**Call for Group Project Abroad in China**

Gettysburg College was recently awarded a U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA) grant to support a four-week summer seminar in Beijing. The grant will assist with our current focus on internationalization and inclusion at Gettysburg College.

The seminar, “The Impact of China’s Educational System from Beijing to Gettysburg,” will take place from June 5th to July 3rd, 2017 and is designed to grow faculty expertise and experience in the region, and to expand the breadth and depth of course offerings in the East Asian Studies Program Chinese Track and the coverage of China across the general education curriculum. In addition to selected faculty, also participating are K–12 teachers from local school districts. Everyone will have a rare opportunity for firsthand experience in China as well as immersion foreign (Mandarin) language training in order to develop an understanding of Chinese culture, history, and current issues and incorporate this understanding into their curricula and teaching practice.

The GPA will be an intense, interdisciplinary engagement with the language, history, culture, and everyday life of modern China through the lens of its educational policy and practice. It will provide participants with a rich interplay of resources, seminars, and site visits. The 18-hour pre-departure program will cover the basics of the Mandarin language as well as an introduction to China’s history, political system, educational system, art and religion, and contemporary culture and will include a lecture and practicum on Chinese food and table etiquette. The group activities in China will be coordinated by the China-based study abroad organization CET Academic Programs. The group will be based in Beijing on the campus of Gettysburg College’s Chinese partner Capital Normal University. From there, the group will travel to numerous sites throughout the city as well as other sites within driving distance of Beijing. Two levels of Mandarin Chinese will be offered for 2.5 hours each weekday, supplemented by communicative practice tasks in the community during site visits and excursions.

The project will result in the following deliverables: (1) revised current course offerings and/or new curriculum to expand Gettysburg College’s East Asian Studies Program and related disciplines; (2) learning modules to be incorporated by K–12 participants into their existing curriculum via courses such as World Cultures, Global Economics, and Sociology; (3) an accessible, well-organized online depository of resources resulting from the seminar, including all curricular products, additional materials, visuals, pedagogical practices, and Mandarin language resources as well as presentations; and (4) dissemination activities to other colleges, K– 12 districts, and the community.

With the growing number of Chinese students on campus, better understanding of the Chinese culture will help create more opportunities for robust classroom dialogue, enhanced advising opportunities, and closer social interactions between U.S. and Chinese students.

Please note that to be eligible, participants must be US citizens, nationals, or permanent residents and full-time employees of Gettysburg College. No previous knowledge of Chinese language is expected for participation.

To apply, please submit a one-page narrative explaining reasons for participation in the project and how it will impact your teaching (including classes your expect to create or revise and when you will teach them), and your CV.  Applications for the seminar are due on **November 30th** to Kara Flythe (kflythe@gettysburg.edu); those selected to participate in the seminar cohort will be contacted by December 9th.

Nearly all of the costs of the international faculty seminar will be covered by the U.S. Department of Education grant.  Participants will each be asked to cover the costs of their visa ($140) and contribute $200 to cover the expenses outside of the grant.  Additionally, faculty must pay any expenses related to additional tours, etc., in which they take part during the course of the trip. Spouses, other family members, and friends, who have not been selected to participate in this project according to the criteria specified in our grant proposal, are not permitted to join the group at any point during the program.

If you have questions about this opportunity, please contact Rebecca Bergren (rbergren@gettysburg.edu), Betsy Lavolette (elavolet@gettysburg.edu) or Jim Udden (judden@gettysburg.edu)