International Programs

SUNY Cobleskill’s Office of International Programs {link to <http://www.cobleskill.edu/international/>} provides a variety of international study opportunities for students. Grant funded activities include:

**North American Mobility Grant**

The purpose of the Building Bridges through Culture, Cuisine, Agriculture, and Tourism project is to teach university students a set of portable, transferable skills that will help them connect culture to food preparation, agriculture, and economic development through tourism. Together, these sectors play crucial roles in sustaining growth, protecting biodiversity, and encouraging the emergence of new markets for goods. By participating in this interdisciplinary project, students will emerge with a greater appreciation of the differences and similarities of various cultural groups throughout North America. Furthermore, these better-skilled, more linguistically prepared, and increasingly culturally flexible students will be able to recognize trends and react more quickly to new developments in their professional fields.

Staff:

Dr. Esther Miller - lead faculty member
Dr. Jiang Tan - technology coordinator
Andrew Lucas - study abroad advisor

**CAYA (**Central American Youth Ambassadors Program)

The Youth Ambassadors Program is funded by the U.S. Department of State (DOS) within the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and is administered by the Center for Intercultural Education and Development (CIED) at Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

The Youth Ambassadors program offers Central American youth from Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama the opportunity to experience and expand their knowledge of U.S. culture, society, and education. The overarching program goal is to increase mutual understanding among peoples of the Americas. The Youth Ambassadors program will not only provide new knowledge and experience for participants, but also prepare them for a lifetime of leadership and community service.

This program has been designed for youth between 16 and 18 years of age, and for teachers and youth program coordinators who have shown superior leadership and entrepreneurship skills. Participants will be selected by the United States Embassies in conjunction with GU/CIED local offices and partner institutions in Costa Rica –Fundación Omar Dengo and Panama –Fundación Gabriel Lewis Galindo

Staff:

SUNY Cobleskill Office of Extended Learning
Brian Kaiser, Coordinator of Communiversity Affairs

Dr. Susan Jagendorf-Sobierajski is the Executive Director of the Office of International Education. She is the project director for two international grants that are administered by the Research Foundation of SUNY - North American Mobility Grant (FIPSE/IFLE) and Central American Youth Ambassadors Program.