

International Programs Diversity Scholars announced

Ten Oregon State University students were awarded \$5000 scholarships for study abroad for a term or more during the 2007-2008 academic year. The Diversity Scholars program was created through a grant from the IFSA foundation, a non-profit organization located in Indianapolis, Indiana that focuses on strengthening U.S. undergraduate study abroad opportunities such as scholarships for international education opportunities particularly among under-represented groups. The grant application resulted from collaboration between the Offices of Community and Diversity and International Programs at Oregon State University.

The ten students awarded the Diversity Scholarships represented various under-represented populations in study abroad at Oregon State University including ethnic diversity, first-generation college students and under-represented academic majors. They will study in different countries including Japan, Ecuador, France, Spain and Mexico.

As part of the scholarship conditions, once they have returned from abroad, the ten students will serve as study abroad ambassadors and mentors, making presentations to student groups, classes, OSU's six cultural centers, and engaging in other forms of peer mentoring. Members of the Multicultural Study Abroad Group, a group of OSU administrators working to break down barriers to study abroad for under-represented students, and International Programs administrators will support the students throughout their time abroad and will work with the Diversity Scholars upon return to create ideas for encouraging other under-represented groups of students to study abroad.



Diversity Scholars pictured are: (back row) Geraldine Casimiro, Maria Brambila, Michelle Nguyen, Tristan Walker, Matt Jager, Monica Juarez-Hernandez (front row) Jessica Sandoval, Miguel Brambila, Hunnan Pope. (Not-pictured: Jessica Haynes)