Michigan International Internship & Service Program (MIISP)

INFORMATION SESSION FALL 2015
Who are we?

Bill Nolting
Assistant Director
Education Abroad

Audrey Buswell
Education Abroad
Coordinator

Emma Saraff
Undergraduate Student
Peer Advisor

Leonora Lucaj
Graduate Student
Peer Advisor
Agenda

- MIISP Overview
  - What is MIISP?
  - Eligibility
  - Expectations of participants
  - Benefits for participants
  - Application Process
  - Important Dates
  - FAQs

- MIISP Alumni Presentations

- Any questions?
What is MIISP? — Objectives

- To provide students with resources and support for finding an international internship or service opportunity.

- To provide students with information and resources regarding available funding sources through U-M offices.

- To provide information and share expertise to ensure rewarding and educational experiences, including keeping students apprised of safety and health issues.
What is MIISP? — Objectives

- To provide a structure to share experiences with students with similar interests before, during, and after going abroad.

- To provide opportunities for students to reflect and evaluate the impact of being abroad, personally and in relation to their future goals to maximize their total experience.
What is MIISP? — Year Overview

Phase 1
• Prepare to go abroad through individual advising and workshops that take place throughout the academic year.

Phase 2
• While abroad, participants maintain a blog about their experiences.

Phase 3
• Upon returning, students act as “peer advisors” for the next cohort of MIISP students and produce an MPortfolio.
Benefits for Participants

- Develop a **network of support** and friendships with other students going abroad
- Assistance navigating University resources to **find opportunities and funding**
- Learn how to **market your experience** for potential employers
- Incentives for good attendance & participation:
  - MIISP will sponsor your **Health Insurance**
  - Small **financial incentive** for good attendance and completion of MPortfolio project.
Eligibility

Students must be:
✓ Undergraduates
✓ Interested in an internship or service program during Summer 2016
✓ Returning to campus in Fall 2016
✓ Excited to meet and support fellow students
✓ Able to fulfill the expectations of MIISP
Expectations of Participants

1) Attend workshops throughout academic year
2) Attend individual advising sessions with International Center staff
3) Put forth effort to find a placement & funding
4) Maintain a blog while abroad
5) Assist with next group of MIISP students in Fall 2015
6) Complete an MPortfolio
We don’t want this to happen to you!

I see you have some international experience, here...tell me about that...

Er...uh...it was awesome, sir.
By completing the MPortfolio, you will:

- Practice articulating...
  - Your personal values and goals *(useful for personal statements and interviews)*
  - Skills you gained abroad *(useful for describing your experience to grad schools or potential employers)*

- Learn how to create a webpage.

- Produce an online portfolio to share your goals and experiences with others *(like family, grad schools, employers, etc.)*
Application Process

- [https://mcompass.umich.edu/](https://mcompass.umich.edu/)
- Click on “Find Programs”
- Search: MIISP
Important Dates

• **September 27:** MIISP Application Deadline!

• **October 2:** Notification of Application

• **October 7, 6:30 PM:** MIISP Session 1 Finding an International Internship/Service Program

• **October 22:** International Opportunities Fair

• **November 4, 6:30 PM:** MIISP Session 2 Your Global Experience and Your Career
Important Dates
Winter 2016

• Sessions will continue to take place on **Wednesday evenings** (See handout for schedule).

• Topics will include: Peer Review Session for Funding Applications, Making Yourself at Home in a New Country, Entering & Exiting Host Communities, Challenges in the International Workplace, and Travel Workshops
Am I guaranteed an internship or service placement?

- No, we cannot guarantee you an internship or service placement.
- We will work you with to the best of our abilities to assist you in achieving your goal.
Are there fees involved with participating in MIISP?

- There is no cost to participate in the on-campus program. However, there are costs associated with doing an internship abroad (e.g. transportation, lodging, food, etc).
- Most internship & volunteer placement programs charge a fee, but that typically includes living expenses.
- Self-arranged internships will have similar expenses.
Yes! Please look closely at the proposed dates and times of the sessions before determining whether you’d be a good fit for this program!

Is attendance required at the workshops?
How many students are chosen each year?

- There’s not one set number!
- We consider all applications and decide which students we think we would benefit the most from the program!
Contact Information

ICoverseas@umich.edu
Bill Nolting
Audrey Buswell

734-647-2299 (Education Abroad office, International Center)
Questions?