

February 06, 2012

## PIRE INFORMATIONAL MEETING

### FAQs and other miscellaneous matters

#### (1) Documents:

Passport→Do you all have one? Does Sharon have copies of it?

Airplane Ticket→Everyone should have been in contact by now with Sharon Elder about this

Other documents→ Letter from adviser that you are traveling

→ Phone number of mentor at Partner site

#### (2) Equipment→ We provide equipment in a case—laptop, recorder, button box, backup device

If you decide to do some travel after the 8 weeks of PIRE:

- You can leave the equipment in the partner lab. **Contact the partner and check that this is OK.**

Do not assume it is OK. Pick up the equipment before traveling back to the U.S.

-Ship the equipment back to us. You are responsible for the cost of shipping and insurance.

### What expenses are covered? Where will I be living?

- Tuition, travel, insurance, lodging, food, and some subject/research expenses
  - Lodging will differ by site (it may be a dorm, apartment, etc.). Lodging will be arranged by your adviser at PSU directly with the partners at each site.

### Are classes required? Is this like study abroad and can I receive study abroad credits?

- There are no classes to attend; however, you must register for 6 credits of LING 496 (research experience) in the summer semester you are abroad.
  - This allows a grade to be assigned and for support from Global Programs.
- This is not like study abroad; you do research and do not take classes.
  - You cannot get study abroad credits in this program. Only research credit.

### How do I get access to the funds to pay for food and incidentals?

- Keep your receipts and keep also a log of each expense on a excel sheet. The excel sheet should have three columns: expense type (supermarket, bus, dinner, lunch), date the expense was incurred (month/date/year) and the amount in the local currency (Chinese Yuan, Euros, etc.)

### Do I need to be proficient in the language of the country I will be in?

- No, this is not necessary; the purpose of the travel abroad is to conduct research.
- However, there will be some language training available in the spring. The nature of the training will depend on the language of the country.
  - Able to audit language courses; allows you to sit in on the class without receiving a grade.

### **While you are abroad:**

- Will I be on my own while on the research abroad experience? No! You will be working with the partners and other students. We know the partners very well because we have collaborated with them and have visited them on multiple occasions. Some of our partners have also visited Penn State, so they are familiar with the Penn State system.
- While abroad, you will be required to blog weekly while abroad to discuss your experience. See past blogs at [http://cls.psu.edu/PIRE/pire\\_blogs.html/](http://cls.psu.edu/PIRE/pire_blogs.html/). Contact Bobby Marker ([robertjmarker@gmail.com](mailto:robertjmarker@gmail.com)) to find out how to obtain the right level of permission to enter your blogs.
- Abroad mentoring program:
  - The plan is to team you up with a student (graduate or undergraduate) from Penn State who has experience at your site.
  - Your Penn State CLS faculty adviser will be in contact with you throughout the summer.
  - The partners and other faculty at the sites will also serve as mentors.

### **When you return:**

- Make sure you return the equipment as soon as you arrive back to the U.S.
- You will be required to sign up for 3 research credits to finish your project. These can be in Psychology, Linguistics, German, Spanish, etc.
- You will be required to attend the CLS meetings on Fridays from 9:00 to 10:30.
- You will be required to present a poster at the Young Scholar event in January 2013.
- You will be required to submit a report (see details below) due on September 10<sup>th</sup> 2012
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### **RE: Written report due on Monday September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

The report should include the following elements:

- (1) Report for Period: (write the start and end date of your trip)
- (2) Name of Student:
- (3) Title of project:
- (4) PIRE partner visited and name of mentor abroad:
- (5) Research and Education Activities. Write about the activities that you were involved in that contributed to the development/execution of your project as well as the activities that contributed to the enhancement of your academic education. If you attended lab meetings, be sure to include that information here.
- (6) Preliminary findings: If you have had a chance to analyze your data (even if you have only analyzed a subset of your data), briefly describe your preliminary findings.
- (7) Outreach Activities: List the title of the talks that you gave while you were abroad.
- (8) Other learning outcomes: Write about your general experience abroad. Comment on the following:
  - Interactions with the local culture/cultural immersion

- Activities or events that challenged you
- Cultural/environmental practices you observed or adopted while living abroad. Here you can include festivals and other activities that you may have attended or participated in while abroad
- How your research abroad experience impacted you personally and professionally

**IMPORTANT:** When you save your document, please save it as your last name \_your first name. For example, if your name is John Smith, the name of the document should be Smith\_John.

**Please send your report via email to Sharon Elder (sle9@psu.edu)**