

International Education Council
March 27, 2018

Minutes

Council members present: John Binkley (Chair), Daniel Degrauel (DNCOBAE), Dean Sare (UGS-IAA), Vanessa Andrade (Tseng College), Patricia Marquez [standing in for Marta Lopez] (IESC), Ahmed Alwan (Oviatt Library)

Department liaisons present: Minsung Kwon (COE), Jessica Retis (Journalism), Andrew Surmani (Music), Joe Wiltberger (COH)

Guest Speakers: Carmen Lichtscheidl (Faculty Affairs) and Svetlana Tyutina (Community Engagement Office)

Call to Order

John Binkley, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Extended University Commons Conference Room 101 (EU 101).

New Business

Note Regarding the Current Meeting

John Binkley noted that the low attendance at the current meeting is most likely due to an issue with the listserv malfunctioning. Excluding those who were cc'd on the email, no one received the meeting reminder notification.

Introduction: International Education Council

John Binkley explained the origins of the International Education Council. John mentioned that the International Education Council has a webpage on CSUN's website. The website can be found on the CSUN homepage under several drop-down menus listed as "All Things International." The webpage is named International Education Council: <http://www.csun.edu/tsengcollege/international/international-education-council>.

John also explained the charge of the International Education Council and referred to the International Education Council Charge found on the website linked above. The charge of the academic department representatives and the liaisons is vague and John has been trying to create an agenda for the meetings and representatives to follow.

Currently, the committee is following a presentation and meeting format. John suggested coming up with roles for the representatives, so that each representative brings examples of global learning happening in their respective college or unit to the committee as examples for discussion. Another idea would be to gather the ideas from the committee presentations and discussions into a quarterly newsletter to share with the CSUN community. Both ideas support the notion of sharing in order to inspire.

The meeting minutes will be posted on the webpage and the International Education Council meets twice a semester.

Webinar Presentation

Due to the low attendance due to the issue with the listserv, John Binkley decided to forgo the webinar planned for the beginning of the meeting and move to the presentations by the two guest speakers.

Faculty Affairs Presentation

Presented by Carmen Lichtscheidl

Carmen Lichtscheidl presented a PowerPoint on International Visiting Research Scholars and International Student Intern Program currently being hosted on a J-1 Visa by CSUN through the Faculty Affairs.

Visiting Research Scholars are scholars invited by a faculty host to collaborate on research at CSUN. They are found within a wide variety of disciplines on our campus and CSUN hosts about 30 scholars at any given time. Currently, the concentration of the visiting research scholars are in physics and astronomy and primarily come from China.

Student Interns are Masters or Doctoral students who are currently working towards their degree at an institution outside of the U.S., who wish come to use an internship experience at CSUN to aid in their work. CSUN has only participated in the student intern J-1 visa process since 2016 and has hosted 7 student interns.

To complete the J-1 visa process at CSUN, you must (1) have a CSUN faculty host, (2) confirm eligibility for the J-1 visa, and (3) complete the appropriate work.

It is important to stress that the CSUN faculty host is responsible for ensuring that the visiting scholar or student meets English proficiency requirements. TOEFL scores, English proficiency interviews, and proof of education at a U.S. Institution meets this requirement.

The PowerPoint presentation will be attached to the minutes for more details.

The J-1 visa is a cultural and educational exchange visa. To learn more about the J-1 visa, please go to <https://j1visa.state.gov/>

Faculty Affairs Discussion

Joe Wiltberger said that he would like the departments to share more information on the current visiting international scholars and student interns whom they are hosting. It seems strange that the only way to find out information on international visiting scholars and student interns is through faculty affairs.

Patricia Marquez asked if we have a place to post research interests to share with other faculty. John Binkley pointed to the Metalab faculty profiles, which is currently under construction, but is supposed to allow faculty to list their research interests. Current research projects can be found on the website under Scholarship → Explore Projects. CSUN Meta+Lab website: <https://www.metalab.csun.edu/faculty>

Jessica Retis asked if Faculty Affairs helped CSUN faculty going abroad for research. Carmen Lichtscheidle responded that Faculty Affairs does not currently support faculty going abroad but may do so in the future. Jessica offered to share her experiences of applying and preparing to go abroad for research, in order to help future scholars with the process.

Daniel Degraevl asked if Faculty Affairs supported international partners and faculty exchanges, wherein a CSUN faculty member and an international faculty member from a partnered institution would exchange places for a semester and teach at the others' institution. John Binkley explained that CSUN does not sign faculty exchanges because the CBA bargaining agreement does not allow for it due to load restrictions and course assignment procedures. An international or domestic faculty member from another institution can guest lecture but cannot take a full load from a CSUN faculty member.

Daniel Degraevl asked about how CSUN student internships abroad fit into the discussion. John Binkley explained that student internships would go through his office and through risk management as a student exchange. Anything that is taken for credit internationally is considered study abroad. Carmen Lichtscheidl clarified that the international student intern program supported through faculty affairs does not allow international students to apply for internships on campus, but rather allows the campus to create internships specifically for the student to aid in their degree completion at their home institution.

University Policies and Procedures were clarified as the result of the last International Audit. John Binkley will link this to the main page of the All Things International website.

Service Learning and Community Engagement Presentation

Presented by Svetlana Tyutina

Svetlana Tyutina presented on opportunities for CSUN faculty to create service-learning classes through the Office of Community Engagement.

Svetlana stressed the importance of student interaction with class material through experiential learning outside of the classroom. She explained that service learning fully integrates the contextual learning component with the class material, rather than just having a community service component that helps the community but does not tie into the classroom learning objectives.

Service learning is one of the Matador Rising Initiatives and is a priority on our campus. Service learning also helps students think outside the box in terms of their careers after graduation and helps those students who are afraid to graduate.

The OCE offers one on one support to faculty who would like to create a service learning class, including help finding a partner or walking through the process of bringing in a new partner. The office also offers opportunities for funding. International service learning classes have not been done before at CSUN, but are encouraged.

The process for creating a service-learning course through the office is (1) Designate the course as service learning in Solar. The program does not need to receive funding from the office in order to receive help and guidance. (2) Sign the student service learning agreement with our office. If you do not go through the office and sign an agreement, then the class is not covered by insurance if an issue arises, putting the faculty, students, and CSUN at risk.

The handout accompanying the presentation will be attached to the minutes for more details.

Service Learning and Community Engagement Discussion

Daniel Degraevl admitted that some faculty hesitate to engage with the OCE when doing service learning because the lengthy process puts them off and the need to sign a contract with each partner can delay a class. Svetlana acknowledged that the process may look arduous but it is getting easier and stressed that going through the process is beneficial in that it protects you from liability and connects you with more resources through the OCE.

Joe Wiltberger asked if there was support from the OCE for service learning options outside of the course structure, such as an alternative spring break or summer opportunity. Svetlana responded no, the OCE only supports service-learning options within the course structure at this time. John Binkley added that if you have an external partner with whom you are collaborating, then this could go through Academic Student Travel as non-curriculum. You can contact John if this is the case.

Open Discussion of Next Steps for the IEC

Dean Sare suggested that we connect with Ahmed Alwan from the Oviatt Library (who had to leave the meeting early) and come up with a repository of ideas. Other ideas beyond a repository could include a newsletter or other PR initiatives. John Binkley will follow up with Ahmed.

Svetlana Tyutina suggested creating a teaching tool kit around international learning, to be shared with the faculty.

Dean Sare expressed that the working group and guest speakers have been good, but that she would be interested in hearing from others such as Chicano Studies and their community engagement.

Daniel Degrauel suggested 4 modes of disseminating the information: (1) internal sharing, (2) external working group to fix issues that arise, (3) counseling to international decision makers, (4) networking for collaboration. Daniel suggested that the committee can touch on multiple modes to figure out how to best serve the campus' needs.

John Binkley responded in relation to Daniel's #3 suggestion (see above) that there is a challenge in our ability to counsel international decision makers on campus. The committee has a link to the Coordinating Council but there is no centralized strategy for international travel and therefore no way to advise a centralized body.

Joe Wiltberger shared an envisioning of a Center for Global Learning as a website or even an office where all of the international programs could be centralized.

John Binkley tasked himself over the summer with (1) reaching out to Ahmed Alwan in the Library, (2) taking a look at Daniel Degrauel's list (see above), and (3) coming up with a clarified charge for the committee going forward.

Future Meetings

Future meetings will be scheduled during Summer 2018 for Fall 2018. Svetlana Tyutina and Carmen Lichtscheidle will be invited to return to future meetings.

Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, John Binkley adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Bryanna Benedetti-Coomber

March 28, 2018

International Visiting Research Scholars & Student Interns

Presented by: Carmen Lichtscheidl, Office of Faculty Affairs



Photo Credit:
Maosheng Miao

CSUN

Visa Programs

- **J-1 Visiting Research Scholar**

- Reserved for postdoctoral researchers and those with a master's degree who wish to conduct and/or collaborate on research with CSUN faculty.

- **J-1 Student Intern**

- Reserved for foreign students currently enrolled and pursuing a Ph.D. or Master's degree outside of the United States, who wish to fulfill their educational objectives for their degree program by participating in an internship at CSUN.

J-1 Visiting Research Scholar

Current Numbers

- 28 active
- 5 incoming

Departments

- Biology
- Chemistry & Biochemistry
- Criminology & Justice Studies
- ELPS
- FCS
- Finance, Financial Planning and Insurance
- Geography
- History
- Kinesiology
- Manufacturing Systems Engineering & Management
- Philosophy
- Physics & Astronomy
- Sociology

Department with Highest number of Visiting Research Scholars:

- Physics and Astronomy: 12 active; 2 incoming

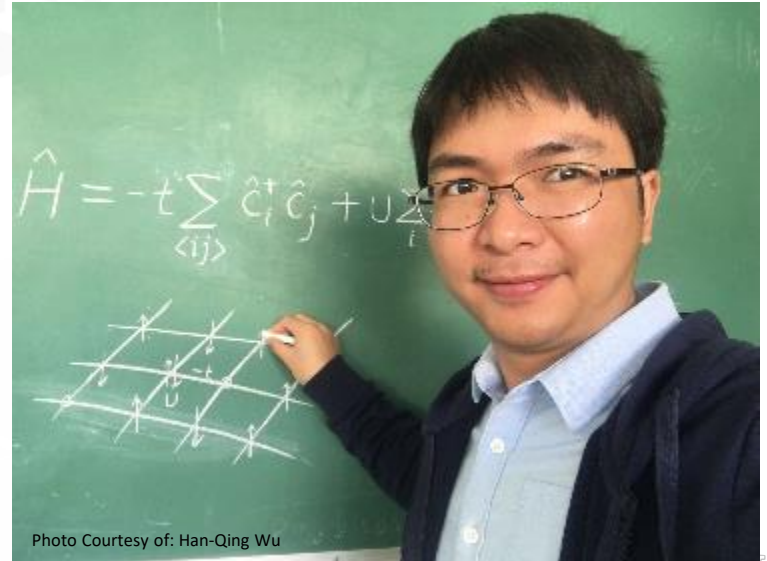


Photo Courtesy of: Han-Qing Wu

J-1 Student Intern

Current Numbers

- 0 active
- 2 incoming

Program Implemented 2016

- 7 Student Interns since program started

Departments

- Athletics
- Biology
- Chemistry & Biochemistry
- Communication Studies
- Kinesiology
- Physics and Astronomy
- Political Science



Photo Courtesy of UNAM

All Around the World

Our Visiting Research Scholars and Student Interns come from all around the globe:

- Australia
- Belgium
- Brazil
- **China***
- Czech Republic
- Germany
- India
- Iran
- Italy
- Japan
- Kenya
- Mexico
- Mongolia
- Netherlands
- Russia
- South Korea
- Spain

*21 Current Chinese Visiting Research Scholars; 3 incoming



Procedures

Visitor must identify a Faculty Host

- Existing collaborations
- Visitor connects with faculty

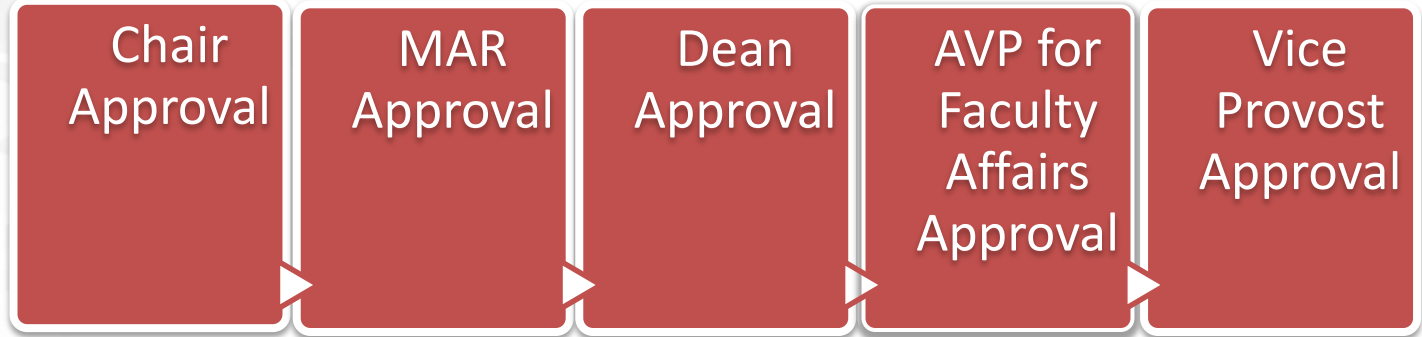
Confirm Eligibility

- J-1 visa bars (12-month & 24-month bars)
- 212(e) restriction

Complete Appropriate Paperwork

- Paid vs. Self-Support
- Research Scholar vs. Student Intern

Approval Flowchart



Where to Find Information

www.csun.edu/faculty-affairs/visas

CSUN | Division of Academic Affairs | Office of Faculty Affairs

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HOME | **COMPENSATION** | **FACULTY OPENINGS** | **ACADEMIC STUDENT EMPLOYEES** | **FORMS & MEMOS** | **POLICIES** | **VISAS**

Office of Faculty Affairs

Contact

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Dr. Daisy R. Lemus
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Visa Contact Information
Carmen Lichtscheidl
international.scholars@csun.edu

Faculty, Scholars, and Student Intern Visas

The Office of Faculty Affairs is proud to work with its faculty to invite and sponsor visas for Tenure-Track Faculty, Visiting Scholars, and Ph.D. Student Interns. Departments or faculty interested in visa sponsorship may contact Carmen Lichtscheidl at international.scholars@csun.edu for guidance in the process for each visa type.

For information on CSUN International Programs, Services and Relationships, please visit the [All Things International](#) page through the Tseng College of Extended Learning. For information about international students, please visit the [International and Exchange Student Center](#) website.

Visa Categories

- Tenure-Track Faculty
- International Visiting Research Scholars
- International Student Intern Program
- Resources
- Scholar Profiles



Contact Information

Carmen Lichtscheidl – Office of Faculty Affairs

- Email: international.scholars@csun.edu
- Phone: (818) 677-2962
- Website: <https://www.csun.edu/faculty-affairs/visas>

Questions?



WHAT IS SERVICE LEARNING?

Definition

Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. Through service learning, students—from kindergarteners to college students—use what they learn in the class to engage with real-life issues identified by community partners. Students not only learn practical applications of their studies, but they also become citizens who actively contribute to their communities through the services they perform.

Key Elements of Quality Service Learning

- > Integration of academic content with community experience
- > Reflection
- > Outcome: project, report, and/or presentation
- > Assessment

Evidence

- Research shows service learning yields:
- > Improved retention, connection to peers, connection to faculty
 - > Greater satisfaction with educational experience
 - > Greater civic engagement post-graduation

Civic Engagement: the actions of informed individuals and collectives to respond to the needs created by systems of social injustice in the communities in which they live and work. . . . [It] must be requested or approved by communities themselves, and executed in collaboration with community participants. (Jean Y. Yu, 160)

Service-Learning Pedagogy: like any test, paper, or research project, the service learning experience must be integral to the syllabus and advance the students' knowledge of the course content" (Jay 255)

WHAT DO WE DO TO FACILITATE SERVICE LEARNING?

Who

The Office of Community Engagement supports CSUN's mission to cultivate civic connections among students, faculty, staff, and community members by facilitating service-learning classes, promoting co-curricular engagement activities, implementing community-based research, and fostering sustainable community partnerships.

- Jeanine Mingé, Ph.D.**
Director of Community Engagement
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- Debi Cours, Ph.D.**
Interim Dean of the College of Business
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- Svetlana Tyutina, Ph.D.**
Co-director of Service Learning
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- Danielle Spratt, Ph.D.**
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- Nicole Linton**
Service Learning Coordinator
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What

- > Promote, encourage, support, report, and assess Community Service Learning
- Course Development Grants (\$1000-\$6000)
- Student Scholar Grants (\$500-\$1000)
- Travel Support (\$500-\$1000)
- Community Partner Database
- Student Service Database
- > Promote, celebrate, report on other forms of community engagement
- > Internships, community-based research, volunteerism, events and programs engaging the community



How

- Steps to Incorporate Service Learning:
- > Consider your course learning goals. What kind of community projects might help master these goals?
 - > Identify community partner(s). Use CE Database or contact us for partnership agreement.
 - > Develop service-learning assignments including reflection exercises.



HOW CAN WE MAKE MORE OF AN IMPACT?

How Could This Be Scaled?

- > Involve more faculty and programs
- > Embed this practice in GE Core through the new minor in Civic and Community Engagement
- > Projects can integrate more than one course or discipline, or continue across semesters.

Community Partners

- > A list of approved community partners is available at the service learning database.
- > Community partners can update the opportunities available in their database listing
- > New partners can be approved –and CE will help you with this process

Future Partners

- > Who would be ideal to partner with? What new perspectives, skills, knowledge, resources would help your idea grow?
- > A dream collaboration would look like what???

Service for Everyone

- > There are service projects appropriate for every major, minor, and interest
- > Service can be direct (serving the organization's clients) or indirect (e.g. research, feasibility study, design work, business analysis, etc.)



WHAT IMPACT DOES SERVICE LEARNING HAVE ON THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP AT CSUN?

Real Student Impact

"I often only thought about what I could gain from the discipline, and how the discipline fit within my own narrative, much like Emma and the poor family. However, once I began . . . working with [my service project], I started to realize that I had a larger, personal responsibility to fully engage with the academic community I wanted to belong to."

Culturally-Relevant Service

- > Service learning provides an opportunity for students to bridge connections between their communities and college, building self esteem, confidence and leadership skills.
- > Engaging in discussions in diverse communities leads to better student retention and success

Markers of Positive Impact

- Service-learning pedagogy incorporates multiple HIP strategies:**
- > Writing-Intensive Courses (Reflection)
 - > Collaborative Assignments and Projects
 - > Undergraduate Research
 - > Diversity/Global Learning
 - > Capstone Courses & Projects

Close the Gap

- > Research shows that the achievement gap CLOSED for students who participated in two or more HIPs (NSSE)
- > Involvement in service appears to contribute to lessening the achievement gap, with low-income students who serve doing better academically than students who do not serve. (Scales & Roehlkepartain 2005)