

# Institutional Effectiveness Report

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## Assessment Summary

**Department or Division:** Center for International Programs

**Degree Program:** International Minor

**Academic Service Programs:** International Students, Study Abroad and International Student Exchanges, Faculty Exchanges, Visiting Scholars, Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants program (FLTA), Support of academic units initiatives, Faculty Internationalization activities

**Contact Person:** Ivan Nikolov

Email: inikolov@valdosta.edu

Phone: 229-333-7410

**Assessment Cycle** (academic or calendar year): Academic year or Program Specific Deadlines, i.e. federally mandated evaluations within the DHS SEVIS, specific Study Abroad program etc.

**Mission** (related to VSU mission):

The Center for International Programs coordinates and promotes the international dimension of teaching, learning, research, and public engagement at Valdosta State University through:

1. Enhancing the resource base for international activities
2. Facilitating international exchange of students and scholars
3. Fostering curriculum internationalization
4. Leading the campus efforts to internationalize public engagement
5. Promoting multidisciplinary international programs and research

The CIP initiatives are aligned with the USG BOR Principles of International Education, approved April 2008 (see [http://www.usg.edu/oie/facstaff/policies/ie\\_principles\\_0408.pdf0](http://www.usg.edu/oie/facstaff/policies/ie_principles_0408.pdf0) ). Specific goals and objectives are adjusted based on VSU and BOR strategic plans, more specifically Goal One of the USG Strategic Plan 2007-2012 (see [http://www.usg.edu/strategicplan/one/global\\_prep.phtml](http://www.usg.edu/strategicplan/one/global_prep.phtml) ).

**Assessment History** (discuss here how and when the program developed its current assessment program, what it used prior to starting that program to assess its effectiveness, etc.):

### I. Academic Services and International Development Evaluations

#### 1.1. Study Abroad

The assessment and program evaluation function of the unit was initiated within **Study Abroad** programs during the period 1987-88. VSU developed the first Study Abroad Director's Handbook (manual), used later with institution specific modifications by UGA and since 2006 by the public institutions of higher education - members of USG (see [http://www.usg.edu/oie/facstaff/policies/study\\_abroad\\_hbook.pdf](http://www.usg.edu/oie/facstaff/policies/study_abroad_hbook.pdf); also for fiscal risk management see [http://www.usg.edu/fiscal\\_affairs/bpm\\_acct/bpm-sect21.pdf](http://www.usg.edu/fiscal_affairs/bpm_acct/bpm-sect21.pdf) ).

Quantitative results from study abroad and international students' assessments for the system are published in the annual compendium International Briefing Book, prepared for the system by the Office of International Education at BOR of USG (2008 copy attached).

Individual VSU Study Abroad Program assessments have been conducted by CIP for at least for 10 years. The main purpose of these evaluations is to serve as a formative evaluation for the academic department offering the program, hence the evaluation formats and variations differ slightly depending on the learning goals and objectives of the specific program. The process includes Study Abroad Proposal Evaluation, conducted by the academic units (Department Chair, Dean) and the respective VSU Administration (CIP Director and VPAA) and Student Evaluations after the program completion (*see attached evaluation forms from two departments*). In the latter case CIP acts as a primary information collection agent. The actual program evaluation and impact analysis is conducted by the academic unit sponsoring the specific study abroad program, practice that has served our programs and departments quite well.

*Note: The idea for a learning outcomes evaluation of Study Abroad and from other International education programs and activities has been discussed for an extensive period of time. In 2006 USG received a federal grant to support three years of such evaluation via the GLOSSARI project – Global Learning Outcomes of Students Studying Abroad Research Initiative. Currently such evaluation looks as a cost-prohibitive proposal for VSU - Georgia Tech has an international education evaluation system in place, at the annual cost of \$5 million.*

## **1.2. International Students**

Another evaluation aspect (on-going evaluation) is related to **International Students and Scholars**. The current system has been established after September 11, 2001 and currently functions as federally mandated Department of Homeland Security (DHS) evaluation and reporting system named Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). SEVIS incorporated previously separate visa authorization VSU functions (J1 and F1) that also have evaluation and reporting elements on a case by case basis. (see Attachment 1).

### **International Students Out-of State Waiver Evaluations - BOR Policy Manual (<http://www.usg.edu/regents/policymanual/700.phtml#n704.04>)**

Based on BOR policy introduced in the late 1990s, a limited (1 percent of the total undergraduate population) out-of-state waiver is available for international students. Each semester an evaluation of student eligibility for this scholarship is conducted by the Scholarship Committee at CIP. For rules, regulations, required activities and documentation visit [http://www.valdosta.edu/iss/prospective\\_stu.shtml](http://www.valdosta.edu/iss/prospective_stu.shtml) - see Scholarships.

## **1.3. VSU Faculty Internationalization Fund**

**FIF** is an institutional award system, established in the late 1990s. Each individual faculty application is evaluation by a FIF Committee for merit. A recommendation is made to the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost for final funding decision. (see <http://www.valdosta.edu/cip/VSUInternationalizationFund.shtml> )

#### **1.4. L. Brown Senior and Junior Scholar Award**

Established at 2003/4, L. Brown Award is designed to further the process of curriculum internationalization by bringing international scholars on campus to teach and do joint researchfor. Academic units and individual faculty submit a nomination for an international visiting faculty to teach at VSU. The final decision and the hiring process are within the VPAA & Provost's authority (see [http://www.valdosta.edu/cip/documents/Brown\\_Scholar\\_Award\\_rules\\_2007.pdf](http://www.valdosta.edu/cip/documents/Brown_Scholar_Award_rules_2007.pdf))

#### **1.5. Externally Funded Programs Evaluation**

##### **1.5.1. Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants program (FLTA)**

VSU has been participating in the Fulbright FLTA program since 2006. The main benefit for VSU student is offerings of classes on critical I languages and cultures – Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Turkish, Japanese, etc. The evaluation of the Japanese and Russian classes has been conducted by Modern and Classical Languages (MCL). Beginning Fall 2009 all language offerings will be evaluated by MCL. Individual instructor evaluations are conducted by the Fulbright Commission – both in each specific country and the U.S. CIP FLTA coordinator (D. Starling) conducts regular informal FLTA instructor satisfaction interviews in lieu of formal surveys – the later do not work well with all cultures. The interviews are discussed as formative evaluation input for institutional program improvement. In addition, the Fulbright program does conduct its own evaluation of the stay and activities of the FLTA instructors at VSU after the first semester ( at the FLTA December conference) and at the academic year end. The fact that VSU has been awarded FLTA support for a third year in a row indicates that our institution provides an effective quality program. CIP plans to conduct a formal exit satisfaction interview with the FLTA participants beginning Spring Semester 2009.

##### **1.5.2 Other Externally Funded Programs**

IREX, American Councils on International Education, Institute of International Education, and other external organizations that CIP works with have their own established procedures for program effectiveness evaluation. Since the collaboration with these organizations is on a case by case basis, no specific institutional evaluation procedure has been established at VSU.

## **II. International Minor**

The international minor program was reinstated in academic 2006/7. Considerable changes have been introduced in program organization. The interdisciplinary character this program and the fact that it requires significant input from all collaborating departments has made the design and the implementation of an overall evaluation a difficult task. Currently, evaluations are conducted separately for each specific class and for the study abroad component of the program. CIP will start collecting evaluations beginning Spring 2009 for the course *International Programs and Studies* (2090).

## **Expected Student Learning Outcomes:**

International education learning outcomes are program- and course specific, depending on the respective academic program goals and objectives.

**Assessments** (include when and to whom these are administered, and align goals with specific assessments):

**Study Abroad** – annual, pre-program approval and evaluation and post-program student evaluation

**International Students:** DHS specific such as Intake Evaluation, on-going Evaluation, Exit Satisfaction Evaluation – as required by the SEVIS system;  
Out-of-State Waiver Eligibility Evaluation by Committee (each semester);  
Other evaluations: i.e. Society of International Students internal surveys - case

**International Scholars:** course evaluations by students, faculty input - semester

**FIF evaluations:** Committee proposal evaluations, returning awardee reports – project specific

**English Language Institute:** placement tests, TEFL tests - each semester

## **2005-2006**

- Assessment Results (submit an electronic file of the data collected):
- Discussion/Dissemination of Results:
- Modifications Made:

## **General Accomplishments of the Unit 2005/6** (include new programmatic efforts and services)

- Continued operation of the English Language Institute designed to improve the language skills of non-native speakers and prepare them to meet English proficiency requirements for admission to VSU degree programs.
- Held the annual Open House, which is an event to inform new faculty of international opportunities available through the CIP.
- Hosted delegations from our Partner universities in Samara and Syktyvkar, Russia, Abbat Izzet University – Turkey, Palacky University – Czech Republic, Chile etc.
- Signed five new partnership agreements with Russian and Ukrainian universities and updated existing partnership MOU's.
- Supported partnership with the University of Sunderland to continue joint supervision of PhD students from VSU and Sunderland pursuing a degree at Sunderland with a research component at VSU.
- Revised guidelines for the Internationalization Activity Fund in order to better reflect the strategic planning process.
- Worked with VSU Deans to address strategic plans in the international dimension.
- Managed position of faculty associate at the CIP, providing faculty a unique perspective into the field of international education.
- Served as host institution for highly selective federally funded programs that sponsor year-long exchange visits by foreign scholars and students: The Eurasian Undergraduate Exchange Program, Azerbaijan Education Reform project with the World Bank and the Azerbaijani Ministry of Education.

- Organized International Education Week activities including country displays, student performances, study abroad sessions, and visiting lecturers jointly with the Asia Society and with increased role of the International Student Society.
- Sponsored Cinema International, a festival of foreign films, each semester, for a total of 12 films shown.
- Taught new VSU 1101 course for international students.
- Restored the International Minor Program
- Co-sponsored Azalea Festival with the City of Valdosta.
- Functioned as the leading institution in the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) Consortium with seven member institutions. Coordinated exchanges for the ISEP program for all USG institutions with \$10,000 in funding from the BOR Office of International Education.
- Hosted Brown Scholar from Australia attached to the Biology Department for the academic 2005/6 year.
- Coordinated and supported the exchange of a faculty member from Palacky University in the Psychology Department for Fall 2005/Spring 2006 semester.

### **PROGRESS TOWARD COMMON INSTITUTIONAL GOALS 2005/6**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
<p>1. Effective Planning and Resource Utilization</p> <p>VSU informs and supports the need for change, processes, and programs through integrated, continuous strategic planning.</p>	<p>Managed International Studies Minor</p> <p>Participated in the strategic planning process.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	VSU Catalog
<p>2. Successful Outreach</p> <p>VSU actively identifies, cultivates, and encourages private support through the enhancement of alumni, community, and corporate outreach.</p>	<p>Managed study abroad scholarship fund</p> <p>Publish an International Alumni Newsletter</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	
<p>3. Excellence in Student Learning and Retention</p> <p><b>VSU encourages continuous enhancement of curricula and research opportunities, resulting in highly informed graduates and increased student retention and graduation rates.</b></p>	<p>Encourages scholarship for international students by promoting the out-of state waivers for excellent students.</p>	Ongoing	Participated

Goal	Activity	Status	Evidence
	<p>Promotes international awareness and opportunities for international study to student population. Provide international programs that attract and retain high quality students and faculty.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>in visitation days and orientation sessions.</p>
<p><b>4. Access and Participation</b></p> <p>VSU promotes expanded access, participation, and quality through a comprehensive marketing plan.</p>	<p>Marketing plan to attract international students through well placed advertisements and visits overseas.</p>	<p>Ongoing - limited</p>	<p>IIE bulletin</p>
<p><b>5. Student Preparation</b></p> <p>VSU works actively with K-12 education to increase the pool (number) of high school students from our service area who are eligible to attend the University.</p>	<p>N/A</p>		
<p><b>6. High Quality Personnel</b></p> <p>VSU pursues excellence and identifies best practices in recruiting, developing, and retaining quality faculty and staff in an environment of shared governance across the campus community.</p>	<p>Assists in providing opportunities for faculty development by administering a faculty internationalization fund</p> <p>Encouraged faculty development by providing opportunities for 20 faculty members to teach in summer study abroad programs.</p> <p>Managed position of</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	

Goal	Activity	Status	Evidence
	<p>Faculty Associate for the CIP. CIP staff attended professional development meetings such as NAFSA regional and UGS committees</p>	<p>plete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	
<p><b>7. Engagement in the Community and Region</b></p> <p>VSU continues to develop its important educational, cultural, multicultural and economic impact in order to enhance the quality of life for the state and region, and to attract and retain residents, students, visitors, and industry.</p>	<p>Sponsored 30<sup>th</sup> Annual International Dinner at the James Reinwater Conference Center in conjunction with the Valdosta Asian Cultural Association ( VACA).</p> <p>Sponsored Cinema International Film Series</p> <p>Co-sponsored City of Valdosta Azalea Festival by participating in the International Village. Over 20 countries were represented and over 30 students participated in the weekend long event.</p> <p>Co-sponsored the</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p>	<p>400 guests from community attended</p> <p>Students and community guests attended</p> <p>20 countries represented</p>

Goal	Activity	Status	Evidence
	<p data-bbox="789 212 1127 348">International Business Night in conjunction with Dr. Ostapski's International Marketing class</p> <p data-bbox="789 390 1127 558">Helped with organizing the Red Carpet Tour in conjunction with the City of Valdosta and the Chamber of Commerce</p> <p data-bbox="789 600 1097 705">Assisted the International Education Society in Moultrie, GA</p>	<p data-bbox="1183 243 1256 327">Complete</p> <p data-bbox="1183 642 1256 726">Complete</p>	

1. ACTION TAKEN TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS:

CONDUCTED INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SATISFACTION SURVEY – EXIT IN SPRING 2006; 68 % OF THE PARTICIPATING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FELT INTEGRATED IN THE COMMUNITY, NO MAJOR CONFLICTS INDICATED.

INFORMATION SOURCE SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR THE ACTION: DHS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMMUNITY INTEGRATION DATA

2. ACTION TAKEN TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS: APPLIED TO ADD ELI PROGRAM COORDINATOR POSITION

INFORMATION SOURCE SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR THE ACTION: ELI REPORTS

**Example of an Improvement IN UNIT EFFECTIVENESS**

1. Describe one significant change made in your unit during the year to improve service quality or productivity.

CIP has created new comprehensive international student services website which provides detailed information for prospective, new and current students regarding various topics, including admission requirements, immigration matters, pre-arrival information, employment, finances, health insurance, student activities, etc.

New web site for faculty was developed and updated to serve the needs of campus internationalization

What information or other rationale prompted the unit to make the change described above? Describe the data source (student, faculty, etc.) and type (survey, interview, report, etc.) of data.

The need to be more efficient in disseminating information in order to comply with the USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services) and DHS (Department of Homeland Security) requirements and better serve our growing international student population.

Faculty International Advisory Council input

**List New Programs Added.**

Unit	Program Title
CIP	International Dinner joined efforts with Asia Society

**List New Services Added**

Weekly Movie Nights for International Students  
Weekly shopping trips for International Students

**Fulbright TA program**

**List New Initiatives Started**

International Grant to support Educational Reform in Azerbaijan - \$20,000 from the International Monetary Fund via American Councils for International Education, Washington DC

## 2006-2007

- Assessment Results (submit an electronic file of the data collected):
- Discussion/Dissemination of Results:
- Modifications Made:

## New

- Introduced collaborative project with Fulbright Foreign Languages Teaching Assistants program and the U.S. State Department to teach Arabic and Turkish on campus;
- Initiated and assisted in the implementation of VSU business study abroad summer program in Germany, the sole UGS business study abroad program at the moment;
- Established new and increased the standing of existing institutional partnerships and relations in Germany, France, Mexico, Ecuador, Russia, and other countries;
- Reorganized the L. Brown program to benefit multiple academic units and community; Hosted four visiting scholars within the award that conducted classes and joint research projects with VSU faculty;
- Assisted MCL in the preparation and submission of the Heiskell National Award for study abroad programs, one of the four national awards;
- Assisted in the submission of applications to the joint German Bundestag – U.S. Congress young professionals program; 2 VSU graduates were awarded one year internships in Germany amongst a total of 75 awards nationally;
- Improved collaboration with local community organizations, schools, VSU students and faculty, and conducted the largest Annual International Dinner in cooperation with the Valdosta Asian Council Association;
- Expanded the programs of the English Language Institute both internationally and regionally by assisting non-native speakers - potential VSU students, and community members to acquire adequate language skills for integration into the society; ELI is entirely self-funded venture that needs institutional staff support;
- Continued with existing activities: Open House, hosting of prestigious federal programs such as Eurasian Undergraduate Exchange program, Congress Deutsche Bundestag program, International Education Week, support for area councils programs in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas;
- Hosted delegations from Argentina, Ecuador, France, Germany, Russia, Czech Republic, Scotland, Turkey, Venezuela , and other countries;
- Continued to deal with the increasing requirements of the DHS and SEVIS on reporting alien status changes of international students and acted as USG expert of integration of international students for the region of South East Georgia;
- VSU is the leading USG institution in the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP).

## PROGRESS TOWARD STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL GOALS 2006/7

Goal	Activity	Status	Evidence
<p><b>Enrollment &amp; Retention</b></p> <p>Intentionally grow undergraduate and graduate enrollment (to 12,000 over the next 5 years) through additional new students and increased retention and graduation rates of existing students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve freshman to sophomore retention at least 1% per year.</li> <li>• Improve 6-year graduation rate by at least 1% per year.</li> <li>• Increase the number of transfer students to VSU.</li> <li>• Develop traditions and culture to encourage retention.</li> <li>• Assess and implement changes in faculty load, facilities, course offerings, and class scheduling to enhance the use of university resources in support of planned growth.</li> <li>• Improve the advising process, consistent with Enrollment Management Plan, to support student's transition from general education to major field.</li> <li>• Increase number of students seeking certification and licensure renewal.</li> <li>• Develop a proposal for programs and program delivery strategies that meet the needs of non-traditional degree-seeking students.</li> </ul>	<p>Expanded the activities of ELI for potential undergraduate and graduate students;</p> <p>Revived and redesigned the International Student Minor program, thus offering new programmatic and certification opportunities for motivated and achieving VSU students;</p> <p>Expanded study abroad opportunities as curriculum enrichment and retention action</p> <p>On March 8, 2007 a special Advising and Registration workshop was offered to all the international students by the SSC and the International Student Advisor;</p> <p>7 international students transferred to VSU in 06/07</p> <p>20 students graduated from VSU in spring/summer 07 in less than three years after enrolling at VSU</p> <p>Started the new "international buddy system" matching incoming international students with current international students from the same country to facilitate transition process;</p> <p>Offered FLTA classes in Arabic and Turkish attended by over 20 students;</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>ELI enrollment</p> <p>VSU Catalog</p> <p>VSU Study Abroad</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>7 international students transferred to VSU in 06/07</p> <p>Graduation records</p> <p>International Students Society</p> <p>Fulbright, Student enrollment</p>
<p><b>Diversity</b></p> <p>Move beyond tolerance by actively promoting acceptance, inclusion, appreciation, and respect for human similarities and differences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate the university community by expanding its definition of diversity.</li> <li>• Diversify university personnel.</li> <li>• Infuse diversity into the curriculum.</li> <li>• Utilize organizational climate surveys to develop measurements.</li> </ul>	<p>Offer out of state tuition waiver for over 100 international students;</p> <p>Works with over 250 students from 65 to 74 countries ( number depends on graduation);</p> <p>Cooperated with the Continued education by involving international students and visitors in teaching some of the Continued Education classes.</p>		<p>Waivers</p> <p>261 int. students UGS report 2006/7</p>

Goal	Activity	Status	Evidence
	<p>Participated in the Diversity Fair with international students poster sessions</p> <p>Visiting int. scholars participate in community events, Rotary meetings, etc.</p>		
<p><b>Academic Programs</b></p> <p>Develop programs in health-related professions; while continuing to offer, identify, and develop programs which prepare students to be responsible, thoughtful, and productive citizens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop programs in health-related professions.</li> <li>• Hire more faculty with interdisciplinary backgrounds.</li> <li>• Retrain existing faculty to teach in interdisciplinary pedagogies and offer instruction via multiple delivery systems.</li> <li>• Increase team-teaching across the disciplines (i.e., medical ethics, creativity, diversity).</li> <li>• Increase cohort groups.</li> <li>• Increase service learning opportunities for students.</li> </ul>	<p>Redesigned the Brown Scholarship award program to bring over 4 international faculty to teach and research;</p> <p>Involved new faculty in international education efforts;</p> <p>Sent 221 students and 17 faculty on study abroad programs;</p> <p>International faculty visitors delivered seminars at the College of Business, Liberal Arts, Education etc.</p> <p>International Minor class was an example for team – teaching by interdisciplinary faculty</p>	<p><b>On going</b></p>	<p>4 scholars</p> <p>221 students</p> <p>17 faculty</p> <p>Class schedule</p>
<p><b>Faculty and Staff Development</b></p> <p>Enhance employment excellence and identify best practices in developing and retaining quality faculty and staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hire a university director for Grants and Contracts within the current fiscal year.</li> <li>• Designate a grants and contracts liaison for each college and provide the appropriate training for this person to facilitate grants in the college.</li> <li>• Develop creative budget processes to provide the necessary/mandatory job specific skill training for all employees.</li> <li>• Identify problem retention areas. Target those areas as needed for a specific plan.</li> <li>• Employee &amp; Organizational Development will work with Continuing Education and the appropriate academic liaisons to document all employee development and training across campus.</li> <li>• Develop a system to provide, document, and reward faculty development (faculty evaluation process) to improve teaching, advising, research, and grant writing.</li> <li>• Institute programs that raise the educational/skill level of staff.</li> <li>• Make mentorships available to all employees (staff, academic roles, and administrative roles).</li> </ul>	<p>Supported via the Faculty Internationalization Fund 37 faculty members on research, conferences, and professional development assignments abroad;</p> <p>Increased the level of Brown Scholar awards nominations to associate and full professors – 4 such professor visited VSU – to collaborate with VSU faculty; multiple joint publications and projects followed from this change;</p> <p>Supported system-changing projects, such as international conference attendance by Georgia Secretary of Education and two VSU professors from the College of Education in Scotland</p> <p>Two staff members enrolled in/continued attending doctoral</p>		<p>37 faculty</p> <p>Award text</p> <p>Kathy Cox</p> <p>Shirley and Stan Andrews</p> <p>D. Starling</p>

Goal	Activity	Status	Evidence
	programs at FSU		I. McClellan
<p><b>Financial Support</b></p> <p>Establish the infrastructure to increase sponsored research and private gifts as a percent of the total budget to position VSU to achieve its mission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By November 2006, create data bases and materials to support grant writing and collaborations with corporate and community partners.</li> <li>• Within 2 years, each college will identify a plan for increasing their external funding and changing faculty role expectations related to obtaining external funding.</li> <li>• Commit to a major capital campaign; including making strategic decisions to use university funds to hire development personnel in order to improve long-term sources for support of academic units.</li> <li>• Identify prioritized staff members (major gifts officers) with a goal to bring them on board over five years as resources become available.</li> <li>• Improve profile in the Valdosta community, by continuing to develop external/community partnerships.</li> <li>• Develop a recommendation for creating a VSU Research Foundation.</li> <li>• Define and achieve minimum standards for alumni contact.</li> <li>• Cultivate “pride of place” and tradition of giving back.</li> </ul>	<p>Established Fulbright sponsorship for the FLTA program for two visitors;</p> <p>Got one ACIE grant to support educational reform in Azerbaijan;</p> <p>Improved relationships with community via International Student Dinner, International Education week involved the city Mayor, visiting international faculty attend community events,</p>		<p>Ali Demirdas</p> <p>Yousef Elsaid</p> <p>media</p>

USE OF INSTITUTIONAL DATA FOR CHANGE

CONDUCTED SURVEY TO MEASURE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SATISFACTION WITH COMMUNITY INTEGRATION PROCESSES

INFORMATION SOURCE SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR THE ACTION: **CIP RESOURCES**

2. ACTION TAKEN TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS:

CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COLLABORATION WITH DOMESTIC STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY

INFORMATION SOURCE SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR THE ACTION: **STUDENT INPUT**

3. ACTION TAKEN TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS:

ALL INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FILL UP AN INFORMATION DOCUMENT WHILE WAITING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISOR

BASIS FOR ACTION: CUT LINES, ON LINE INFORMATION PROVIDED

4. ACTION TAKEN TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS:

INTRODUCED NEW DATA BASE SYSTEM FOR STUDY ABROAD USG / EUROPEAN COUNCIL

BASIS FOR ACTION: UNIVERSITY AUDIT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL PROGRAM

Example of an Improvement IN UNIT EFFECTIVENESS

1. Describe one significant change made in your unit during the year to improve service quality or productivity.

**Restarted International Studies Minor as an interdisciplinary program attractive to academically focused students**

2. What information or other rationale prompted the unit to make the change described above? Describe the data source (student, faculty, etc.) and type (survey, interview, report, etc.) of data.

*Faculty input, student interest, national data trends*

NEW PROGRAMS, SERVICE, INITIATIVES, UNITS, OR OTHER CHANGES

**List New Programs Added.**

Unit	Program Title
CIP	<i>International Studies Minor</i>

**List New Services Added**

- *Address Change Reporting to DHS*
- *International Buddy System*

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**List New Initiatives Started**

*Pairing international students with VSU Honors students for joint class assignments in the Honors program*

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**List any other significant changes in programs, service, initiatives, or units**

- JOINT PROGRAMMING WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS
- INCREASE OF VSU OWN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS AND INITIATION OF THE GERMAN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM WITH THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
- MOVE FOR CLOSER INTEGRATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC STUDENTS – JOINT EXECUTIVE BOARD OF SIS ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE GROWTH

**2007-2008**

- Assessment Results (submit an electronic file of the data collected):
- Discussion/Dissemination of Results:
- Modifications Made:

**Center for International Programs 2008 report**

- Third year collaboration with the Fulbright Foreign Languages Teaching Assistants program and the U.S. State Department to teach Arabic, Chinese, and Russian, plus a Japanese language per agreement, thus offering additional language options for over 120 students per semester;
- New study abroad programs in Italy (Arts), Japan (Arts), Peru (Spanish) or a total of 12 VSU own programs; leading role in European (Russia) and Asian (China) studies with the with 251 students
- Academic and student exchanges expanded. Established new and increased the standing of existing institutional partnerships and relations in Germany, France, Mexico, Ecuador, Russia, and other countries; 37 faculty went abroad for conferences, research, and teaching with funding from the FIF; long term collaboration – Eger, Jane Zahner, Education, for one Semester in Spring 2009;
- Reorganized the L. Brown program to benefit multiple academic units and community; Hosted two visiting scholars, one (*Rinas Kashbraziev from Tatarstan, Russia*) for one academic year with the College of Business (partner Cliff Lipscomb and the Department of Economics and Marketing), and one (*Milana Nikolko, Ukraine*) with Political Science for Spring 2008;
- For 2008/9 in collaboration with IIE/Scholars Rescue Program the plan is to bring over a senior Iraqi scholar in Islamic studies.
- Worked with the Department of State on four paid student internships in Washington, D.C. and abroad – special group for diversity in the U.S. diplomatic service.
- Assisted in the submission of applications to the Fulbright program in Mexico for VSU graduates from our business program;
- International Students – Fall 2008 305 (in 2007/8 – 319); graduate 22, ELI -15, OPT - 15
- Improved collaboration with local community organizations, schools, VSU students and faculty, and conducted the largest Annual International Dinner in cooperation with the Valdosta Asian Council Association;
- Expanded the programs of the English Language Institute both internationally and regionally by assisting non-native speakers - potential VSU students, and community members to acquire adequate language skills for integration into the society; ELI is entirely self-funded venture that needs institutional staff support;

- Continued with existing activities: Open House, hosting of prestigious federal programs such as Eurasian Undergraduate Exchange program, Congress Deutsche Bundestag program, International Education Week, support for area councils programs in Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas;
- Hosted delegations from Argentina, Ecuador, France, Germany, Russia, Czech Republic, Scotland, Turkey, Venezuela , and other countries;
- Continued to deal with the increasing requirements of the DHS and SEVIS on reporting alien status changes of international students and acted as USG expert of integration of international students for the region of South East Georgia;
- VSU is the leading USG institution in the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP).

New Initiatives and Modifications:

- **VSU Ambassadors Forum** – student representatives and program directors PP Presentations from the last summer study abroad experiences;
- **VSU Department of State Internship Program** – four VSU students got paid DOS 10-week summer internships in Washington DC and abroad. Good collaborative effort with the Honors Program, COAS and COBA;
- **Study Abroad Risk Management** (reporting system) and other fiscal changes

Dept. Head/ Director	Date	Dean	Date	VPAA	Date
Ivan Nikolov	12/8/2008				

Adapted from: University of Alabama SACS site (<http://sacs.ua.edu/degreeInfo2.cfm?college=2&dept=50>);

University of Western Kentucky SACS Accreditation Review Process (<http://www.wku.edu/sacs/assessmentmanual.htm>) ; and

Mrs. Marila D. Palmer, VP-Executive Affairs & Planning, LeTourneau University, Presentation to 2008 SACS-COC Institute