

International Pathways Initiative – Fall 2019

The International Pathways (IP) Initiative is a small grant program offered the Office of the Provost and the Office of Global Engagement (OGE). The program provides a competitive opportunity for department faculty to receive up to \$5000 to create a *Signature International Pathway Experience* (SIPE) for their majors. The goal is to increase the number of University of Mississippi students engaged in studying abroad and to increase the academic value of students' experiences.

A Signature International Pathway Experience is a curricular/co-curricular integration plan in which academic departments partner with the Office of Global Engagement to design and promote a study abroad program that is uniquely designed and marketed for their major(s), includes support across the department faculty, and will be sustained over time. Selected faculty in academic departments receive support to collaboratively design a SIPE that uniquely fits with their major's academic program. Funds can be used for travel expenses, time devoted to the project after acceptance, or any reasonable connection to the implementation of the international pathway program.

IP Initiative Request for Proposals – Due October 15, 2019, Provost Office

1. Goal: Why is the purpose of the IP Initiative?

The purpose of the IP Initiative is to increase students' participation in study abroad experiences by allowing academic departments to design unique academic pathways to these experiences. The IP Program does not limit the range or placement of students' study abroad choices. Instead, IP would *clear an academic path* for students' study abroad experience.

This pathway programs are to complement the academic major by subject topic, location, or other unique learning opportunities. The pathway program will be promoted by faculty advising and other marketing. The departments will be encouraged to look for opportunities to lessen students' costs and barriers for participation. The IP designation will help guide both students and their academic advisors in planning for study abroad experiences during students' academic careers.

2. Eligibility: Who is eligible to apply?

All faculty are eligible to apply, and faculty teams may propose. However, we encourage departments (or Schools without departments) to submit only one application. We ask that department chairs coordinate this department-level proposal development, and we ask that their chair write a letter of support. Proposals with broad department support are preferred. A completed proposal should include a letter of support from the department chair or academic dean.

3. Evaluative Criteria: What is a SIPE? What are the evaluative criteria for reviewing proposals?

Selected department faculty will develop a Signature International Pathway Experience (SIPE) that is a curricular/co-curricular integration plan built around the department's study abroad program. The common elements of this SIPE integration plan designed by department faculty are:

- 1) A pre-travel common experience. Departments are encouraged to include a *pre-travel common experience* (for example, a common academic course or set of informational meetings the semester prior to studying abroad) with the support of the Office of Global Engagement. Exemplary pre-travel experiences should communicate which students should participate; elevate students' interest level in the topic or area; clarify what they may learn from the experience and how best to prepare.

- 2) Well-integrated curricular experience. Department are encouraged to design study abroad experiences that are *well-integrated with* the academic subject/major (location, costs, recommended and pre-approved academic course plans). Preference will be given to proposals that include experiences with current, semester-length, Ole Miss Study Abroad exchange programs or propose a new semester-length study abroad exchange program.
- 3) Recommended Experiential Learning. Departments are encouraged to include *recommended set of experiential learning experiences* at the Study Abroad site integrated with the academic area. Exemplary recommended experiential learning plans would clarify the multiple, unique, and accessible options available to students.
- 4) Faculty Involvement. Departments may include a *plan for faculty involvement and exchange* between universities and academic programs. Proposals are encouraged to include a plan for sustained and broad faculty involvement and exchange.
- 5) A post-travel experience. Departments may include a plan for a post-travel experience. Proposals are encouraged to include a *post-travel experience* (for example, a common course, a writing exercise, retreat, or capstone experience) that allows students to synthesize their academic and experiential learning.
- 6) Advising and Marketing Plan. Departments are encouraged to propose plans for *increasing student knowledge of and interest* in the IP experience. This could be through department advising, recruitment materials, and online marketing. The plan should specifically address how to promote access to and interest from students who are generally under-represented in study abroad participation.
- 7) Departments must include an evaluation tool. The proposed evaluation includes explicit *goals, metrics, and process for assessment* that is clearly integrated with the IP program and clarifies how the program will have sustained, significant, and broad impacts.

4. Budget: How can the IPI funds be expended?

The IPI funds (up to \$5000) are to support the planning, development, and assessment of the department's signature experience. IPI funds may support faculty travel to the study abroad partnership site to facilitate program planning. Alternatively, funds may be used for resources, administrative support, or summer salary related to this curricular development and assessment. OGE professionals will assist participating faculty to assess locations, costs, course offerings, and integrated experiential learning opportunities of study abroad exchange programs. The participating department, with OGE support, may consider producing advising, marketing materials, gateway, and capstone experiences that promote this study abroad experience.

5. Timeline: How do I propose an IP program?

Proposals are to be submitted no later than October 15 to the Provost Office. The initial set of selected proposals will be disciplinary-based (by faculty within an academic major or minor). Cross-disciplinary proposals may be considered later. We strongly encourage only one proposal from any department, and preference will be given to proposals submitted jointly by two or more department faculty reflecting broad department support.

International Pathways Initiative Grant Application – Fall 2019
Proposal Due: October 15, 2019

A proposal includes completion of this signed cover sheet, a 3-4 page proposal description (see below), and letter of support from the department chair. OGE will hold interest meetings where faculty can ask questions and received feedback on applications prior to the deadline.

Proposal Title:

Proposing Faculty (MULTIPLE FACULTY MAY PROPOSE BUT PLEASE DESIGNATE THE PRIMARY POINT-OF-CONTACT):

Department:

Proposal Description: Please attach a 3-4 page description of the proposed international pathway initiative. The proposal description should explain 1) the plan addressing the 7 SIPE criteria listed above; 2) the department’s capacity in increasing study abroad participation; 3) the nature and size of anticipated student impact; 4) how resources would be allocated with a brief budget statement and narrative (1 page).

Letter of Support: Please attach a brief letter of support from your department chair and academic dean. An email acknowledgement sent to oge@olemiss.edu is sufficient.

Applications will be reviewed by a panel appointed by OGE by October 15, 2019.

Please sign and attach this cover sheet with the other requested materials.

Signature(s): _____

Date: _____