

2024 Annual Conference

Leading
International
Education
at a Crossroads

# **Exploring Regional University Partnerships**

- Carolina Robinson, PhD chair
- Yana Cornish, PhD
- Sarah Malloy, MEd
- Blair McElroy, J.D.
- Morgan Morris Inabinet



### **Session Overview**

#### Introduction

Introduce presenters and learning objectives

Brief overview of Southeastern Conference

### **Motivational 7-minutes**

SIO Connection: Catalyst for Collaborative Ideation

Director Meetings: Leveraging Collective Expertise during Pandemic

Student Participation Across Faculty Led Programming

SEC Engineering Exchange

Comprehensive Risk Mitigation: The SEC Approach

### **Group Discussion**

Ideas from the crowd and a final Q&A



### Session Learning Outcomes





Participants will learn about the inter-institutional collaborative strategies employed by SEC universities and how these strategies contribute to the enhancement of study abroad, student mobility, and internationalization efforts.



#### **Integrated Risk Management:**

Attendees will gain an understanding of the SEC University Partnership's approach to risk mitigation in the sharing incident response plans, insurance coverage and provider resources, and emergency protocols.



#### **Innovative Global Operations:**

Through the exploration of operational policies and procedures, to joint study abroad and exchange programs, participants will discover how collaborative efforts among SEC universities lead to enriched student experiences.

### SEC U – Academic Initiatives

The SEC supports and promotes collaborative programs and activities designed to highlight the teaching, research and service accomplishments of SEC students, faculty, and staff, including related successes within the Conference's intercollegiate athletics programs. It showcases these achievements on regional, national and international levels using digital and social media platforms.

#### **SECU GOALS**

- Highlight the endeavors and achievements of SEC faculty, students and universities
- Advance the academic reputation of SEC universities beyond their traditional regions
- Identify and prepare future leaders for high-level service in academia
- Increase the amount and type of education abroad opportunities available for students
- Provide opportunities for collaboration among SEC university personnel





























## SIO Connection: Catalyst for Collaborative Ideation

Blair McElroy – The University of Mississippi



### **Collaborative Conversations**

- In-person and virtual meetings, listserv
- Benchmarking on a unit- and university-level
- Knowledge sharing
- Discussion of shared challenges and solutions



### **Collaborative Conversations**

SEC SIO Recruitment Tours in West and East Africa (2023)



# Director Meetings: Leveraging Collective Expertise during Pandemic

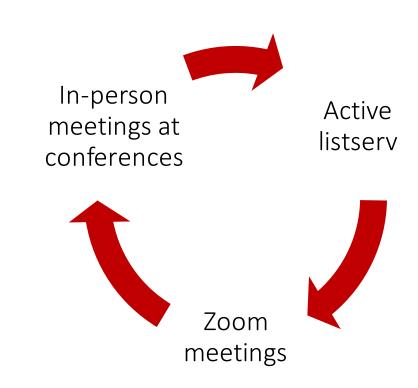
Yana Cornish - University of Georgia



## Study Abroad Director's Meetings

#### **Outcomes:**

- Community building
- Coordinating efforts
- Learning community for directors
- Benchmarking
- Come together during difficult times
- Support new directors
- Develop avenues for collaboration



### **Discussion Topics**

- Promotion/advocacy for global experiences
- Salary levels & staffing models
- Risk mitigation practices
- Working with affiliate providers
- Policies and processes
- Insurance coverage
- Program creation and management
- Technological solutions for study abroad
- Study abroad finances



## Student Participation Across Faculty-Led Programming



Carolina Robinson – The University of Alabama

### SEC Collaborative Mechanisms

1



2

## **Education Abroad Cooperation Agreement**

Transient students pay the same rates and fees as host institutions

## SEC Joint Faculty-Led Programs

\*UA in Brazil: Experiencing the Culture and Dance through the African Diaspora



Overview

Academics

inancial Info

tudent Responsibilities



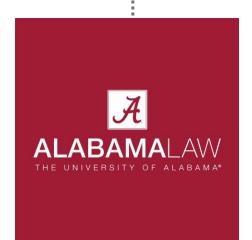
Dates: May 17 - June 16, 2024

This program provides students with a total immersive experience in Salvador, Brazil. Students will have the unique opportunity to learn Afro-Brazilian music, dance, and culture. Experiences include workshops in Capoeira, Samba, drum circles, performances, as well as excursions to major historical landmarks and grassroots organizations in the city of Salvador. No prior dance training is required to participate. This program is offered in collaboration with the University of Florida and Universidade Federal da Bahia.

**Apply Now** 



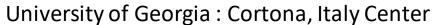
Cayman Islands
Joint Summer Program





### **SEC International Campuses**







University of Arkansas: Rome Center

### SEC International Campuses

In 2024, the Southeastern Conference will expand to include University of Texas and Oklahoma

New international campus opportunity!



University of Texas: Antigua, Guatemala

## **SEC Engineering Exchange**

Sarah Malloy – University of Arkansas



### **Brief history**





POLITECNICO DI TORINO







### The SECAC-PdT Agreement

The Politecnico di Torino and the Universities have a mutual interest in promoting education, research, training and publication through joint activities in the fields of engineering and technology; and each Party would like to learn from the other, in a spirit of friendship, equality and mutual interest, to enrich the understanding of the two cultures, this Agreement is designed to facilitate collaboration and cooperation among the parties in areas of mutual interest, for the purpose of enhancing their contribution to higher education internationally.

- 4. The Parties agree to use their best efforts to cooperate and reach future agreements in certain areas of possible shared activity besides the student exchange. The possible areas of shared activity may include (but are not necessarily limited to) the following:
  - (a) Joint research and training programs (also by video streaming);
  - (b) Externally funded joint international projects;
  - (c) Joint programs of consulting and evaluation;
  - (d) Joint sponsorship of conferences;
  - (e) Joint publication;
  - (f) Exchange of materials, articles and other publications;
  - (g) Development of a double degree; or
  - (h) Other such activities as may be mutually agreed upon.

### Student Exchange: Inbound/Outbound

	2010/2011		2011/2012		2012/2013		2013/2014		2014/2015		2015/2016		2016/2017		2017/2018		2018/2019		2019/2020 (COVID-19)	
	PoliTo > SEC	SEC > PoliTo	PoliTo > SEC	SEC > PoliTo	PoliTo > SEC	SEC > PoliTo	PoliTo > SEC	SEC > PoliTo	PoliTo > SEC	SEC > PoliTo	PoliTo > SEC	SEC > PoliTo								
University of Alabama	0	0	5	4	3	1	2	4	3	1	1	2	1	5	1	0	2	2	2	0
University of Arkansas	7	3	4	1	3	3	3	6	3	3	3	2	2	2	0	14	8	14	7	1
Auburn University	N/A	0	0	2	0	2	1	2	2	2	2									
University of Georgia	N/A	0	0	3	2	1	1	1	4	4	1	4	2							
Louisiana St. University	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
Mississippi St. University	6	3	4	1	4	0	2	2	3	1	4	5	2	1	2	5	4	1	2	1
University of Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	3	4	4	3	2	2	4	2	0	3	1	0	0
Vanderbilt University	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
	13	6	18	6	12	11	15	15	13	11	14	16	12	13	11	25	23	22	17	7

PoliTo > SEC = 148

SEC > PoliTo = 132



# Comprehensive Risk Mitigation: The SEC Approach

Morgan Inabinet – University of South Carolina



## Why Collaborate on Risk Management?

- COVID demonstrated and reinforced the value of collaborating on our international risk management approaches within our network
- Particularly during widespread incidents like COVID that impact a high volume of travelers, when rumors and false information are swirling, it is invaluable to have access to reliable information through a trusted network of peers
- Value of benchmarking
- Pooled resources to help all travelers (e.g. sharing of charter flight information)



### **Examples of Risk Management Collaborations**

- Sharing of resources including:
  - Incident and emergency response plans
  - Insurance plans and resources
  - Travel policies
- Benchmarking
  - Response to current events
  - Protocols and policies
- Support for first responders
  - Mid-incident check-ins
  - Debriefs and sharing of continual improvements





## Group Discussion and Q&A