Final Report

UWEC History Department Department to Department Grant
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As part of the History Department at UW-EC’s Department to Department grant, we explored expanding our relationships with 4 campuses abroad in the UK: The University of Sterling, the University of Glasgow, The University of Winchester, and Harlaxton College (the British Campus of the University of Evansville). The meetings we had were productive and we have concrete steps for moving forward to improve and hopefully increase student participation in study abroad.

During spring break, Dr. Teresa Sanislo visited the University of Winchester and I visited the University of Stirling. Winchester sends us more history students than any other study abroad partner, and the Department of History and Politics at Stirling had expressed interest in hosting a history faculty member from Eau Claire as part of a visit from our Political Science and Criminal Justice programs. I attended meetings with faculty and students interested in our study abroad partnership that were arranged by Maria Cid Castilla in the Stirling study abroad office. These included meetings with Dr. Alasdair Ross, who runs their contract history firm, and Dr. Holger Nehring, their Head of Department. I also attended a Native American history class taught by Dr. Gyorgy Toth. Dr. Sanislo gave a research talk at Winchester and lectured in two classes, along with attending meetings scheduled by Dr. Alasdair Spark who is the study abroad coordinator at Winchester. She worked most closely with Dr. Kate Weikert whose specialty, like Teresa’s, is Gender History. While I was in Scotland, I also visited Glasgow and attended meetings arranged by their study abroad coordinator, including one with Dr. Lynn Abrams who is chair of their Modern History section. In early May, Dr. David Green from Harlaxton College visited UW-Eau Claire where he met with history faculty and the Director of the Honors Program. He also visited history classes and the archives and met with the Directors of CETL and ORSP. In early June, Dr. John Mann and I visited Winchester where we met with Dr. Alasdair Spark, Dr. Kate Weikert, Dr. Mark Allen, and Dr. Xavier Guegan.

At this stage, we have achieved the following outcomes:

- Dr. Mark Allen at the University of Winchester gave a lecture and tour of a historic mill for our HIST 401 class, Public History in England. This was very successful and we plan to repeat it in future years.
- Dr. Teresa Sanislo submitted an IFP grant in collaboration with two students, Dr. Josh Brown, and a sociologist at Winchester to conduct research in Berlin next year.
- Dr. David Green and Dr. Jeff Vahlbusch are working to create an honors option for UW-Eau Claire students who study at Harlaxton.
We have begun discussing the possibility of history students from UW-EC doing capstone research while at Harlaxton.

I sent Dr. Holger Nehring at Stirling a list of our fall courses so that he could better advise students.

I agreed to meet by teleconference with Winchester students interested in studying at UW-EC during a “study abroad fair” that Dr. Alasdair Spark organizes annually, if that would be useful.

Dr. Alasdair Spark will fund a visit to UW-EC this fall by Dr. Mark Allen and Dr. Xavier Guegan.

The history department is drafting a handout about the strengths of study abroad in history at the programs we visited. This will direct students interested in Public/Environmental History to Stirling, students interested in Public History and Archaeology to Winchester, and students interested in Women’s History or Military History to Glasgow. We hope to distribute this to incoming freshmen and encourage them to begin thinking about study abroad early.

We very much appreciate the opportunity to begin this work, which we hope to continue.