West Point Cadets Civil Rights Staff Ride:
Exploring the Intersection of History, Policy and the Law

In June, Cadets from West Point Military Academy participated in a Civil Rights Staff Ride, to develop a Civil Rights Curriculum at West Point Military Academy. The International Visitors Center of Jackson was commissioned to arrange their itinerary as they traveled throughout the southern states. During their trip, the Cadets were met by people eager to discuss their involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. In Atlanta, they attended the Conference of Black Mayors, met with leaders of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), and toured the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site. While in Birmingham, the Cadets were able to participate in Juneteenth festivities, visited the 16th Street Baptist Church, and toured the Civil Rights Institute. The Cadets visited the Southern Poverty Law Center, and met with Dr. Gwen Patton, a Civil Rights Veteran, at Trenholm State Technical College. In Selma, the Cadets walked across the Edmond Pettis Bridge, toured the Voting Rights Museum, and met with Alabama Senator Hank Sanders, a Civil Rights Veteran. Saving the best for last, the Cadets entered Mississippi, the civil rights stronghold state, and met with Dr. Daphne Chamberlain, Director of the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO) Education Center which served as the nerve center of the civil rights movement. The Cadets had one-on-one meeting with Civil Rights Veterans, Wendell Paris and Frank Figgers, at the NAACP office, and visited historically black colleges and universities, Jackson State University* and Tougaloo College. The Cadets characterized the Staff Ride as a life-changing experience. The Cadets will be editing the hours of video taken during their Ride, so that they may produce a film with a more complete analysis of the meaning of their journey.
Jackson State University® Hosts Fulbright Gateway Orientation

Jackson State University® International Studies hosted a group of 25 Fulbright students from 20 countries August 26-30, 2013, as part of the Fulbright Gateway Orientation Program. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (BECA) and administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE). During the program, students acquired knowledge on various aspects of academic and cultural life of students in U.S. universities and colleges. Sessions conducted by JSU faculty and staff included U.S. colleges and universities’ academic requirements, the U.S. political system and political culture, interpersonal behavior in various social, academic, and professional settings, adjusting to U.S. culture, managing culture shock, and other topics. International Studies has many years of successful history hosting Fulbright programs on the Jackson State University® campus. International studies welcomes the opportunity to host the Fulbright Gateway in the near future.

Fulbright Gateway participants exploring Mississippi’s rich culture in historical Vicksburg

China Initiatives Promote Campus Diversity

On September 19, 2013, over 150 JSU students, faculty and staff gathered on JSU campus, celebrating one of the most important traditional Chinese festivals - the Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Moon Festival. This festival also promotes academic diversity through appreciation of traditional Chinese cultural.
Graduate School USA visits JSU

The International Visitors Center of Jackson welcomed Ms. Shanique Streete, Senior Program Specialist at the International Institute of the Graduate School USA, to the campus of Jackson State University on September 12-13, 2013. While in Mississippi, Ms. Streete met with Dr. Thomas Calhoun, Associate Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and other University officials to discuss potential collaboration opportunities; Jackson Mayor Chokwe Lumumba, Mississippi Senator Hillman Frazier, Representatives Alice Clark and Earl Banks and local businessman Charles Evers. She also participated in the kickoff of the City’s National Night Out festivities hosted by Hinds County Sheriff Tyrone Lewis.

As a programming agency under the International Visitors Leadership Program (IVLP) of the U.S. Department of State. The International Institute of the Graduate School, USA provides short-term global programs for international visitors and emerging foreign leaders while cultivating lasting relationship with their American Counterparts in the areas of capacity building, professional development, educational exchanges, governance and health.

JSU Student Returns to Nicaragua to Help Build Bridge

Sam Rhodes, senior engineering major, first visited Nicaragua as a part of his study abroad experience in 2012. He returned home with a new appreciation for his country and his family, but was determined that he should and would return to Nicaragua. During the month of June 2013, he not only fulfilled his mission of returning to Nicaragua, but he helped to build a bridge in Jicaro. This bridge will help provide some thirty to sixty children a safe route to school, cutting out four hours per day of commuting time. Sam was joined by three students from the University of Iowa, and along with locals, this team of volunteers were able to complete this project on time and within budget. To read more about Sam’s work in Nicaragua visit our website at http://www.jsums.edu/international/
Celebrating 50 Years of Freedom Summer

The Summer of 2014 will be one of the largest annual gatherings of Civil Rights Veterans in the country. Organizers of the 50th anniversary commemoration of Freedom Summer which will culminate with a gathering of historians planned for June 25-29, 2014. This event will bring together civil rights activists, scholars, historians, students, community organizers, educators, film makers and producers, to include 2nd generation activists, grassroots organizations and others from across the USA, to celebrate the victories of 1964 Freedom Summer. This historic event begins with "WE KNEW MEDGAR" highlighting many civil rights veterans who worked with and knew the late Medgar Evers. In partnership with museums, universities, foundations, and national organizations across the country, the Medgar & Myrlie Evers Institute is organizing events commemorating the 50th anniversary of Medgar Evers’ assassination, culminating in a series of activities in Washington, D. C., and Jackson, Mississippi.

The Mississippi NAACP and the Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement are coordinating the commemoration and a conference entitled "The Movement Forward". Many exhibits and events are planned leading up to the 50th commemorative to be held at Tougaloo College in the summer of 2014. Supporting organizations includes the Jackson Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Jackson Municipal Airport Authority, and the Mississippi Development Authority, community partners, Mississippi Valley State University, Alcorn State University, Jackson State University® and Tougaloo College.

English as a Second Language Institute welcomes 70 international students

English as a Second Language Institute (ESLI) welcomes international students from more than 16 countries during the 2013-2014 academic school year. ESLI at Jackson State University® is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools ESLI students at JSU study the most updated ESL curricula. The Institute offers non-credit courses in English as a second language to internationals who plan to enroll in academic programs, as well as iBT TOEFL preparation for college enrollment and for job oriented individuals. In addition, ESLI offers an array of cultural activities and opportunities to explore southern language and culture activities. Students are given a platform to volunteer in the local community, such as Stewpot Community Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity and Operation Christmas Child. ESLI students participate in annual International Celebrations on the JSU campus. For more information, please call 601/979-3793.
Brazilian students are here at JSU as a result of the Brazilian Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP), launched by the U.S.-Brazil Joint Action Plan to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Discrimination and Promote Equality. The Joint Action Plan recognizes that Brazil and the United States are multi-ethnic, multi-racial democracies whose shared experiences strengthen their friendship. Both countries recognize and celebrate the rich contributions of African descendants and indigenous populations to the fabric of our societies. The Brazilian Scientific Mobility Program (BSMP), provides scholarships to undergraduate students from Brazil for 12-18 months of study at colleges and universities in the United States. Scholarships are awarded primarily to students in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Students in the program will return to Brazil to complete their degrees. The program, administered by IIE, is part of the Brazilian government's larger initiative to grant 100,001 scholarships for the best students from Brazil to study abroad at the world’s best universities. JSU welcomes twenty-seven students to our family and the state of Mississippi.

Jackson State Students Study in Brazil

Jackson State University® art professor Kenyatta Stewart successfully developed a faculty-led study abroad program allowing nine students to study the cultures of Brazil. The two-week trip featured the cities of Salvador, Brazil’s first capitol, the cultural heart of the nation. Salvador is the city where many African slaves were deposited during the transatlantic slave trade. Salvador is a city where many African-Americans can trace their lineage to their present day family. JSU students were intrigued with the food, religion, clothing, and vivacious music of Salvador, which made the city an unforgettable place. The tour of Salvador concluded as the group flew to Rio de Janeiro, and toured several famous sites such as the Corcovado Mountain where the Christ the Redeemer statue stands. The group also visited Sugarloaf Mountain, the Lapa Arches and the church of the Blacks. This journey is only one of the many study abroad opportunities at Jackson State University®, for additional information contact Yolanda Davis, Study Abroad Coordinator at 601/979-1609.
Look Who’s Been to Jackson Mississippi!

Educating The Global Community
One handshake at a time!
The Mississippi Freedom Summer 50th Anniversary

The Mississippi Freedom Summer 50th Anniversary conferences will convene in Jackson, Mississippi to recognize the accomplishments of those who changed the politically segregated Mississippi and to discuss how the struggle continues to strive towards making the United States reach its full potential for all citizens.
Global Spotlight

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Things to come...

International Education Week
November 18-22, 2013

NCIV 2014 National Meeting
January 29 – February 1, 2014
Washington, DC

MAIE/Study Mississippi
Annual Conference
February 20-21, 2014
Jackson, MS

International Week
April 7-11, 2014

NASFA Annual Conference
May 25-30, 2014
San Diego, CA