Embracing Global Engagement: Internships, Service and Experiential Learning on BGSU’s Education-Abroad Programs

Undergraduate Research Conference at BGSU on September 17, 2014, Bowen-Thompson Student Union

The Office of Education Abroad and International Partnerships (EAIP) and the Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship (CURS) is pleased to announce Bowling Green State University’s first undergraduate student conference on global education. The conference will take place on September 17 in conjunction with BGSU’s Fall Education Abroad Fair.

The title of this year’s conference is “Embracing Global Engagement: Internships, Service and Experiential Learning on BGSU’s Education-Abroad Programs.” The conference will focus on the range of research projects, experiential learning, service learning and internships that undergraduate students have engaged in during participation in one BGSU’s study abroad programs during the academic year 2013-2014. The conference is designed to acquaint students with the process of presenting research in a scholarly manner to students, faculty, community members and prospective BGSU students.

We invite students from all academic fields to showcase learning and research conducted within the context of one of BGSU’s study-abroad or BGSU-affiliated programs in one of three formats:

- 10-15 minute presentations presented to a seated audience + 15 minutes of Q&A per panel
- Visual poster session (In a one-hour session students will have an opportunity to present their posters; during the conference, students should interact with conference participants one-on-one)
- Artistic or other creative session (i.e. vodcasts or paintings or collages)

Session proposals/abstracts are due by 5:00 pm on September 1, 2014, and should be submitted in pdf format. A letter of support from your faculty mentor/advisor should be included in the submission.

Students may expect an answer regarding participation in the conference by September 8, 2014.

Who can apply: Any undergraduate student who participated on one of BGSU’s study abroad programs or BGSU-affiliated study abroad programs.

How to apply for the conference: Submit an abstract or proposal to Dr. Beatrice Guenther and Dr. Christina Guenther by September 1. (bguenth@bgsu.edu and cguenth@bgsu.edu) Please be sure to review your proposal with your faculty
advisor or study-abroad director prior to submission. Your faculty supervisor or advisor should submit a statement or letter of support of your project.

**Conference participation:** Presenters must participate in a 50-minute mandatory information session to be held after September 8. Time to be announced. During this information session you will receive advice on how to prepare a suitable and engaging poster or oral presentation. We will also discuss appropriate format types where applicable.

**What is an abstract?:** The abstract serves as a kind of advertisement for the research that you have completed and indicates that it deserves the attention of students, faculty, and the community at BGSU.

In one or two paragraphs (150-250 words), you should articulate
- the question(s) or research problem that motivated your internship or service learning experience and research;
- the purpose of the project and area of study to which it belongs;
- a few main ideas of your presentation or poster;
- the conclusion, or if it is still in progress, preliminary results;
- what new understanding you have gained by engaging in this research;
- Don't forget to include a (working) title that reflects what you plan to present.
- Please indicate the type of presentation you would like to give, i.e. poster, oral presentation or other. In the latter case, please describe the format.

*Please bear in mind that you are writing your abstract for various audiences:* 1. For the conference organizers, who will use your abstract to decide if your project fits the conference criteria and, if chose, in which panel to place your presentation. 2. For your peers and faculty, presenters’ families, prospective students who will decide whether or not to attend your particular presentation.