

*Global Learning & Career Readiness:  
Enhancing Education Abroad Access for HBCU Students*

Virginia State University

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2019 CIEE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**BROOKLYN**

NOVEMBER 6-8, 2019

STUDY ABROAD 2019 | OPENING DOORS TO INCREASE DIVERSITY IN STUDY ABROAD



# *Global Learning & Career Readiness: Enhancing Education Abroad Access for HBCU Students*

## **Presentation Panel:**

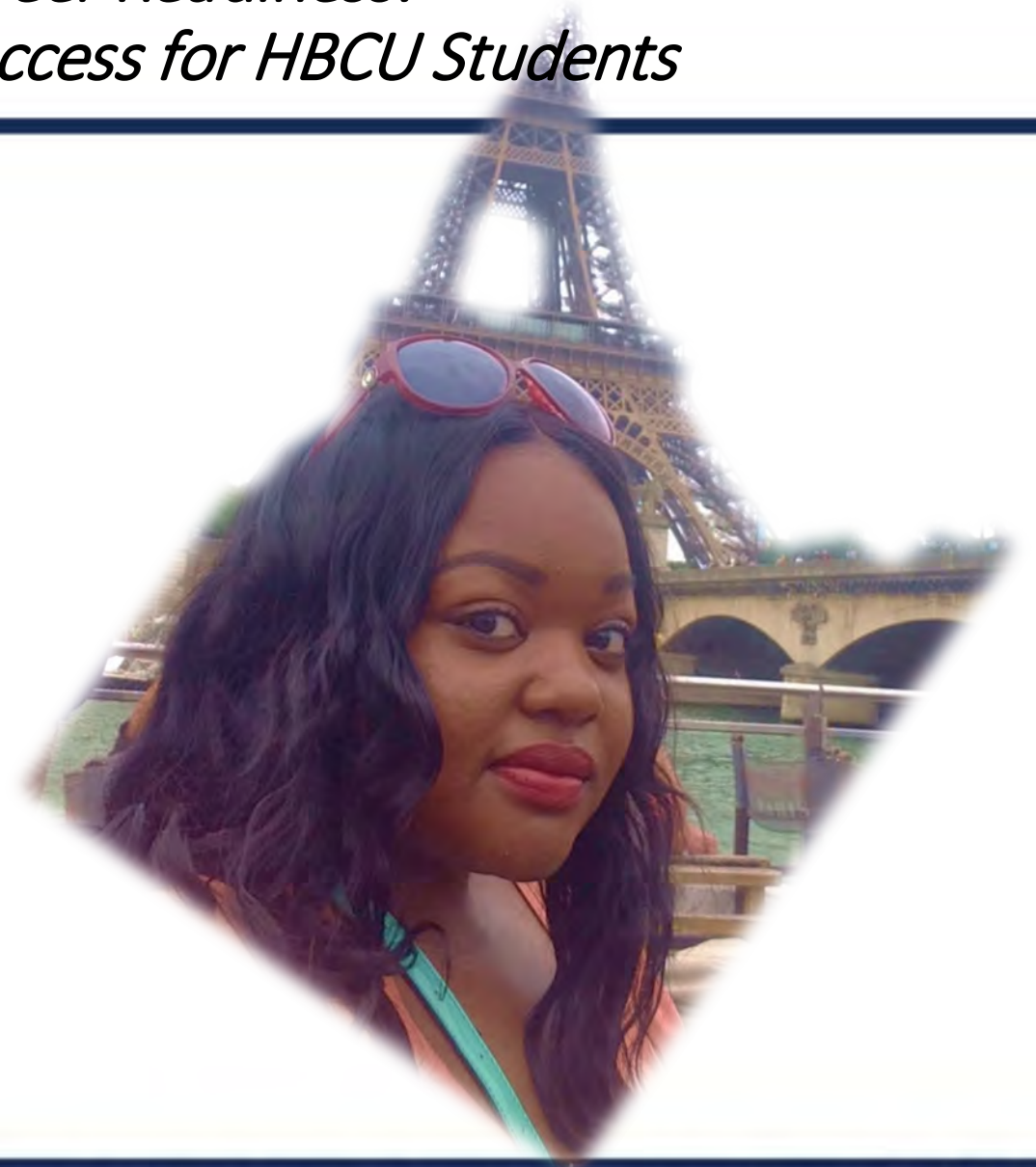
- **The First-Year Experience Abroad: Building Blocks for Global Competence**  
Maxine Sample, Ph.D., Professor of English and Director of International Education  
Virginia State University
- **Bridging Cultures through Global Service Learning: Internationalizing the Social Work Curriculum**  
Jane B. Parker, MSW, Assistant Professor of Social Work  
Department of Social Work, Virginia State University
- **Global Field Experience: Pathways to Agricultural Diplomacy**  
Michelle Corley, PhD, Professor Animal Molecular Immunogenetics  
College of Agriculture, Virginia State University
- **Creating Student Spaces for Enhancing Study Abroad Participation at HBCUs**  
Tajaiana Menchion, Senior Marketing Major  
Co-Founder of VSU Study Abroad Association

# *Global Learning & Career Readiness: Enhancing Education Abroad Access for HBCU Students*

## **Participant Outcomes:**

At the end of this session, participants will be able to

1. Identify ways that short-term study abroad programs can be linked to competency-based professional preparation and curricula.
2. Explore areas of cross-disciplinary collaboration to make education abroad programming more accessible to underrepresented student populations on their campuses.
3. Generate strategies for employing student-to-student engagement to increase study abroad participation of underrepresented students.





# The First-Year Experience Abroad: Building Blocks for Global Competence

**Maxine Sample, Ph.D.,  
Professor of English and Africana Studies and Director of  
International Education  
Virginia State University**

# UNDER REPRESENTED: ANOTHER LABEL TO WEAR

## Our Presence / Absence in Study Abroad

US STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD – RACE/ETHNICITY		
	2011/2012	2016/2017
White	76.4	70.8
Hispanic/Latinx	7.6	10.2
Asian/Pacific Islander	7.7	8.2
<b>Black/African American</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>
Multiracial	2.5	4.3
Native American/Alaska Native	0.5	0.4
<b>TOTAL US STUDENTS ABROAD</b>	<b>283,332</b>	<b>332,727</b>



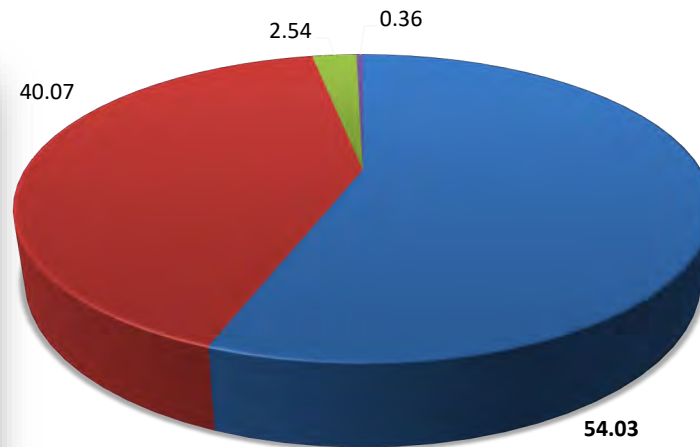
Source: *Open Doors 2018 (IIE)*

# The FOUNDATION: Normalizing Who Our Students Are



## Student Attitudes about the Value of Learning about Other Cultures/Countries

*"I am willing to interact with individuals from other countries and cultures."*



Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	<b>596</b>	<b>54.03</b>
Agree	<b>442</b>	<b>40.07</b>
Disagree	<b>28</b>	<b>2.54</b>
Strongly Disagree	<b>4</b>	<b>0.36</b>
No Response	<b>33</b>	<b>2.99</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1103</b>	<b>100.00</b>

VSU Student Survey of Internationalization, Item 8 (Feb. 2012)

DR. GEORGE H. BENNETT OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION / VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

# The FOUNDATION: Normalizing Who Our Students Are



## Student Attitudes about the Value of Learning about Other Cultures/Countries



*“Studying abroad during my undergraduate experience at VSU can be a beneficial part of my education.”*

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agree	347	31.46
Agree	387	35.09
Disagree	215	19.49
Strongly disagree	89	8.07
No response	65	5.89
TOTAL	1103	100

VSU Student Survey of Internationalization, Item 10 (Feb. 2012)

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# The FOUNDATION: Identifying Access Issues



## Student Attitudes about the Value of Learning about Other Cultures/Countries

*Which of the following factors would keep you from participating in a study abroad program for which you are eligible? Select ALL that apply.*

Factor	Frequency
Lack of funds	355
Lack of interest	340
Lack of information about opportunities that are available	222
Concerns about not graduating on time	157
Uncertainty about the value of studying abroad to my academic preparation	124
Lack of support (encouragement or assistance ) from faculty members, family or friends	112
Fear of traveling outside of the USA	106



VSU Student Survey of Internationalization Item 16 (Feb. 2012)

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# The Foundation: Understanding the Disconnect

## Student Interest in Education Abroad 2011-2019

(Self-reported Initial Contact)



DR. GEORGE H. BENNETT OFFICE  
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Year	FRESH	SOPH	JR	SR	GRAD	UNK	Totals
2018-19	49	45	33	4	3	218	352
2017-18	47	23	34	5	1	8	118
2016-17	15	18	16	6	1	1	57
2015-16	14	21	38	6	0	5	84
2014-15	32	35	49	15	5	8	144
2013-14	51	45	43	14	1	7	161
2012-13	65	70	52	21	17	8	233
2011-12	25	23	8	33	7	3	99
<b>Totals</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>1248</b>

## Students Who Studied Abroad 2011-2019

Academic Year	2018-19	2017-18	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	TOTAL
<b>Total Students Who Studied Abroad</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>264</b>

# Enhancing Education Abroad Access: Building Blocks



## Expanding Resources (Internal & External)

- **Collaborations** with Other Minority Serving Institutions  
HBCU Consortium Initiatives  
(HBCU-China Scholarship Network)
- **Provider Partner Agreements** Based on Shared Diversity Goals (ex. CIEE, KEI, etc.)
- Global Engagement **Benchmarks Embraced by University Administration**
- **Grants/Scholarships** that support both Faculty and Students



# Enhancing Education Abroad Access: Building Blocks



## Strategic Messaging to First Year Students

- **Global Access Fee** – Collaboration with Financial Aid and Student Accounts for **Passport Planning** During Registration
- Presence during **Orientation/Open Houses**
- **Interface with Careers** – Outreach through academic programs and academic advising of first-year students, Peace Corps Prep Program
- **Campus Events** – Passport Day, Study Abroad Fairs, study abroad alumni visits to freshmen classes

# Enhancing Education Abroad Access: Building Blocks



## Strategic Messaging to First Year Students

- **Study Abroad Partners** – Peer recruitment of classmates, organization members, and friends (You are not alone!!)
- **First Year Initiatives** – Focusing early on global learning / Encouraging dialogue and planning with academic advisors
- **Curriculum Integration (Faculty-led)**  
Integrating education abroad programming into general education courses required of freshmen

# Enhancing Education Abroad Access: Building Blocks

## First Year Abroad Program



- Target First-Year Students
- Academic Credit linked to General Education & Global Learning Outcomes (**Global Competence**)
- Increase VSU Study Abroad Participation
- Enhance UG student retention and degree completion
- Create opportunity for faculty & staff to gain international expertise



# THANK YOU

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10/27/2019

Michelle M. Corley Ph.D. Virginia State University

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# Bridging Cultures through Global Service Learning: Internationalizing the Social Work Curriculum

Jane B. Parker, MSW  
Assistant Professor  
Virginia State University  
Department of Social Work

# Social Work Practice In Jukwa, Ghana



# Overview of VSU Social Work Program

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- VSU BSW Program is 1 of 15 Fully Accredited Undergraduate BSW Programs in Virginia
- VSU is a Historically Black University (1882) (HBCU)
- Mission of the BSW Program is to prepare traditional and non-traditional students for professional entry-level generalist social work practice
- Students come from culturally and socio-economic diverse backgrounds
- A high percentage of the students in the BSW Program are first-generation students and transfer students from area junior colleges

# Goals of VSU Social Work Program

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- Provide students with opportunities to become competent practitioners who are culturally aware and knowledgeable with a commitment to social, economic and environmental justice
- Provide students with opportunities to become critical thinkers who are able to provide ethical social work practice
- Provide students with opportunities for commitment to lifelong learning and willingness to pursue higher education, training opportunities and leadership roles
- In collaboration with the Office of International Studies, provide student opportunities for access to study abroad programs.

# Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

- CSWE not only encourages cultural diversity but also expects it to be reflected in all social work programs' learning environments, which provides the context through which students learn about differences, to value and respect diversity, and develop a commitment to humility (CSWE 2015).
- Despite the growing awareness of the importance of international social work, little is known about the role of HBCU social work faculty, with international experiences, collaborating on a cross-cultural curriculum. Therefore, such collaboration can yield innovative pedagogies, research paradigms, and global perspectives that enhance the social work profession.
- Social workers require new levels of understanding and new models of practice if they are to contribute effectively towards the resolution of social problems that are rooted in world wide social, political, and economic realities.

# Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

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- The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) Global Commission, recognizes that “globalization and the new wave of technological innovations, coupled with global interdependence between and among individuals, groups, and nations, are having a tremendous effect on social work education and practice throughout the world...
- As a result of the current climate of the social and economic political issues around the world today, the growing demand for recognition of the international dimension of social work has increased in recent years, and the need for international social work education collaboration has increased correspondingly” (Estes, 2009).

# Partnership with Office for International Education

- Collaborated with Dr. George H. Bennett Office for International Education for implementation of BSW Program Study Abroad in Ghana
- Collaborated and partnered with Amizade Global Service Learning
- Designed cultural competent and diversity course on study abroad in Ghana  
Course: “Social Work Practice in Ghana, West Africa”  
Collaborated with Amazide and developed opportunities for service learning projects in Jukwa and Winneba, the Central Region of West Africa
- December 2017-January 2018 – study abroad program was implemented
  - Accra – visited cultural sites – W.E.B Dubois Center and Pres. Kwame Nkromah memorial site
    - Jukwa – Peace Humanities International (PHI) (NGO)
    - Winneba – Challenging Heights (CH)

# VSU Social Work Students in Ghana



# Cultural Diversity and Service Learning Projects

- Historical – Visits to significant landmarks and slave castles, burial grounds, homes, i.e. W.E.B. Dubois Library, Pres. Kwame Nkrumah memorial site.
- Political – Participated in seminar that focused on governmental operations in rural and small townships and city
- Socio-economic – farming, palm oil production, business development and female entrepreneurs (cold storage business, fashion and cooking – visited Sepwi Village in Jukwa and Global Momma’s Fair Trade Program in Cape Coast..
- Volunteer Services – Assisted with laying the foundation for the community library in Jukwa, Ghana
- Education – schools (tutoring & reading) – participated in Challenging Heights School in Winneba.
- Social Work Practice – Discussed and compared various social work domestic and international practice modalities related to the re-integration of trafficked children and reunification with caregivers and/or family – Challenging Heights Organization

# Navigating the Study Abroad PROCESS

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- Student Interest
- Curricula development
- Staff participation
- Collaboration among departments
- Partnerships & Networking
  - Organizations – Professional & Social
    - Social Work Advisory Boards
    - Field Agencies

# Student Interest and Engagement

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- Transformative Experience
- Reflections
- Sharing of student comments with other students
- Presentations throughout school and communities
- Presentation to school budget and program funders – tell the story
- Importance of seeking grants and funding
- Student interest, funds unavailable

# Collaboration Between Social Work Department & Other Disciplines

- Educate students and faculty on the Social Work Program and Practice from a cross-cultural context
- Provide students as well as faculty with a knowledge base on study abroad to help them gain new perspectives on the significance of studying abroad.
- Developed curricula to help students and faculty to gain a world view from different perspectives
- Knowledge is power – informed students and faculty about the vast opportunities that are available

# Outcomes

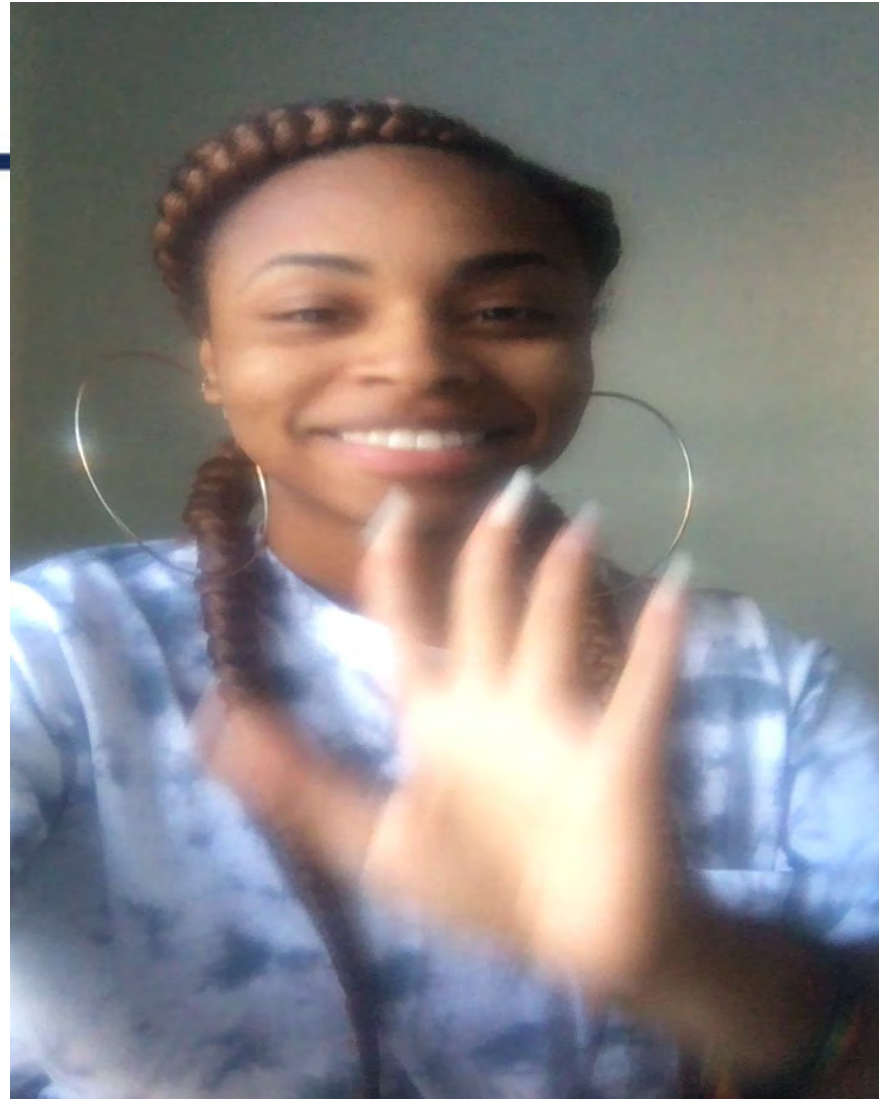
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- Student Ambassadors
- Independent Student Learning Abroad
- Recruitment into Peace Corps
- Faculty Sabbatical to Ghana – Relationship building, planning for next student learning project – <http://drgbthornton.com>
- Clip of student sharing her experience

# Impact

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O. H.  
BSW Class 2018  
Virginia State University





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# Global Field Experience: Pathways to Agricultural Diplomacy

Michelle M. Corley, PhD, Interim Chair and Professor Animal Molecular Immunogenetics  
College of Agriculture, Virginia State University



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# Enhancing Student Global Engagement: International Center of Excellence for Food Security and Biosecurity at Virginia State University (2016)

1890 Partner; Langston University

Funding Agency –USDA-FAS and APHIS-IS via 1890 Land Grant Foundation



# Training a Globally Competent Workforce at 1890 Institutions for Agricultural Foreign Services Using a Multi-institutional Approach (2017)

**1890 Partner; Florida A&M University**

Funding Agency –USDA-FAS and APHIS-IS via 1890 Land Grant Foundation



# Filling the Gaps

## Food and Agricultural Education Information Systems (USDA-FAEIS)

- On a Global scale
- Increased population pressure and world hunger
- heightened demand for innovative complex solutions to address food security



# Fillable Gaps

**Food and Agricultural  
Education Information  
Systems (USDA-FAEIS)**

**Bureau Labor Statistics**

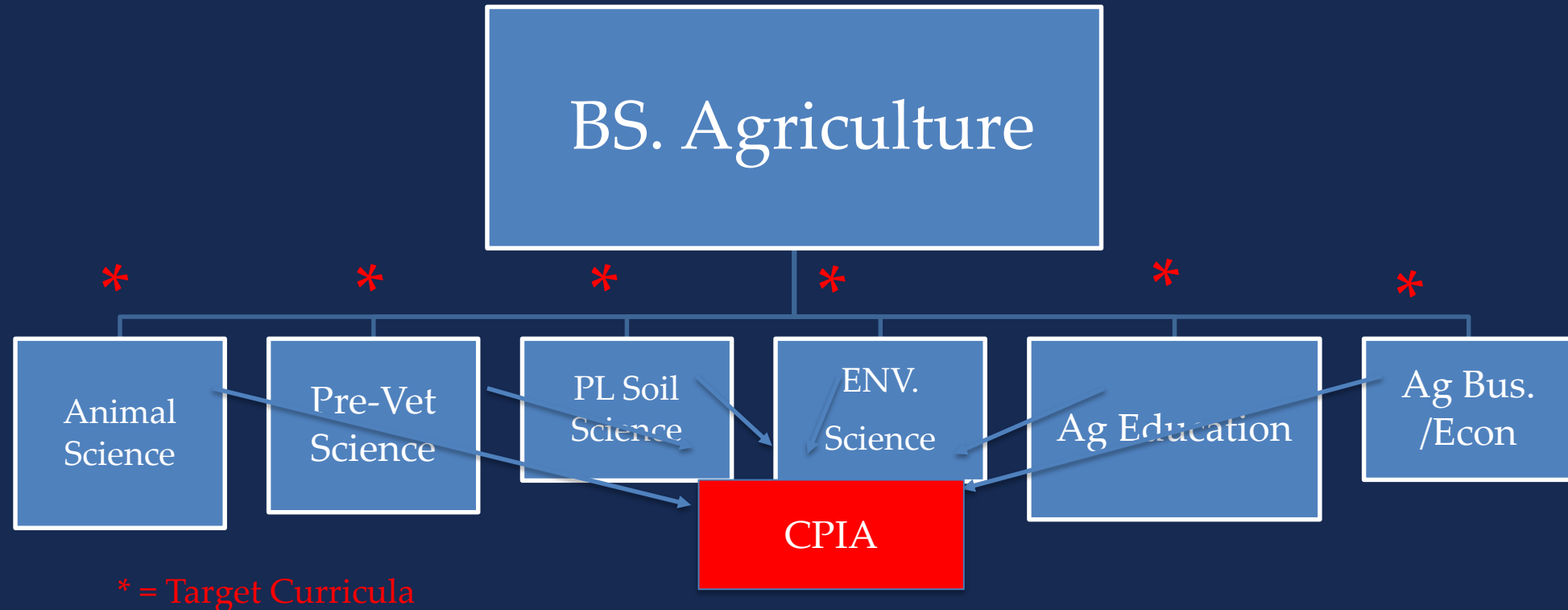
- 55,000 scientists and professionals job vacancies
- USDA/FAS/APHIS-IS, USAID, DOS
- 35,000 graduates at all levels/yr
- very few are minorities



# Over Arching Goal

Strengthen curricula to deliver students skilled with the [13 Dimensions](#) required for selection to work in the Foreign Service

# International Agriculture Enhanced Curricula



**Bonus: = Requirements for Peace Corp Prep Program = PCPP Certificate from PC ; a stackable credential**



## FSOQ 13 Dimensions

FSO  
Curricula  
Focus

composure, cultural adaptability, experience & motivation, information integration & analysis, initiative & leadership, judgment

FSO  
Curricula  
Focus

objectivity and integrity, oral communication, planning and organizing, qualitative reasoning, resourcefulness, working with others, and written communication

# CPIA Program and FSOQ Mapping

## Core Courses - 6 credit hours

AGRI 200 Foundations in International Agriculture\*  
AGRI 341 Research Methods in Agriculture

## Restricted Electives – 9 credit hours

Students take two Foreign Language courses from the following list.

ARABIC Beginning I or II or Intermediate I or II  
FRENCH Beginning I or II or Intermediate I or II  
SPANISH Beginning I and II or Intermediate I and II

13

composure, cultural adaptability, experience & motivation, information integration & analysis, initiative & leadership, judgment

objectivity and integrity, oral communication, planning and organizing, qualitative reasoning, resourcefulness, working with others, and written communication

\* Indicates new course developed

# CPIA Program and FSOQ Mapping

**Restricted Electives – 9 credit hours contd.**

Students take one course from the following list.  
GLST 202 *or* GLST 302 *or* GLST 402 Global Studies Abroad  
AGRI 301 Global Field Experience in Agriculture\*

**Electives – 3 credit hours**

Students take one course from any discipline area below at the 200 level or higher ;  
AGRI, AGECE, AGBUS, AGED, AGME, ANSC, AQSC, ENVSC, HORT, PLSC, SOSC

composure, cultural adaptability, experience & motivation, information integration & analysis, initiative & leadership, judgment

objectivity and integrity, oral communication, planning and organizing, qualitative reasoning, resourcefulness, working with others, and written communication

13

\* Indicates new course developed

Total (18 CR)



# Global Field Experience: Pathways to Agricultural Diplomacy

Training Students in Global Diplomacy at the  
US State Department and Abroad

# Washington DC Study Tour



**Dr. Michelle Corley**  
@VSUGeneHunter

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#VSU #FAMU #1890Foundation  
Consortium train our International  
Agriculture Diplomats of the Future  
#VSUTransforms



# Students and Faculty Visit U.S Embassy in China





# Global Field Experience: Pathways to Agricultural Diplomacy

Students Conduct Research in Global Food Security at  
VSU Animal Molecular Immunogenetics Laboratory



# Global Field Experience: Pathways to Agricultural Diplomacy

Students Conduct Research in Global Food Security at  
VSU Animal Molecular Immunogenetics Laboratory



➤ **Animal Molecular  
Immunogenetics Lab  
ICEAFS-VSU-Animal  
Biotechnology  
Research Summer  
Institute June 1-13  
2016**





# Global Field Experience: Pathways to Agricultural Diplomacy

Students Present Research Projects on Global Food Security at VSU and Abroad



# Research Summer Institute Presenters and Mentors



**Dr. Michelle Corley** @VSUGeneHunter · Jun 12  
Presenters With Mentors at Global Food Security and Biosecurity Research Summer  
Institute in @VSU\_AG

# Global Food and Biosecurity (Protection of the Food Supply)


**Presentations  
at CFDA  
On *T. gondii*  
Research  
performed at  
VSU-RSI**





# Global Field Experience: Pathways to Agricultural Diplomacy


Students Travel to Central America (Guatemala),  
South America (Guyana), North America (Mexico,  
Sacramento, California) and Asia (China)



## VSU-Guatemala (Central America)

### Student International Experiential Learning

- Altiplano Centro Center (Coffee plantations and Peaches and Pears Production Areas) in Antigua for a complete day in the field
- Retalhuleu (aprox 180 kms from Antigua), visiting the infested area of Atitlan Lake for 3 hours in the field,
- Packing and Release Center and Mango Production Areas in the Free Area of Champerico,
- Sterile Insect Production Plant at El Pina in Guatemala City,
- Production Plant at San Miguel Petapa, 20 kms from Guatemala City



# VSU-Guatemala (Central America) Student International Experiential Learning



Hands on activity of the Sterile MedFly Technique



# Students Learn Control of The MedFly in Guatemala



A Major Impact on Economics of Food Import and Export Security across Borders



# Students and Faculty Arrive in Guyana





# Students Experience Global Food Security Measures in Guyana (South America)

- [Ministry of Agriculture](#)  
Agricultural Agencies visited
- [-GLDA-](#) Guyana Livestock Development Authority (Hatcheries, Cattle, sheep and goat facilities)
- Guyana Fisheries Facilities
- [-GSA- Guyana School of Agriculture](#)
  
- [-GUYSUCO-](#) Guyana Sugar Corporation (Skeldon)
- University of Guyana, Georgetown and Berbice Campuses

# Major Export: Sugar





Students visit and engage at Guyana Fisheries LTD.  
July 2016





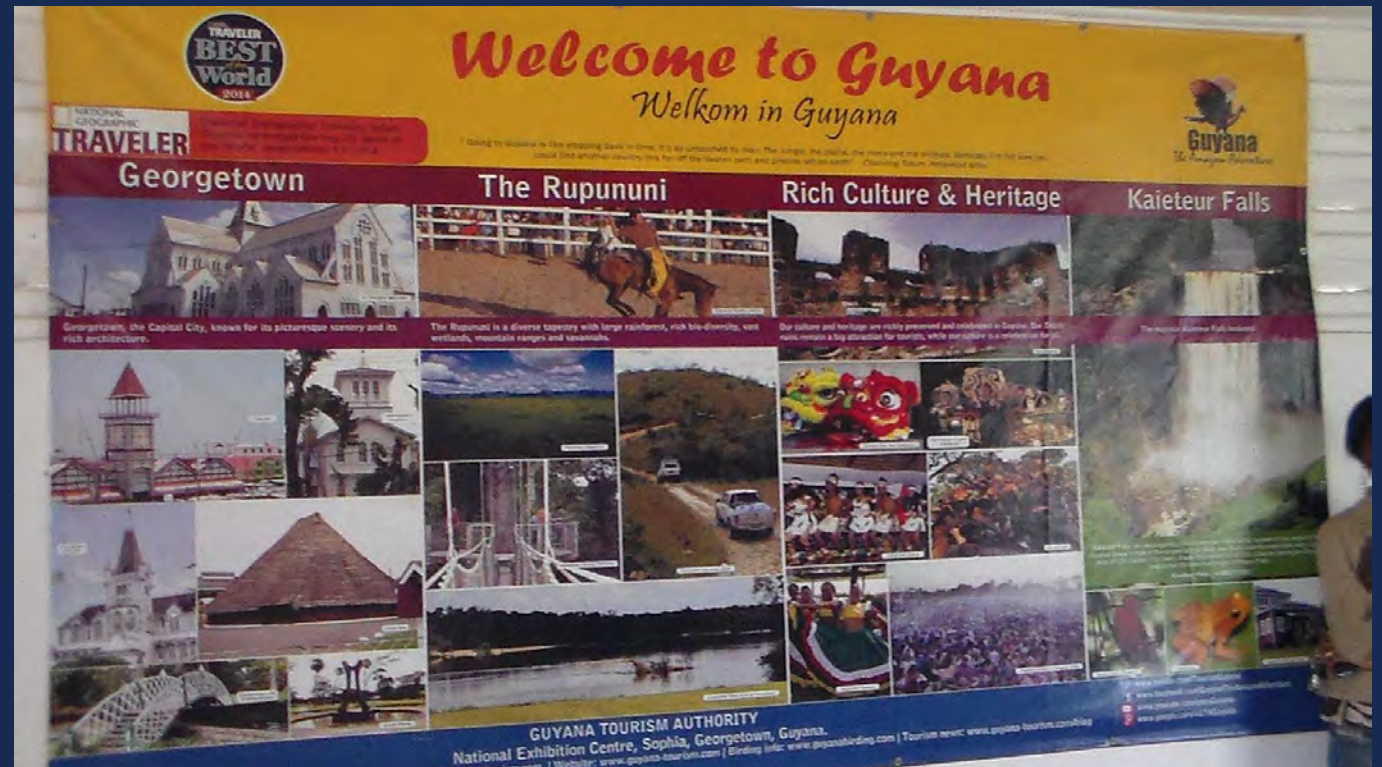
# Students Visit and engage at Guyana Livestock Authority July 2016





# International Agriculture in Guyana, South America

## Guyana – Suriname Border visit



# Importance of Food Supply Biosecurity across Borders

# Global Food and Biosecurity (Protection of the Food Supply)

Tapachula,  
Mexico  
Sterile Fly  
Technique



**Dr. Michelle Corley** @VSUGeneHunter · Jun 25

Hola from Mexico! VSU-FAMU students visit and engage in Food Security, and Biosecurity Pest Exclusion Facility! # @VSU\_AG and FAMU. More to come!

# Students Visit Pest Exclusion Diagnostic Laboratory at CFDA



**Dr. Michelle Corley**  
@VSUGeneHunter

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Future International Agriculture Diplomats from @VSU\_AG and #FAMU visit #CDFA Pest Exclusion Diagnostic Laboratories including Dog Sniffing Detection programs and Pest Trapping techniques #VSUTransforms



9:46 AM - 30 Jun 2018

# Global Food and Biosecurity (Protection of the Food Supply)

CA, Nevada  
Border  
Students  
experience  
how the food  
supply is  
protected in  
the US



Dr. Michelle Corley @VSUGeneHunter · Jun 29  
VSU-FAMU students in @VSU\_AG  
hit the California -Nevada Border Protection Station to see how to prevent entrance of  
food damaging pests.



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# CPIA Inputs Outputs Outcomes

## Inputs

Enrolled Agriculture Major students

Student domestic & International Experience  
VSU Institutional Resources

VSU faculty multidisciplinary  
Expertise

Domestic and International Faculty Expertise

## Outputs

Increased trained students; Intl. Agri.  
Students Receive CPIA certificate  
Students receive PCPP Certificate

CPIA  
At VSU

## Outcomes

Students prepared for FSO exam  
Student employment in FAS/APHIS-IS  
International Engagement  
Foreign Service workforce fueled



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10/27/2019

Michelle M. Corley Ph.D. Virginia State University

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# Creating Student Spaces for Enhancing Study Abroad Participation at HBCUs

Tajaiana Menchion, VSU Study Abroad Association



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# Creating Student Spaces for Enhancing Study Abroad Participation at HBCUs

Tajaiana Menchion, Senior Marketing Major  
Co-Founder of VSU Study Abroad Association  
**Virginia State University**

# Who am I?

- Tajaiana Menchion; Born and raised in Virginia
- Senior, Virginia State University
- Major: Business Management, Minor: International Business
- Co-Founder of The Study Abroad Association at VSU



# Who am I?

- Study Abroad Experience
  - Shanghai, China - International Marketing in East Asia
  - Tapachula, Mexico - Agriculture field experience
  - Paris, France - International Management
  - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil - Managing in Global economies





S.A.A.



# Study Abroad Association

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- Founded on January 28, 2019 by Myia Jones and Tajaiana Menchion
- The Purpose of the S.A.A. is to promote, encourage and inform VSU students of the many opportunities available abroad.
- S.A.A. holds a forum for study abroad alumni to share experiences and assist other students to explore cultures.
- S.A.A. also provides information on how to build and improve resumes and career skills based on the knowledge and experience gained abroad.



## Building Career Based Skills

- Lessons From Abroad Conference
  - Networking with International education providers
  - Resume Building Workshop
  - Connecting with peers who've also studied abroad from other schools.

# Forums



- Don't Trip We Got The Answers (Panel forum)
- Peace Corps Pizza Party
- Bake Sale/ Fundraisers
- Class Visits

# Study Abroad Association

Founders  
Video



# Challenges to Study Abroad Programs

- Insufficient funding
- 1st generation students
- Unsupportive community
- Poor Marketing
- Fear of being away from home
- Safety Concerns



# Study Abroad Association

1. Brand - Study Abroad Association
1. Connection to University - Peer to Peer interaction helps to provide a related experience as well as gaining the access to social events and gatherings.
1. Community - Support system for all students

# What the Future holds for S.A.A.



- Annual Scholarships for the Virginia State Community
- Opportunities to advance international education throughout other organizations on campus
- Open Community to support our students throughout their entire program



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