

PART I: BASIC INFORMATION

Heiskell Award Category:

Name of Main Contact:

Name of Institution:

Title of Main Contact:

Carnegie Classification (for U.S. institutions):

Tel of Main Contact:

Email of Main Contact:

City/State/Country:

Name of Press Contact:

Name of Program:

Title of Press Contact:

Total Student Population:

Tel of Press Contact:

Program Website:

Email of Press Contact:

How long has your program been in operation?

How many participants are involved in your program or specific program activities annually?

What is the targeted audience(s) for your Program?

Current Students

Faculty

Administrators

Alumni

College/University Community

Local Community

Other (Specify)

PART II: SHORT ANSWER

Summary of Program (100 word limit):

PART II: SHORT ANSWER CONTINUED

How does your program contribute to internationalization on campus? (200 word limit)

Describe how your program is replicable and innovative, relative to your target audience, for your institution and/or in the field? If your program is more than 10 years old, what are you doing to keep it current and/or make it more innovative? (200 word limit)

What has been the impact of your program on your target audience and/or on your campus (include specific data on program and student outcomes)? (200 word limit)

PART III: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (1,000 WORD LIMIT)

Describe the key components of your institution's initiative.

PART III: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (1,000 WORD LIMIT) CONTINUED**PART IV: ENDORSEMENT LETTER(S):**

Please attach a signed letter from your President or Chief Academic Officer endorsing your program's nomination when you email your completed nomination form. Nomination packages may also include one additional letter of support.

(Note: Institutions applying for the Partnership category should include a letter from each of the partnering institutions, and may include up to one additional letter of support).

VALENCIA COLLEGE

Valencia College
190 South Orange Avenue
Orlando, FL. 32801

October 1, 2013

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am pleased to write this letter of support for Valencia's Study Abroad and Global Experiences Office as an applicant of the 2014 Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education.

Valencia College was the inaugural winner of the Aspen Award in 2011, this was largely due to the fact that our talented faculty and staff make learning the number one priority of the college. At Valencia we ask two fundamental questions, "how will this impact student learning?" and "how will we know." Because we believe our students should be exposed to a global world and study abroad is an important program option to achieve that goal, we have implemented a number of initiatives to move towards internationalizing the college.

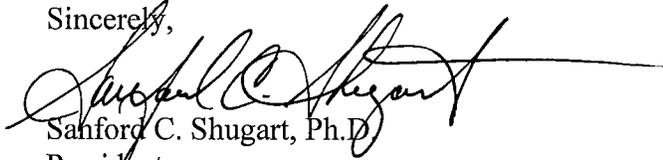
In 2006, we opened the office of Study Abroad and Global Experiences in order to increase student access and faculty participation. While we were able create some international travel programs, the cost of the experiences continued to be a barrier, To manage the interest and create safe, learning-centered experiences, a review committee made the recommendation in 2010 to hire a director's position to take leadership of the office and build the infrastructure required to grow the program.

Since 2010, Jennifer Robertson has served as the director of Study Abroad and Global Experiences. She has led the study abroad efforts at the college through a variety of tactics that have proven to be effective. First, she was able to generate additional scholarship dollars to offer students more opportunities to travel through internal partnerships with Student Development and the Valencia Foundation. She also instituted professional development opportunities for faculty to create study abroad programs. Two of these initiatives were the *Study Abroad Program Leader Certificate* and the *Program Leader-in-Training* mentorship. Through these professional development programs, the number of Valencia faculty applying to lead a study abroad program has tripled over the last three years, and our student enrollment has increased by close to 50 percent. We have received very positive feedback from both programs, and anticipate the number of new faculty engaged in study abroad to continue to grow each year.

We believe that this program can easily be replicated to fit the needs of any institution small or large. All programs have a developed curriculum with learning outcomes and assessments. A Study Abroad Committee approved all the forms, written guidelines, and training materials that Valencia would be glad to share with other institutions that have faculty with the desire to lead study abroad, but they just do not know where or how to begin. Both of these programs will provide the knowledge and skills to develop a study abroad program with both academic rigor and safety.

Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Sanford C. Shugart, Ph.D.
President
Valencia College