

# Ramona R. Kirsch, EdD

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## EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

### Educational Leadership / Internationalization / Program Development

Dynamic and accomplished higher education administrator with more than 15 years of leadership in developing international education programs and initiatives to expand course offerings, engage students, and promote education on a global scale. Significant achievements in enrollment growth, student participation, and partnership development have earned national recognition, including three Fulbright awards. Passion for promoting global awareness by focusing on student success, community engagement, international partnerships, and internationalizing campuses and classrooms. Skilled strategic planner with ability to effectively implement goals and accurately assess student outcomes and program success. Cultural literacy and appreciation of diversity acquired from international experiences that includes living and working abroad and travel to over 35 countries.

#### ***Core competencies include:***

- Leading Strategic Internationalization
- Design & Implementation of New Programs
- Staff Supervision & Training
- Multisite Management
- Fostering collaboration and consensus
- Performance Management
- Overseeing Budgets
- Policy & Program Assessment

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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St. Petersburg College (SPC), St. Petersburg, FL

**Director, Center for International Programs** (2012 – Present)

Experience has included serving as Senior International Officer (SIO), Principal Designated School Official, Fulbright Liaison, supervision of staff, and direct administrative and fiscal operations for internationalization across 11 campuses/learning centers serving more than 30,000 students. Responsibilities have included international student services, study abroad, curricular, and extra-curricular development, experiential learning, and international partnerships. Involved in continuous process improvement in collaboration with business services, academic affairs and student affairs leadership.

#### ***Selected accomplishments:***

- Awarded Innovation Grant to measure impact of international engagement on student global perspective
- Expanded international and local partnerships by 42.5%
- Gained 118% increase in student participation in study abroad program due to new program development and expanded portfolio of partnerships
- Developed Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) group to provide virtual learning with students and institutions abroad
- Initiated Global Citizen Program to showcase student readiness for living and working in a global society

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College of Central Florida (SPC), Ocala, FL (2007 – 2012)

**Director, English as a Second Language (ESL) and International Education** (2009 – 2012)

**Program Manager, ESL and International Education** (2007 – 2009)

Managed day-to-day operations and strategic direction of English as Second Language program, International Student Services and Recruitment, and Internationalization of the institution. Fostered relationships with key partners both at home and abroad. Oversaw grant, enterprise, and operating budgets. Supervised staff and faculty; engaged in performance management. Monitored and analyzed enrollment. Planned and executed marketing and course offerings. Served as officer for international student recruitment college consortium.

***Selected accomplishments:***

- Awarded endowed grant to enhance the educational environment assessing and setting goals for Internationalization at the college
- Established International Conversation Partners program linking ESL and College of Education students
- Increased international student enrollments by over 100%
- Project Director for first Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at the institution – visiting Scholar from India for semester of teach courses

Additional Experience includes:

Alliance Abroad Group, Austin, Texas, Field Department

**Outreach Coordinator Specialist, J-1 Program, Florida & Gulf Coast Regions**

Fulbright Commission/Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Austria

**Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship, Vienna**

Jacksonville University, Jacksonville, Florida

**Study Abroad Advisor, Office of International Education**

University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri

**Administrative Graduate Intern, International Student Affairs Office**

**Director, Family Studies Program, College of Arts & Sciences**

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**EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS**

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Capella University, Minneapolis, MN

**Doctorate of Education, Educational Leadership and Management**

University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

**Master of Arts, History**

University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

**Bachelor of Arts, Letters: History, Philosophy, Literature, Languages**

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**Professional Development**

- Institute for Leading Internationalization, American Council on Education, Center for Internationalization and Global Engagement, Washington, DC
- Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI), Human Research, University of Miami
- Facilitative Leadership Series and Developing the Capacity to Think Strategically, St. Petersburg College
- 7 Habits of Highly Effective People training, St. Petersburg College
- German Language Training, University of Vienna and Alpen-Adria University, Austria
- Spanish for Faculty & Staff, International Language Institute, St. Petersburg College

**Affiliations include**

Member, Fulbright Alumni Association, 2005 – Present

Board Member and past Chair, Study Florida, 2012 – Present

Executive Committee, Florida Consortium for International Education, 2012 – Present

Peer Review Panel, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, Fulbright International Education Administrators award programs, 2011 – 2013

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**HONORS & AWARDS**

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Fulbright International Education Administrators Seminar to India, IIE Council for International Exchange of Scholars

Fulbright English Language Teaching Assistant, Fulbright Commission/Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, *Theodor Krammer Bundesrealgymnasium*, Vienna

Fulbright Research Fellowship, Fulbright Commission/Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Vienna & Klagenfurt

Project Director, Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (from India) hosted by College of Central Florida, IIE Council for International Exchange of Scholars

SPC Faculty/Staff Endowed Grant for developing the International Conversation Partner Program, a joint project between ESL and School of Education programs at College of Central Florida, 2009

Edna Sims Green Memorial and CF Faculty/Staff Endowed Grant to Enhance the Educational Environment, project title, "Assessing Internationalization at College of Central Florida," 2008

Innovation Grant recipient, SPC Foundation, "Measuring Impact of International Engagement on Students' Global Perspectives," includes joint research with faculty, St. Petersburg College, Florida

Administrative Assistant to Principle Investigator, "The International Scholars Program: The Making of Global Thinkers." A DuPont funded project for the Office of International Education, Jacksonville University.

*Full list of honors and awards will be provided upon request.*

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**PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

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Session Chair and Presenter, *Academic Pathways to Global Citizenship*, Association of International Education Administrators annual conference, Montreal, Canada

Co-Presenter, *Developing Joint Institutional Programs*, Education First: Faculty-Led Study Abroad Trips Workshop, Dublin, Ireland

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Co-Presenter, *Fostering Collaboration Between India and U.S. Higher Education Institutions*, NAFA 2012 Annual Conference: Comprehensive Internationalization: Vision and Practice, Houston, Texas

Presenter, *Community Colleges: Best value for the money route to education at top schools in US*, a spotlight session, and *Admissions and study abroad*, a conversation with Jacques Steinberg (Editor, *The Choice*, *New York Times*), One Globe 2012: Uniting Knowledge Communities international conference, New Delhi, India

Panel moderator and presenter, *Global Perspectives on Vocational Training Collaborative Opportunities in India*, Indo-Global Education Summit, New Delhi, India

Panel Moderator, *Financial Aid and Scholarships for Study Abroad*, and presenter, *Linkage Institute Program Roundtable: What it is and how it can assist International Students*, Florida Consortium for International Education conference, Orlando, Florida

Conference host and presenter of the following sessions: *Consolidating Our Assets: Exploring Study Abroad Collaborations*, and *STUDY FLORIDA! How to Bring Diverse and Talented International Students to Your Institution*, Florida Consortium for International Education conference, St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, Florida

*A full list of professional presentations will be provided upon request.*

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## LANGUAGES

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English (native speaker)  
German (advanced)  
Spanish (beginner level)

*References available upon request*