Proposal to Open Study Abroad Summer program in Costa Rica

RATIONALE: This study abroad program will replace the Summer in Mexico program which has been suspended since Mexico was listed on the US State Department Travel Warning List in March of 2010.

ENROLLMENT LIMITS: 30 students.

CURRICULUM: Spanish 301, 302, 352, 405 and Costa Rican Culture, which transfers back to UWEC as Upper Division Spanish Elective credit.

FACULTY INVOLVEMENT: The courses in this program are taught by Costa Rican faculty, and by one accompanying UW-Eau Claire Spanish faculty/IAS member.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Students are placed in host families. This affords them the opportunity to experience Costa Rican culture first-hand, and to use their Spanish throughout the entire experience.

CALENDAR: 6 weeks, summer.

FEES: The estimated summer fee is $3,375, this includes instructional expenses, fees, housing, meals, and CISI insurance. Additional costs: passport, food, personal expenses, local transportation and roundtrip transportation from Minneapolis to San Jose. Estimate another $1,421 for these expenses.

Total Wisconsin resident cost estimate: $5,156. Cost estimates are based on 2011 costs and exchange rates. Estimates may change at any time.

ELIGIBILITY: The program is open to all currently enrolled, degree-seeking UW-Eau Claire students. A minimum GPA of 2.3 and good academic standing are required at the time of application. Freshman may apply but must have sophomore standing and have completed four semesters of university-level Spanish by the time the program begins.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE/FOREIGN CULTURE REQUIREMENTS: The program would fulfill the entire Foreign Language/Foreign Culture requirement.