International Spotlight: Tanzania

The International Education Center made geographic diversity in study abroad a component of its strategic plan. Tanzania became a country of focus for students in nursing, education, and geography during the past two years. In the fall of 2015, Ms. Liz Havey (IEC) and Dr. Sallie Coke (Nursing) conducted a site visit to Tanzania to plan future study abroad and service-learning opportunities as part of a Master Engage grant for the Global Health Studies minor. Since this initial visit, 23 students have studied abroad in Tanzania. The nursing and education programs have sent two faculty-led programs in the spring and summer of 2017. The geography program also endorsed one of its students to conduct field studies as part of her honors experience in the fall of 2016.

In July, Dr. Nicole DeClouette from the College of Education and several students traveled to Tanzania exploring cultural differences in perceptions of disability. Their program includes Swahili lessons and visits to the Irenti Children’s Home, Irenti Rainbow School for Children with Intellectual Impairments and Autism, The Plaster House and Pambazuka Special Needs School. Dr. DeClouette received an ENGAGE mini-grant to support this new summer program.

Engaging with Health Care in Tanzania

In April, 16 nursing students participated in rural and urban health clinics in Tanzania. Each student carried a suitcase of medical supplies (50 pounds each), including surgical gloves, IV equipment, heart monitors, and more. Students collected nearly $20,000 worth of supplies and donated them to the hospitals in their host country. The program was directed by Dr. Sallie Coke and Dr. Debby MacMillan.

Special Education in Tanzania: Perceptions and Learning in a Cultural Context

In July, Dr. Nicole DeClouette from the College of Education and several students traveled to Tanzania exploring cultural differences in perceptions of disability. Their program includes Swahili lessons and visits to the Irenti Children’s Home, Irenti Rainbow School for Children with Intellectual Impairments and Autism, The Plaster House and Pambazuka Special Needs School. Dr. DeClouette received an ENGAGE mini-grant to support this new summer program.
Faculty Fulbright Opportunities

The Fulbright Program was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by then-Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The Fulbright Program awards approximately 8,000 grants annually. Roughly 1,600 U.S. students, 4,000 foreign students, 1,200 U.S. scholars, and 900 visiting scholars receive awards, in addition to several hundred teachers and professionals. Approximately 370,000 “Fulbrighters” have participated in the Program since its inception in 1946.

Several Georgia College faculty have become Fulbrighters through research, teaching, specialist, and other awards in countries like Croatia, Zambia, Cyprus, Germany, and South Korea.

Contact Georgia College’s Fulbright Faculty Liaison, Dr. Eric Spears, for registration information at eric.spears@gcsu.edu or (478) 445-4789.

Fulbright Faculty Webinar

Date: July 31, 2017 - 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm EDT

Event type: Webinar

Limited spots are available to join Fulbright IIE/CIES staff for a webinar regarding the online faculty application, discussing the various components and required materials. The webinar is designed to answer faculty questions about the award offerings and application process. Attendees are encouraged to email their questions in advance to outreach@iie.org (subject line: Virtual Advising IV Webinar Questions). Otherwise, faculty are encouraged to come prepared with their questions or to simply listen along as CIES staff discuss the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program.

Promote Study Abroad in the Classroom

As faculty prepare their syllabi for fall semester, please keep the International Education Center in mind. The IEC staff are happy to present on study abroad and other international opportunities available to GC students. A visit from our staff will help your students understand the experience of study abroad and how to make it happen, provide them with information about our campus organizations and activities (like the International Club, the International Plan, the International Studies minor and International Day), and also steer them to other resources.

Presentations can run from 15 minutes to an entire class period, and we will gear them toward your particular group of students, highlighting opportunities that would be most applicable to their academic focus or interests.

For more information or to schedule a class visit for fall semester, please contact Study Abroad Advisor Jarris Lanham at Jarris.lanham@gcsu.edu or call (478) 445-4789.
Become a Connections Partner!

As the IEC prepares to receive new international students in August, it is reaching out to faculty, staff, and other community members to become a Connections Partner. This voluntary program pairs up an international student with someone who is local to foster cultural exchange and mentorship. If you would like to be a Connections partner with an international student, please contact Ms. Susie Ramage at susie.ramage@gcsu.edu or (478) 445-4789.

Faculty and Staff Notables

Dr. Sallie Coke, professor of nursing, was invited as a fellow for the International Communication and Global Classroom workshop in Sweden in June. Coke was one of 35 faculty chosen from all over the world to attend this workshop at GC’s Swedish exchange partner, Linneaus University. The workshop focused on international communications and conflict resolution. Professor Coke has also developed two international opportunities at Georgia College for nursing students—one to Honduras and the other to Tanzania. Coke also visited De Montfort University in Leicester, England, during this trip to explore possibilities of a study nursing exchange program in the UK.

Ms. Liz Havey, Assistant, Assistant Director of Education Abroad, co-presents “Best Practices for Institutional Study Abroad Committees’ at the USG International Education Summer Workshop on July 25th. She is co-presenting with Ms. Lorie Paulez (Georgia Tech) and Ms. Kory Sanders (Columbus State).