

International Graduate Students (Bradley Brookshire)

Numbers:

The College currently has 26 international graduate students:

Dance	5
Humanities	0
Music	17
TAF	2
VA	2

ESL:

Graduate students are integrated into the general ESL classes if they are determined to need English as a second language courses, which is determined via a placement test taken after arrival on campus. The College TOEFL requirements (213/80 scores) are met by most students, though some are exempted by taking an ESL course in an intensive summer program before arrival at Purchase.

ESL at Purchase starts at the advanced intermediate level and is geared toward reading, writing and comprehension, rather than speaking. The instructor, Elena Cherniavskaya, tutors students who need additional help, via appointment. Students also take advantage of the Learning Center peer tutoring when writing papers.

ESL at Purchase is offered in the following model:

Fall:

ESL I

ESL II

Spring:

ESL II

College Writing for international students

(grad students are encouraged to attend this)

This model works, though more tutoring could probably be added, in addition to work on technical vocabulary germane to each conservatory/major, an area where all international students may flounder. Should graduate numbers expand, more classes would need to be added, as a small teacher-pupil ratio in ESL classes is imperative.

The one problem situation is the entry of students with low ESL scores in the Spring semester. The College generally doesn't offer Level I in the spring semester. Students have been sent to Manhattanville occasionally in the past to take intensive ESL in the spring, but it is expensive (\$355 + \$35 fees = \$390 per session, 2 sessions per semester, 2 hr 50 min class time per week). Adding an additional class at Purchase with an adjunct would make more sense, if there are more than 1-2 Level I students in the Spring semester.

Admissions:

I have added some bulleted strategies from the draft internationalization strategic plan below. If graduate programs have growth capacity, identifying countries and feeder schools where Purchase has a proven track record is important. In addition, identifying new markets abroad can be done with some research. I can offer resources through which to do this research, but Admissions probably has

information as well. Scholarships and assistantship funding as incentives are important, which I'm sure you are already thinking about.

- Target special circumstances such as countries (e.g. India, China?), Purchase majors (economics, arts management, math/computer science, natural science, environmental science, social science, instruments, special attributes), and academic programs (including graduate) that have either a proven track record or growth potential.
- Research the College niche and growth capacity while assessing fit with student academic aspirations from specific countries
- Determine most effective marketing methods and consider working with Purchase or SUNY alumni, as well as explore collaborating with SUNY on agent affiliations. Utilize NACAC best practices in international recruiting to develop a plan which might include faculty recruitment in connection with international sojourns.
- Work with External Affairs to develop scholarships/incentives specifically for international students through fundraising relationships with international and domestic donors

SUNY is also developing "master" agent relationships abroad under Associate Chancellor Mitch Leventhal's guidance. This initiative, which just began, may yield the College graduate students. Leventhal is currently Chair of the American International Recruitment Council (AIRC) and has a lot of experience in international recruitment.

In addition, though not expected to be initiated soon, Leventhal hopes to bring a very powerful database (uCosmic) to SUNY from his former employer, University of Cincinnati. When up and running, the database will enable research on student and faculty linkages/countries of origin/undergraduate institutions/etc. across the SUNY system, so that strategic targeting for recruitment, as well as other endeavors such as academic partnering, can take place.