

# Student Life & Global Engagement

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The primary goal for Student Life & Global Engagement (SL&GE) is to lead the Division of Student Life in the development of engaging international learning, in collaboration with the Office of International Affairs, the Center for Service & Learning, and other relevant units on campus and within the central Indiana community. SL&GE supports building an intentionally inclusive campus environment for international students. SL&GE specifically contributes to programs that connect the IUPUI campus and the greater Indianapolis community with IUPUI's strategically designated countries of Mexico, Kenya and China.

This Office came into being in July 2008, an offshoot of programming in Campus & Community Life. The Mexico immersion program was only one small aspect of the overall programs in Campus & Community Life, but had quickly become one of the campus' largest study abroad programs with the potential for very positive impact on campus and in the central Indiana area, given Indianapolis' fast growing Hispanic population.

This immersion program provides the opportunity to learn conversational Spanish, cultural understanding and service both in Mexico and central Indiana. In less than five years, nearly **200** student, faculty, staff and community member visits have taken place in Mexico with the first of this Office's programs -the summer Mexico immersion program and the annual spring break planning trip.

In 2009-2010, six student trips and six community trips are planned. Student trips will include 2, month-long trips during summer I and II, plus four alternative break trips. A successful one-week alternative spring break trip took place in 2009 with 11 participants and will be offered annually. Three, 2-week alternative breaks are being planned for the weeks after Christmas and before the beginning of spring 2010 and during summer I and II.

**It is noteworthy that every student who has participated in this program has graduated or is still enrolled, making steady progress toward graduation.**

Students have come from **13 IUPUI schools and 31 majors and two** other universities in Indiana and have been both graduate and undergraduate students. **Five, credit-bearing courses** have been developed to align with this program. Specifically, students have come from the following schools and majors:

1. Business - Business Management, Finance, Marketing
2. Education, Elementary, ESL, Primary, Secondary and HESA
3. Dentistry, Dental Hygiene
4. Engineering & Technology - Interior Design, Organizational Leadership & Supervision
5. General Studies
6. Informatics
7. Journalism
8. Liberal Arts – Anthropology, Communication, English as a Second Language, History, International Studies, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Spanish
9. Philanthropy
10. Nursing
11. Public and Environmental Affairs -Criminal Justice, Policy Studies
12. Science –Mathematics, Pre-medicine, Psychology,
13. Social Work
14. Participants have also been from Ball State and Purdue University

In addition, **31 faculty and staff** have participated in the summer program from the Offices of Adaptive Educational Services, Affirmative Action, Campus & Community Life , Center for Service and Learning, Enrollment Services (Admissions, Financial Aid, Multicultural Outreach), Human Resources Administration, International Affairs, Student Life & Global Engagement, University Counsel and the Schools of Education, Engineering, Liberal Arts (Anthropology, History, Philosophy , Political Science, Nursing (Community Health, Pediatrics) Science (Center for Earth and Environmental Sciences, Forensic Studies) and University College.

In addition to the majors/schools and departments that have participated in the program, **11 community members** have now participated. Their representation includes Clarian, Community Health Network, Hawthorne Center, La Plaza, a nurse practitioner from a private medical practice and public school teachers.

In July 2009, we piloted the first program for Indianapolis Public School teachers. Five teachers from Arsenal Tech participated in a successful sixteen-day program. Four of the teachers were Spanish teachers and one was an art teacher. All studied Spanish and met with teachers and parents and learned more about public education in Mexico and expectations of parents for their children's education.

**Hundreds of hours of service** have been provided both in Mexico and in Indianapolis as a result of this program. A student organization, Amigos en Servicio began in 2007 and provides on-going opportunities for students, faculty and staff to engage in service with the Latino community. Organizations and programs that have been recipients of services from participants in this program include: Fiesta Indianapolis, The Central Public Library, a food drive for LaPlaza, Haughville Library, La Vida Nueva Church, George Washington Community School, Read Up with United Way, a family/community festival in Fountain Square, the International Festival, the META program, Project Stepping Stone, the Immigration Symposium that the Mexico Campus-wide Interest Group (out of OIA) sponsored in October.

Many new initiatives are being developed in this Office. Programming to educate the campus and community about Africa and to prepare three undergraduate student organizations to travel to Kenya in 2010 is underway. Additional programs will be developed for social service personnel, police and fire fighters, medical personnel, and alumni from Nursing, Social Work, and Engineering.

Funding is being sought for the department from the various programs being developed. Other additional external funding sources and fund raisers are being developed. The current budget for 2009-2010 includes:

| INCOME              |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| General funds       | \$106,023         |
| Student fees        | 0                 |
| External Funding    | 34,000            |
| Fees for Service    | \$ 18,000 in 2009 |
| <i>Total:</i>       | \$160,023         |
| EXPENSES            |                   |
| Compensation        | \$107,373         |
| Programs & Services | \$ 52,650         |
| <i>Total:</i>       | \$160,023         |

Submitted by Michelle T. Verduzco, Director, Student Life & Global Engagement on 9/23/09