

SCI PRACTICAL TRAINEE EXCHANGE PILOT PROJECT

U.S. CITY: Boston, MA

SISTER CITY: Strasbourg, France

TYPE OF EXCHANGE: Practical Trainee Exchange

LENGTH OF EXCHANGE: 6 weeks

AGE OF PARTICIPANTS: 18 - 25 NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: 24 INBOUND:12 OUTBOUND:12

OVERVIEW OF EXCHANGE

The 1986 "Business Internship Exchange" between Boston, MA and Strasbourg, France served as one of SCI's "augmented" communities receiving a grant of \$500. The exchange, involving 12 inbound and 12 outbound trainees was conceived by Rebecca M. Valette, Professor of French at Boston College and Chairperson of the Education committee of the Boston/Strasbourg Sister Cities Association in collaboration with the Institut Europeen d'Etudes Commerciales Superiaries in Strasbourg.

There was a staff person in both institutions selected to coordinate all arrangements on either end and in fact that coordinator accompanied their trainees to their sister city in order to assure that all job and housing arrangements were satisfactorily in place. The representative in each city was responsible for identifying 12 companies willing to employ the interns as well as soliciting and screening all applicants.

The interns chosen represented a wide variety of backgrounds and had a variety of internship experiences; banks, city hall, gas and electric company, supermarket chain, brewery, international businesses.

As Boston moves into the third year of this exchange, the hope is to establish an "International Internship Program" much like "Junior Year Abroad" thus focusing on the increasing need for on the job training in conjunction with a college education.

FUNDRAISING STRATEGIES

Boston and Strasbourg solicit and receive donations from the corporations that employ the interns.

UNANTICIPATED RESULTS

A number of interns were offered and accepted full time positions with the companies employing them overseas on the completion of their degree programs.

BUDGET: ACTUAL: \$34,345
Ratio: 1 to 68.00

Per head cost: \$2862

AMOUNT OF SCI GRANT: \$500