

CIEE Action Plan

In response to the Academic Consortium Board (ACB) Evaluation of the CIEE Study Center at Santiago, Chile, Liberal Arts Program

June 25, 2012

Overview

CIEE staff are pleased to provide this Action Plan in response to the Academic Consortium Board (ACB) report on the CIEE Santiago, Chile, Liberal Arts Program. The report of the site visit will be received by members of the ACB at the Fall 2012 meeting.

The Action Plan outlines the key recommendations from the Evaluation and the specific steps CIEE plans to follow to address the recommendation. While the Action Plan is authored by CIEE, staff solicited input from the ACB team leader from the evaluation, Brian Harley. The Action Plan should be read in light of the ACB Evaluation and with reference to the detailed description of the program available from CIEE. The "ACB Plan for Program Evaluation," the Evaluation report, the Action Plan, and program details are available at www.ciee.org.

Actions

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

ACB Recommendation

Investigate the merits of students taking humanities courses within the UDP Facultad de Literatura.

Action

Resident staff will work with UDP to seek the expansion of course access for CIEE students to include the UDP department of literature.

ACB Recommendation

Investigate high quality field trips in the Santiago vicinity which provide valuable educational opportunities, exposing students to social realities of more marginalized groups and or unique entrée to Chilean communities.

Action

In coordination with the Program Director, Resident staff will develop and pilot 2-3 new local field trips beginning in spring 2013, focused on deeper community engagement and exposure to/examination of socio-economic differences. Where possible these will be aligned with CIEE courses and learning goals of the program.

ACB Recommendation

Add a full-semester Modern/Contemporary Chile for-credit course which includes a focus on Chilean history, culture, and social systems.

Action

Program management will work with Academic Affairs and resident staff on the implementation of a relevant full-semester CIEE course offering covering contemporary Chile, either to complement or supplement current offerings.

ACB Recommendation

Investigate volunteer opportunities for students as another aspect of cultural immersion and engagement.

Action

Resident staff will develop 1-2 group optional/recommended volunteer opportunities per semester, and augment the study center's network of local community organizations willing to accept CIEE semester students for volunteer placements. Staff will make available information on these opportunities through published materials as well as integration of volunteerism into program orientation.

ACB Recommendation

Consider space needs and begin to create a long term plan to manage needs.

Action

In upcoming FY13 visit the Chile study centers, the Program Director will conduct a detailed assessment of current space and study center usage, anticipated future needs, and will investigate the pros, cons, and costs of alternative space options in central Santiago for discussion with program management and operations staff in Portland.