

# Educating Leaders for a Global Society



One of the most formative experiences of my Swedish life came from my place of residence in Karlstad. Sweden is a leading nation in the world in acceptance and integration of immigrants.

I lived among a community of middle eastern immigrants and would spend many afternoons outside tossing the Frisbee, kicking the soccer ball, or even just playing my didgeridoo with the neighboring kids. Most humbling, was that most were originally from Iraq.

What better picture could summarize a nation's character than an environmental science student from the USA sitting around playing with immigrants from Iraq under the bright warm summer sun of Sweden?



Isaac Campbell,  
Roanoke College to  
Karlstad University,  
Spring 2006



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- In 2001 (its first year of membership), San Diego State University sent out one student. By 2006, the university sent 52 students to 17 different countries including non-traditional destinations such as Fiji, Uruguay and the Czech Republic.

- The University of Vermont had been exchanging 2-3 students for a number of years in the 1990's, but increased its participation to 25 outgoing students in 2004-05 and sent 50 just last year. Vermont sent students to 19 different countries and hosted 37 from 17 countries.

- Hendrix College, Arkansas with a student body of 1100. Dr. Wayne Ouderkerk, a professor of foreign languages, coordinates a one-person study abroad office, which last year sent 25 students abroad through ISEP to 13 countries and received 14 international students from Australia, Estonia, France, Hungary, Korea, Spain, Thailand and the UK.



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*My ISEP year was the best year of my life at that time (I've had some good years after that as well).*

- 1. We were very well taken care of (nice staff at International office, good introductions, good parties all year round, etc.).*
- 2. The abroad experience was amazing.*
- 3. The classes were of good level [that easily matched] the UTK classes with my home classes in order to validate my graduate year back home.*
- 4. I met some very, very nice guys and girls (both international and American), with some of whom I kept contact through all these years.*
- 5. Even though my level of English was acceptable, it had to be improved, and living 10 months there definitely helped!*

Nicolas Caron, Université d'Angers to  
University of Tennessee Knoxville in 1997



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*“I walked away from my semester not only with a new perspective on my own culture but an added excitement about my own personal endeavors. Through both volunteer experiences as well as mere third world submersion, I realized that sustainability in the developing world is a topic that I would like to pursue as a career. I returned home with a newfound excitement. . . .”*

*Avery Bang, University of Iowa to the University of the South Pacific in Fiji*

