



TAKE THE WORLD TO WORK PROGRAM

\$500

The FIUTS Take the World to Work Program offers visiting international students in our community an opportunity to share a day on the job with a local professional. In this unique program, students from around the world have a chance to see a local workplace, meet professionals in their field of interest, and learn about corporate life and institutional culture in the U.S.

In 2009, international graduates and undergraduates visited 15 different businesses, offices and organizations in the Seattle area. Host organizations represent a wide variety of industries, ranging from the financial sector, healthcare, and education to aerospace engineering and biotech. Visits range from informational interviews to tours of offices and presentations on the industry.

This year's Take the World to Work Program will take place from February 16th through February 22nd. Sponsorship of this program offers a valuable opportunity to reach out to university students and to area industries, and to support cross-cultural collaboration and engagement in local business.

Promotion Package

- Opportunity to display promotional items on sponsor table during Networking Wednesday Lunch on February 17th and World to Work Kick-off reception on January 14th
- Logo recognition on all World to Work signage and program materials
- Verbal recognition and opportunity to make statement during Wednesday Lunch program

Web Recognition

- Logo recognition and link on World to Work and Sponsorship pages of www.fiuts.org
- Name recognition and link in January editions of FIUTS weekly student activities e-newsletter (over 10,000 circulation)
- Name recognition and link in February edition of FIUTS E-Intercom e-newsletter (15,000 circulation)

Dear Community Partner,

The Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS) envisions a global community tied to the Pacific Northwest in which people around the world are connected through friendship, mutual respect, and a commitment to cross-cultural dialogue and understanding. An independent, community nonprofit organization founded at the University of Washington in 1948, FIUTS connects university students with local and global communities through programs that build international awareness, cross-cultural communication, and informed leadership.

International students and scholars at the University of Washington bring with them an intimate knowledge of another way of life in a different part of the world. They offer a fresh and diverse point of view, and bring economic and social vitality to our campus, our city and our region. FIUTS programs contribute to making Seattle a truly global city, providing unique opportunities for locals and visitors to interact, share thoughts and ideas, and grow to respect both differences and similarities.

When FIUTS was founded in 1948, there were 274 international students from 37 nations enrolled at the UW. Our country was emerging from World War II, and the University faculty and community leaders who founded FIUTS shared a vision that peace could be achieved through international friendship: a vision that remains true to all of us today. FIUTS programs now serve more than 4,000 University of Washington students and scholars from more than 100 different countries each year and thousands of others in our Puget Sound community. FIUTS current programs include short-term Homestays and Friendship Programs, International Student Orientation, Student Leadership Development, K-12 Education Outreach, Student Events and Activities, Wednesday Lunch, Alumni and Community Programming, and Cross-Cultural Presentations.

FIUTS is offering an opportunity to help support and expand a new program, **Take the World to Work Program**, with a sponsorship of \$500. This program started in 2007 in cooperation with the University of Washington Alumni Association's Career Week – FIUTS wanted create an opportunity within their larger event for international students to explore careers, connect with community members, and experience a unique side of U.S. culture.

Although the University of Washington no longer produces career discovery week for the general student population, the overwhelming response from both students and community members has encouraged us to continue to produce a program geared specifically towards internationals.

Take the World to Work Program offers visiting international students in our community an opportunity to share a day on the job with a local professional. In this unique program, students from around the world have a chance to see a local workplace, meet professionals in their field of interest, and learn about corporate life and institutional culture in the U.S. Students who participate in FIUTS' Take the World to Work program enjoy a glimpse into U.S professional culture and gain a deeper understanding of U.S. culture in general.

Employers who participate have a unique opportunity to share their work with a new professional and reach out to students who are doing research in a new technology or considering work in a particular field. More than half of the students and scholars at the University of Washington are visiting scholars or are in graduate or PhD programs, so FIUTS can facilitate connections that might lead to new business ventures or longtime relationships between companies in our region and other professionals across the globe.

FIUTS Take the World to Work Program will be held from February 16 – February 22, 2009. The week will include several types of events:

1. Group Tours

Last year, more than 70 FIUTS students participated in group guided tours of local factories and businesses, visiting the Boeing plant in Everett and Coca Cola Factory in Bellevue, accompanied by FIUTS alumni, staff, and community members. This year, we would like to expand the tours to include at least four additional worksites.

2. One-on-One Matching

Twenty FIUTS students applied last year to join local professionals at work in their field of interest, and were matched with community hosts for a one-day visit to local workplaces. Students visited a variety of local companies in diverse fields, including architecture, public relations, non-profit organizations, and engineering. Over the next year, we expect to expand the number of community hosts and increase the program to fifty one-to-one matches.

3. Networking Events

Last year, a small networking event was held to introduce the concept of networking and to give students a chance to meet professionals in the community from a variety of fields. Twenty professionals and more than forty students and attended the event, held a local winery. Students were encouraged to talk about their future career plans, ask questions about different fields, and even meet recruiters from local companies to discuss opportunities in a variety of fields. This year, we would like to offer a series of networking events, hosted by local businesses, in specific areas of expertise, such as engineering, computer science, and global health.

Many UW international students will go on to important leadership positions both in the U.S. and abroad, so an opportunity to gain perspective on American workplace culture and a personal contact in their field is extremely helpful to them. The connections they make through **Take the World to Program** and other FIUTS programs can be valuable to our community as well – many students remain in contact with people they meet during their time at the UW and form longtime business ties with our community. With the help of our generous community sponsors, FIUTS can dedicate more resources to the **Take the World to Program** and expand them to include even more students and local professionals.

FIUTS has a long history of building bridges between people of diverse backgrounds that are beneficial to University of Washington students, our community, and the world. FIUTS students benefit from an enhanced worldview and a realistic understanding of US culture. Our community benefits from the unique perspective international students share with us. The whole world benefits when individuals build bonds of friendship that cross international boundaries. FIUTS programs inspire dialogue, foster international friendships and create a global community of thousands of individuals tied to Seattle and the University of Washington who celebrate our world's diversity, and share a commitment to the power of friendship to promote peace.

Thank you for your consideration of our proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Era Schrepfer

Executive Director

Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS)

FIUTS programs include:

📄 **International Student Orientation:** More than 1,000 new international students and scholars arrive at the University of Washington each fall, and FIUTS produces all aspects of their orientation program which includes seminars, workshops, and social activities led by FIUTS Facilitators and community member volunteers.

📄 **Student Leadership:** The FIUTS Facilitator Training Program supports student leaders by training them to orient new UW internationals and facilitate cross-cultural interaction at FIUTS events. The FIUTS Student Board represents the interests of international students to the UW, advises on FIUTS programs, and produces two large student cultural programs each year.

📄 **Wednesday Lunch:** Wednesday Lunch is the largest ongoing international gathering on the UW campus. This free event brings together international students, American students and community members each week to share a meal and meet others from across the globe. Weekly attendance ranges from 200-300 people.

📄 **Education Outreach:** The Classroom Ambassador Program brings UW international students and returned study abroad students into local K-12 classrooms. The Pen Pal Program matches an elementary school student with an international student for regular email correspondence over a six week period, and then provides an opportunity to meet at a FIUTS Wednesday Lunch. The Elder Visit Program brings international students and returned study abroad students to local senior citizen living communities for dialogue and intercultural exchange.

📄 **Events and Activities:** FIUTS produces weekly excursions and group volunteer opportunities geared towards helping international students make new friends and learn about Seattle and the Pacific Northwest community.

📄 **Homestay & Friendship Programs:** The FIUTS Homestay and Friendship Connection Programs match new international students and scholars with community hosts for either a one-week homestay or a one-year friendship connection. Volunteer community hosts support students during the transition period and serve as their initial introduction to American culture and life in Seattle. These relationships continue throughout the students' time at the UW and beyond, with many hosts later visiting their past students and their families in their homes abroad