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Carrie Wojenski Joins SHU As Director of Study Abroad

Carrie Wojenski

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Carrie Wojenski has joined Sacred Heart University in the role of director of Study Abroad. She is responsible for defining, implementing and managing the University’s programs and showing the benefits that come from studying abroad. As director, she will create, direct and manage a broad set of credit-granting international educational programs; manage the selection of students and guide their applications to these programs and maintain and facilitate contacts with host institutions abroad.

Wojenski, a resident of Norwalk, comes to Sacred Heart with a wealth of experience. From 2004 to 2006, she worked as manager of Customer Service/senior customer accounts representative at Explorica, Inc. In 2008, she began her career in higher education as senior program manager for the Rutgers Study Abroad program. Her work there involved counseling and advising more than 300 students on the selection of appropriate overseas programs and course offerings and working with the registrar and others to facilitate the transfer of credits and wider curricular integration.

Her first priorities at Sacred Heart are to review and update the office’s risk management plan and to lay the groundwork for a clear, streamlined study abroad experience – from students’ initial interest to support upon returning from abroad. She also hopes to work with departments to identify study abroad opportunities that match SHU students’ academic and professional goals, as well as to concentrate on a plan for program expansion and curricular integration.

As a long-term goal, she hopes to increase the number of students graduating from Sacred Heart with a meaningful international or intercultural experience and to diversify the program portfolio in a way that reflects the needs of the SHU student body while preparing students to be mindful 21st-century citizens.
“Sacred Heart appealed to me because the University is interested in pursuing systemic internationalization. During my interview process, the enthusiasm to internationalize, as expressed by the administration, faculty and students, was quite apparent. The opportunity to be a part of this initiative in its infancy is both exciting and entrepreneurial,” Wojenski said.

Wojenski is working on her doctorate of education from the State University of New Jersey at Rutgers. She holds a master’s degree in international education from SIT Graduate Institute and graduated with high honors from Wheaton College with a bachelor’s degree in anthropology.