

HACU and Global Learning Semesters to Provide \$8 Million in Study Abroad Scholarships

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SAN ANTONIO, Oct. 30 /PRNewswire/ -- HACU (the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities) and Global Learning Semesters, Inc. are undertaking a 10-year partnership to address the factors hindering Hispanic study abroad with the goal of reducing the gap in Hispanic participation in study abroad by 50%. Hispanic students study abroad at about half the rate of all college students due to issues related to actual and perceived affordability, limited awareness and home institution capabilities.

1. **Financial Support:** Global Learning Semesters has committed to making available over \$8 million in scholarships during the next 10 years to HACU students through the Hispanic Study Abroad Scholars program and to working with HACU on Special Initiatives to further increase available scholarship funds. The University of Alcala in Spain has generously agreed to be the first Special Initiative partner.
2. **Capacity Building:** Global Learning Semesters is making its expertise in study abroad office administration available to HACU member institutions through training seminars and free use of its patent-pending software for study abroad office administration. This capacity building initiative will make it more affordable and feasible for HACU schools to administer a study abroad office.
3. **Program Development:** HACU and Global Learning Semesters have formed an Advisory Council to guide the development of study abroad programs in Latin America focused on issues important to Hispanic students.

Dr. Andreas Polemitis, Chairman of Global Learning Semesters said: "I have no doubt that the best business executives, teachers, scientists and artists of today and tomorrow will be individuals who have broadened their horizons by studying, living and traveling abroad. Hispanic college graduates should not be denied the opportunity to enhance their career and life prospects through study abroad."

"HACU is pleased to add Global Learning Semesters as a new partner to our effort to promote study abroad opportunities for students at our member colleges and universities," said Antonio R. Flores, President and CEO of HACU. "GLS has generously committed to provide scholarship assistance to eligible HACU member students who participate in their respective study abroad programs."

The Hispanic Study Abroad Scholarship will be available to students attending HACU member institutions for a 10-year period starting with the Spring Semester 2007.

Students or Advisors interested in applying for the scholarship programs should visit:

<http://www.StudyAbroadScholars.org> or call (877) 300-7010, ext. 6.

University Administrators or Advisors interested in participating in the Hispanic Global Alliance should complete the registration form at: <http://www.HispanicGlobalAlliance.org>.

Photographs of the ceremonial signing are available.

About HACU - The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) was established in 1986 with a founding membership of eighteen institutions. Because of HACU's exemplary leadership on behalf of the nation's youngest and fastest-growing population, the Association rapidly grew in numbers and national impact.

Today, HACU represents more than 450 colleges and universities committed to Hispanic higher education success in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Latin America, Spain and Portugal. Although our member institutions in the U.S. represent less than 10% of all higher education institutions nationwide, together they are home to more than two-thirds of all Hispanic college students. HACU is the only national educational association that represents Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs). To learn more about HACU, please go to:

<http://www.HACU.net>

About Global Learning Semesters

Global Learning Semesters is a leading study abroad organization with a mission of preparing North American college students to be leaders in an increasingly interconnected world. Global Learning Semesters is best known for operating innovative, thematic study abroad programs that combine academics with co-curricular travel. In 2007, Global Learning Semesters will operate 35 study abroad programs that will cumulatively visit 60 cities, from Belmopan to Beijing, in 20 countries. To learn more about Global Learning Semesters and study abroad, please go to: <http://www.GlobalSemesters.com>

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