

Campus Internationalization Forum September 21, 2007

Hosted by the School for Graduate, International, and Interdisciplinary Studies (GIIS), 82 students, staff, and faculty from a wide range of departments across the CSU, Chico campus gathered to discuss plans to further internationalize the campus. Working in small groups, participants provided the following input (in no particular order):

What Are We Doing Well?

- ☞ Counseling office has brochures in various languages
- ☞ Networking for international students
- ☞ Mentor program in study abroad
- ☞ International research collaboration
- ☞ Study Abroad
- ☞ Communication via e-mail and Skype
- ☞ Attracting international students
- ☞ Students have personal relationships with faculty
- ☞ Small community is good for students
- ☞ Strong academic programs
- ☞ Study Abroad—50 sites and 2 big programs
- ☞ Faculty participation
- ☞ Student support and interest
- ☞ Faculty and student field work
- ☞ RISE library
- ☞ Good study abroad faculty-led programs
- ☞ Onsite coordinators for IP study abroad programs
- ☞ Language preparation
- ☞ Collaboration with financial aid office
- ☞ Conditional admission
- ☞ International programs leadership
- ☞ Some financial support for overseas work
- ☞ Relatively affordable to study abroad
- ☞ International graduate student numbers good
- ☞ Conditional admission process
- ☞ American Language and Culture Institute (ALCI)
- ☞ Foreign exchange buddy program and conversation partner program
- ☞ Bringing in international visitors and groups
- ☞ Faculty support
- ☞ International forum
- ☞ Anthropology forum
- ☞ International office has good support
- ☞ International students warmly welcomed (speak with people, not answering machine)
- ☞ Study abroad opportunities advertised to incoming students

- ☞ Great Study Abroad staff
- ☞ This meeting
- ☞ More students studying abroad in Chico than the national average
- ☞ Study Abroad offers strong support system on campus
- ☞ High level of satisfaction of students
- ☞ Support from academic advising and financial aid
- ☞ Insurance for students
- ☞ Faculty advising and helping international students out of hide
- ☞ English language tutoring
- ☞ Orientation sessions for study abroad
- ☞ Staff knowledge and support
- ☞ Number of locations offered for study abroad
- ☞ Active study abroad office
- ☞ International entertainment
- ☞ Many academic advisors and departments are supportive of study abroad

What Do We Need to Improve?

- ☞ Counseling for students abroad
- ☞ International students need chances to meet U.S. students
- ☞ Academic advising for international freshmen
- ☞ Better connections for international students before arrival
- ☞ Housing is difficult for students coming to Chico
- ☞ International student house
- ☞ American students shouldn't live together
- ☞ Advertisement opportunities
- ☞ Need a one-stop shop for students and faculty – International Center
- ☞ Increase locations for study abroad
- ☞ Increase study abroad programs for more majors
- ☞ Better language-prep options for some study abroad locations
- ☞ Need short crash courses such as English for students coming here
- ☞ Need more foreign faculty here
- ☞ More resources and money into international studies
- ☞ Scholarships
- ☞ More students studying abroad
- ☞ Recruitment
- ☞ More diversity in international enrollment across programs
- ☞ ALCI student integration
- ☞ Awareness of community resources such as child care
- ☞ More buddies and conversation partners
- ☞ Multi-lingual instruction (closed captioning)
- ☞ Accessibility to study abroad (dollars and marketing)
- ☞ More information about legal issues for international students
- ☞ Broaden diversity of international students

- ☞ Website for international activities
- ☞ More international involvement with language classes
- ☞ More planned events to integrate international and Chico students
- ☞ More support for housing international students with American students
- ☞ More internationalization in all degrees
- ☞ More space for study abroad office
- ☞ Conversation/Partner programs with international students in language courses
- ☞ Recruiting students into international program
 - Getting the information out
 - Getting help from the colleges
 - Impact-need multiple and repeated messages
 - Financial aid support
- ☞ Diversity of cultures on campus
- ☞ More events involving foreign diplomats and dignitaries
- ☞ Health insurance coverage for families and other support services
- ☞ Money and time for faculty advising for international students
- ☞ Writing center resources are under-utilized
- ☞ Increase use of English language tutor
- ☞ Housing
- ☞ Need to communicate relevance of internationalization to all students
- ☞ Targeting freshmen (example: orientation, admission brochure)
- ☞ Increasing number of international students and study abroad students
- ☞ Promoting international studies such as events and curriculum
- ☞ Not enough visibility for international students
- ☞ More opportunities for faculty exchanges are needed
- ☞ More outreach to U.S. students about study abroad after freshman year
- ☞ More support needed for students to transfer study abroad work to Chico
- ☞ Need more foreign language offerings
- ☞ Lack of incentives for faculty to develop international programs
- ☞ Making connections across campus
- ☞ Lack of information about international students, especially first year program
- ☞ Financial aid for study abroad
- ☞ Lack of incentive for faculty to work with international graduate students
- ☞ Role of area studies in general curriculum
- ☞ Lack of emphasis on international studies programs
- ☞ Diversity of language use on campus

What Opportunities Are We Not Taking Advantage Of?

- ☞ More symposia/forums for international students
- ☞ Better integration with international student body and Chico community
- ☞ International opportunities with UN University
- ☞ Second language acquisition assistance for foreign students
- ☞ Forum panel of foreign students to talk about culture and experiences

- ☞ Resources in local community
- ☞ Service learning and internships overseas
- ☞ Bring foreign faculty or students to study or exchange information about creative financial possibilities
- ☞ Communication and cooperation between international-related programs (for example, committee of representatives from each program meeting regularly)
- ☞ Integrating community and campus efforts to internationalize/unify (for example, contract with housing owner for a new international house; community events with international students)
- ☞ Vast intellectual wealth among international faculty
- ☞ Grant money out there not being made use of
- ☞ Opportunity for faculty exchange
- ☞ University partnerships abroad
- ☞ Promise of technology (Vista) unfulfilled
- ☞ Leveraging earned media
- ☞ Awareness building and relevance defining of internationalization
- ☞ TILS masters recipients could teach more languages
- ☞ Students aren't taking advantage of wide variety of study abroad programs offered (i.e., Asia, Africa, Latin America)
- ☞ Housing that could be furnished for international students
- ☞ International forum presentations by faculty
- ☞ Networking between faculty who are working on international projects
- ☞ International grants (we need more FIPSES)
- ☞ Resident director positions offered by CSU through IP not being taken advantage of
- ☞ International Teaching positions through USAC available
- ☞ Small town advantage as a university selling point
- ☞ Internationalizing sustainability
- ☞ Export our programs to an international audience
- ☞ Invite visiting faculty from foreign universities
- ☞ Targeted fundraising for study abroad scholarships
- ☞ Utilizing the on-campus international faculty (panels and awareness)
- ☞ International link with diversity initiatives on campus
- ☞ Not enough attendance at what we already offer
- ☞ Mentorship/release for international faculty on this campus to help others
- ☞ International resource center on campus
- ☞ Existing language instruction
- ☞ Exposure to intercultural opportunities
- ☞ Scholarship opportunities
- ☞ Faculty networks to involve students in research
- ☞ Post-grad volunteer and work opportunities
- ☞ Self-Instructional Language Program
- ☞ Language labs and conversation hours
- ☞ International education festival

From this input, major themes were identified and it was acknowledged that all of the ideas that had been presented are very important and valuable. Participants were asked to vote on which are their top priorities. The results including numbers of votes were:

Integrating International Students into the Campus and Community (30)

Housing (24)

- University-owned or arranged International house (or floor) available to both domestic and international students
- System for connecting domestic and international students as potential roommates/housemates, especially using technology so students can make contact prior to the semester, while new international students are still abroad.

International Center with lounge space for social networking and relevant offices (23)

Curriculum Development (23)

Integrating an International Orientation into the campus strategic plan (21)

Advancement/Fundraising for international programs and scholarships (20)

Better networking opportunities and communication infrastructure on campus (16)

International Service-Learning and Internships (15)

Integrate the campus and community regarding international events and programs (13)

Make better use of public relations/media for international events and programs (10)

Faculty and Staff development (7)

Increase participation in international events (7)

Faculty-student collaboration (6)

Better use international faculty as resources (3)

Susan Place, Dean of GIIS, committed to sharing this information with the University President, Provost and Council of Deans. She also reiterated her dedication to moving forward with the ideas that the forum participants had identified, possibly by forming task groups.