MEMORANDUM

TO: Academic Program Group

FROM: Teresa A. Sullivan

DATE: March 24, 2010

RE: StudioAbroad

We want to confirm that you are aware that our campus has embarked on a coordinated approach to managing information about study, research, and work opportunities for our students around the world. We believe the implementation of a single product, StudioAbroad, is an economic alternative to the development of independent travel abroad systems across campus and that it will also allow schools and colleges to better advise students about UM programs.

The proliferation of opportunities for UM students to engage with other cultures has been an educational boon, but as both the accreditation project, "Global Engagement at the University of Michigan," and the ITS International Experience Assessment reveal, it has been an administrative challenge. To address this problem, we asked ITS to determine whether a cross-campus implementation of StudioAbroad might reduce the institutional risks, student confusion, and administrative burdens associated with programs abroad. The conclusions, published in December 2009, convinced us to charge ITS with implementing the StudioAbroad software across campus. This effort, scheduled for FY 2011 and FY 2012, will include several phases, and we are requesting your cooperation and patience as this project unfolds.

Please share this information with staff and faculty involved with global experiences so that we can assure a coordinated approach to this important change at our institution. The implementation of StudioAbroad software will address the following:

- **Program Inventory**: Utilize the StudioAbroad content management tool to develop a comprehensive and searchable catalog of UM international opportunities, such as study abroad, internships, volunteer work.

- **StudioAbroad Database and Infrastructure Transition to ITS**: Transition the current SaaS, Terra Dotta-hosted installation for the College of Engineering to ITS. By collecting and storing data within the University’s technical infrastructure, we can integrate StudioAbroad data with other business processes, such as travel registration.
- **Program and Application Management**: Manage student applications from initial interest to program alumni using StudioAbroad.
- **Travel Registry Integration**: Integrate data collected for study abroad with the M-Pathways Travel Registry.
- **Global Michigan Web Portal Integration**: Integrate the StudioAbroad program inventory with the Global Michigan portal, allowing visitors to easily search and review UM international opportunities.
- **Reporting**: Enable users to meet reporting needs internal and external to the University (e.g., Open Doors).

If your staff have questions about how this project will unfold, please encourage them to contact Lisa Emery, project lead for StudioAbroad or Lynn Lyke-Whiting, business analyst. Questions about the Travel Registry should be directed to Elaine Nowak, who is heading up that project.

TAS/kn