

# Center for International Programs

## Strategic Plan 2013 – 2018

### Academic Affairs Goal 1, Objectives 1-3

#### CIP Goal 1: Strive to strengthen VSU Campus internationalization and global appeal

Objective 1.	Promote Study Abroad as effective instrument for student recruitment, retention and acquisition of global skills;
Objective 2.	Maintain high level of student services and engagement in support of the efforts for international student recruitment and retention;
Objective 3.	Strengthen the role of the English Language Institute (ELI) as a bridge for International students' transition to VSU;
Objective 4.	Support academic units' strategic plans and activities in the area of campus internationalization and global engagement

#### ***Action Steps***

1. Promote study abroad programs as integral part of campus academic experience during student recruitment campaigns and marketing
2. Pursue external financial support necessary to double student participation in study abroad programs
3. Work with Academic Colleges and departments for active participation in and regular planning for study abroad experiences for students and faculty as an element of the existing academic programs and tool for global skills and communication
4. Provide wide exposure to positive international student experiences at VSU
5. Continue to hone existing programs for international student services and community engagement programs
6. Maintain high level of professionalism in SEVIS/DHS updates and visa-related services for students
7. Effective targeted use of Faculty Internationalization Fund and Brown Scholar funding in support of VSU global presence and appeal
8. Support ELI in areas of student services and engagement activities to pre-college students
9. Work to make internationalization experiences an active part of campus life at VSU
10. Maintain the International Dinner as a community tradition and programmatic enrichment opportunity for international and domestic students
11. Expand International Buddies, VSU Ambassadors Forum for study abroad students, Study Abroad fairs and programs on and off campus.

## Academic Affairs Goal 2, Objectives 1 – 6

### CIP Goal 2: Support of Faculty-Led Internationalization

Objective 1:	Supplement student needs in faculty through targeted and collaborative support in critical languages and academic exchanges;
Objective 2:	Support faculty scholarship and professional development in the international dimension
Objective 3:	Collaborate with faculty for better teaching and learning effectiveness of international students;
Objective 4:	Advocate for professional recognition of faculty for internationalization efforts, with focus on study abroad programs.

#### **Action Steps**

1. Continue collaboration with Modern and Classical Languages and partner institutions abroad in providing instructors for critical languages (Arabic, Chinese, Korean) and those without faculty resources (Russian, Japanese)
2. Collaborate with Fulbright and relevant federal agencies and programs for support in the area of critical languages
3. Work with academic department heads, individual faculty members and the Student Success Center to support international students learning experiences at VSU
4. Assist faculty in their pursuit for professional development, including international conferences, exhibits, performances, academic exchanges, on-line conferences and classes with international partners
5. Align individual faculty pursuits in the international dimension with their respective academic units' goals and objectives for effective use of resources for joint research, teaching, and publications
6. Conduct cultural sensitivity seminars and US visa standards sessions for new faculty and department heads
7. Work on standards and modalities to support faculty recognition for, and promotion and tenure processes reflection of successful efforts in the international dimension, especially leadership in study abroad programs development and implementation
8. Maintain an open and continuing discussion with all academic units and the university community for improvement of student experiences in the international dimension and of all international students on campus
9. Provide opportunities for community engagement in the international dimension for students and faculty

## Academic Affairs Goal 3, Objectives 1-4

### CIP Goal 3: Maintain CIP High Professional Standards and Support Staff Development

Objective 1.	Increase support for CIP staff professional development and participation in state, national and international professional forums
Objective 2:	Maintain the role of VSU as USG system and regional expert on international student services and study abroad
Objective 3.	Continue campus collaboration with all relevant units, academic and non-academic
Objective 4.	Modernize existing student service systems through active IT and logistical support

#### **Action Steps**

1. Support faculty participation in Georgia International Education Networks, such as European, Asian, Americas and other area councils, active leadership roles in international bodies such as the Consortium for Belize Educational Collaboration (COBEC), and with partner institutions abroad
2. Advocate for funding support for VSU participation in NAFSA, AIEA, Georgia University System international collaborative programs and events
3. Support CIP active leadership in the European and other USG area councils
4. Continue professional seminars and expert support on SEVIS (immigration) matters for local and regional institutions of higher education, such as Wiregrass Technical College, and secondary schools in the region
5. Expand visits to schools on International Education Week and similar related events, build strong institutional links and engagement opportunities that promote VSU as a global campus
6. Work with all relevant campus units, like Admissions, Housing, Athletics, Student Success Center, Honors College, Financial Services to provide logistical assistance to international students, visiting international faculty, study abroad programs and other CIP activities
7. Collaborate across campus with academic departments and units to support learning and create better understanding for cultures and supportive academic environment for students
8. Advocate the implementation of technology, networks, software, and protocols that simplify administrative processes and provide for more effective management and welcoming campus environment
9. Provide training for study abroad directors (faculty) and necessary logistical support

## Academic Affairs Goal 4, Objectives 1-3

### CIP Goal 3: Collaboration in the international dimension of development and delivery of diverse academic programs

Objective 1.	Collaborate with academic units on study abroad programs as an effective curriculum enrichment tool
Objective 2.	Strengthen the International Studies Minor Program scope and appeal
Objective 3.	Increase campus cultural sensitivity and support for international students and faculty

#### Acton Steps

1. Work with academic units, Colleges and Departments, to transform Study Abroad into an integral campus experience that provides competitive edge for professional realization of VSU graduates
2. Advocate campus planning of study abroad activities for predictability and better management of global experiences
3. Provide support for a Peer Recruitment Network as effective Study Abroad marketing tool
4. Gauge on a regular (semester) basis international students satisfaction from academic and extra-curricular activities at VSU
5. Provide live exchanges with faculty and academic units on international students perceptions, problems and success stories
6. Actively work with the Honors College and other colleges on expanding the International Studies Minor as an option for educational and cultural enrichment
7. Initiate international conferences online, student contacts with students and faculty partner institutions (online video conferences, joint projects and like)
8. Support collaborative efforts of faculty and staff that address institutional strategic priorities in the international dimension, such as dual degree programs, exchange of Brown Scholars, joint research and publication with partner institutions abroad.