



Activity Report

Date: 9/21/2000

To: International Programs Council

From: Natalie Pearl

RE: International Travel (Dublin and Belfast)

This memo provides relevant details of my trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland and the follow up activities that took place in order to improve faculty and student relations between SDSU and Ulster University as well as other community organizations.

My trip to Dublin, Ireland and Belfast, N.I. took place from 9/3/00 to 9/10/00. The \$2350 granted to me by the International Programs council allowed me to spend two days in Dublin and three days in Belfast.

My time in Dublin was spent making preliminary contacts at Trinity University. In order to determine if there were programs similar to ours that could provide the basis for a student exchange program. The preliminary visit did not result in any formal agreements being made.

I visited Belfast as a follow up to the International Program council grant made to me for a trip in May 2000. That trip led to a successful collaboration between SDSU and Ulster University for an international student exchange. I am hoping that the first SDSU student(s) study in Belfast in the Spring semester of 2001.

This trip was focused on faculty research collaboration between SDSU and various community agencies in Belfast. Specifically, I was able to meet with representatives of civilian agencies who are mandated to provide oversight to policing in Northern Ireland. I was also able to meet with the Deputy Chief Constable of the Police Service for Northern Ireland (Royal Ulster Constabulary). These meetings are described in more detail below.

- 1) Meeting with Professor Brice Dickson – head of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission. The Human Rights commission is charged with creating a bill of rights for the people of Northern Ireland. In this capacity their impact on policing and peace in Northern Ireland is significant. Professor Dickson has agreed to collaborate on research with SDSU faculty.
- 2) Meeting with Mrs. Nuala O’Loan – police ombudsman for Northern Ireland. The police ombudsman has broad powers of oversight to ensure that the police respect the human and civil rights of all citizens of Northern Ireland. Mrs. O’Loan has not agreed to participate in research collaboration at this time but is open to further meetings on the subject.
- 3) Meeting with Phillip Spottswood – statistical analyst for the Police Authority of Northern Ireland. The police Authority in an independent oversight board tasked with assuring that the police protect the rights of all citizens in Northern Ireland. Mr. Spottswood has agreed to take a request to participate in the research collaboration with SDSU to the full board for their approval.
- 4) Meeting with Assistant Chief Constable Alan McQuillan. ACC McQuillan is in charge of community policing and community safety and has pledged the cooperation of the police service to collaborate with research conducted at SDSU.
- 5) Meeting with Richard Walker and David McClurg of the Police Federation of Northern Ireland. The police federation is the union for the police service and as such is required to protect the interests of the officers as the move toward policing a peaceful society takes place. The Police federation is currently working in collaboration with SDSU in the production of the International Community Policing Symposium to be held here on November 10-14, 2000.

Overall the international program council grant enables me to make contacts that will benefit the faculty and students at SDSU.