

# **Institute for Latin American Concern: A Study of the Impact of an International Service Immersion Experience**

## **Abstract:**

“Tomorrow’s whole person cannot be whole without an educated awareness of [the] society and culture with which to contribute socially, generously, in the real world. Tomorrow’s whole person must have, in brief, a well-educated solidarity”

Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach S.J.

The Institute for Latin American Concern emphasizes the importance of global vision and understanding in the process of educating well-rounded individuals. Service, rooted in Catholic/Jesuit tradition, is one vital component to forming the whole person. Like many service opportunities offered at Creighton, ILAC receives ample feedback about how its programs have transformed students’ and professionals’ lives, but how can ILAC better measure Creighton’s student and professional short-term service immersion experience? This project proposes to use a survey, based upon a four-point Likert scale, to measure the impact that ILAC’s service immersion experience has on its Creighton participants. The survey questions will pertain to seven different categories, and participants will be expected to complete it pre-immersion and post-immersion. ILAC hopes that the results affirm not only the department’s mission, but the larger university’s mission to form “tomorrow’s whole person ... [with] an educated awareness of [the] society and culture with which to contribute socially, generously, in the real world.”

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