

# INTERNATIONAL Studies

#### INTL Student Mentors

For the past three years the International Studies Program has been developing a peer mentoring program. Working with the Retention Through Academic Mentoring Program (RAMP) we have trained INTL majors to assist their fellow students as they work towards graduation. These students first email various groups of students to remind them of academic deadlines, resources on campus and provide links to the online forms necessary to course registration and graduation process. They also hold 'office hours' so as to offer both timely reminders and practical support as students plan courses for the next semester, choose a study abroad program and begin their financial planning. Thus far, the results have been mixed, though students agree that it is important to have the resource available, even if it is currently not being as used as much as we had hoped. Students Mia Muegge, Maggie Martinez and next year, Kate O'Connor have helped bring the program thus far and we are looking to improve our planning next year as we work to ensure student success and graduation of our majors.



## issue #5

Global Ambassador's Fund Launch INTL Program Review & Progress Alumni Feedback

#### **Global Ambassadors Fund for Study Abroad Launched!**

The International Studies Program has been working for some time to create an award for HSU students studying abroad for at least a semester. While priority is given to full-time students whose majors require study abroad, the application is open to all students.

This year, we are pleased and proud to announce our first group of HSU Global Ambassadors: Caitlin, Andrea and Leticia are all International Studies majors studying in Spain and the Czech Republic, Spain, and Senegal respectively, while Karl is an Environmental Resources major and will be going to Mexico.

The award is up to \$500 and while not a large amount, it helps students make program deposits, buy insurance, or take spending money. We have found that these advance costs or the inability to work while abroad are issues for students who generally work to support themselves here at HSU.

Students receiving the grant must report back when they return to campus and help other students follow in their footsteps.

Congratulations all!



To make a donation please go to: https://alumni.humboldt.edu/giving/ international-studies

## **IEW - 2017**

Once again, International Education Week provided a focal point for the campus to think about issues beyond our area, state and country. We believe the mission of IEW is now more important than ever as our national political discourse becomes less about international responsibility and more focused on a narrow interpretation of our own national interest.

In an effort to gather expertise from across all three colleges, the keynote speaker was Marga Gual Soler, a 'science diplomat', who spoke about the importance of communication and connection in a world of complex issues. We also welcomed the State Department's Diplomat in Residence, Dorothy Ngutter, who not only offered sessions on jobs and internships with the State Dept, but also hosted a session at the African American Center for Academic Excellence. We proudly continued our tradition of a thank you reception for Peace Corps returners from the area and created a new space for high school teachers and students for a Youth Summit. Over the course of the week, we welcomed over 1,000 people to more than 40 hours of programs: http://www2.humboldt.edu/iew/ Mark your calendars for next year! 5-9 February 2018.

We're listening! Use link below.

### **International Studies Program: Review & Progress**

As the International Studies Program at HSU completes its 18th year, there is much to consider as we plan for our first Program Review, scheduled to take place next year. For example, the first ever graduates from a free-standing International Studies major will walk across the stage at the graduation ceremony this May. As of the Chancellor's agreement that INTL will be part of the academic master plan, students will no longer

have 'Interdisciplinary Studies: International Studies' on their documents, but transcripts will now read 'International Studies: Latin America' or 'International Studies: Third World Development' etc. on their transcripts. As part of that evolutionary process, we have consolidated the program by adding

Economics, Culture and Politics, the 1-unit International Education Week colloquium and we have become one of the only majors on campus to require a Career Workshop in its core. We have also created a Capstone course where students create both a career and academic portfolio and complete a major project entirely of their own design. The goal of these projects is to bring together their undergraduate work or launch a project that will help them in their career choice. We believe these changes have created a clearer

#### **Student College Award**

Maggie Martinez received her second College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research and Creative Activities Grant. **Martinez,** a Junior with a concentration in Third World Development, received money to complete her project on millennial attitudes towards career education. The paper has been submitted to the new HSU Career Curriculum Working Paper Series, an online publication created by the INTL Program Leader and staff of the Academic and Career Advising Center. identity for the Program, and prepare students for graduate work in this field as well as practical career guidance and support.

In an effort to raise awareness of the major to students earlier, we have also created a Critical Thinking course on globalization. The course has proved a very popular General Education option and while we have not seen major numbers rise, we are convinced this is an important offering for the campus



as a whole. To that end, this course will become a service learning course next year which will mean that students will spend time in the community and make those local/ global links for themselves as we talk about globalization and its impact on rural areas such as Humboldt County.

Looking to the future, we have opted to create a minor, requiring the core courses and the upper division issues analysis course (leaving out language and study abroad), and expect it to be available next year. We are also investigating a 'Peace Corps certificate', of benefit to the many students interested in that option. We will report next year on the results of the review, but we remain committed to student success and to the ongoing internationalization of the campus.

#### Alumni Communication & Survey

We continue to work on our communication with alumni and we hope you have seen (and been enjoying) our efforts via Facebook. Please join the conversation and let us know where you are and what you are up to.

http://www2.humboldt.edu/ internationalstudies/alumni\_updates.php

In the meantime please complete the survey also attached. Your views matter!

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/INTL-Sp17