

Association of International Education Administrators Leaders in International Higher Education

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kennesaw State University Program Receives Association of International Education Administrator's Innovation Award in Internationalization

Washington, DC – February 28, 2017 – The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is pleased to recognize Kennesaw State University for its project "Around the World in 80 Days" (AW80) as recipient of the 2017 Innovation Award in Internationalization.

As colleges and universities around the US come to increasingly recognize the value and importance of pursuing internationalization as a distinct and intentional project, the need grows for models regarding various aspects of this work. Many international education leaders work tirelessly with passion, vision and commitment to pursue internationalization in ways to best meet institutional needs. Some of this work is not only effective, but outstanding, and worthy of emulation by others who are either new to the field or value new approaches to the work they do. The AIEA Innovation Award in Internationalization highlights exceptional programs, projects, or initiatives aimed at advancing internationalization.

Kennesaw State University's (KSU) AW80 program aims to increase the diversity and scope of international education for students while maintaining affordable access; offer compelling opportunities to faculty to engage in short-term teaching assignments abroad during the regular semester; and remove the fiscal and administrative responsibilities of program development



Photo: Dr. Lance R. Askildson, Vice-Provost and Chief International Officer at Kennesaw State University, and Iyonka Strawn-Valcy, Director of Education Abroad & Exchanges accept the 2017 AIEA Innovation Award on behalf of Kennesaw State University.

and management from faculty and allow them to focus on teaching. Designed in accordance with the



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University Strategic Plan and the University Plan for Internationalization, the program supports increasing student participation through improved program quality, variety and opportunities for multicultural learning, while remaining financially accessible to students.

Students are offered study opportunities in four countries: Italy, Morocco, Australia and Cuba. Coursework starts at the university and extends to the international locations by segments of 21 days and is completed on reentry classes and final exams. Students take four courses across each of the four foreign study locations with each class co-taught by two faculty members during respective 10-day teaching assignments in-country. Courses abroad are completed by experiential learning activities, local and regional excursions organized with local partners.

AIEA recognizes KSU for this project especially because of its effectiveness and for the connections it establishes among the administrative and academic silos. The initiative addresses one of the main faculty concerns of administrative support and management burden while focusing on student learning.

About AIEA

The Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) is the only association specifically for leaders in international higher education. Founded in 1982, AIEA is hosted at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina and is composed of over 450 institutions engaged in advancing the international dimensions of higher education.

For additional information, visit <u>www.aieaworld.org</u> or contact AIEA at <u>aiea@duke.edu</u> or +1 (919) 668-1928.

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