Georgia State University Study Abroad Programs

JUNE/JULY 2012

The Fundraising Issue

France, Morocco, China, Brazil… You *could* be studying in these or many other countries this summer, but you're here at GSU. In Atlanta. In the United States. And, as glorious a country as America is, don't you think it's about time you stepped outside of these boundaries and explored what the rest of the world has to offer? Well, even if you weren't able to do that this past academic year, have no worries. This issue of the SAP newsletter is packed with valuable information to help you plan your future study abroad endeavors!

Fun and Creative Fundraising Ideas

Having trouble figuring out how you'll come up with the funds for your program? We're here to help!

Fundraising Party: Invite your friends and family to a summer cookout or pool party, and request small donations of $10 per person for a plate of food and an evening of fun!
-If you don't have a pool or party space, ask a friend or neighbor to contribute their space for a few hours, in exchange for a souvenir.
-To cut down on food costs, shop at stores like Costco or Sam's Club to buy in bulk. If you don't have a membership, see if a friend or family member would be willing to help you out!
-Have someone stationed at a raffle booth with donated prizes available to win and charge $2 per ticket.
-For entertainment, enlist a musically inclined friend to sing or play an instrument, or just DJ with your iPod.
-Don't forget to thank your guests for their contributions and for showing their support. End the night with a speech about your upcoming experience abroad—you never know, this could mean a little extra money for your cause!

Taking the time to plan ahead for your program can save you hassle and stress and can benefit you financially. So take advantage of your summer and get started today!

Silent Auction or Benefit Concert: If you're artistically inclined, this is the perfect way to use your talent to your advantage! If you're a musician or performer, try putting on a show or performance where the proceeds from the tickets will go toward your program cost. Silent auctions are great, too!

Write Letters to Family: Handwrite letters to all of your family members, outlining where you'll be studying, what you'll be doing while abroad, and how this trip will benefit your future. If you can, slip a program brochure in with your letter and send it off in the mail! Keep track of all the contributions that you get, so that you can send thank you notes later on.

Start Writing Scholarship Essays: Use your free time this summer to get a jump start on your scholarship essays. Make sure you're including information that each scholarship is asking for in their essay.

Part-Time Job: The summertime is the most popular time of the year for young adults to work, and there are plenty of places that will need an extra pair of hands on deck. Check campus job listings, online postings, and inquire at different retail and restaurant locations. If you've got a special skill set, capitalize on it and turn your potential into a paycheck!

LONDON 2012

A few of our GSU students traveled abroad for the 2012 Olympic preview! Check out their blog: **www.gsuolympicpreview.tumblr.com**

Georgia State University | STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, October 11
10 a.m.—3 p.m.
Study Abroad Fair
Student Center Ballroom

International Education Week Events:

Monday, November 12
How to Afford Study Abroad Workshop

Tuesday, November 13
Semester Abroad Panel

Wednesday, November 14
Broadening Horizons Panel

Thursday, November 15
Crossing Paths, Crossing Cultures Photo Contest

Summer 2012 Globe-Trekker Schedule:

Tuesdays: 12 p.m.
Wednesdays: 10 a.m.
Thursdays: 2 p.m.

Advising hours* Schedule:

Tuesdays: 1pm-4pm
Wednesdays: 1pm-4pm
Thursdays: 9am-12pm

*Must first attend a Globe-Trekker seminar

Interested in working at the Study Abroad Programs Office?

Send an email to cfournier@gsu.edu for more information!

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Meanwhile in Argentina… Catching up with Monae Freeman

GSU student, Monae Freeman, is spending her summer studying in Buenos Aires, Argentina with ISA. We caught up with her to see how it's going and get her advice for prospective students.

What's a typical day like for you in your host country?
Well, I wake up in an apartment situated in the leafy neighborhood of Belgrano, a suburb of Buenos Aires. Breakfast usually consists of toast and green tea, maybe a piece of fruit from time to time. I was blessed enough to live within 5 minutes, walking distance, from my university, so I never have an excuse for running late. Once my day is finished around 5 or 5:30, it's customary to enjoy teatime and sleep.

What are some things that you're doing differently while abroad?
I'm waking up much earlier during the day, even when I don't have obligations to fulfill. I realize that when I leave here, I'll miss Buenos Aires when the sun just begins to shine and the businesses below my building begin opening their doors.

I realize that when I leave here, I'll miss Buenos Aires when the sun just begins to shine and the businesses below my building begin opening their doors. In the morning, around 8am, the loud, wooden blinds are lifted in my apartment and a feeling of joy rushes in, to know that Buenos Aires is alive again. I'll forever love and miss that feeling.

What's the most spectacular thing you've seen or done thus far?
ISA organizes an excursion every semester to the province of Misiones in northeastern Argentina in order to visit Iguazú Falls, one of the New7Wonders of the World. Iguazú Falls stretches between Brazil and Argentina and is divided by la Garganta del Diablo (the Devil's Throat), a chasm where about half of the river's water falls dramatically. The sight is absolutely mesmerizing and I could have stared at it all day.

What would you say to encourage students in the US to study abroad in the future?
Studying abroad transforms your view of the world in the best possible way. When deciding you want to study abroad, don't let a silly thing like lack of money deter you from making plans. It's important to keep a positive attitude and never give up on the goals you have to experience the world around you.

Do you have any fundraising tips for prospective study abroad students?
I applied for the IEF scholarship (which is offered by Georgia State), a scholarship offered by ISA (my program provider) and the Gilman Scholarship (see link in "Study Abroad Scholarships" article). I was awarded the IEF from GSU as well as the Gilman Scholarship, a total of $5,500. These two scholarships covered over half of the cost of my program! I encourage students to take the time to research scholarships and work hard on their essays. I couldn't believe what a little hard work and persistence could help me achieve!

Study Abroad Scholarships

Someone is receiving that $20,000 scholarship award...why shouldn't it be you? We've compiled a list of popular study abroad scholarships to give you an overview of your options and to help you decide which ones might be right for you.

International Education Fee (IEF):
Award Amount: $1,000
Eligibility: Open to undergraduate and graduate GSU students enrolled in a degree seeking program , with minimum GPA requirements of 2.75 (undergraduate) and 3.2 (graduate)
Website: www.studyabroad.gsu.edu/?go=ief

Global Experience Scholarship (GES):
Award Amount: Up to $10,000 for semester long program or $20,000 for an academic year
Eligibility: Open to undergraduate and graduate GSU students enrolled in a degree seeking program, with minimum GPA requirements of 2.75 (undergraduate) and 3.5 (graduate). Applicants must also be receiving need-based financial aid and have no previous international experience.
Website: www.studyabroad.gsu.edu/?go=ges

Boren Scholarship:
Award Amount: Up to $20,000
Eligibility: U.S. citizenship, enrollment in accredited U.S. college or university, and an application to study abroad in a non-traditional location outside of Western Europe, Canada, Australia, or New Zealand, and priority is given to students studying critical need languages.
Website: http://www.borenawards.org/

Gilman Scholarship:
Award Amount: Up to $5,000
Eligibility: applicant must be receiving Pell Grant, must be applying to a study abroad program eligible for credit from an accredited U.S. institution, for summer programs, must be spending at least 4 weeks in one country.
Website: http://www.iie.org/en/Programs/Gilman-Scholarship-Program

*Remember, as long as you are participating in an accredited study abroad program, your entire financial aid package will transfer! This means that if you have Hope scholarship or Pell Grant to cover your tuition, this money will apply to your program abroad!

Trivia Time!

1. Which of the following is NOT one of Switzerland's official languages?
   A. French **B.** Romanish **C.** English
2. What is the capital of Australia?
   A. Australia City **B.** Canberra **C.** Sydney
3. Which country is home to the Lake Volta, the largest water reservoir in the world?
   A. United States **B.** India **C.** Ghana

We are very excited to welcome two new additions to the Study Abroad Programs Team. Colette Fournier joins us as a new Adviser and Liz Simon is our new Intern. Please join us in welcoming them to GSU!

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Trivia Answers: (1) C: English; (2) B: Canberra (3) C: Ghana