

Bluefield State College J-1 Annual Report for 2016-17

Did you host any J-1 exchange visitors during the period of 07/01/2016 to 06/30/2017? If so, what kinds of activities did they engage in (such as studying, lecturing, performing research, etc.)?

Response: None; only 3rd party sponsors of J-1 (CBYX, Fulbright Scholar in Residence at other US host institutions, and our own Fulbright Scholar in Residence)

List all active agreements you have with foreign universities that could result in students or scholars coming through our J-1 program and indicate if it's a new (this 2016/17 year) or extended agreement. Please elaborate on how these agreements are facilitating exchange. Please email me scanned copies of these agreements.

Response:

Active institutional partnership/agreements, extended:

- 1. Kostroma State Technological University, Russia (KSTU) (renewed in spring 2016)*
- 2. National Ilan University, Taiwan (NIU) (2015)*
- 3. William V. S. Tubman University, Liberia (TU) (2015)*
- 4. Holy Cross College-Agartala, India (HCC) (2015)*
- 5. Kazan National Research Technological University, Kazan, Russia (KNRTU) (2015)*

Active institutional partnership/agreements, new:

- 6. Yunnan Vocational College of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, People's Republic of China (YVCMEE) (2016)*
- 7. Universidad Autonoma de Santa Ana, El Salvador (UNASA) (2017)*

Exchanges facilitated by partnerships/agreements:

- 1. BSC-KSTU: KSTU's Dr. Sergey Zhigulev spent AY 2009-10 at BSC as Fulbright Scholar in Residence.*
- 2. BSC-KNRTU: KNRTU's Dr. Mariya Kharina spent AY 2016-17 at BSC as Fulbright Scholar in Residence; a summer 2018 study abroad at KNRTU is being planned. KNRTU students and faculty will provide home stays. Dr. Kharina is exploring a teaching opportunity with Holy Cross College, BSC's partner in India.*
- 3. BSC-TU: In AY 2017-18, BSC will host Fulbright Scholar in Residence Prof. Jackson Tamba of TU who will teach electrical engineering technology courses. His son may accompany him and if he does, he will enroll in BSC's English for International Students program and upon successful passage, he plans to enroll*

- in the college's civil engineering technology degree program. 5 BSC electrical engineering students may accompany Prof. Tamba to Tubman University in May 2018, with scholarships for airfares provided by Appalachian Power Company.*
- 4. BSC-UNASA: Planning under way for 2-week study trip in WV in December 2017 by UNASA nursing students and faculty and 2-week study trip in May 2018 to UNASA by BSC environmental sciences students and faculty.*
 - 5. BSC-YVCMEE: Two scholarships for year-round study available to BSC students to study at YVCMEE.*
 - 6. English for International Students: BSC will issue J-1 visas to students from partner institutions and charge them at in state rate tuition rate into the English for International Students program.*

Scanned copies of agreements attached.

Did you have any J-1 exchange visitors come to your institution during the 2015-16 period who came on DS-2019s issued by a third-party (IIE, Fulbright, IREX, etc.)? If so, please elaborate.

Third party Exchange Students:

2 Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange participants from Germany (Cultural Vistas), Josef Huber and Pia Schaeffer

Third-party Exchange Scholars:

Four Fulbright Scholars in Residence at other US host institutions participated in the CIES-administered Outreach Lecture Fund (which was also supported with funding from the WV Humanities Council):

February 19-22: Dr. Ruben Mamani-Paco of Bolivian Catholic University, FSIR at St. Francis University, Loretto, PA: "The impact of climate change in Bolivia" and "Bolivia's cultures and traditions" [also presented at Wyoming East and Westside High Schools]

March 6 – 8: Dr. Colman Msoka, University of Dar E Salaam, FSIR at Whitworth University: "Why are Anti-Street Vending Campaigns Failing in Africa?" and "Tanzanian Customs, Traditions, Family Life and Society: Past and Present" [also presented at Princeton Senior High School]

March 19-22: Dr. Senanu Okuboyejo, Covenant University, Nigeria; FSIR at LSU-Baton Rouge: "E-Health Strategies and Methodologies in Rural Areas" and "Nigeria's customs, traditions, family life, and society" [also presented at Pikeview High School and Bluefield Regional Medical Center]

April 9 – 11: Dr. Felipe Karam of Brazil performed Brazilian Folk Music at Bluefield State College for BSC students, faculty, and administrators and students, teachers, and counselors of Tazewell, Bluefield, Wyoming East, Westside High Schools and Bluefield Middle School, Princeton Health Care residents, and for the greater Bluefield area community at Bluefield High School.

List the various cross-cultural activities you offered on your campus during the 2015-16 period that were attended by international students and scholars and promoted cross-cultural awareness. Elaborate on each activity (one or two sentences at most). Please email me scanned copies of flyers or handouts that were used for these activities.

Cross-cultural activities attended by international students and those which promoted cross-cultural awareness on campus:

Fall 2016:

Welcome reception for international students attended by BSC staff, faculty, and administrators

BSC's Annual Humanities Challenge, which promotes the study of literatures (and cultures) from around the world attended by students of BSC and area high schools (WV-- Montcalm, Riverview; VA—Graham, Tazewell, Richlands, Narrows)

October 24: First annual United Nations Day during which BSC's international student set up table top displays about their countries. Also featured KEI and WV HEPC displays about study abroad and informational literature from the Embassies of the Republics of Georgia and Slovenia.

Spring 2017:

International Women's Day: Roses presented by international students to BSC's female staff, faculty, and administrators

Presentations by Fulbright Scholars in Residence (through Outreach Lecture Fund) to BSC students and faculty indicated in the section above.

BSC's Annual Agora-A Celebration of Creative Expression featured internationally renowned Spanish poet Margarita Merino, soprano Alexa Schlimmer, classical pianist Harold Brown and his protégé Margaret Anne Ridlehuber, and Canadian flutist Jesse Rehwald

Applicable scanned copies of flyers or handouts attached.

Discuss some of the issues you have encountered as you implemented the J-1 program on your campus. For example, you may want to discuss: 1) how you

went about providing orientation to new international students and scholars; 2) how you used the Exchange Visitor Handbook which is now available online at <http://www.globalwv.org/evp/>; 3) how you dealt with insurance coverage. Please email me scanned copies of any documents you created or used for administering the program, such as a copy of your orientation slides or handbook specific to your campus.

Response:

Orientation for new international students, including 3rd party sponsored J1 visa holders: This annual event is held on the Friday before classes start.

Use of Exchange Visitor Handbook: *Did not have need to use this resource in 2016-17.*

Insurance coverage: *Will use the tool at this web site when needed:*

<http://www.insubuy.com/international-student-medical-insurance/?affiliateid=overture>

Discuss what has been your biggest difficulty implementing the J-1 program.

Identifying English-speaking faculty from partner institutions in non-English speaking countries who can spend up to an entire academic year at BSC.

Foreign partner institutions have the same challenge faced by US institutions, namely, releasing full-time faculty to go abroad for scholarly activities and finding substitute (adjunct) faculty who will teach their courses in their absence. Reciprocal exchanges will be a rare occurrence.

Appropriate housing for exchange scholars along with the cost of such housing (i.e., who will cover rental costs?)

How can substitute (adjunct) faculty salaries be paid/justified and from what funding source?

Discuss your plans for the future.

Existing and future Agreements: Design study abroad curricula in different fields for students of partner institutions, possibly after approval to issue visas to Visiting International Students is authorized or by using the J-1 visa for customized short-term study at BSC.

Custom design study abroad for BSC students at existing partner institutions (e.g., Dr. Mariya Kharina and BSC faculty have designed a study abroad program experience for BSC students at KNRTU in summer 2018)

New Agreements: Possibly engage in institutional partnerships with Bolivian Catholic University and University of Dar E Salaam. Dr. Ruben Mamani-Paco of the former and Dr. Colman Msoka of the latter have shared with their leadership BSC's interest in partnering with them to promote student and faculty exchanges, collaborative research, and information exchange.

Third Party Exchange Students:

Approved: 1 Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange participant, Felix Roeder, from Germany (Cultural Vistas) in 2017-17

Third party Exchange scholars/professors (CIES/IIE Outreach Lecture Fund):

Anticipate grant application submission by October 1, 2016 to WV Humanities Council to support Windows on the World Series to support Fulbright Scholars' visits to campus through CIES' Outreach Lecture Fund.

Anticipate grant application submission by October 2017 to CIES to host Giorgi Bregadze as Fulbright Scholar in Residence at BSC in 2018-19 to teach and design sustainable tourism activities/strategies.

Approved for 2017-18 at BSC: Fulbright Scholar in Residence Dr. Jackson Tamba of William V S Tubman University. Will teach environmental science.

Exchange Scholars: BSC anticipates issuing J-1 visas to faculty from partner institutions to teach at BSC for one or two semesters

Exchange students: BSC anticipates issuing J-1 visas to partner institutions' students to enroll in the English for International Students program. They will also pay tuition at the instate rate when enrolled in this specific program.