



The University of Vermont

Office of the Provost
and Senior Vice President

TO: Abby McGowan, Professor of History and Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
FROM: Brian Reed, Associate Provost for Teaching and Learning
RE: Engaged Practices Innovation (EPI) grant proposal: *Identifying Study Abroad Opportunities in the Sciences*
DATE: May 4, 2016
CC: David Rosowsky, Provost and Senior Vice President
William Falls, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

On behalf of the Engaged Practices Innovation (EPI) Grant Proposal Review Team, thank you for your proposal entitled *Identifying Study Abroad Opportunities in the Sciences*. The committee received a number of excellent proposals and I am delighted to inform you that your proposal was one of two that were selected for EPI funding. Your proposal will be funded in the amount of \$14,650. The Committee hopes this will allow you to carry out your project, albeit on a slightly reduced budget as dictated by the limits of EPI Grant funds. Please respond by May 15, 2016 to acknowledge acceptance of the award.

The review team judged this to be an innovative, focused project that will address an identified problem: the dearth of students enrolled in science programs who participate in study abroad. Study abroad is a high impact practice, often a transformative experience for the participating students. Consequently, promoting study abroad opportunities is consistent with the University's Strategic Action Plan. We understand the problem for the sciences is due in part to the fact that science curricula are structured very differently in many foreign countries, and so it is not always easy to have academic work from a semester abroad fit into a science curriculum at UVM or fulfill degree requirements. Compatible "modules" do exist at foreign institutions of higher learning; the problem is there is no systematic way for students, faculty and advisors to know what and where they are. Having a well-researched database will help to alleviate this situation. The Committee appreciated the research and thorough background work that went into the proposal, including the achievement of broad support among the CAS department chairs. We note the database will need updating on a regular basis in order for it to remain effective, and we encourage you to incorporate and process/mechanism for doing this.

As specified in the Request for Proposals, the budget for your grant will be administered through the PI's administrative unit (CAS Dean's Office). The funds will be transferred on or before July 1, 2016, the start of the new fiscal year. All funds must be spent within twelve months of that date (July 1, 2017). Please have your budget manager send the appropriate chartstring number to Catherine Symans <Catherine.Symans@uvm.edu>.

A full report on the outcomes of your project will be due no later than January 4, 2017. The report may be no longer than 1,500 words (12 point font, double spaced), excluding cover page, and appended materials. The report must include:

- A review of the goals of the project
- A description of the outcomes
- An assessment of the impact of the project
- The current status of the project and future plans

Again, thank you for your excellent proposal and congratulations on the award. We are excited about the potential impact of your project for students and faculty.