Saint Louis University College of Arts and Sciences Center for International Studies

Revised 1818 Professional Development Plan

Given the relatively low number of schools that teach International Studies courses in the 1818 ACC program, the Center for International Studies recognizes that conference-style professional development days on campus common to larger programs are not productive or feasible. International Studies is hopeful that the number of 1818 schools will increase as it implements its plan to develop and promote further growth in conjunction with the 1818 ACC Office at SLU. If periodic review indicates a change is needed, specific 1818 ACC on-campus professional development events may be planned in the future. At present, International Studies is taking advantage of professional and academic events in the area that will provide flexibility and diversity of professional development as well as address the multidisciplinarity of International Studies. International Studies has adopted an approach that uses the events and resources available in the wider, interdisciplinary academic community of International Studies, whether directly sponsored by the Center or not, to provide professional development that is truly integrated into the profession.

The revised plan currently consists of three main initiatives:

1) Effective communication with 1818 ACC program instructors about events and activities of the Center for International Studies and its faculty, students, and affiliated groups and individuals that provide periodic and ongoing opportunities for professional development.

2) One annual event (described below) designated as the primary 1818 ACC International Studies professional development program, with follow-up interaction to reinforce and assess the activity’s effectiveness.

3) Financial support for all instructors to attend the primary annual program and other events as feasible.

Effective communication is achieved by integrating 1818 ACC instructors into existing International Studies communications, including web-site announcements and updates, regular mail, general and personal email, and social media. Among the events and activities to which 1818 ACC instructors will be invited include: lectures, symposia, colloquia, and seminars sponsored or co-sponsored by the Center for International Studies; the annual Garcia Lecture in International Studies; the presentation of the Grueber Awards for Globalization; the events of ATLAS Week; Sigma Iota Rho National International Studies Honor Society Induction Ceremony and Reception, and others.

The primary annual event going forward is anticipated to be the ISA-Midwest Conference. Among the activities of the Center for International Studies at Saint Louis University is the co-sponsorship of the annual International Studies Association – Midwest Conference held annually.
in November in St. Louis at the Hilton at the Ballpark in downtown St. Louis (http://webs.wichita.edu/?u=isamw&p=/index). The ISA-Midwest is a large regional affiliate of the International Studies Association (http://www.isanet.org/about-isa/), the premier professional organization in the field. The conference is held in conjunction with other affiliated groups, including the Central Slavic Conference and the Mid-America Alliance for African Studies. The convention is in a very convenient location and provides an outstanding opportunity for significant professional development through interactions with top teachers and scholars in a broad range of International Studies disciplines from across the Midwest and indeed around the world.

As its annual 1818 Professional Development Event, International Studies will encourage the attendance of and pay the registration fees for all 1818 International Studies instructors to attend the International Studies Association – Midwest Conference, co-sponsored by the Center for International Studies.

Among the standing committees of the ISA is the ISA Professional Development Committee, which annually sponsors and organizes at the ISA-Midwest conferences several roundtables on professional issues as well as sessions on teaching strategies and pedagogies. These are in addition to the dozens of panels and hundreds of papers on virtually every imaginable aspect of International Studies. In short, the opportunity for diverse and targeted International Studies professional development far exceeds the possibilities of any one event that could be sponsored on campus.

This event, especially the sessions and roundtables targeted to professional development, and follow-up to address questions and engage in collegial discussion of issues raised will achieve all the desired ends of addressing course content, course delivery, assessment, evaluation, and/or research and development in the field.

The effectiveness of this policy will be reviewed annually by the Director of the Center and the designated 1818 ACC Liaison, in consultation with the International Studies Advisory Board as needed.

Approved: January 2013
David M. Borgmeyer, Ph.D.
Director