



## Memorandum

To: Administrative Boards of the College of Arts and Sciences  
From: Christopher T. Nelson, Acting Chair, Study Abroad Advisory Board  
Re: Report on Review of Fall 2016 Proposals  
Date: November 23, 2016

The Study Abroad Advisory Board (hereafter, Advisory Board) met twice during the fall 2016 semester to review proposed study abroad programs and discuss strategic issues. A total of five programs were reviewed. The Advisory Board gave attention to a variety of issues, including course structure; contact hours; methods of evaluation; and familiarization with local culture and history. The Advisory Board ultimately approved all proposals. Each is discussed in further detail below.

Participating in these discussions were the following members of the Advisory Board:

Luca Grillo (Classics)  
Richard Langston (Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures)  
Milada Vachudova (Political Science and Global Studies)  
Marcey Waters (Chemistry)  
Elaine Yeh (Biology)  
Gang Yue (Asian Studies)  
Christopher Nelson, Acting Chair (Anthropology and Global Studies)  
Robert Miles, *ex officio* (Study Abroad)  
Jim Leloudis, *ex officio* (Honors and History)  
Jonathan Hartlyn, *ex officio* (College of Arts and Sciences and Political Science)

Proposals:

### **1. Burch Seminar in London, The UK, and Ireland. Early Modern Worlds: Exploration, Colonialism, and Violence—Summer**

This proposal is for a six-week, faculty-led intensive academic and experiential program that combines historical inquiry into the domestic consequences of British colonialism with research into the local effects of the British colonization of both Ireland and America. The course will explore themes of violence and social transformation. Under the close supervision of historian Wayne Lee, students will read and discuss challenging primary and secondary materials, visit local

museums, and conduct fieldwork and archival research. Students will receive a total of six academic credits for two courses: *HNRS 353: Early English Exploration and Colonization* and *HIST 398H: Undergraduate Seminar in History: Violence in the Early Modern Western World*. The advisory board was enthusiastic about the proposal, noting the ways in which the course introduces complex and challenging material in an environment that will allow the students to make the most of their research opportunities. Support was unanimous.

## **2. Burch Field Research Seminar: A glimpse into our future? Sustainability in Germany and the Netherlands—Summer**

This proposal is for a six-week, faculty-led intensive academic and experiential program. Through a focus on “smart cities,” students will explore current trends in sustainable planning as well as global energy transition. Led by Professors Gregory Gangi and Cor Rademaker, students will integrate classroom study with extensive field research in Germany and the Netherlands. Students will receive a total of six academic credits for two courses: *HNRS 352 The Future of Energy* and *HNRS 352 Smart Cities*. The advisory board was enthusiastic about the proposal, noting the ways in which the course drew on a similar, extremely popular program led by Dr. Gangi in Germany, Denmark and Sweden in 2013. It is notable that all of the participants in the earlier seminar describe it as having a critical impact on their initial job opportunities and subsequent career trajectory: in fact, all of the students interested in energy have found employment in the renewable energy sector. Support was unanimous.

## **3. University of Costa Rica: Student Exchange Program**

This program was created to augment study abroad partnerships with universities in Mexico and South America with a program in Central America. It will help UNC Chapel Hill to meet the high demand for programs in Latin America, and provide a closer and potentially more affordable alternative to study in Spain or South America. Under the leadership of the Department of Romance Studies, students will participate in a two-way exchange, with the possibility to study for one semester or a full academic year. The University of Costa Rica will also allow non-exchange students to enroll for either a semester or a full year. In addition to coursework, students will have the opportunity to participate in homestays with residents of neighborhoods near the university campus. Students must enroll in a minimum of twelve credits and will receive transfer credit. The board unanimously approved the proposal, noting the close relationship with the University of Costa Rica that has been created over the past four years.

## **4. University of Costa Rica: Math and Spanish—Summer**

This program has been developed to provide students in STEM majors with the opportunity to study abroad in Latin America. The University of Costa Rica has become a reliable and responsive host for Carolina students, making it an ideal site for this program. Students will enroll in *Math 318 Discrete Mathematics*, taught by Dr. Justin Sawon of the UNC Chapel Hill Department of Mathematics, for which they will receive three credits. In addition, students will be able to take Spanish 203 or 204, a three-credit course taught by UCR instructors. There is also a possibility that

several students may be able to carry out independent research under Dr. Sawon's supervision and supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation. The program will be open to mathematics major and minors who are rising sophomores or juniors. The proposal was unanimously approved.

#### **5. Summer Science Program in Nicosia, Cyprus**

This program was created as a response to a request from the University of Nicosia to establish a partnership with UNC Chapel Hill. It has been specifically designed for students interested in careers as medical professionals. They will become familiar with clinical environments, and have significant exposure to medical practices. Over the course of the five-week session, students will enroll in two courses for seven credits: *BIOL 310 Special Topics in Clinical Anatomy and Skills* and *HAS 215A Cultural Responses to Illness and Care*. The anatomy course takes place in the cadaver lab at the University of Nicosia St. George's University of London Medical School. While students cannot use this course to fulfill their anatomy requirement, it can be substituted for a 400-level elective. Nonetheless, it will provide students with an intense and comprehensive introduction to human anatomy, and should be an unparalleled opportunity for those who intend to pursue a career in medicine. The proposal was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher T. Nelson