



For Immediate Release

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CAPA International Education CEO Shares Advice About Getting Into International Education Field Based on His 20+ Years of Experience

John Christian reviews the dos and don'ts of getting a job in study abroad, sharing his personal experience about getting his start in the field at SUNY Oswego

London, England, and Boston, MA – November 15, 2012 – CAPA International Education's president and CEO, John Christian, shared tips for those looking to get into the study abroad field based on his over 20 years of experience. These comments were captured in an [interview](#) that Christian conducted with [Inside Study Abroad](#), a blog hosted by Brooke Roberts, dedicated to all things study abroad.

"Just because you've had a study abroad experience doesn't mean you qualify or should even work in study abroad, we've moved beyond that," shares Christian. "There are so many other things that are required of those that are considering going into this field."

According to Christian, he offers the following advice to those looking to get into Study Abroad:

- **Enthusiasm in the field is not enough:** You must show an intellectual interest as well as a skill set
- **Read about it:** Immerse yourself in all things study abroad, know how it works, what there is to offer, and trends in the industry
- **Engage at the conference level:** If you can afford it, go to conferences about study abroad to gain a wider perspective
- **Go online:** If you can't afford to attend conferences, go online and investigate the sites of conferences, read presentations, blogs etc.
- **Understand The Standards of Good Practice in Study Abroad:** The [Forum of Education Abroad](#), the only organization whose exclusive purpose is to serve the field of education abroad, has a section entitled "[The Standards of Good Practice in Study Abroad](#)" that anyone going into the field should familiarize themselves with.
- **Blog or write an article about it:** If you've got something to say about Study Abroad, share it on your blog or write an article that can be shared on another blog or by a study abroad media outlet. Potential employers like people in this field who are constantly thinking and challenging ideas.
- **Networking:** Good old fashioned networking still works. Good things can happen when you make networking a priority.

John Christian's Start in Study Abroad Comes Full Circle

Christian's own start in Study Abroad began while he was an undergraduate at SUNY Oswego. As one of seven sons growing up in Troy, NY, Christian was intrigued by the opportunity to study abroad, and before he knew it, he was the first in his family to possess a passport and was on his first ever flight to

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London to study abroad there. After that experience, he wanted to continue in that realm and after Dr. José Ramon Pérez accepted his request to be an intern in SUNY Oswego's study abroad office, he became a foreign student advisor. That experience led to a 2-year study abroad experience in Beijing, which ultimately launched his career in study abroad.

Fast-forward 20 years, and Christian was able to "pay it forward" to his alma mater and honor Dr. José Ramon Pérez, his mentor. On October 1, 2012, Christian, on behalf of CAPA International Education, [pledged \\$200,000](#) over three years to foster international education on the SUNY-Oswego campus. \$100,000 will support SUNY-Oswego President Deborah F. Stanley's President's International Initiatives, which will create opportunities for global learning to be incorporated into campus life for students, faculty, and staff.

The remaining monies will fund the *José Ramon Pérez International Scholarship* in honor of the faculty member who led Christian to enroll in his first study abroad experience. The scholarship will provide two full need-based scholarships for Oswego students. One scholarship will be used for students to attend the [CAPA London Semester Program](#) and one for students to attend the [Beijing semester program](#). Each scholarship will be available to students for three years, giving six students the opportunity to study abroad during the grant period.

To view Christian's full [interview](#) at *Inside Study Abroad* where he details his personal experience and the opportunity to give back to SUNY Oswego, please visit <http://www.insidestudyabroad.com/2012/11/JohnChristianCAPA.html>; or to read more about CAPA International Education's gift to SUNY Oswego by visiting this [link](#); or to obtain more detail or schedule an interview with Mr. Christian, please contact thartman@aloftgroup.com.

About CAPA International Education

CAPA International Education has been a global leader for innovative academic learning abroad since 1972. By providing a self-driven, self-selecting and self-identifying experience, CAPA International Education enables the student to be in charge of defining their international learning experience and what it will incorporate. With both individual and group based study abroad programs, CAPA delivers quality experiential education across the globe. With programs located on four continents in seven countries, students are taught using a tested and proven educational program called *MyEducation* which blends theme based classroom learning and experiential learning to give students the context they need to expand their understanding of the world in which they live. For more information, please visit <http://www.capa.org/>.