

Hello Elanor!

I hope you have had a restful summer. I am looking forward to working together with you and with SUNSCAD in the coming academic year.

Please allow me to share this timeline and accounting of how the Greece Summer Abroad Program was publicized, awarded, and funded. Do let me know if you have any questions.

**August 4, 2022:** Met with Olivia Fay, SUNSCAD President and asked for help to communicate the Summer Abroad opportunity to students. She agreed.

**August 18, 2022:** Mentioned Summer Abroad opportunity to faculty and staff at the Fall 2022 Orientation

**September 1, 2022:** Mentioned Summer Abroad opportunity to students at the Fall 2022 Student Orientation

**September 6, 2022:** Once again mentioned Summer Abroad opportunity to students at another Fall 2022 Orientation

**September 8, 2022:** Reiterated Summer Abroad opportunity to SUNSCAD president, Olivia Fay

**October 3, 2022:** Asked faculty to suggest students who might be appropriate for and interested in Summer Abroad opportunity. Explained the program to them.

**October 7, 2022:** Attended the SUNSCAD AGM and dinner. Once again, I spoke directly to students, asking them to email me if they were interested in participating in the Summer Abroad program.

**October 19, 2022:** Town Hall for students at which I invited students to reach out directly to me if interested in the summer Abroad program. Several students from art history and fashion did reach out and I had conversations with them.

**November 15, 2022:** Town Hall for faculty and staff. Among other things, mentioned the Summer Abroad opportunity and asked that faculty/staff reach out to me with ideas for might enjoy a trip to Greece.

**November 23, 2022:** Attended a student Eat and Chill and spoke to many students, mentioning the Summer Abroad program and answering questions. I encouraged everyone interested to please email me. Several did, and I was in touch with them to answer their questions.

**November 23, 2022:** Attended a Student Scholarship luncheon and spoke directly with 25 students about many things, including the opportunity to apply for the Summer Abroad Program to Greece.

**January 21, 2023:** Faculty and Staff Town Hall. Among other things, spoke about the Summer Abroad opportunity and requested suggestions of student names.

**March 17, 2023:** Attended SUNSCAD AGM and provided updates on a number of things, including that it was not too late to contact me regarding the Summer Abroad trip.

To recap:

1. At two Senate meetings in the Fall and at least 1-2 in the Winter term, I spoke about the Summer Abroad trip and asked faculty members to communicate the opportunity to their students. I also asked for suggestions and whenever I received suggestions, I reached out and spoke directly with students.
2. At two Chairs and Directors meetings (Fall and early Winter) I asked Chairs and Directors to suggest names of students who might be interested in a Summer Abroad program.
3. At multiple Student Town Halls, Orientations, Open Houses, student events, SUNSCAD AGMs etc. - I mentioned the Summer Abroad opportunity and asked students to reach out to me directly to express their interest in the program.
4. I heard from a total of 12 students. I interviewed all 12 students from a range of disciplines including Fine Art, Fashion, Art History, Interdisciplinary Design, Jewelry, Film, Ceramics. Some dropped out because of time commitments, and we ended up with a cohort of 4 students.
5. Of the 4 students selected, I had several meetings with them and helped them line up Faculty Supervisors (three faculty members participated). Paperwork was completed.

I relied on students reaching out to me, as well as faculty recommending students to me. I interviewed all interested students. They submitted a written statement on why this program would be of value to them. I checked their GPAs and I spoke with their faculty members. As with any Summer Abroad Program, students apply and are vetted by the instructor or group leader. There is always a rigorous selection process. I have led programs to many different countries and in all instances, students applied, were interviewed, and eventually selected. That is exactly what happened with the Greece Summer Abroad Program.

In terms of student funding, the Director of Advancement and I identified a surplus of donor-provided funding that had not been used due to the pandemic. NSCAD needed to spend this money on summer for-credit international programs – one of the criteria for this funding. This money could not be used for any other purpose. It is not part of NSCAD's general operating budget. It is funding from donors for the express purpose of supporting NSCAD for-credit learning in other countries.

For the 2024 trip, we will build a webpage on nscad.ca that outlines the applications procedures, requirements, and deadlines, and once again. We will promote this to all students.

It is my hope that this is the beginning of a renewed program of international travel and study opportunities for NSCAD students. We will be pursuing funding to allow us to grow these critically important creative experiences for all students.

As president of NSCAD, I believe strongly that students benefit greatly from studying abroad, and I want to support students seeking to have such opportunities.

I hope this is helpful.

Peggy

**PEGGY SHANNON, PhD, MFA (She/Her)**  
President

