

How Effective is Study Abroad as a Pedagogical and Experiential Learning Tool in LIS Education?

SIG Sponsor:

International Library Education (Dick Kawooya, University of South Carolina, USA)

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ABSTRACT

As the conference theme implies, internationalization of LIS education is a critical part of preparing graduates for the fast-changing environments in which libraries and other cultural institutions operate. This session sponsored by the International Library Education SIG focuses on experiences and impact of study abroad programs on students and program coordinators. The fundamental question is how effective is study abroad as a pedagogical and experiential learning tool? Panelists will address that question through the lens of students and program coordinators that recently completed study abroad experiences. The panel brings together faculty coordinator of study abroad programs in selected LIS schools across the country. Where possible, faculty coordinators will bring students that completed a study abroad program to be part of the session. The panel represents diverse programs ranging from European to South American locations (Costa Rica; Italy, Ireland/United Kingdom; Germany, and South Korea). They also represent different LIS areas from archives to international LIS education. The goal of the session is to reflect on the programs, what has been learned and other lessons gleaned collectively and individually. The session will be chaired by the SIG chair who will do the introductions and provide background information to contextualize the goals of the program. Each panelist will be asked to share their experiences and what has been learned from the program and how it has enriched the learning environment in the LIS program.

TOPICS

education; political economy of the information society; pedagogy