OU joins global consortium to engage students in study abroad programs

Oakland University is among the newest members of Generation Study Abroad, a global consortium of colleges and universities, educational associations, governments and other organizations seeking to increase the number of college and high school students who participate in study abroad programs.

“One immediate consequence of our membership is that OU students will now be eligible to apply for tens of thousands of dollars of scholarships for study abroad, from governmental and external sources, that are reserved for members of the organization,” said Alex Zimmerman, director of OU’s Office of International Education.

“We also hope in future years to secure grant funding which will make study abroad more accessible to Oakland students, while integrating it seamlessly into OU’s curriculum so that students from any major can spend time studying abroad without jeopardizing their plan to graduate in four years.”

Generation Study Abroad is a five-year initiative of the Institute of International Education to mobilize resources and commitments with the goal of doubling the number of U.S. students studying abroad by the end of the decade. To date, Generation Study Abroad has more than 600 global partners who have committed to helping boost the number of U.S. students studying abroad.

The organization’s mission dovetails with Oakland’s goal of tripling the number of its students who study abroad before graduating. Through the Office of International Education, Oakland offers students the opportunity to study abroad in more than 40 countries and study away at nearly 200 universities in North America.

To learn more about study abroad and study away programs, visit oakland.edu/ie or contact the Office of International Education at (248) 370-2889.

View this YouTube video chronicling student Jennifer Jacob’s study abroad experience at Nanzan University in Japan.