

Next Steps after Global Encounter: Brazil Where Do We Go from Here?

At the end of the Global Encounter: Brazil session, Peter Beattie, the Acting Director of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) made these comments:

.Participants have benefitted from connecting with others across the University with interests and experiences in Brazil. He encouraged the continuation of these discussions and volunteered that CLACS would facilitate meetings and connections when requested.

.Participants need to start thinking about practical ways to start connecting with Brazilian institutions.

.Participants are encouraged to work to build “community” by advertising and attending Brazil events and helping to develop Brazilian student groups.

.CLACS has seed money to cover travel for individuals/groups to travel to Brazil to investigate possible partnerships and build research collaborations with Brazilian institutions.

.There is a need to apply for external funding to support Brazilian activities.

.There is a need to bring students from professional schools into the CLACS programs.

.There is a need to focus on long-term collaborations with Brazilian colleagues that fit into the Boldness by Design strategic imperatives.

We need to think about ways to combine our research strengths among faculty across disciplines, colleges, and world regions. This is already underway in the areas of biofuels, environment, and political-economy. More areas of concentration are welcome as they develop, but more importantly we need to think strategically about how we

can incorporate new programs of study and research for students, the private and public sector, and alumni into these burgeoning relationships. For instance, can we incorporate innovative programs of study abroad and internships with partners in Brazil and programs on MSU's campus that will distinguish MSU from its peer institutions in its efforts to become a more global university? If we can incorporate these programs into or around professorial research agendas, these programs will stand the best chances of being sustainable, dynamic, and attractive into the future.

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).