



The University of Georgia

Institute of Higher Education

October 26, 2009

Dear Prospective Global L.E.A.D. Participant:

As dean of the Franklin Residential College and faculty director for Global L.E.A.D., I appreciate the opportunity to introduce you to the innovative curriculum we have created and that I will oversee for the programs in Brazil, Greece, and South Africa during Summer, 2010.

Global L.E.A.D. helps students deepen their understanding of themselves and transforms their sense of what is possible, as only an experience abroad can. Our intention is for Global L.E.A.D. to be a dynamic and compelling experience both within the classroom and beyond it.

We are developing two University of Georgia courses within the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences expressly for Global LEAD participants. UGA faculty will teach the courses, assisted by a group of UGA Ph.D. students. The curriculum will feature distinguished visiting lecturers, including individuals from the country we are visiting, discussing with our students their particular insights into leadership and service around the world.

Drawing on my work as associate professor at the Institute of Higher Education at the university, I will coordinate the course titled: Leadership and the Arts and Sciences. The 3000-level course draws on multiple disciplines to explore the application of a university education to leading change in an increasingly interconnected world. Students will not only read about leadership, but will also apply concepts through real world experiences while abroad.

My faculty colleague, Sandy Whitney, of the anthropology and geology departments and coordinator of service learning for African studies at UGA, will coordinate the course titled: Service Learning and the Arts and Sciences. Again drawing on various intellectual traditions, the course, also at the 3000-level, will consider service to society in a global context. Students will explore ideas related to service learning through hands-on supervised work in the field within local communities.

Both three-credit courses – six credits in total – will fulfill upper level elective requirements at UGA and are transferrable to other universities.

The home department of each student, whether at UGA or elsewhere, will determine where in his or her program of study each course will count, whether as an elective or within a major or minor. Again, the courses are within the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, not within a particular academic department (such as psychology or management), so students can make a case for counting them toward majors or minors in several different disciplines. We advise that students confirm with their academic advisor in advance of taking the courses how and where they will count in their particular program.

I join my faculty and graduate student colleagues in looking forward to working with you, whether in Brazil, Greece, and South Africa. Thank you for your interest in Global L.E.A.D. It is going to be an extraordinary summer!

Sincerely,

J. Douglas Toma
Associate Professor, Institute of Higher Education
Dean, Franklin Residential College