Office of International Education and Development

The Office of International Education and Development (OIED), a component of the Division of Academic Affairs, supports and promotes the internationalization of the University through the incorporation of international curriculum support, and academic enhancement activities related to teaching, research, and public service. OIED seeks to enhance the University’s relevance in an interdependent global village and to facilitate greater appreciation of cross-cultural relations and global issues. OIED strives to establish and maintain a University environment that encourages faculty, staff, and students to participate in a process that enhances and broadens the global role of the University. Services to students, faculty, and staff are provided through three units: (1) International Student and Scholar Services; (2) International Education and Exchange Programs; and (3) International Research and Development. (For updated information on the Office of International Education and Development, please see Appendix B).

International Student and Scholar Services

The International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) Department provides resources to facilitate the adjustment process of international students in their new cultural environment. ISSS coordinates the Florida West Africa Institute (FLAWI) and monitors the programs of students supported by other institutions in Florida. ISSS administers and oversees all international F-1 and sponsored J-1 students enrolled at FAMU and provides assistance to faculty and staff who apply for the H-1 B visas. In addition to administrative support and referral services related to immigration and other needs, ISSS offers a range of programs and activities to enhance the overall educational experience of international students and scholars at FAMU.

All incoming international students and scholars are provided orientation to the university and the local community. The staff provides international students and scholars individualized advising related to academic issues, housing, health issues and other concerns. It also sponsors outreach initiatives, which include an active Host Family Program and participation in the community international awareness activities. OIED also sponsors the International Student Association. (For updated information on International Student and Scholar Services, please see Appendix B).

Education Abroad and Exchange Programs

The Education Abroad and Exchange Programs (EAEP) Department, a Title III funded activity, provides FAMU students a substantial array of resources to help them identify opportunities for study, travel and work abroad. The International Resource Center consists of print directories, guidebooks, pamphlets, brochures, a TV monitor and a computer to access electronic bookmarked websites of diverse education abroad opportunities. Education abroad consists of service learning, traditional year-long or semester study abroad internships, departmental-sponsored short-term study and outreach.

OIED administers a year-round semester program study abroad program in the capital of the Dominican Republic, Santo Domingo for students seeking to experience a Latin American/Caribbean country. Classes are taught at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica Madre y Maestra (PUCMM). The prescribed academic program for consists of Spanish Language studies, Dominican and Afro-Caribbean culture and literature, directed individual study in the student’s major field, and community service component. The education abroad staff organizes several short-term academic excursions with a service learning component during the spring break or summer sessions for faculty, staff, and students. The enriching activities can be custom to the faculty member’s class syllabi or a department research project.

FAMU is a member of the College Consortium for International Studies (CCIS), a partnership of accredited two- and four-year U.S. and foreign colleges and universities which share a commitment to developing a variety of international programs. FAMU coordinates the CCIS Summer Program in the Dominican Republic. Through its consortia affiliations with CCIS and the Council for International Education & Exchanges, a student can study in over 100 countries and in most fields. Applications are processed through the Office of International Education and Development.

The Diplomat-In-Residence (DIR) Program is another component within OIED. Since 2001, FAMU has hosted three Diplomats-in-Residence, a program supported by the U.S. Department of State to encourage more students to pursue careers in the Foreign Services.

The education abroad staff seek to identify opportunities for faculty and staff to study, work, teach, or conduct research abroad. They assist with travel arrangements, travel document issues, pre-departure orientation, and other concerns related to travel abroad. The staff maintains an array of resources for faculty and staff and regularly informs them of the various opportunities available to them through public and private agencies for exchanges, research opportunities, and technical assistance to other universities. (For updated information on Education Abroad and Exchange Programs, please see Appendix B).

International Research and Development

The International Research and Development Department (IRD) facilitates the development of international collaborative projects by providing technical assistance to faculty and staff that enable FAMU faculty, staff, and students to become involved in international collaborative research and development activities. The staff monitors or assists in coordinating collaborative international projects to be implemented by faculty and staff. It networks with professional international consortia, organizations and government agencies for grants to support FAMU internationalization.

IRD is the custodian of all international Memoranda of Agreements (MOAs) signed with other entities abroad.

If you need any of these services, please contact the Office of International Education and Development, located in 302 Perry-Paige North or call 850-599-3362 or 850-599-3295. (For updated information on International Research and Development, please see Appendix B).