

# Faculty Report Template

Name: Victoria Pak

Faculty/Rank: Lecturer/ Program Coordinator

Department: Master of Arts Liberal Arts & Sciences program

College: Arts & Letters

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Proposal title: International Studies Concentration Development for Master of Arts Liberal Arts & Sciences Program

Country/ies visited: The Netherlands

Institution visited: University of Maastricht

Dates of travel: March 11, 2004 – March 25, 2004

Number of student participants: 0 for planning (2 -5 expected participants in upcoming year)

Previous IP proposals submitted and grants awarded  
(list titles, countries and dates): none

Have all required reports been submitted? yes

Other funding for this activity available/applied for: \$4500 from the MALAS program's Adams grant administered through the SDSU Foundation

Proposal Abstract (75 word maximum): This proposal seeks funding to establish a European Studies track within a newly proposed International Studies concentration for students in the MALAS program. Our strategy in this endeavor is two-fold. The first aspect will focus on developing a student "study abroad" experience for our students and the second is a faculty "teach abroad," offering professors of Maastricht University an opportunity to instruct courses within the MALAS program and SDSU faculty to teach at Maastricht University.

## **Travel report:**

### **I. Opening/overview of intentions/activity**

The intentions of this trip to University of Maastricht was to examine their curricula in order to build an appropriate curricula for SDSU/ Master of Arts Liberal Arts & Sciences students who will be traveling abroad for a portion of their study to obtain an International Studies concentration. During this trip, we also began developing a summer exchange program for SDSU and UM students who are not able to exchange for a full academic year. Potential faculty exchanges were also discussed.

### **II. In preparation for the trip abroad**

In preparation for the trip, I collaborated with Dr. Stephen Roeder, MALAS Director, in addition to preliminary collaboration with UM faculty and staff, specifically Rein de Wilde <R.deWilde@PHILOSOPHY.unimaas.nl>, Chair of Philosophy in the Arts & Culture faculty at Maastricht and Resi Schenk <resi.schenk@fdcw.unimaas.nl>, International Relations Coordinator at Maastricht. Dr. Roeder and I also conducted research into the Arts & Culture program statistics, discovering a faculty of 23 and a student population of 450, 20% being international students. Maastricht's newly created European Studies program has an additional 200 students. Maastricht University is recognized by the Ministry of Education.

### **III. Upon arrival/specific activity**

- What/who are the contacts made at the prospective partner university?  
Rein de Wilde <R.deWilde@PHILOSOPHY.unimaas.nl>, Chair of Philosophy in the Arts & Culture faculty at Maastricht and Resi Schenk <resi.schenk@fdcw.unimaas.nl>
- What particular major/minor is of interest?  
Arts & Culture program and European Studies

### **IV. Conclusion, recommendation, and next step?**

- Why is this particular institution valuable for SDSU?  
Maastricht University is particularly valuable for SDSU for two primary reasons. First, UM is the only university to use problem-based learning exclusively as an instructional method. This method allows students to study real-life problems in small groups, analyzing problems and discussing what needs to be known in order to solve it. Second, UM has a large percentage of international students and services to help them in their stay.
- Sustainability of project (is there a high likelihood that students in the department will be interested in studying the proposed subject area at the prospective partner university and vice versa)?

There is a very high likelihood this project will be sustained. In fact, we have one SDSU student committed to the exchange in spring 2005 and fall 2005. Currently, we also have three students from Maastricht University attending our summer course here at SDSU. We are also taking steps with the Graduate

Division to make the International Studies component an official concentration toward the M.A. in Liberal Arts & Sciences.

- How will this exchange program (or expansion) increase participation by students in international activities, or enhance international learning environments for students?

This exchange program's expansion into a summer exchange program will allow many SDSU students who have full-time working commitments to still benefit from an international exchange, though with a shorter exchange period.

- What students will benefit?

Largely, graduate students in the Liberal Arts & Sciences program will benefit from the exchange, but the exchange program is open to all SDSU graduate students and undergraduate students wishing to pursue study in European Studies.

- What will be their activities (e.g. course work, international internships, field research, etc.)?

Students' activities will include coursework in Arts & Cultures, using the Problem-Based Learning method. We are also working with UM to arrange internship opportunities for visiting SDSU students.

- What will be your role in promoting and supporting these activities?

I will be coordinating and promoting all aspects of the exchange program.

## **V. Additional Information**

**All information should be sent to The Office of International Programs via e mail:**

**[oip@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:oip@mail.sdsu.edu)**