

REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

The coronavirus pandemic has upended international education and student mobility in unprecedented ways. As such, the Center for International Education is exploring ways to provide international and experiential learning without a travel component. In examining options, we wanted to ensure that any opportunity augmented the UWEC experience and did not replicate on-campus instruction. The CIE also sought online or virtual experiences that would be available beyond the pandemic so that we were creating new options rather than temporary measures.

University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) offers virtual internship opportunities in the following career fields:

Career Field	Location(s)
Digital marketing and social media management:	Brazil, China, Czech Republic, India, Italy, Spain, Thailand, and Uruguay
Business	Brazil, China, Czech Republic, India, Italy, Spain, Thailand, and Uruguay
Engineering	Germany and Brazil
Translation	Brazil, China, and Spain
Social welfare	Ghana, India, Thailand, and Uruguay
English language instruction	Brazil, China, Costa Rica, Italy, Thailand, and Uruguay
Journalism	China, Czech Republic, and France
Grant-writing/Crowd Funding	Czech Republic, Ghana, and India
Research	Czech Republic, Italy, and Thailand
Health/Wellness	Italy and Thailand
Computer Science/IT	Ghana and India
Graphic design/3-D modelling	India and Italy
Human resources	India

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. Undergraduate students’ interaction with international students and/or faculty.
2. Virtual options address concerns related equity.
3. Interview process for internship program needs to align with university registration

Pros of Recommendation:

The opportunity provides equity to those who cannot afford to travel abroad or have family obligations. It also compliments the UW-Eau Claire on-campus experience, supports our guideposts, and provides an international and intercultural experience for students who are unable easily travel abroad.

Cons of Recommendation:

none

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

None

Committee Recommendation:

The committee approved CIE's proposal for the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) Global Perspective Virtual Internship Program

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

by a vote of 7 for to 0 against on September 22, 2020 (Date)

Recommends that:

The Center for International Education add the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC) Global Perspective Virtual Internship Program starting Spring 2021 AY.

Implementation Date: 20/21 catalog

Signed: _____
Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office