



**NAFSA Session GS081: Civic Engagement Goes Global**  
**Vanderbilt University and Duke University**  
**Thursday, May 28, 2009 9:15:00AM to 10:00:00AM**

Considerations for the development of international civic engagement programs:

- Form partnerships on campus
  - Garner support from upper administration (Chancellor, Provost, Deans)
  - Identify and utilize faculty advocates
  - Utilize institutional resources
  - Draw on students as a resource (undergraduate and graduate)
- Enhance existing institutional relationships abroad or create new ones with an eye towards sustainability
- Prioritize fundraising
- Clearly articulate goals of the program to all constituencies
  - Recognize tension between giving communities the best service while giving students the best program
  - Consider expectations of the Millennial Generation
- Identify service-opportunities that support local community-driven initiatives while enhancing students' skill sets
- Dedicate time to preparation and re-entry
  - Prioritize training as an integral part of the project rather than as tangential to it
  - Focus on preparation beyond logistics – ethical engagement in communities
  - Identify strategies to help students transition back to campus
- Assess the possibility of creating a program that unifies civic engagement and study abroad components
  - Coordinate the program processes
  - Increase the length of the program commitment to ensure that students are learning enough to justify academic credit while also committing more time to the community partner
- Inform the development of the program through assessment
  - Design programs intentionally with learning outcomes upfront
  - Create tools that evaluate the relationship of the controlled predictable nature of the classroom with the unpredictable nature of civic engagement