

## **NWOSU Study Abroad Program/Committee Diversity Report – 2012-2018**

The 2012 trip to the United Kingdom was led by Dr. Patti Wilber. The group of 17 travelers visited England, Ireland, and France. As part of the 2012 trip, two courses were offered in the summer interim including Humanities 4480: Study Abroad and a business/marketing course. In fall 2012, the Study Abroad program underwent a major remodel. The newly-appointed Study Abroad committee consisted of three faculty making all decisions concerning the program through shared governance. The committee took as its first goals: rigor in the program's course offerings, encouraging participation in the program from the full campus community, and promoting all study abroad scholarships to our student body. The Study Abroad committee is also responsible for selecting the Northwestern nominee for the Brad Henry Scholarship to Swansea Wales as the state rotation allows.

The 2013 trip to Germany, Czech Republic, and Austria was the first trip under the guidance of the Study Abroad committee, led by Dr. Wayne McMillin. There were 8 travelers on the committee's first trip and the program has been growing steadily since.

The 2014 trip to Italy and Spain had 13 travelers, led by Dr. Kathryn Lane. Some of the highlights of this trip were the contrasting cultural experiences to which travelers were exposed: traditional Italian cuisine and cutting-edge Spanish cuisine, medieval towns to avant garde art, religious sites contrasting with commercially-successful tourism spots. The 2013-14 Brad Henry Scholarship recipient was Delta Farmer, a Social Work major.

The 2016 trip to France and Spain had 14 travelers, led by Dr. Wayne McMillin. This trip focused on major cities that represent archetypal perceptions of their representative cultures. The 2015-16 Brad Henry Scholarship recipient was Chandler Steckbeck, an English major.

In 2017, due to the growth of the program and the need to cultivate quality educational and cultural opportunities, three additional faculty members joined the committee representing more areas of interest from across the campus community. The 2017 trip to New Zealand and Australia had 17 travelers, led by Dr. Kathryn Lane and assisted by Dr. Jenny Sattler. From traditional Maori villages, cuisine, and religions to the cutting-edge of Sydney Harbor, this journey offered travelers cultural exposure that highlighted how cultures co-exist. The 2016-17 Brad Henry Scholarship recipient was Sydnie Lowe, a double major in Biology and English.

This year the committee created a Faculty-led Study Abroad Course Proposal, a Faculty-led Study Abroad Checklist, a Traveler Code of Conduct, a Traveler's Checklist, and a new course UNIV 2013: Global Citizenship. The 2017-18 Brad Henry Scholarship recipient was Patricia Pixler, a double major in Psychology and English. The committee is planning a trip to the Scotland, England, and Ireland for May 2018 and to date has 19 travelers signed-up.

Our Study Abroad program aligns with the Northwestern Mission statement of providing quality educational and cultural opportunities to learners with diverse needs.