

Global Encounter-Brazil: Moving Toward Action

Institutional Planning and Support

Group Report Out

Procedure used to generate this document:

Participants were asked to answer these questions in the pre-writing phase and before any group discussion:

What *factors* can help explain the gap between where we are today and where we want to be on the items discussed earlier within this theme area?

What *barriers/challenges* exist for MSU in acting on the opportunities in this theme area?

What *advice* do you have for MSU concerning addressing the challenges and barriers to success as we move forward on the Brazil initiative (related to this theme area as well as in general)?

Do you want to be contacted for meetings/work *on this theme and Brazil* in the futures (and for other themes listed at the top of the previous page or in other Lusophone countries)?
If yes, indicate which themes and country/countries.

Additional comments?

After the pre-writing period, the group discussed questions 1-3. The report to the entire group should reflect the ideas the group wanted most to share with the larger group. These report-out notes are taken from the presentation the group facilitator made to the plenary session.

What *factors* can help explain the gap between where we are today and where we want to be on the items discussed earlier within the institutional planning and support theme?

- Time
- No reward/incentives
- Adaptation of Brazilian students to culture/weather/friends
- Lack of interest on the part of MSU administration and students
- Managing trade-offs

- Michigan State welcome
- Paternalism

What *barriers/challenges* exist for MSU in acting on the opportunities within the institutional planning and support theme?

- Human resources
- Activities for students to make them feel more welcome
- Money to support efforts at the level needed
- Need more sharing of information
- No drive or obligation to welcome new Brazilians
- Lack of interaction of international groups
- Lack of communication
- Awareness

What *advice* do you have for MSU concerning addressing the challenges and barriers to success as we move forward on the Brazil initiative (related to the theme area and as will in general)?

- Create a welcome group especially for visiting scholars
- Continue international coffee hour and consider additional activities.
- Offer more international incentives raising awareness.
- Offer support for researchers (ex. library support).
- Interaction with families
- Energize the Brazilian-Americans in the area
- Internationalization of the community to change the paternalistic attitude
- Provide rewards and awards for faculty.
- Courses and interactions to increase internationalization
- Work toward attitude adjustment in the faculty.
- Work with international committee and CVIP to welcome students, for example, at Thanksgiving. Also include visiting scholars. Involve Americans who have been to Brazil as hosts.
- Encourage study abroad programs to and from Brazil.
- Improve advertisement of international events on campus
- Include visiting scholars in activities.

This material was generated from Global Encounter-Brazil, <<http://www.isp.msu.edu/globalencounter/brazil>>, held at Michigan State University on November 7, 2006. This interactive and participatory event was designed to obtain input and to elaborate in a country-specific forum on relevant themes, opportunities, issues, and opportunities affecting MSU's current and future engagement in Brazil (and to some degree Lusophone countries).