Thinking Cohesively About Off-Campus Experiences

What’s the difference between study abroad and domestic study away experiences? When we examine the learning objectives, Pacific Lutheran University's Neal Sobania is not sure there is a difference. Read more about Sobania’s perspective.

Check out NAC&U's domestic study opportunities for your students. We have three Signature Experiences that allow students to take advantage of host campuses’ unique locations and expertise to gain real-world experience in a cross-cultural setting. The first Signature Experiences are semester-long offerings in entertainment and music business at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn., history of civil rights at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., and two programs - meteorology and geography - at Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Ind.

In addition, we have flexible study away programs at Arcadia University, Glenside, Penn.; Drury University, St. Louis, Mo.; Nazareth College, Rochester, N.Y.; North Central College, Naperville, Ill.; The Sage Colleges, campuses in Albany and Troy, N.Y.; The University of Scranton, Scranton, Penn.; Wagner College, Staten Island, N.Y.; Westminster College, Salt Lake City, Utah; and Widener University, Chester, Penn. Belmont, Samford and Valparaiso also offer flexible programs.

NAC&U Goes to Washington
We're just over a month away from three days of NAC&U events in Washington, DC. Students from several NAC&U campuses will gather to speak about the impact the NAC&U approach to education has had on their college experiences and future careers. NAC&U will also present the 6th annual Ernest L. Boyer award to Cathy Davidson, a leading interdisciplinary and technology scholar, during the opening ceremonies of the AAC&U Annual Meeting. Lastly, the NAC&U board and provosts will convene for their winter meetings.

Schedule of Events:

**Tuesday, 1/19**
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
**Congressional Briefing** with student panelists and posters, moderated by CIC’s Rich Ekman
Related stories: [Drury's Solar Decathlon team](#), [University of Evansville's GAP program](#)

2:00 - 8:00 p.m.
NAC&U Winter Board Meeting

**Wednesday, 1/20**
8:00 - 9:30 a.m.
**National Press Club Breakfast** with student panelists and posters, moderated by author William Sullivan
Related story: [North Central Mathematics Major Jack Ryan](#)

11:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.
NAC&U Winter Provosts' Meeting

2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
AAC&U Pre-Meeting Workshop: Supporting Student Learning Through the Holistic Department

7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Presentation of Ernest L. Boyer Award at AAC&U Opening Night Forum

**Thursday, 1/21**
1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
**NAC&U Panel at AAC&U Meeting**: The Power of Integrated Learning: Higher Education
NAC&U Science Summit  
Belmont University  
February 10-12, 2016

NAC&U will host its first Science Summit, a two-day experience that will afford participants the opportunity to discuss potential grant collaborations while networking with other science faculty at like-minded institutions.

This forum will allow science and science-related faculty from our member campuses to discuss their current research and then brainstorm and move forward with multi-disciplinary, multi-campus teams that could potentially apply for NSF or other foundation-supported grants. Jim Gentile, past president of the Research Corporation for Science Advancement and former dean for the Natural and Applied Sciences at Hope College, will facilitate the summit.

For more information or to register, please visit here.

Registration deadline: January 15, 2016

NAC&U Summer Institute  
Manhattan College  
June 22-24, 2016

The Call for Proposals for next year's Summer Institute, "Supporting Student Success through Undergraduate Research," is available. Presentations may describe existing projects or may engage conference participants in working sessions to develop new ideas for collaboration.

Find more information and the Call for Proposals here.

Submission deadline: January 17, 2016
Leveraging the Ambassador Network

Pictured are NAC&U Ambassadors Patrick Abulencia and Jeannetta Williams who met this fall when Williams, on sabbatical from St. Edward’s University, visited Manhattan College where Abulencia is an associate professor of chemical engineering.

Williams visited both Manhattan and Wagner Colleges’ psychology faculty to collect data for her sabbatical research. She also used the opportunity to discuss the possibilities of sharing research resources, including access to potential participants, and ways that NAC&U could facilitate joint research projects. Williams expects to hold a conference call in the spring to get feedback from additional psychology faculty at NAC&U institutions.

NAC&U Members Recognized for Study Abroad Participation

More than a third of NAC&U members were recognized for Study Abroad participation in the latest Open Doors report from the Institute for International Education. Highlights of the report include:

- Seven members were in the top 40 of masters' level institutions for percentage of undergraduate study abroad participation (this data can include students who are not matriculated at the institution but participate in the institution's study abroad programs). Members cited include Arcadia University, Wagner College, University of Evansville, Pacific Lutheran University, Samford University, Belmont University, and Westminster College. It was the sixth consecutive year that Arcadia was top ranked on this list.
- Arcadia University, Hamline University, and Belmont University were in the top 12 of masters' level institutions noted for short-term study abroad participation.
- Three members - Roger Williams University, Wagner College, and Arcadia University - were also recognized in the top 18 institutions for mid-length study
Member News

Top News
Roger Williams President Farish Blogs about Creating Inclusive Campuses

Sage President Susan Scrimshaw Blogs about College's Role in Modeling Diverse Communities

Research and Grants
U of New Haven, Yale Researchers Develop Economical, Green Catalytic Process

Hampton Partners with Brandeis to Promote Diversity in Material Science Research

U of La Verne Partners with Casa Colina on Health Research, Education

Honors, Rankings and Recognition
Belmont's Dr. Ronnie Littlejohn Named 2015 Tennessee Professor of the Year

Christopher Kilner Becomes First University of Scranton Student to Earn Prestigious Mitchell Scholarship

The Economist Ranks Ohio Northern First Among Ohio's Liberal Arts Colleges; The Economist Ranks Samford as Top Institution in Alabama; The Economist Notes U of Scranton's Impact on Graduates' Earnings

Belmont University's Entrepreneurship Program Ranked No. 16 in the Nation by Princeton Review

Pacific Lutheran Included on Best-of Lists for Value and Business Schools

Victory Media Ranks the Following NAC&U Members as Military-Friendly: Arcadia University, Belmont University, Drury University, John Carroll University, Manhattan College, Nazareth College, North Central College, Ohio Northern University, Pacific Lutheran University, St. Edward's University, The University of Scranton, University of Evansville, University of La Verne, University of New Haven, University of Redlands, Valparaiso University, Wagner College, Westminster College, Widener University

Hamline University CIO Mark Kondrak Named a 2016 Premier 100 Technology Leader

Hampton University Senior Awarded Prestigious Schwarzman Scholarship
Appointments
Kathy J. Ogren Installed as Provost of U of Redlands

Valparaiso University Names Susan Scroggins as Vice President for Finance and Administration

Programs and Endowments
Drury Revamps Honors Program, Welcomes New Class

Campus News
Samford Launches Online Oral History Project

Roger Williams Announces Fifth Year of Tuition Freeze

Faculty News
Prof. Alexa Dietrich Wins 2015 Julian Steward Award

Cal Lutheran Professor Joins National Autism Panel

Experiential Learning
Students Identify High-Impact Practices and Collaborative Learning as Widener Strengths in NSSE

Justin Brown, Stephen Charnley, Kyle Devlin, Ryan Finley and Amanda Gagne, four of whom are 2013 graduates of Valparaiso University's College of Engineering, were awarded a patent on their senior design project, "Capacitive pressure sensor with reduced parasitic capacitance," sponsored by Dwyer Instruments in Michigan City. For more about the patent, click here.

Russell Sage College students presented at the 10th Undergraduate Conference in Medieval and Early Modern Studies at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Penn., on Saturday, December 5, 2015. The papers were written for various courses taught by NAC&U Ambassador Dr. David A. Salomon who accompanied the students to Moravian.

Sofia Berry, sophomore
"The Many Facets of God and the Crucible of Inherent Sin"
Course: Bible as Literature, Fall '15
Briana Bogatka, senior
"Moral Theology in Sir Gawain and the Green Knight"
Course: Arthurian Literature, Fall ’14

Shannon Murphy, sophomore
"Forbidden Love and Forbidden Knowledge: Relationships between ’Tis Pity She’s a Whore, Romeo and Juliet, and Doctor Faustus"
Course: Renaissance Literature Spring ’15

NAC&U Galleries

Share your campus with us through photos and text that highlight what makes your institution unique. You can also submit photos from programs or events that relate to the NAC&U mission. Check out our latest galleries from California Lutheran University and Valparaiso University (below). Ohio Northern University’s gallery will be up in January.
Join the NAC&U Group on LinkedIn

We've added a members-only group on LinkedIn so you can connect with NAC&U colleagues. Members can search by keywords to find experts by area at other institutions or post announcements or queries for the group.

Search for the New American Academic Collaborative on LinkedIn.

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The New American Colleges & Universities

Arcadia University Belmont University
California Lutheran University Drury University
Hamline University Hampton University
John Carroll University Manhattan College Nazareth College
North Central College Ohio Northern University
Pacific Lutheran University Roger Williams University
St. Edward's University Samford University The Sage Colleges
The University of Scranton University of Evansville
University of La Verne University of New Haven
University of Redlands Valparaiso University
Wagner College Westminster College Widener University