PROJECT TITLE: Higher Education in China Internship Summer Program

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: November 30, 2015, 3:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST)

ELIGIBILITY: This internship opportunity is open to all incoming and current graduate students in the College of Education and Social Services (CESS). Current graduate students interested in applying must anticipate graduating no sooner than Fall 2016.

SUBMIT PROPOSAL TO: Jacqueline Drouin at JDrouin@uvm.edu. Only electronic copies will be accepted.

SUMMARY: Since 2011, CESS has facilitated educational exchanges for faculty and undergraduate students to various higher educational institutions in China. In 2013-14, colleges in the United States enrolled a record 886,052 foreign students. In 2013-14, Chinese students accounted for almost 60 percent of the foreign-student growth at American colleges. Given the increasing number of international students from Mainland China attending the University of Vermont and other higher education institutions in the United States, graduate students pursuing a career in higher education student affairs would benefit by having a deeper knowledge and understanding of Chinese culture in order to better support international students from Mainland China. Beginning in the 2015-2016 academic year, CESS is expanding the exchange program to support two (2) graduate student internships in higher education institutions in China for three to six weeks beginning in May 2016.

CESS is soliciting proposals from current graduate students who have an interest in the educational system in China with a primary focus on higher education. The purpose of the internship is to provide graduate students with a professional opportunity to learn about the history and culture of the Chinese education system and to work directly with Chinese higher education leaders. Interns will visit education institutions in various cities in China and have the opportunity to work directly with educational leaders in institutions of higher education. Interns will spend the majority of their time learning about student services in China as a means to learn how to best support Chinese students at higher education institutions in the United States. Successful candidates will be those who clearly indicate in their proposal how learning about the education system in China will help with their current academic and future professional goals.
There is also an option for students to conduct research or to develop a service-learning project as part of their internship. If this is of interest, the proposal should include a preliminary outline of a research topic or plan for a potential service-learning project. Proposals should also include plans for sharing with CESS students, faculty and staff, the University of Vermont community, and the broader Vermont community, what was learned as a result of the internship.

Interns will also have the option of earning three graduate credits (with approval of their program coordinator and advisor).

The internship will cover the direct costs of expenses for the students selected for the internship, including international and domestic travel, room and board, meals, and entrance fees to various historic and cultural sites.

**PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Cover Page**
- Name
- Program of Study
- Anticipated Date of Graduation
- Name of Academic Advisor

**Abstract (500 word limit)**
- The abstract should provide an overview of how the internship will help with current academic goals and future professional goals;
- The abstract must indicate whether the work of the internship will be submitted for graduate credit;
- Provide an overview of how the intern will share the information gained upon return in a 1-2 paragraph summary (please list specific conferences or academic journals for publication);
- The abstract should indicate when you would prefer to travel to China and your preferred internship length (3 to 6 weeks).

**Optional Addendum Abstract (500 word limit)**
- The addendum abstract must include a 1-2 paragraph summary overview of the proposed project (for a research or service-learning project) and a preliminary project outline

If the proposal is accepted, interns must attend three planning sessions in Spring 2016 and complete readings assigned by the Asian Studies Outreach Program. Interns must also have a valid passport for international travel and be eligible for a Chinese Tourist visa, meaning that the passport must be valid until March 2017 and have at least two blank pages.

For questions or comments, please contact JDrouin@uvm.edu