

THE
FORUM
ON EDUCATION
ABROAD

September 2, 2010

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write on behalf of the Forum on Education Abroad and its 430 institutional members to urge you to lift the restrictions on academic travel to Cuba.

Studying in other cultures and societies is an essential aspect of American undergraduate education. Each year more and more U.S. students participate in study abroad programs around the world, enhancing their knowledge and skills, as well as their appreciation for their home country. These students also serve as effective ambassadors for the American way of life and the values that we hold dear. Restricting academic travel to Cuba undermines these important benefits of educational exchange.

The Forum on Education Abroad is recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission as the Standards Development Organization for education abroad. Its members include the most active U.S. colleges and universities, consortia and study abroad provider organizations who believe strongly in the positive benefits of overseas academic programs. We urge you to lift the restrictions on academic travel to Cuba so that students will have the opportunity to study and learn in Cuba, as well as share and exchange ideas freely.

You have been one of the most thoughtful and vocal Presidents regarding the importance of education. Please end the travel restrictions so that college and university students may take advantage of the educational opportunity to study abroad in Cuba.

Sincerely,



Brian Whalen
President and CEO
whalenb@dickinson.edu

THE
FORUM
ON EDUCATION
ABROAD

September 2, 2010

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write on behalf of the Forum on Education Abroad and its 430 institutional members to urge you to lift the restrictions on academic travel to Cuba.

Studying in other cultures and societies is an essential aspect of American undergraduate education. Each year more and more U.S. students participate in study abroad programs around the world, enhancing their knowledge and skills, as well as their appreciation for their home country. These students also serve as effective ambassadors for the American way of life and the values that we hold dear. Restricting academic travel to Cuba undermines these important benefits of educational exchange.

The Forum on Education Abroad is recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission as the Standards Development Organization for education abroad. Its members include the most active U.S. colleges and universities, consortia and study abroad provider organizations who believe strongly in the positive benefits of overseas academic programs. We urge you to lift the restrictions on academic travel to Cuba so that students will have the opportunity to study and learn in Cuba, as well as share and exchange ideas freely.

You have been one of the most thoughtful and vocal Presidents regarding the importance of education. Please end the travel restrictions so that college and university students may take advantage of the educational opportunity to study abroad in Cuba.

Sincerely,



Brian Whalen
President and CEO
whalenb@dickinson.edu