Foreign Study Assessment Plan Executive Summary

Mission Statement

Commitment to international education is part of the liberal arts philosophy of St. John Fisher College (SJFC) and aligns with the College’s mission of preparing students to be engaged citizens. The Foreign Study Program extends the campus curriculum to include offerings at more than 100 programs around the world. Official affiliation arrangements with the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS), Central College Abroad, and the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) provide our students the opportunity of an academic experience in Africa, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific. In partnership with Hobart and William Smith College, SJFC also offers a faculty-directed program in Galway, Ireland each spring semester. SJFC promotes international study by extending financial aid to a wide range of programs with the goal that SJFC students from almost any background may take advantage of foreign study opportunities.

Vision Statement

The Foreign Study program will expand our campus to include classrooms around the world that will provide students with a global perspective on their opportunities, their education, and their lives.

Goals/Outcomes

Program Goal #1: Students will have a new perspective on their education through exposure to coursework based in different cultural and academic frames of reference.

Program Goal #2: Students will complete unique coursework that is not available at St. John Fisher College and have additional extra-curricular opportunities.

Program Goal #3: Students will contextualize their learning by linking it to local realities and related global dimensions.

Data Collection
Every student that studies abroad for a semester is required to complete a detailed study abroad evaluation. The evaluation contains a survey and specific questions related to the program and their experience. Students must also comment on each course taken and write a reflective essay addressing their personal growth. The evaluations are compiled, coded, and analyzed in order to identify strengths and weaknesses. The results are shared with faculty, the Dean of the School of Arts and summarized for students interested in Foreign Study.

**Use of the Results**

The results will be used to make changes in the programs currently offered and to enhance courses and programming offered on campus upon a student’s return to SJFC in order to take advantage of the knowledge and skills they have gained abroad. The results are also used to make recommendations regarding future programs, use of resources, and to advise students interested in study abroad.