

Episode #2 - On-Campus & Virtual Involvement

[Opening Music, plays continually through the introduction]

Introduction

Hello and welcome to the second episode of Global, Here and Now - a podcast where the Poole College of Management Global Programs team showcases a variety of unique ways to engage globally. I'm your host, Ellen Frost and today, we're going to explore ways to get involved globally through virtual and on-campus opportunities. Now, let's go global.

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Lead-In to Topic

On this episode of Global, Here and Now, we are going to talk about both virtual and on-campus involvement as it relates to international experiences by specifically highlighting opportunities that may be of interest to Poole students. Through NC State, there are a ton of different student organizations, events and opportunities that you can join to gain a global perspective right here in Raleigh or even from the comfort of your own couch. Examples include the Global Film Series, International Education Month in November, and the Think and Do in 2: Global Storytelling Competition. Not to mention the 100+ student organizations that represent different cultures and international focuses. Simply put, there are so many ways to globally engage beyond just studying abroad. If you're curious and want to learn more about these opportunities, I'd encourage you to visit the NC State Office of Global Engagement's website. For today, we are going to dive deeper into three opportunities for Poole students - virtual internships, Global Corps, and Thandav, the nationally recognized and competitive Indian dance team. We will start with virtual internships...

[Transition Music]

Content

One of the newest initiatives in Poole is the virtual global internship opportunities that are available this Fall semester. Virtual global internships are internships done remotely where students are placed with an international company. Through the internship, students work on projects and gain hands-on work experience in a global setting. These internships range from 4 - 14 week experience and take place with companies located throughout the world. For this semester, our office, Poole Global, has specifically partnered with three providers who offer virtual global internships that are great fits for students studying business administration, accounting or economics. In addition, these providers offer both opportunities for students to earn academic credit if students need elective credit for their degree.

One of those partners is Intern Colombia, a provider based in Colombia that connects graduates, students and young professionals from around the world with internships in Colombia

in 24 different academic areas of interest. Today, we are going to hear from Matthew Barfield, the Program Director of Intern Columbia.

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Ellen Frost: So thank you, Matthew, for joining us today to share more about yourself and InternColumbia. So to get started, can you tell us about yourself and how you came to this position and in turn, Columbia.

Matthew: So the first time that I came to Columbia was back in 2009 and I came out as a backpacker. And so I went to Bogota and immediately fell in love with the countries like the culture, the people, the food, the music. And when I went back to the UK. I just felt a bit down. I miss the Latin by that was here. And so after I completed my studies I came back and actually taught English for a year With the intention of finding a job related to my degree in international relations And but I found it almost impossible. And so I was kind of annoyed about that and returned to London. So I went there for two years. And I just thought Well, Columbia, it's probably not going to happen for me so I better Think about that how my life in London, but I just realized I had to come back and do something and I didn't want to teach English and I realized this was an opportunity to kind of offer Something to other people as well as they can live the Colombian experience, but actually do something useful that can help them in their future careers. So Back in 2016 I decided to actually set up and found in InternColumbia everybody back home. So I was a bit crazy for leaving London. And coming to Columbia, but I knew or something I wanted to do and if I didn't do you know in a couple years, I would have a lot of regrets.

Ellen: Traditionally, in turn, Columbia offers those in country internships and now has shifted to the virtual internships. Can you share what this new opportunity looks like for students.

Matthew: We realized, you know, with everyone in and drop down and not much to do. People were still very much interested in even doing the intentions virtually so he decides to come up with a program where they could do that and Basically gain work experience in their career fields, even though it's not technically in Colombia still with organizations and companies here and basically one of the good things that we've realized from the feedback that we've got from the intern so far Is they really enjoyed the flexibility about the online programs so they can actually, you know, there might be working part time job and then do the intention or, you know, studying and do the attention, but the same time so it's quite flexible. And also, you still get the international experience. So you're going to be having virtual meetings with People in Colombia, they could be in Spanish and you're gonna have team meetings as well. You need to understand like the Colombian context. And so you'll get a lot of the benefits We obviously understand so to the intense. It's not the same as being in the country, but it's the best that we can offer at this time. And we've tried to retrace to basically adapt the programs as much as possible to online and Of course, according to like this, the services that we would offer if they weren't in country so they can do virtual salsa classes they want. You don't have to have your

camera on for that if you're not that good at dancing and there's also Spanish classes as well. And we have some online virtual tours of different places in Colombia. Our goal is to identify an internship placement for you according to your studies, your preferences. And at the moment we're offering internships related to 24 different academic disciplines. So you could do something you know, related to architecture or marketing or politics. So it's really open in that sense and during the program, like I mentioned, you will get virtual Spanish classes or salsa classes. And we also provide 24 seven support and advice. Any doubts questions along the way we're there to support you and you'll also be well the students will also be designated a program supervisor. and also towards the end of program and they can participate in a CV workshop and LinkedIn optimization. And that's more oriented towards how to add this experience to your CV and make it stand out.

Ellen: Why would a student want to do this type of experience

Matthew: Yeah, I mean I think in the coming years. One of the questions that's going to come up in job interviews will be, what did you do during the pandemic. And if you say Well, I just stayed at home and watch Netflix or or did some zoom parties with my friends and it's not going to impress like a prospective employee. So I think these programs still give you the chance to stand out. And so, not many people will have the opportunity or decide to do an international internship remotely. And so it's a really good talking point for future job interviews, as well as networking and in the future. And also you're going to not physically be on your conference, but you will set up your conference sense because you're dealing with people from different countries, different cultures. Well, so I think that shows adaptability and also certain degree of bravery and self confidence. And but not only that you will get to do an internship related to your interesting career field so you can get experience in that. And one of the great things about internships, is that you can sort of see what you like and dislike along the way, without having to commit to becoming an employer or, you know, taking a job, so you can see what you like and dislike and just learn a bit more about yourself.

Ellen Frost: Absolutely. So switching gears slightly, um, how would you describe the work culture in Colombia, or what maybe can students expect as some of the differences or similarities, even in this virtual experience for them.

Matthew: Yeah, I think one of the key differences like I'm from the UK. You know, we have a reputation of being I guess reserved and a bit caught up first Colombians of the complete opposite of British people. So if you know any British people And you can make that comparison but basically they're probably the warmest apprentice people you'll ever meet. And you might find there might be some blurred lines between a professional and personal relationship and but that's completely normal Columbia, so they want to get to know you as a person, not just as the intense so though they'll ask you some questions which might make the person feel a bit uncomfortable, but it's completely normal here. They're just really outgoing very direct. But I think that that's like a big difference. And, but it's always orientated towards they producing and working and creating so That there's no difference there.

Ellen Frost: Awesome. Well, thank you so much for joining us today. Matthew is great to hear about your own story, but also the the services and experiences, in turn, Columbia is offering. Appreciate it.

[Transition Music]

As you heard, virtual global internships are a great opportunity for students to gain both work experience and international exposure. Next up on our list of opportunities is the student organization, Global Corps. Global Corps is a student organization that serves as an extension of the Global Programs team in Poole. Members provide advising support and take part in events to educate other Poole students on the value of studying abroad and engaging globally.

Joining us today we have two Global Corps members, Tom and Mrinalini, here to tell us about themselves and their involvement with Global Corps. X and Y, why don't you go ahead and introduce yourselves - name, year, major

Tom Driscoll: Absolutely. My name is Tom Driscoll currently a senior within the pool college management studying finance. I'm originally from Winston Salem, North Carolina.

Mrini: Hi, my name is Fernando me. I'm an accounting major I'm in my junior year and I'm from Charlotte, North Carolina.

Ellen Frost: So to start, what made you want to join global core as an organization.

Mrini: Probably and learning about other cultures has always been something that I've been interested in and it's one of the reasons I jumped on the opportunity to study abroad. So when I came back on campus. I was looking for a way to get involved in school as well as a way to continue my international experience and global core was kind of the perfect way to meet both of those criteria. As a member were leaders within the pool College of management and seek to educate students about the value of international experiences. And one thing I really liked about global core was that it didn't just emphasize going abroad as a means of getting a global experience. The organization also places emphasis on things that students can do locally or on campus to get a similar experience. So that's one of the major reasons why I wanted to participate.

Tom Driscoll: somewhere that I also wanted to join global core as a means to become more involved within the pool college management as a freshman, I was kind of struggling to Find a group or an organization where I really felt that I fit in and going through that kind of recruitment process. I knew I was going to study abroad. This summer after my freshman year. I thought by joining global core that would be a great way for me to kind of give back after hopefully a rewarding. study abroad experience that summer. And as always, so we're really leaders within ecology management. Helping and advising other students on study abroad process. And so it's

very rewarding for me that really makes me feel like I'm kind of giving back my time and talents to those within the pool college management.

Ellen Frost: That's great. So, Tom, you've touched on this, but can you expand a little bit about how you all support the Office of Global Programs as a global core member.

Tom Driscoll: Absolutely. So as a global core member we regularly meet with students who plan to study abroad. We really are. Kind of a support where then we help them kind of transition and kind of kind of plan out their study abroad experience, so to speak. So we really kind of help them look at their schedule. Their degree audit. See what programs might fit and then we kind of also just provide other support and answer any questions that they really have. So we really place an emphasis on listening to students, listening to their Problems or Barriers to study abroad and then kind of advise them and provide them with solutions that we think would make it in their best interest to go abroad.

Mrini: We serve as an extension of the global program office Nicole college and management. And I think one of the most prominent ways that we help students is through tabling events, which is how we get the word out about all of our programs.

Ellen Frost: Awesome. So it sounds like y'all are doing a lot of different types of things Manali. Can you share what is your favorite part about helping students in cool

Mrini: I like that it's students helping students the pool College of management has a lot of amazing staff members that provide a great deal supports to students, but it's nice that it's not just limited to that. Sometimes students might find it easier to connect with peers, especially since they've gone through or going through Their similar experiences in the moment. And so if they're experiencing an issue with setting abroad. A specific barrier maybe their student leader experienced that same one. So seeing that they were able to overcome it might encourage them to keep trying to find a way to make it work. And I think Tom mentioned this earlier, but it's kind of nice to be able to give back to school and our peers, especially if it's something that we've done in encouraging other students to pursue something somewhere.

Ellen Frost: Can you share what type of skills global core has helped you develop.

Tom Driscoll: The core is really kind of allowed me to build some more is personal development skills and kind of really fully developed those. So I think Couple. The main skills article because really helped me with the interpersonal communication. App, like I mentioned previously, we are responsible for kind of sitting down with students in a one on one setting. And kind of help them address the problems that they might be facing when it comes to study abroad. So it's really important that we obviously build rapport and understand their needs before we kind of tailor solutions offer resources to them. That we think might be beneficial to kind of mitigate some of those rescue some of those obstacles, they're facing. And as president. This year, Google where I think one skill that I'm really kind of coming to appreciate more as effective communication. It's really important that everybody communicates effectively and knows exactly

what they're supposed to be doing. And when they're supposed to be doing it. And I think as a leader. I think effective Communication is really key. And I know we put a big focus on that little boy. And I think we're seeing the results currently

Mrini: Yeah, I think one of the major skills global choir has helped me developed is my public speaking skills. For example, when I first started tabling events, I would often wait for students to come approach our table and ask questions, but that didn't really dry in that many people most kids would just walk right by So try and start a conversation with more students. I started to talk to them, which was really intimidating at first, trying to talk to someone walking by, oftentimes they're not interested in trying to get to class. So it was intimidating, but I got over it and it helped drawing students who actually didn't know about our programs or resources that they could use to kind of make setting abroad fit in their schedule or financially. Instead of students that were already in the middle of an application process and just had a quick question. So I think it really opened up our scope of the type of students approaching us

Ellen Frost: Great. And I love to hear kind of the skills that you all have gained through global core that it's not only an organization that benefits the other students in school, but also the members are are gaining skills as well. So switching gears a little bit From global core, can you both share a little bit about your own study abroad experience.

Tom Driscoll: Absolutely. So I chose to study abroad after my freshman year elected a six week summer program to Seville Spain, which isn't southern part of Spain. A city isn't quite as large as Madrid or Barcelona, but it there still are good amount of people within the town. One thing I really liked about the view was others always kind of a constant energy in the air. It's really bustling Will go and everywhere every which way. And that's something that that I really enjoyed a couple of the unique things about my study abroad experience. I was fortunate enough to live with a host family. So that really helped me kind of practice my Spanish skills which I WANT TO DEVELOP AS I WAS KIND OF PURSUING A minor here at NC State of those great to Share meals with my host family kind of sit around the dinner table and practice our Spanish speaking skills and whatnot. And another thing I really came to appreciate about that experience was how close I became with some of my fellow peers on the trip by Professor in particular. Even coming back. Now after the program and having been a couple years now, we still keep in contact almost monthly we try to get together, whenever possible, and just kind of reminiscent some of those great Memories and experiences that we share together in Spain. So all in all it's a really great experience and something that I glad I definitely kind of took that leap of faith and went on that program. And I've definitely seen the benefits

Mrini: I studied abroad in Prague, Czech Republic and I love my time there. One of my favorite things to do was to get on track with some of my friends and ride it until we saw something that piqued our interest like old architecture parks pop up markets. The public transportation system. There was structured very well. So it was easy to navigate and no one was really worried about getting lost. And there's also a check cooking classes offered for students to take, which was really fun for my friends and I to participate in The stuff we made wasn't always what the teacher could like didn't turn out the way that it was presented when she made it, but it was still really

fun to attend a traditional dish that they eat commonly in Prague. So as a learning experience. And it was fun to try something new.

Ellen Frost: So why do you both think that Other pool, students should study Abroad.

Mrini: I think students should study abroad for both personal and professional growth in terms of personal growth when you study abroad, you learn to be more flexible, adaptable and independent Along with so much more when it comes to professional growth, chances are, when you start working, you will have co workers from a different culture than yours. And studying abroad helps you understand how to learn about other cultures and respect their practices and traditions and I studying abroad helps you develop in both aspects of your life. I would really encourage students if they had the opportunity to go abroad to take it.

Tom Driscoll: Absolutely. I completely agree with that response. And I really think I'm kind of piggybacking off of someone run on his responses I think flexibility and adaptability are huge when it comes to study abroad. There are a lot of free weekends within the programs we can explore and visit different cities within the country or even travel around to other nearby countries and so inevitably Something that always kind of falls through or comes up and gets delayed or cancelled or it always just seems to happen that way. And so I think Study Abroad really forces you to become adaptable and flexible and just kind of roll with the flow and as someone who's very regimented in as much stricter teens. I think that was very good for me it's just become a little bit more flexible and adaptable and then also In a different country speaking a different language. I think it's very important and study abroad really kind of forces you to become more independent and rely on those skills that you do have and it's just Kind of a really great time for personal development, as well as some of the professional development that it was touching on

Ellen Frost: Yeah, absolutely. It's good to hear from you all the experiences that that is what happened. I think as a staff member I often say it and market it that way but I love to hear when students do return and they kind of talk about all the reasons you all just did, in terms of the growth that they've experienced both. Personally, professionally, academically. It's pretty great. So kind of last question to wrap up. What advice do you have for pool students who are looking to be globally engage or to grow their, their international mindset.

Tom Driscoll: I think for one I think everybody should try to study abroad, if at all possible. You know, there are a lot of obstacles to studying abroad and a lot of barriers, but I think All in particularly NC State does a great job of kind of offering resources, whether it be financially to kind of mitigate some of those barriers and kind of help students to Go through that study abroad process. Other than that, for students who are studying abroad and pool. I would definitely encourage checking out global core And becoming more involved within the College of management and helping those students who are looking to study abroad and become globally engaged. Think that's very beneficial to kind of give back some your time and talents another couple things that offers are some of those international Courses within the College management, whether it be international finance or international marketing. I think those are

great ways to kind of expand your horizon. You will get fully immersed in the culture like you would studying abroad, but you do learn some of those important skills that will be beneficial. Down the road in the professional world. And then also within pool. I know in normal times pre-coated there would be festivals within the College of management and a diversity inclusion does a great job of really trying to showcase a lot of different cultures within Nelson and that's one thing that I really appreciate, so I think my main advice would be, just take a step of action and become uncomfortable and kind of check out something new that may be a little bit foreign to you. I think that's really rewarding personally and I think you will come to you find enjoyment by becoming globally engaged within Nelson within the College of management as a whole.

Ellen Frost: Awesome. Well, thank you all for giving up some of your time to be with us today. It was great to hear the student perspective, both from your own study abroad experience but also how you've used that to help you. Grow On campus through global core and really looking to help other students have the same experience. So thank you all.

[Transition Music]

Global Corps is an essential part of our office and the members are a great resource for other Poole students to get peer-to-peer support. Check out our website to learn more about how you can connect with Global Corps today. The last group we are going to highlight is Thandav, the nationally recognized and competitive Indian dance team at NC State. We have Sayee Shruthi Manickam, one of the Co-Presidents of the organization. Welcome, Sayee!

Ellen Frost: The last group, we're going to highlight is Thandav the nationally recognized and competitive Indian dance team at NC State. Today we have one of the co-presidents with the organization here to tell us more about herself as well as the group. Welcome Sayee.

Sayee Shruthi Manickam: Thank you. Thanks for having me.

Ellen Frost: Absolutely. So tell us a little bit about yourself and then how you became involved in this organization.

Sayee Shruthi Manickam: Yeah, of course. So I'm, I'm actually originally from Cleveland, Ohio, and there I learned I was trained in classical dance from a teacher. And then about when I was maybe like seven or eight. My parents saw how passionate I was with this ancient art form. And so they thought maybe moving to India would be a great opportunity for me to kind of get more exposure. Because that is the country. Right. And so, so I moved to India and I lived there for about 10 years. And it was definitely a great opportunity for me. I learned so much because sometimes this is an ancient art form. Right. And it's been passed off for thousands of years. And there's so many my new details. So we kind of miss. And so for me to get that exposure and to learn all the small, small things was amazing. And then I moved back for college. I want to

receive any medicine. I'm a senior in some kind of them. I'm in the middle of applications. Absolutely. So, um, but that I moved back here and I really wanted to see if there was an avenue for me to continue My dance. Right. And through mutual fund. I got to know about thunder, which was amazing and I auditioned and I ended up, you know, joining my freshman year. And I became a President last year and I can continue to be president. This year, and so I'm really, really grateful for finding thunder and for being able to continue my passion of dance.

Ellen Frost: Awesome, thanks for sharing and interesting how you you know both had the exposure and the training in the United States, as well as India that must have been cool comparison and experience for you. So in a typical semester, what type of activities or events, does your organization participate in

Sayee Shruthi Manickam: Our competition season is basically during the spring semester when we go and compete at different competitions and our fall semester is when we kind of prepare it towards that. We use that time to prepare to apply to you know submitter auditions and obviously we audition people to join the team as well.

Ellen Frost: How many hours a week or a day are you all getting together to practice for those competitions.

Sayee Shruthi Manickam: Yeah, so we actually practice three times a week for two hours. So again, the days would depend on the political space and you know our team members when they're available. Um, but ideally we would practice three times a week for two hours each. So basically, we would do it. So in a typical practice session, we would, you know, work on our footwork are like the basics kind of drill those basics. And then move on to the competition piece you know we teach it. We learn it and then obviously we kind of give each other feedback and opinions on how to better The dance so well.

Ellen Frost: Awesome. So why do you think love is an important part of NC state's campus.

Sayee Shruthi Manickam: Um, I think it's very important because like I said before, the Indian classical dance form. So we have a lot of Indian classical dance forms itself. And almost every state has a classical dance form and so It's been there for thousands of years. Right. And we really want to make sure that we keep that intact and preserve it and because that is our identity that is our culture, and we want to share it with the community. As well. Right. And I'm sure everybody wants to know, especially the NCC community. It is very, very diverse and I was very grateful to be part of this community and kind of share what we have what our culture is what we stand for. To the community and see how they react to it. And it's interesting because especially this past year. At least from 2019 to 2020. We did a lot of outreach events. So we performed at, you know, the Krispy Kreme Challenge that we had performed at Dance Marathon we lift up we performed for Caldwell fellow. So, you know, we have the code or fails at NC State. That was two years ago, but we do a lot of these events for people who may not know what we are And what we stand for. And it's really, really amazing to see how they receive it, the kind of

respect they show it just made us feel that, you know, it is important to continue reaching out to the community and showing what we stand for.

Ellen Frost: Yeah, absolutely. So you've touched on this a little bit. So for students who are listening to this podcast and, you know, looking to engage with them that and learn more about your organization and the the heritage of this dance form. What advice do you have or what ways could they do that.

Sayee Shruthi Manickam: to get updates. Of course, we are on Instagram and Facebook and CFC fond of And because especially this year we're kind of in this virtual platform we're thinking of using this time and this platform to talk more about the heritage. Till now, because everything was in person. We kind of would show them through a dance. Right. But now we got an opportunity to actually talk about it. Indian classical dance form. And traditionally, it kind of started off by European respect to the gods and goddesses that we have, you know, our religions and of course spirituality. So we would present Mother Nature through our dance pieces. So it's more spiritual and religious and but obviously now the society that we live in. It's also important to talk about social principles and causes And kind of at least we aim at kind of bridging that gap between the ancient art forms and also talking about the social principles. At least some of the performance that we've done previously. We did one on the importance of friendship. We did one on the importance of a teacher, student relationship right those are things that we see. In our society, but we don't recognize it as important, right, and at least in the Indian culture, the teacher, student relationship is always been very important so We kind of depicted that and then some of our social principles that we showed were child marriage, which is actually still present in a lot of cultures and honor killing, which is also present in many cultures. Even today, unfortunately. And so those are some of the social principles that we've depicted through our dance pieces. So I guess our workshop would be showing

Ellen Frost: And I love how and this dance form serves a bridge to do that. That seems like a really interesting way. You know, we People will write about these issues or talk about these issues or maybe even make like videos or something. But, you know, to bring that element of dance into that. And seems to be a really cool and interesting way to to address those values and those issues that you just you just talked about. Very good. Well, thank you for joining us today and to share a little bit about tandem and the organization and we encourage the students listening to the podcast to check out their social media as well as links that will post along with the podcast as well. Thank you.

Sayee Shruthi Manickam: Thank you so much. Awesome. Cool.

[Transition music]

Outro

We've highlighted just a few of the many ways to get globally involved both locally and virtually and I hope you've seen that global learning can happen anywhere! You just need to look for it

and go do it. Thanks for listening to this episode of Global, Here and Now presented by the Poole College of Management at NC State. For more information and to listen to other episodes, please visit our website at go.ncsu.edu/pooleglobal. Stay safe, stay well and stay globally engaged.

[Closing Music]