# **PROMOTING YOUR INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

## What have I gained from my experience?

#### Cultural Understanding and World View:

As a result of my international experience(s), I have developed:

- □ A greater knowledge about another culture
- □ Awareness of political, economic or social events around the world
- □ My interest in global or transnational issues
- □ My involvement with a global issue
- □ My involvement with a civic cause
- □ A definition of my political views
- □ My ability to speak a foreign language

#### **Personal Growth and Values**

*My international experience(s) have helped me to grow and develop:* 

- □ My desire for more diverse friendships and social networks
- □ My desire to further my education (e.g., postgraduate degree)
- □ A better understanding of myself and my values
- □ My sense of confidence in new situations or when meeting new people
- □ My ability to accept differences in other people
- □ My ability to empathize with people, especially those who are different from me
- □ My ability to be more flexible and open-minded
- □ My tolerance of ambiguity in a variety of situations
- □ An understanding of my own strengths and weaknesses
- □ My ability to be independent
- □ My ability to take initiative

#### And, I have:

- □ Become more aware of the way I use and structure time
- □ An increased capacity to profit from my mistakes
- □ Strengthened relationships with my family members
- □ Strengthened relationships with my friends
- □ A clearer notion of what I will do with my life

#### Additionally:

- □ I am more capable of solving life's day-to-day problems
- □ I think more critically: I am more discriminating and skeptical
- □ I have improved observation skills
- □ I need more time to be alone
- □ I am more confident about the decisions I make
- □ Recognized the importance I put on developing my skills and talents
- An increased willingness to work hard and sacrifice in order to do well in school or in my job

#### **Professional & Career Development**

#### Studying Abroad contributed to:

- □ My ability to formulate my career goals and clarify my professional aspirations
- □ I am more aware of the opportunities in life that are open to me.
- Developing skills and intercultural competencies which will aid in obtaining my first job after graduation
- □ I have a greater willingness to take on roles and tasks to which I am unaccustomed

- □ The importance I place on working in a field that I find interesting
- □ The importance I place on having personal fulfillment in my work
- □ My ability to speak a foreign language in the workplace
- Developing my ability to understand an organization's culture
- □ My ability to adapt in diverse workplace environments
- Other things that you want to list:

### **POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF AN INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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#### <u>SKILLS</u>

- Establish rapport quickly
- Function with a high level of ambiguity
- Achieve goals despite obstacles
- Take initiative and risks
- Time management skills
- Identify and solve problems
- Accept responsibility
- Communicate despite barriers
- Learn quickly
- QUALITIES

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• Self-reliance

Perseverance

- High energy/enthusiasm
- Appreciation of diversity
- Flexibility
- Tolerance/open-minded
- Assertiveness
- Inquisitiveness
- Self-confidence

#### WHAT SKILLS DID YOU USE ABROAD?

- □ Manual/Machine (build, construct, fix, operate, run, drive, or make)
- **Research** (research, experiment, observe, classify, study, or investigate)
- Problem Solve (analyze, evaluate, diagnose, problem solve, adapt, improve, or strategize)
- Synthesize (conceptualize, integrate, theorize, or formulate)
- Artistic (draw, shape, compose, arrange, or display)
- Creative (envision, develop, design, create, innovate, or improvise)
- □ Written Communication (write, edit, summarize, clarify, or explain)
- □ Helping/Serving (help, assist, interview, nurse, nurture, or serve)
- Consult/Counsel (coach, counsel, advise, or consult)
- □ Instruct (instruct, teach, train, demonstrate, translate, explain or interpret)
- Sell/Market (motivate, persuade, sell, influence, convince, promote, advocate, lobby, or publicize)
- □ Lead/Manage (lead, manage, direct supervise, or facilitate)
- Decision-Making (decide, resolve, select, negotiate, or arbitrate)
- □ **Perform** (perform, present, entertain, represent, or model)
- □ Implement (execute, implement, administer, control, schedule, or follow-through)
- **Organize** (plan, organize, coordinate, or systemize)
- □ **Numerical/Financial** (calculate, compute, budget, estimate or appraise)
- Detail/Precision (attend to details, copy, inspect, precision work, proofreading, collecting

Lead formal and/or informal groups

Handle stress/difficult situations

- Cope with rejection, criticism, constructive feedback
- Adapt to new environments

Manage/Organize

- Understand an organization's culture
- Learn through listening and observing
  - Self-knowledge
  - Independence