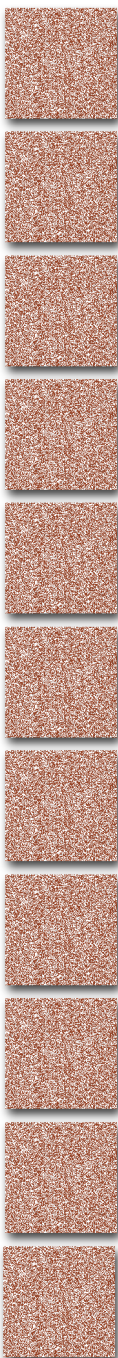


MISSOURI SOUTHERN FOUNDATION



THE GOAL: To create life-enriching opportunities for our students through international programs

Since 1996, Missouri Southern has sent over 1,500 students and 400 faculty abroad. “When these students return (from studying abroad), they are transformed in the way they see themselves. Their horizons are expanded.” Julio S. León, President

DESIRED OUTCOMES & COSTS:

- Demonstrate an understanding of cultures other than their own, focusing on the different values, traditions, and institutions in those cultures \$800,000
 - A. Increase participation in foreign language programs
 - B. Further Internationalization of the Curriculum
- Appreciate the need for an awareness of different cultural behaviors and customs \$1,000,000
 - A. Increase study abroad opportunities for “our” students by providing grants and scholarships
 - B. Increase cultural and artistic programs on campus
- Know how to successfully compete in an international political, social, and economic arena \$200,000
 - A. Increase international internships for students
 - B. Increase international student support on campus

THE SOLUTION: A \$2 million endowment to support International aspects of education.

THE IMPACT: An economic survey conducted in the mid-1990s indicated that no fewer than 70 companies in the region had direct or indirect business relationships with international firms. The Joplin Chamber of Commerce Vision 20/20: An Action Plan for the Community recognized a need to “address issues in educating a culturally diverse population.” A well-educated and internationally aware workforce will benefit Joplin and Southwest Missouri and play a key role in keeping and attracting quality employment opportunities. Citizens of the region also will enjoy a greater variety of cultural enrichment.