

Transformational Learning Opportunities

Undergraduate Request for Support

University of North Florida

FY 2009-2010

The University of North Florida's Board of Trustees has allocated several hundred thousand dollars in recurring funds to support student engagement in transformational learning opportunities (TLOs). Full time, non-visiting, faculty and staff from colleges, academic departments and programs, and other campus entities, may apply for a portion of these funds to support initiatives that are not funded through the regular budgeting process and that fit the University's definition of transformational learning opportunities.

This application is for Transformational Learning Opportunity Projects designed for undergraduate students.

Such projects are an integral component of UNF's strategic plan and institutional mission. **A transformational learning opportunity is a learning opportunity inside or outside the classroom that potentially enriches or augments student learning and personal development.** These unique and engaging educational opportunities should broaden and deepen students' intellectual and world views. These opportunities may occur within a course (e.g., an international study course), extend beyond the framework of a specific course (e.g., a student-designed, faculty-mentored research project), or be co-curricular in nature (e.g., a community-based or service learning project). More specifically, UNF has identified the following TLO categories: Study Abroad Experiences; Service Learning Experiences; Research Experiences with a Faculty Member; Internships, Practica, Field and Co-op Experiences; Directed Independent Studies with a Faculty Member; Learning Communities; and Leadership Experiences. Because this list of categories does not exhaust the full range of potentially transformative and enriching student learning opportunities, proposals are not limited to these categories.

Applications to support TLO activities to be offered during the 2009-2010 fiscal year (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010) should be submitted by October 20, 2008. Please be specific about the time frame to be covered by the funds, including the semester or term in which the experience would occur.

Faculty/Staff recipients of TLO awards will be required to:

- Participate in a small-group workshop conducted by the Office of Faculty Enhancement on best pedagogical and assessment practices applicable to the particular TLO area of interest.
- Develop and assess student learning outcomes for their TLO project.
- Submit a written report that outlines and demonstrates the success and accomplishments of the project. If you fail to submit a TLO report, your future TLO applications will not be considered.
- Submit a fully developed budget prior to the start of the TLO project.
- Meet with a staff person in the International Center if the TLO involves international travel to discuss budget development and requirements for travel. (Coggin College of Business Faculty must meet instead with the College's International Business Flagship Director responsible for study abroad)

The following provide some guidelines for use in submitting requests for these funds:

- TLO projects must demand a rigorous commitment on the part of the participating students.
- Funds for these activities must directly support student participation and/or costs associated with instruction and student learning. Funds may not be used to subsidize administrative costs. Funds can also support the cost of faculty travel in accompanying the students.
- Proposing units must have the necessary infrastructure to
 - Carry out the proposed activity/activities,

- Advertise/market the availability of funding to all eligible students,
- Track student outcomes
- Distribute and track the funds appropriately
- Preference will be given to proposals that
 - Are cost effective
 - Have the potential to generate additional funding (e.g., grants, gifts) or leverage TLO funding with additional funding already in-hand
 - Suggest the potential for a transformational academic and developmental impact on a significant number of students
 - Foster inter- and multi-disciplinary learning
- Preference for funding study abroad proposals will be given to programs that require individual students to spend time and actively engage with foreign citizens
- Preference for funding student research projects will be given to programs that have the greatest potential to result in student presentation, publication, or juried exhibits/performances

Funding Guidelines for TLOs involving travel:

- The maximum amount that can be awarded for TLOs involving travel is \$1000 per student and \$1000 per faculty member for travel. Faculty costs will be divided amongst the students to add up to the total student cost.
- One leader will be funded per 15 students. Two leaders will be funded for groups larger than 15 students.
- No student should have costs completely covered by TLO funds. It is expected that students should bear some cost of any activity.
- The maximum total amount any one international TLO can be awarded is \$25,000.
- If fewer students participate in the experience than identified in the proposal, the unused funds shall go back to the general TLO account.

International Applications will be reviewed based on the following scale:

- Project Description 20%
- Transformation 20%
- Qualifications of TLO leader 20%
- Student Criteria Required for TLO 5%
- Advertising Plan for TLO 5%
- Student Outcomes 5%
- Measurement and Documentation of Student Outcomes 5%
- Budget 20%

A sample TLO application can be found on the TLO website at:

To apply for funds one should complete the attached application. **The application should be submitted in electronic and hardcopy form no later than 5:00pm on October 20, 2007 to David Jaffee (1/1220).**

General Information



Transformational
Learning
Opportunities

2009 - 2010
Request for Support

Name: Dr. John Kemppainen and Dr. Otilia Salmon

Department: COEHS/ Foundations and Secondary Education

Proposal Title: Student Teaching in Honduras

Approvals

Date Submitted: October 20, 2008

Chairperson (or immediate supervisor) X	Date Oct. 20, 2008
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Dean or Vice President X	Date Oct. 20, 2008
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Proposal
 Title: Student Teaching in Honduras

Location(s): Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Proposed Dates: Last three weeks in November 2009 and April 2010.

Length of experience (in days): 21 days for trip

Would this TLO be a credit-bearing course? Y N If yes, how many credits? ___*

Number of students anticipated: 6 in the fall of 2009 and 6 in the spring of 2010.

(Please note: Funding will be adjusted based on the actual number of students recruited.)

Names of additional UNF faculty/ staff leaders associated with this project:

FOR INTERNATIONAL TLOs ONLY	
Type of TLO Program (choose one)	
Faculty-led international group travel activity/ course	X
Faculty-led Research Project	___
Individual Study Abroad Scholarships	12

Funding Request	
Total cost of proposed activity:	\$ 18,647.28
Total amount to be paid by students (total cost minus TLO funds):	\$ 7,447.32
Total amount of TLO funds requested:	\$ 11,199.96

Please provide the source and amount of additional financial support that you are expecting (if any). 300 words max

Each student will be expected to pay for their own lodging and meals while in Honduras. Discussion with our Honduran colleagues suggests that \$100 U.S. per week for a total of \$300 U.S. each payable to the host families is both acceptable and appropriate. In addition, each student is responsible for paying their own airport exit tax of \$35 U.S. as well as their international travel insurance costs and any additional miscellaneous expenses for personal items and souvenirs.

The faculty (one for each trip to take the students to Honduras, our Honduran partners will see to it that our students depart for UNF and Jacksonville on time) will obtain any additional support needed for individual supervision of each student intern from their department in the COEHS as well as the college itself.

Project Description

Please provide a description of the proposed TLO including a statement about the length of time that participants will devote to the learning experience (i.e., an estimation of hours, days, weeks, or terms). 300 words max

This TLO proposal requests funding for six COEHS students, in their final semester of study, to gain valuable experience in their student teaching by living and learning in Tegucigalpa, Honduras for a period of three weeks. Students meeting the academic qualifications and who desire this international experience will travel to Honduras to continue their student teaching assignments on a daily basis in one of five different bilingual schools. These mini-internships are available to all qualified education majors at the elementary, middle-grades, secondary, K-12, and special education levels. All schools involved have been previously visited by UNF professors and staff and have been found to be appropriate for this international transformational learning experience. Selected teachers from all five schools will have also participated in a UNF sponsored clinical educator training session to prepare them to supervise and evaluate our students while on assignment. This international internship will serve as the culminating activity to the students' required semester long internship in the greater Jacksonville area. Students will be required to participate in all aspects of the schools' regular instructional and after school activities while on assignment. The proposed schools are: The Discovery School, The Dowal School, The Macris School, Elvels School and Summer Hill School. By living with host families, UNF students will gain an even greater appreciation for the life style of the Honduran people.

Many of the Honduran teachers have been educated in the United States and The Discovery School holds accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Our students will have an excellent opportunity to share with their Honduran counterparts, techniques and strategies they have learned in the course work at UNF as well as learn how the educational system functions in another country and the strategies and instructional techniques used in these schools.

How will this experience be transformational for students and how will the leaders facilitate this transformation? 300 words max

Our UNF students will live with host families in Tegucigalpa, Honduras for the three weeks they are in the country. The various school administrators and teachers have offered to assist in identifying appropriate host families, many of whom will be teachers or administrators at the school where our students will be assigned. By living with a family in Honduras, our UNF students will gain the experience of not just living outside the United States, but living with a family who may be fluent in English but whose native language is Spanish. Our UNF student will experience first hand, the everyday life of a family in another country that would be very different from their own family experiences here in the United States. They will experience the different foods they eat, the music they share, the lifestyles they live and the goals they seek.

In addition, teaching children in these bilingual schools will expose our UNF students to language, ethnic, socio-economic, and even religious differences. They will teach children who are required to wear uniforms to school and who are expected to behave in a certain prescribed manner. The leader will provide the students with guidance and instruction on how proper conduct while abroad. While in the country, the leader will closely observe the cultural adjustment of the students and work to assure their success. Ultimately, they will experience what it is like to be in the minority living in a foreign land.

Evidence of Promise

What qualifications/experience do the leaders have that will make them well suited to carry out this project? 300 words max

Dr. John Kempainen has been intimately involved with international efforts for many years. He served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Colombia, S.A. and has made numerous trips to Colombia and other Central and South American countries since that time. Since coming to UNF, Dr. Kempainen has been involved in the different programs the COEHS has had with the country of Belize. He serves as the UNF both undergraduate and graduate advisor to the Belizean students. He has initiated two study abroad internships to Belize placing UNF students in their final semester of study in Belizean Schools to complete their final three weeks in Belize. He has also lead two TLO projects to Belize, taking a total of 29 UNF students and placing them into Belizean schools for periods of two weeks in 2006 and 2007. These students earned UNF credit satisfying their diversity requirements for teacher educators in our state approved teacher education program. He was the 2006-2007 International Service Award winner. He also serves as one of the two representatives from the COEHS on the International Council. In April 2008, Dr. Kempainen and Dr. Otilia Salmon traveled to Tegucigalpa, Honduras to visit and evaluate the five Honduran schools included in this proposal. It was determined that the five schools would be appropriate placements for our UNF teacher education students to obtain an international teaching experience.

Dr. Otilia Salmon, an associate professor in the COEHS, has long been involved in cultural diversity and international activities. She is a native of Honduras and still has strong ties to her native country. Dr. Salmon is active in the service learning initiatives at UNF and has been the winner of the pacemaker award by the Campus Compact for several years. Both Dr. Kempainen and Dr. Salmon are fluent in Spanish.

Has this activity been offered previously at UNF? ___ Y x N

If yes, how was it funded? What evidence exists of success in previous years? N.A.

If no, what is the relevance or interest for this on campus? 300 words max

The relevance of this TLO experience to Honduras will provide six of our teacher educators the opportunity to experience teaching students in another country, whose first language is not English, whose culture and values are quite different from their own, and whose educational system operates differently than what we have in the our greater Jacksonville area and the entire United States for that matter. They will be placed into a school system that is quite different from their experiences in our greater Jacksonville area and their own school and will participate in school and after school activities that are relevant to the Honduran Hispanic culture. Our students will experience what children and their parents in Honduras value as being most important in their lives, be exposed to different music and rhythms, different art and in many ways, a different way of life. Friendships will develop and these relationships will remain long after our UNF students return to their homes in our greater UNF service region.

Students

How will the students be selected?

Interview <u> x </u>	Course Prerequisites <u> x </u>	Other: Students must be in their final semester (internship) at UNF.
Essay _____	Academic Performance <u> x </u>	

What specific criteria are required for the experience? (i.e., academic level, financial need, specific major) 300 words max

Students selected for this three week experience in Honduras must be in their final semester of study at UNF and be enrolled in their student teaching. Students must apply in advance to be considered for this international internship experience so that appropriate arrangements can be made to have the student leave their assigned schools three weeks before the end of the semester. Students will be notified of this opportunity through their education classes and also through notices in the COEHS Advising Office. Notices will also be sent to all interning students of this international experiential opportunity via email at their UNF email address. Students must be in good standing with the university as well as with the COEHS, have a Grade Point Average or 3.0 or above, passed all parts of Florida Teachers Certification Exams and must complete an intensive orientation for traveling abroad through the International Center as well as an orientation to teaching in another country conducted by the COEHS. Whereas financial assistance is being sought through this proposal, student will be expected to pay for their own lodging and meal costs in the amount of \$300 U.S. (\$100 U.S. per week) payable to a host family in Honduras, a \$35 airport tax, and any incidental expenses they may incur while in the country. This proposal requests funding only for airfare for the students and travel and expenses for the faculty/staff who will accompany the students to Honduras. Because UNF is in the process of certifying teachers at the five schools in Honduras to supervise our UNF students, the need to send faculty to Honduras to do final evaluations and bring the students back becomes unnecessary. The final overseas evaluations will be done by our Honduran trained CET teachers.

How will you advertise the TLO to students? 300 words max

Students will be made aware of this international TLO experience through email, by printed flyers and by direct contact. Because of our other programs in other countries, the interest to gain the international experience has grown significantly over the past few years. COEHS students are aware that they have an opportunity and have already been making inquiries into the possibilities of being able to travel abroad as a culminating experience to their internships.

Assessment

What student outcomes (learning and developmental) are anticipated?

(e.g., students will be able to the ability to compare and contrast business practices of the U.S. and X country) 300 words max

Learning and developmental outcomes:

Through this experience in Honduras our UNF student will benefit from:

- Being able to establish professional friendships with colleagues from a part of the world where English is not the native language but is being learned as a second language.
- It will increase their understanding and knowledge of educational curriculums being used in Honduras that includes significant emphasis on the arts and culture.
- They will observe and learn different methodologies and skills to teach speakers of other languages English, Math, Science and other areas of their curriculum.
- They will learn about the significant historical events that have played an important role in Honduras developing as a sovereign nation.
- They will increase their skills of working with linguistically and culturally different students contributing to their development as a culturally diverse teacher.
- They will gain memories that will significantly impact they way they approach teaching of culturally diverse children in our classrooms in our own country.

How will you measure and document student outcomes for this project? 300 words max

Upon the return of these students they will:

- Return to UNF and Jacksonville and do a presentation, power point, video, still slides, or whatever medium is preferred to students and faculty on their experiences in the Honduran educational system. If time permits, they will also share their experiences with the school and class where they were previously assigned for their student internship experience.
- Students will maintain daily journals documenting their experiences and will utilize different electronic media such as email, google sites or google groups, blackboard or other technological communication sites to dialogue with their UNF directing teachers.
- Student will be prepared to individually or in a group, make a presentation to faculty and staff and/or other interested parties about their international teaching experiences.
- Student will be asked to coordinate an article for publication about their experience in one of many journals including UNF today, the Times Union, the Folio or any other appropriate media source.

This funding is being requested for fall semester 2009 and spring semester 2010.

Budget

Please choose the budget form below that corresponds with your TLO (travel or non-travel) and **completely fill out** the budget with the expected costs associated with the proposed TLO experience. Do not leave any block blank, even if the amount would be zero. The dollar figures should be informed by the best available information that you are able to gather. If you are requesting funds for multiple semesters and/ or multiple projects within the same proposal, you will need to fill out a budget for each of those semesters and/ or projects.

Travel Budget (Domestic or International)		International	
A. Number of students =12 (6 for fall and 6 for spring)		Semester/ Year: fall 2009 and spring 2010	
B. Number of leaders = Dr. John Kemppainen & Dr. Otilia Salmon			
	Cost per student	Cost per leader	Comments
Airfare (incl taxes)	\$800	\$800	*estimate from Expedia
Lodging	\$300	\$700	*leader required to do 1 st eval.
Local program			
Local transport			
Meals/ Per Diem		\$210	
Insurance	\$48	\$48	*estimate from Medex
Contingency (5%)	\$57.40	\$87.90	
Other (specify, add lines as needed)	\$35	\$35	Exit airport tax
C. Cost per student/leader =	1,240.40	1,880.90	
D. Leader(s) cost per	\$313.48	NA	

student (total cost per leader multiplied by number of leaders divided by number of students) Formula = $(C. \times B.) / A.$			
E. Total Cost per Student. (cost per student plus leader cost per student) Formula = $C. + D.$	1,553.94	NA	
F. Total TLO award per student = (Total Student TLO Funds Requested plus Total Leader TLO Funds Requested divided by number of students) Formula = $(Total\ Students\ TLO + Total\ Leaders\ TLO) / A.$	933.33	NA	-Maximum TLO per student is \$1,000 -Maximum TLO per leader is \$1,000 -One leader will be funded per 15 students. Two leaders will be funded for groups larger than 15 students.
Total amount to be paid by student (Total Cost per Student minus Total TLO award per student) Formula = $E. - F.$	620.61	NA	No student should have costs completely covered by TLO funds. It is expected that students should bear some cost of any activity.

Non-Travel Budget (Within 50 miles of UNF = non-travel) N.A.		
Number of students =	Semester/ Year:	
	Costs	Comments
Materials and Supplies		
Personnel (OPS)		
Local transport		
Equipment		
Other (specify)		
Total Cost		
Total TLO Funds Requested		
Total amount to be paid by students		

The application should be submitted in electronic and hardcopy form no later than 5:00pm on October 20, 2008 to David Jaffee (djaffee@unf.edu) in Undergraduate Studies 1/1220.