

CHIEF STUDY ABROAD OFFICER

Michigan State University, one of the nation's premier land-grant institutions and one of only seventeen universities to hold membership in both the AAU and NASULGC, invites nominations and applications for the position of Executive Director of Study Abroad. MSU is widely regarded as conducting the largest and most distinguished study abroad program in the nation, and seeks a leader of uncommon strategic, intellectual, and managerial abilities to lead study abroad to even higher levels of excellence and centrality in the University's educational mission. This position is perhaps the most attractive study abroad appointment at any university in the country.

Study Abroad at MSU: The Office of Study Abroad (OSA) currently serves 3,000 students annually in some 260 programs in 63 nations across all continents. Programs are offered through a matrix organizational structure in collaboration with MSU's various colleges, departments, faculty, and numerous international partners. The Executive Director reports directly to the University's Dean of International Studies and Programs (ISP) and supervises a talented staff of over twenty. OSA is admired internationally for its faculty-led programs, innovative Freshman Seminar Abroad Programs, progressive administrative software and funding models, and leadership regarding health and safety matters related to study abroad.

The Commitment of the University's Leadership: The University's leadership strongly supports furthering MSU's national preeminence in study abroad, and making available to all MSU students superb international experiences that will contribute to their effectiveness as future leaders in all sectors of the global community. To that end, the University recently convened a campus-wide Study Abroad Task Force which produced a comprehensive report recommending directions for the future. The Executive Director will pursue these recommendations, while also enjoying ample opportunity to bring his or her own vision to bear in shaping the future of study abroad at the institution. A leader in virtually every dimension of international affairs and global engagement, MSU seeks to build upon the achievements which led to its receiving the 2006 Senator Paul Simon Award from NAFSA for campus internationalization.

Key Responsibilities: The Executive Director provides vision, leadership, innovation, and advocacy in developing strategies for strengthening study abroad and integrating student international experience as fully as possible into the University's academic and intellectual fabric; collaborates campus-wide with academic and managerial leaders, and with international partners and stakeholders, to advance study abroad experiences; administers a complex study abroad organization, providing both strategic and operational leadership, staff development opportunities, and superb financial stewardship; fosters student international internship, service learning, and research opportunities; and represents with considerable independence the University and its study abroad programs throughout the campus and with professional organizations and associations throughout

the world. The Executive Director works particularly closely with the University's area studies and thematic centers, the Office of International Students and Scholars, study abroad liaisons designated by the deans of the various schools, and faculty and staff associated with the Visiting International Professionals Program.

An Additional Opportunity: In addition, the Executive Director will assume leadership responsibility for developing and managing a new institution-wide initiative, The Visiting International Student Program, a unique, innovative, and entrepreneurial undertaking intended to expand the presence at MSU of non-degree international students. The Executive Director will be expected to devote 20-25% of his or her time to creating a strategic plan for this initiative, including defining program parameters, securing partners, and overseeing staffing and implementation. This assignment confers considerable additional responsibility to that customarily exercised by chief study abroad officers.

Personal and Professional Qualities Sought: The Executive Director is a key member of a diverse ISP leadership team strongly committed to collegial decision-making and management, and as such will need to exemplify the integrity, leadership, accountability, and concern for the collective good expected of all of the University's senior international personnel. In addition, the University seeks an individual who offers ten or more years of progressively responsible experience developing and managing university study abroad and/or international exchange programs, thereby acquiring an in-depth understanding of the scholarship and practice of study abroad; a person who understands the nature of planning and management in a complex, decentralized research university, and whose career demonstrates the consensus-building, problem-solving, entrepreneurial, and program-building skills required; someone who is committed to enriching the quality and diversity of study abroad experiences, and to increasing student participation, particularly among underrepresented groups; and a person capable of intellectual leadership, and of inspiring and supporting a passion for excellence, who can help catalyze a shared education vision and partner effectively with faculty and deans. Individuals who are not career study abroad professionals, but whose career exemplifies these qualities and capabilities, and also encouraged to apply. A Master's degree is required; a doctoral or other terminal degree is preferred.

Compensation: Highly competitive and commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Application and Nomination Procedures: Strategic Consulting, a higher education consulting firm with a specialized practice in international education and conducting searches for senior international positions, is assisting MSU in this search. Inquiries or nominations can be addressed in confidence to Dr. Thomas J. Wyly (tomwyly@juno.com, 617-489-2673) or Dr. Earl D. Kellogg (ekellogg@illinois.edu, 217-621-3856). Candidates should e-mail, as MS Word attachments, a cover letter describing relevant experience, a vita, and the names, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of three referees to either Dr. Wyly or Dr. Kellogg. Applications are preferred by December 1, 2008, but will be considered until an appointment is made. References will not be contacted without prior consultation with candidates.

For additional information about the University, its extensive commitments in international education and its study abroad and visiting international student programs, see www.msu.edu, www.msu.edu/international, and studyabroad.msu.edu. A detailed position profile can be found at <http://isp.msu.edu>.

Michigan State University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer. The University is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity, and actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans, and persons with disabilities.