About EAN

The newly convened University of Minnesota Twin Cities Education Abroad Network includes and serves professional advisers, faculty members, administrators, and others involved with education abroad. The Advisory Board was formed spring of 2010.

Mission

Meetings will be organized and convened twice a year by the Learning Abroad Center, but the agenda will be open to issues and topics identified by the entire group and relevant to a majority of participants. Particular preference will be given to sharing of practices, benchmarking, and updates to foster communication and expanded, multidisciplinary collaboration in regard to learning abroad.

Meeting Topics

Spring 2012
Teaching Beyond Borders: Short Term/High Impact Learning Abroad Experiences
- Learning Abroad staff who are experienced in assisting University faculty and staff in developing short term study abroad programs helped demystify the process for both Learning Abroad-sponsored global seminars and department-based study abroad programs.
- A panel of faculty and staff who have created and led past successful short term learning abroad opportunities shared their motivations and the challenges they faced.

Fall 2011
When Students WIV (Work, Intern, or Volunteer) Abroad
Do you ever discuss:
- The realities of volunteering and interning (i.e. who really benefits from a student’s experience?)
- Managing both expectations and preconceptions of WIV experiences
- Health and safety issues
- Grappling with some tough ethical considerations while abroad?
Key colleagues from around the campus and Learning Abroad Center staff shared their experiences facing student development issues surrounding an array of Work, Intern, and Volunteer Abroad opportunities.

Spring 2011
Getting to Know You: Working with Underrepresented Students and Learning Abroad
- Members of the U of M’s Multicultural Study Abroad Group (MSAG) joined the group to discuss ways to help students of color work through the real and perceived barriers involved with learning abroad choices.
- By utilizing case studies, student voices and staff experiences we hope participants were able to expand their comfort level in discussing multicultural issues with students.

Fall 2010
Unpacking Learning Abroad Experiences: Helping Students Make Meaningful Connections
- Participants learned about return resources and how to help students translate their experience abroad into their academic and professional pursuits.
- Students were on hand to talk about their experiences and to provide ideas about how to encourage other students to share their experiences in meaningful ways.

EAN Advisory Board

Brook Blahnik
Learning Abroad Center
Rebecca Dosch Brown
College of Education and Human Development
Kim Hindbjorgen
Learning Abroad Center
Jeanette Howey
College of Liberal Arts
Cindy Pavlowski
College of Education and Human Development
Meaghan Stein
College of Biological Sciences
Ellen Sunshine
College of Education and Human Development

For more information about the UMTC Education Abroad Network, visit our website z.umn.edu/EAN