

COLLEGES IN WEST EXPAND OVERSEAS

Campuses Set Up Abroad for Cultural Studies

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— The overseas campus has become a part of higher education in the Far West.

One-third of Stanford University's undergraduate body of 5,700 will have spent six months abroad by Commencement Day. The percentage will rise to 55 in a couple of years and the university's goal is to have 70 to 80 per cent of the student body get two academic quarters of its education in a foreign country.

Stanford, with operating campuses in Germany, France and Italy, and with others opening during the next academic year in Austria and Britain, leads the parade in number of campuses and students abroad among West Coast universities and colleges.

But the institutions that fail to list among their administrators a director of international study or an overseas program director are becoming increasingly rare.

Gonzaga University, a Jesuit institution in Spokane with 2,100 students, has 80 studying in a year-around program in Florence, where it has erected its own eight-story building in collaboration with the Jesuits in the Italian city.

And even the 1,400-student University of Redlands in Southern California has for several years been leasing a building in Salzburg, Austria, to provide housing and classrooms for two groups of 40 students each. One group goes abroad in September, the other in January.

Variations of these programs, problems encountered and successes registered, were discussed this weekend at San Francisco State College by many of the administrators involved.

Consortium Is Formed

Not only have the University of California, with nearly 70,000 students on its seven operating campuses, and the California State College System, with 16 active affiliates, taken the plunge into overseas study programs but a Pacific Northwest consortium in which colleges and universities, large and small, would share faculty costs and otherwise cooperate in a foreign study program is also in the planning stage.

Meanwhile, individual institutions and groups of colleges are sending delegations abroad every year. Some live with families in host countries while studying in rented classrooms, others share dormitories with foreign students and attend classes in foreign universities.

Stanford is now dispatching 466 students abroad for six months of study every year. It began the program in June, 1958, on its campus near Stuttgart, where it has 68 students. Since then it has established a French campus, with a building leased from the Ministry of Education in Tours, and it quarters 80 students at a time in a villa in the hills of Italy.

Eighty will go in September to a new campus at Semmering, Austria. The English campus will be at Harlaxton Manor, in Lincolnshire near Sherwood Forest. It also has study centers in Tokyo and Taipei.

Dr. Robert A. Walker, who had directed the Stanford program from the start, said it was set up "to add strength and new dimension to liberal education at Stanford."

"We have taken great pains to make it available to all students," he asserted. "There is no preference given those in languages, politics and so on. We are particularly anxious to see future scientists and engineers too go into the program."

Some critics in higher education have raised eyebrows over the Stanford plan on the ground that it develops "little American ghettos" abroad with knots of students speaking only English living to themselves.

Languages Also Taught

"We are sometimes asked why our students aren't working in universities overseas instead of on our own foreign campuses," Dr. Walker remarked. "But if we required enough language to enable them to study in foreign universities we would cut out a large per cent of our undergraduates. They don't have time to work language proficiency into their program."

About half of the instruction now is given by Stanford faculty members, the rest, usually including language teaching, by foreign professors.

Dr. Walker put the average cost of six months of study abroad at about \$1,700 plus return fare and incidental travel in Europe beyond specified field trips. Room and board is the same as is charged on the Stanford campus at Palo Alto—\$340 a quarter, he said. So is tuition—\$475 a quarter—and Stanford flies the students to Europe.

The same university also has separate cooperative programs for language majors with the universities of Hamburg and Nantes.

Faculty Sent Abroad

In numbers of students abroad the University of California, with about 250 this year, and the California State College System, with 212, rank second and third after Stanford.

Prof. Thomas Lantos, who directs the state college program from San Francisco State, defended the Stanford overseas program as serving "a very useful purpose."

"Our students," he said, "go abroad for a full academic year and are fully integrated into the whole academic and social life of foreign universities with which we have institutional arrangements. Except for a few who live with families, they reside in dormitories with students in the host country. We require language proficiency."

The state college students attend the universities of Madrid and Granada in Spain, Aix-Marseille in France, the Free University of Berlin and the University of Heidelberg in Germany, and the universities of Uppsala and Stockholm in Sweden, Waseda in Tokyo and the National University in Taiwan.

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