Cultural Immersion Program
The OGE's cultural immersion program introduces international students to American culture, holidays and festivities. In addition to local outings, we also take trips to Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. and New York.

Name Change!
The Office of International Services is now officially the Office of Global Engagement (OGE)! If you need to reach us, we are located in F-101q and the office extension is 5532.

ELS Center at Stockton
The Office of Global Engagement has facilitated the establishment of Stockton's first English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) program. ELS Educational Services, Inc., the largest on-campus provider of English for Academic Purposes (EAP), officially opened an English Language Center this past summer. ESL programs are popular pathways for international students seeking to pursue a degree at a US institution. As of August 2014, Stockton began hosting its first cohort of international students seeking to learn English and study in America. Students may study for a short period and return home or until they reach their desired proficiency level. Students attaining the highest level are eligible for admission to Stockton. Our first students in the program are from China, Cameroon, Colombia and Turkey. The Office of Global Engagement will work closely with the ELS program and other campus offices to help acclimate the students to America and US campus life.

ELS is seeking conversation partners and mentors for the students, faculty who are open to ELS students periodically observing their classrooms and homestay providers for students wishing to live off campus.

The ELS Center staff includes Mr. Phil Malfitani, Center Director, Ms. Abigail Bruhlmann, Academic Director, Ms. Kathleen Given, ESL Instructor, Ms. Alyssa Kampa, ESL Instructor and Ms. Sherry Pierce, ESL Instructor. The Center has classrooms in B Wing and a language lab and classroom in the Housing Commons building.

Click here if you are interested in learning more about the Center, or contact Phil Malfitani directly at 626.3829, Room B-006.

New Study Abroad Partnership
Stockton has recently partnered with Hellenic Studies "Paideia" Inc., a study abroad provider based in Connecticut specializing in study abroad programs in Greece. Click here to learn more about the program and stop by the Office of Global Engagement (F101q) to ask about studying abroad in Greece!

Study Abroad 2013-2014 Academic Year:
2014 Study Abroad Students:
Spring - 18 students
Summer - 21 students
Fall - 31 students

Faculty-Led Programs 2013-2014:
Poland, Lithuania & Germany: 38
Ecuador: 18
South Africa: 12
Asia Minor Seminar: 8

September, 2014
US State Department Approves Stockton as a Host Institution for the J Visa Program

In May 2014, the Office of Global Engagement submitted an application to become an approved sponsor by the US Department of State to host international non-degree seeking students under the J visa program. The J visa program is sometimes referred to as America’s “soft diplomacy” program designed to introduce international visitors to American culture and life. A critical component of the program is that the international guests are culturally immersed into American life and given an opportunity to share aspects of their own culture with Americans. The J visa program includes multiple categories, such as students, short term scholars, professors, au pairs and interns. It also includes individuals coming to the US for a work and travel experience, such as the many international students working in shore establishments during the summer months. Stockton’s application requested approval to host non-degree seeking students only. This will permit us to engage in one-to-one exchange programs with other institutions more freely, and offer our students more affordable options to study abroad. It will also increase the number of international students studying at Stockton for a semester or one year abroad.

Amendments to the designation will be submitted in the near future to host additional categories such as short term scholars and professors.

International Education Week (IEW)

Every year, we join the rest of the world in celebrating International Education Week, a joint venture of the US Department of State and Department of Education. Faculty, staff and students contribute to the calendar of events in multiple ways, sharing their knowledge and experiences. From fantastic performances to serious academic discussions, there is truly something for everyone. The "glocal" theme for this year is "Water: A Declining Resource," with a featured panel discussion on Tuesday, November 18 at 4:30 in the Campus Center Theater among other individual sessions. IEW kicks off with the annual International Fair Trade Gift Fair on Sunday, November 16 at 11:00 a.m. in the Events Room followed by a spectacular classical Indian dance performance by the Nrithyanjali Institute of Dance in the Campus Center Theater at 4:00 p.m.

Look for detailed information about IEW events on our website.

Tidbit: Countries Our Current International Students Represent

Our current international students represent the following countries: Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Japan, Korea, China, Philippines and South Africa.
Brazil Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP)
As part of a large study abroad initiative sponsored by the Brazilian government and co-administered by CAPES in Brazil and the Institute for International Education (IIE) in the US, the BSMP program gives Brazilian students majoring in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields a full scholarship opportunity to study abroad for one year followed by an internship. Stockton is fortunate to participate in the program for the 2014-15 academic year and is hosting Widerlani Augusto de Campos and Ana Luiza Cordero de Jesus. Both Widerlani and Ana are computer science and information systems majors.

Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program
Stockton is hosting its first Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA), through a program administered by the Institute of International Education and co-sponsored by the government of Argentina. Natalia Rovera, whose favorite hobby is cooking, is working as a teaching assistant for ARHU, tutoring students and teaching Spanish to interested staff. Look for Natalia on the International Education Week calendar as she leads an interactive session on interesting aspects of Argentinian culture and traditional games.

Jeju National University Partnership Program
As part of Stockton’s ongoing partnership with Jeju National University in Jeju, South Korea, the Office of Global Engagement sends students on an all expense paid 3 week education abroad experience every summer. The students are accompanied by Professor Jung Lee (EDUC), who has taught at the Jeju International Summer School for the last three years. Two years ago, she was joined by Professor Joseph Lema (BUSN). To offset Jeju’s host responsibilities, Stockton will receive a fewer number of Jeju students for longer periods of study, such as a full semester or year. These partnership arrangements are increasing in popularity where one-for-one student exchanges are difficult to cultivate or sustain.

Gilman Scholarship Workshops
The Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship is a prestigious study abroad scholarship sponsored by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs and administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE). Under the program, PELL grant recipients are eligible to receive up to $5000.00 for an approved study abroad experience. Students studying critical languages are eligible to receive up to $8000.00. The application process is competitive and students must submit a strong essay. The OGE is offering a series of writing workshops expressly designed to assist students in meeting the essay components of the Gilman application. The workshops will be repeated in the spring to meet next year’s fall application deadline.

Other News: Internationalization Specialist
To assist with campus internationalization, Stockton hired Dr. Jy Zhou, who received her doctorate in Educational Theory and Practice from Binghamton University. Dr. Zhou works in the School of Education and is assisting faculty, among other things, in the internationalization of their syllabi and classrooms. She has vast experience and unique and excellent ideas for internationalizing the classroom and drawing on the perspectives of international students to enhance classroom discourse. If you are interested in adding international content to your course, you may reach Dr. Zhou at extension 5593.

Special Thanks
As with any new office starting from the ground up, there are many growing pains. We wish to thank Dr. Saatkamp, Dr. Kesselman, the Deans, faculty and multiple offices across the campus for the unwavering support and patience as we fulfill our mission and complement the work of others to internationalize Stockton. Thank you!