalizing campuses as well as in enriching Multicultural discussions. It is crucial that higher education professionals, faculty and staff alike, take these students into consideration as they address multicultural issues and global cultural understanding. (Participants do not have to attend all institute sessions to benefit.)

Global Leadership in Higher Education: The Case for International Exchange

Monday, March 30, 2009 | 2:45 PM - 4:00 PM | Gaylord National, Chesapeake 7, 8 & 9

Scott C. Brown, James Krivoski, & Jose A. Rodriguez

Study abroad is unrelated to student affairs. . . or is it? Frequently students preparing for or returning from study abroad seek support from student affairs staff. These students account for a small percentage of the campus population but require consideration in processes ranging from housing and disability accommodation to student leadership selection. This session will explore the needs and challenges of study abroad students and how student affairs can help students successfully prepare for and return from study abroad.

Identity Matters in a Short-Term, International Service Learning Program

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 | 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM | Gaylord National, Chesapeake 6

Peter C. Mather

International service-learning experiences can provide rich opportunities for students to learn about important issues of developing-world poverty, international interdependence and themselves. This program highlights the experience of two student participants in a short-term service-learning program in Honduras, and the ways in which their identities shaped their perspectives on the program, and the ways that the program shaped their identities. The presenter draws implications concerning service-learning practice and for the unique role that international service-learning can play in identity development.

Increasing Your Cultural Competence Through Opportunities Abroad

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 | 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM | Gaylord National, Chesapeake 6

Katherine L. Wildman

Study abroad has long been known as an important and valued experience of higher education, (Bates, 1997). However only a small portion of students study abroad, and even fewer student affairs professionals have international experiences. This program will highlight international opportunities for student affairs professionals through various venues including Semester at Sea and the ACPA Study Tours. Alumni will share their experiences and address questions and concerns. Start increasing your own cultural competence today!

Study Abroad: A Vehicle for Transformational Learning?

Wednesday, April 1, 2009 | 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM | Gaylord National, Chesapeake 7, 8 & 9

Nancy J. Evans, Elena Ballam, Jennifer Garrett, Andrea Krekel, Ashley Ransom, & Julie Yankey

The presenters will discuss a qualitative study conducted to understand how college students who study abroad for at least a semester make meaning of their experience. Using the theoretical framework of transformational learning (Mezirow, 2000), in the study we specifically examined self-reported changes in self-awareness, cultural awareness, and sensitivity to others who are culturally different. Findings will be reported and implications for promoting and enhancing study abroad programs will be explored with the audience.

The Commission for Global Dimensions of Student Development is committed to preparing and supporting student development professionals to better serve the needs and challenges of our constituents in addressing global citizenship and leadership through enhancing intercultural competencies and providing general resources.