

REPORT OF VISITATION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERTAY DUNDEE

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Purposes

The purposes of the visitation to the University of Abertay Dundee were expanded beyond those stated in the original application. Eventually, three purposes were implied.

1. To establish an institution-wide student exchange agreement between the University of Abertay Dundee in Scotland and the San Diego State University.
2. To establish an institution-wide faculty exchange agreement between the University of Abertay Dundee in Scotland and the San Diego State University.
3. To establish an institution-wide collaboration agreement between the University of Abertay Dundee in Scotland and the San Diego State University.

Travel Requirement

To achieve the above purposes, one session of travel from San Diego to Dundee was required. The trip, which was integrated with some personal travel, lasted from April 12-24. This time was selected to coincide with the University of Abertay Dundee being in session.

Activities and Procedures

The following describe the activities and procedures that were followed.

Preparatory Activities. A meeting was held in San Diego in the summer of 1999 with Ms Christine Nash, a faculty member in the sports coaching program at the University of Abertay Dundee. Because of similarities between San Diego State University and the University of Abertay Dundee's movement-oriented programs, the possibility of establishing student exchange programs between the two cognate programs was investigated. As this exploration continued, it was decided to expand possible exchanges to include faculty and collaborations on an institution-wide basis.

Appropriate contacts at each institution were acquainted with the intentions of a visit and preliminary negotiations were conducted to establish acceptable wording and structure of agreements covering collaborations, faculty exchanges, and student exchanges.

Before leaving for Dundee, a proposed final copy of each of the three agreements were formed and signed by President Weber.

Visitation Activities. Upon arriving at Dundee on April 16, copies of the agreements were provided the University of Abertay Dundee administration (Depute Principal, Mr. Grahame Wright) for review.

The agreements proposed by San Diego State University were accepted by the administration of the University of Abertay Dundee. The basic time lines for the agreements included:

- An initial four years followed by three-year reviews.
- The number of exchange students would be an average minimum of four per year or more if "balanced" between institutions.
- Future visitations by appropriate institutional representatives.

A formal signing of the documents was conducted at 3:00 PM on Wednesday, April 18 (see attached picture).



**SIGNING OF INSTITUTIONAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS -- APRIL 18, 2001
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERTAY DUNDEE, DUNDEE, SCOTLAND**

**Professor Brent Rushall (SDSU), Depute Principal Grahame Wright, Deputa Principal Professor Mike Swanston,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor Professor Bernard King**

The three days at Dundee involved the following.

- Meeting with individual faculty in a number of disciplines to discuss exchanges and programs.
- One formal presentation to students and faculty describing the characteristics of San Diego State University.
- Meeting with students and student groups interested in obtaining more information about San Diego State University.
- Meeting with appropriate staff who would be involved in establishing exchange details.
- Attending the Inaugural Professorial Lecture in Counseling Psychology and its attendant dinner.
- Establishing an initial collaborative activity with Professor Jane Core, I. W. Stewart Professor of Lifelong Learning, that developed directly as an outcome of this visitation.

Outcomes

The visitation produced the following outcomes.

1. A formal agreement for collaboration between San Diego State University and the University of Abertay Dundee.
2. A formal faculty exchange agreement between San Diego State University and the University of Abertay Dundee.
3. A formal student exchange agreement between San Diego State University and the University of Abertay Dundee.

Perceptions of the University of Abertay Dundee

The University of Abertay Dundee is quite similar to San Diego State University, only that it is smaller. It has been in existence since 1888, undergone several changes of name, and is an example of a university of the "third millennium."

Its academic offerings have been aggressively streamlined and modernized. The areas upon which it is focusing mirror similar emphases at San Diego State University. Student and faculty exchanges should be relatively simple to arrange.

San Diego State University faculty and students involved in exchanges can expect the following at the University of Abertay Dundee.

- A cost of living that is comparable to, and in some areas, less expensive than San Diego.
- Modern, specialized curricula enhanced by an extremely high level of technological support (e.g., a ratio of one computer per three students on campus).
- The arrangement of students' classes in most subjects that will allow them to progress toward their San Diego State University degrees without disruption or delay.
- The possibility of very diverse cultural activities. [Other major centers in Scotland make substantive daylong visits feasible. The city's close proximity to Europe provides the real possibility of frequent visits to major cultural centers on that continent.]
- A level of hospitality that is striking. [The faculty and administration are student-oriented, focused on progressive curricula, and particularly personable. The people of Dundee were noticeably interested in making this visitor feel most welcome.]

These exchange programs are worthy of serious consideration by San Diego State University students and faculty. Exchanges would provide experiences and opportunities that fulfil all the admirable expectations and benefits that are involved with international exchanges.

Respectfully submitted,



Brent S. Rushall