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Linking Research Undergraduate Experiences with Global Initiatives

Mike Proctor and Erin Chadd
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Audience Questions

1) Does your university offer short-term, incoming programs for international students?

2) If so, what one word describes the benefit of these programs to your university?

3) If so, what one word describes the biggest challenge of these programs to your university?
Central Challenges to Internationalization

1) Faculty engagement
2) Sustainability
3) Substantive partnership
4) “Solution Relevance”
“Solution Relevance”?

1) Solution-based science

2) Measurable impact of international experience

3) Medici convergence
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience” Model

• A “hands on” research experience

• Each student is assigned a faculty member who supervises their research activities

• Students are paired in labs with grad students from the same department

• Name recently changed from “Latin American Summer Research Program” to expand beyond Latin America
Complementary activities:
- Academic and professional development
- Intercultural competencies development
- Coordinator supervision and active participant orientation

Students benefit from:
- Real-life research experience
- A boost in confidence and self-esteem
- Increased interest in research careers and graduate school
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience” History

History

2007
Seven chemistry students from Universidad de Guanajuato, Mexico.

2008
The program was expanded to other Mexican universities.

2010
Students from other Latin American countries started participating. (Ivan Arias Hernandez from Colombia)

2014
Brazil and Honduras were added.
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience” Participant Success

Azariah Amador Umanzor from Honduras studied Civil Engineering, and is now at the University of Tokyo.
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience” Statistics

- 286 students since 2007
- More than 100 UA faculty members involved
- 27 alums in graduate programs at the UA
- More than 40 UA departments, with top disciplines being:
  - Engineering (Civil, Industrial, Aerospace, Electrical and Computer Engineering)
  - Chemistry and Biochemistry
  - Pharmacology and Toxicology
  - Medicine
  - Architecture
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience”
Top Sending Sponsors and Countries

Top Sponsors:
• Brazil’s Science without Borders Program (62 students)
• 100K Strong in the Americas Grant
• Mexico’s Interinstitutional Program for Strengthening Scientific Research and Graduate Studies Grant

Top Sending Countries:
• Mexico
• Honduras
• Chile
• Brazil
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience” Funding Model

• Single applications to government or business sector

• Grants: the UA applies for funding, examples include:
  • 100,000 Strong in the Americas Grant
  • CONICYT - Chile
  • Science without Borders – Brazil

• Institutional partnerships: the home institution funds students to come to UA
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience” Successes

**REPLICABLE.** University of Guanajuato 10K Strong in the Americas Proposal

**RELATIONSHIPS.** Faculty and heads, sponsors, home institutions and former students

**AWARDS.** NAFSA Paul Simon Spotlight Award (2012) and University of Arizona Peter W. Likins Award (2007)

**RETURN.** 27 students, Masters and Ph.D.

**CONSISTENCY.** Operating since 2007

**NEW MODELS.** 1-, 2- and 4-week programs, including for professors and grad students.
UA Summer Program: “A Learning Research Experience” Video
Survey Responses
Roundtable Questions

• Do you offer similar or other inbound programs?

• What problems have you encountered in start-up/offering these types of programs?

• How do you fund your programs?
Creating a new sense of place... welcoming new family to be part of the Arizona Experience...

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