

Warren J. Baker Grant Proposal

Encosi Africa 20114

I. Abstract

Encosi Africa 2014 will be a multifaceted service learning design/build internship. This trip will give us the opportunity to exercise Cal Poly's learn by doing motto on an international stage. We will engage in service learning projects that will build on work done by previous Cal Poly student groups in the past as well as manifest new projects to benefit various local communities. This will combine classroom instruction with meaningful community service. We will work at three different project sites in South Africa, one urban and two in rural settings. The urban project involves re-visiting a playground in Alexandra built by Cal Poly students last summer to evaluate its condition and make improvements. We will visit Baviaanskloof, a rural landscape reclamation project where we will partner with graduate students working on water security issues for the South African government. The third site is in Elliot, a small village in rural South Africa in need of a central gathering area and the ability to collect clean water. We will conduct community workshops and design charrettes with the residents to gain information to inform future work trips. We will also build some playground pieces for the local school before leaving. Encosi Africa will be an invaluable experience that will shape our professional lives in the future, and give us the opportunity to give back meaningful service, and gain extensive real world experiences.

II. Introduction

Working with an underprivileged community in Alexandra Township we will address child health and wellbeing issues through the advancement and integration of play in the lives of AIDS orphans. At an existing playground built by Cal Poly students last year for the Ratang Bana AIDS Orphanage, a post occupancy evaluation will be completed to identify construction and maintenance issues. Repairs will be completed and new design interventions will be constructed to enhance child development and safety. In the rural setting of KuManzimdaka, located just outside of Elliot, SA our goal is to help build community resources and address issues of sustenance. There is a critical need for clean water, but a lack of

agreement as to how to provide it for the residents. Through design charrettes and workshops we hope to encourage an overall sense of community, which encompasses about 200 individuals, and develop a consensus for future action. We will be achieving these design goals through communication, design, and construction. By effectively communicating design possibilities we hope to direct the conversation to solve the issues at hand. This will allow for successful design and construction outcomes on subsequent return trips. The second rural site is Baviaanskloof, a UN World Heritage Site, where we will contribute to the on-going work of graduate students from other universities as they address issues of water security and land reclamation. Baviaanskloof is the principal water source for Port Elizabeth, a major industrial community on the Indian Ocean.

III. Objectives

Ratang Bana AIDS Orphanage

1. To provide more opportunities for child development by incorporating more structures for them to play on.
2. To help educate the people about ongoing maintenance of the playground and various other structures and features, and to foster good stewardship of the built elements.
3. To gather construction experience and skills in for the purpose of implementing our designs.

Elliot, South Africa

1. To aid the people in coming to a consensus over design elements through community workshops in Elliot.
2. To develop a master plan for the small community of Elliot and to educate them in different implementation strategies for future development.
3. To successfully communicate and convey design intentions and showcase design ideas through written, verbal, graphic, and three-dimensional communication.

IV. Methodology

Encosi Africa will follow a traditional service learning model that incorporates community engagement and on-going coursework. Throughout the experience we will be assessing our efforts with the use of established survey tools, and reflective journaling activities. Our outcomes would include professional development, understanding of project delivery, and construction techniques. We have an opportunity to work with an interdisciplinary team of graduate students in hydrology, soils, and native plant restoration at Baviaanskloof. We will be working alongside two non-profit organizations, Kidlinks World and Gumboots International.

Community Engagement: Ratang Bana

- Gain enhancement and improvement to their existing playground and provide new play opportunities for the children in the urban community
- The playground will be able to serve a larger portion of the population in a safe environment
- Provide children with direct exposure and contact with another culture

Community Engagement: Elliot

- Create an opportunity for them to come together to address water scarcity issues and improve resource utilization (this project site is being developed in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems)

Curriculum topics: Ratang Bana Playground Project

- Project delivery, to strengthen our ability to plan and successfully implement a project.
- A chance to practice our construction techniques that we have been developing in the past year by starting with design and ending with hands on experience at the site.
- Exploration of how to complete a post occupancy evaluation. This evaluation will include an inventory of the site's play elements and will cover the assessment of the successes and usefulness of the existing design.

- Coverage of maintenance issues, we will not only design but also discover how it will be used and taken care of after we leave.

Curriculum topics: Elliot Workshops and Design Charrettes

- Reinforce the topics of project delivery and construction techniques.
- Learn community engagement practice, this is valuable real world experience that will teach us how to interact with the client and the community.

V. Timeline

8/23/14	Day 1	SAT	Arrive/Visit project sites	Johannesburg
8/24/14	Day 2	SUN	explore cultural landscape	Johannesburg
8/25/14	Day 3	MON	Ratang Bana post occupancy evaluation	Johannesburg
8/26/14	Day 4	TUE	Ratang Bana Playground build	Johannesburg
8/27/14	Day 5	WED	Ratang Bana Playground build	Johannesburg
8/28/14	Day 6	THU	Drive to Baobab Ridge	Baobab Ridge
8/29/14	Day 7	FRI	Baobab Camp	Baobab Ridge
8/30/14	Day 8	SAT	Baobab Camp	Baobab Ridge
8/31/14	Day 9	SUN	Travel to Knysna	Bamboo Guest House
9/1/14	Day 10	MON	Knysna	Bamboo Guest House
9/2/14	Day 11	TUE	Baviaanskloof field training	Zandvlakte
9/3/14	Day 12	WED	Baviaanskloof field training	Zandvlakte
9/4/14	Day 13	THU	Baviaanskloof field training	Zandvlakte
9/5/14	Day 14	FRI	Drive to Graaf Reinet	Camdeboo Cottages
9/6/14	Day 15	SAT	Drive to Elliot	Guardians
9/7/14	Day 16	SUN	Community Workshop	Guardians
9/8/14	Day 17	MON	Community Workshop	Guardians

9/9/14	Day 18	TUE	Design Charrette	Guardians
9/10/14	Day 19	WED	Playground build at local school	Guardians
9/11/14	Day 20	THU	Playground build at local school	Guardians
9/12/14	Day 21	FRI	Drive to Kaysers Beach	Stone Cottages
9/13/14	Day 22	SAT	Fly E London to JNB to US	

VI. Final Products and Dissemination

During the Fall 2014 quarter, we will take an additional studio course to produce appropriate documentation for each undertaking. A paper will be produced detailing the experience and outcomes from the internship for publication in a service learning journal, and for dissemination at educational conferences. Any consensus reached concerning the KuManzimdaka water-availability issue will be recorded for publication. It will be accessible for future use when revisited for construction. As-built documents will be completed for each project and intervention to be published and provided for the communities they affect. The projects include any significant maintenance performed in Alexandra as well as the constructed play interventions. Finally, multimedia educational and promotional material will be produced for review and/or use by Cal Poly's Center for Community Engagement to broaden support for service learning on campus.

VII. Budget Justification: Budget Justification per Student:

Airfare Ticket	\$1,500.00
Housing	\$2,100.00
Food	\$1,050.00
Ground Transportation	\$1,150.00
Museum & Activity Fees	\$300.00

PROPOSAL BUDGET

Student Applicant(s): Emily Barlog Chad Evans Nicholas Exeter Rodolfo Perez Annie Potter Claire Thompson Evany Wang Jocelyn De Leon Blake Faris	
Faculty Advisor: David watts	
Project Title: Encosi Africa 2014	Requested Baker Endowment Funding
Travel <i>subtotal</i>	\$
Travel: In-state	\$
Travel: Out-of-state	\$
Travel: International	\$ 13,500.00
Operating Expenses <i>subtotal</i>	\$
Non-computer Supplies & Materials	\$
Computer Supplies & Materials	\$
Software/Software Licenses	\$
Printing/Duplication	\$
Postage/Shipping	\$
Registration	\$
Membership Dues & Subscriptions	\$
Multimedia Services	\$
Advertising	\$
Journal Publication Costs	\$
Contractual Services <i>subtotal</i>	\$ 5,000.00
Contracted Services	\$ 41,400.00
Equipment Rental/Lease Agreements	\$
Service/Maintenance Agreements	\$
TOTAL	\$ 5,000.00



California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0285

Landscape Architecture Department

April 18, 2014

Warren J. Baker Endowment
Christopher A. Dicus
Faculty Fellow to the Provost
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

Dear Prof. Dicus,

I am writing in support of the grant being submitted by Encosi Africa 2014. These students will be joining me on a service learning internship to South Africa this summer. The grant would allow all of the students listed to participate. I have previously taken three groups of Cal Poly students to South Africa to perform similar work and we will be returning to two of the sites that have been worked on in the past.

This is an invaluable experience for the students from an academic professional and personal experience. Every student that I have taken in the past has told me that it has changed their lives on a personal basis, and how they think about landscape architecture as a future professional. This year's trip is drawing interest for the first time from students outside of landscape architecture, which will transform it into an interdisciplinary experience. It is also invaluable to the communities that we work with as we provide them with much needed resources, built and cultural, that they are unable to receive elsewhere.

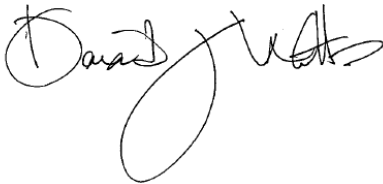
This project takes on additional significance, as it is the beginning of a potential long-term partnership with the University of Wisconsin Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems. A relationship between the two schools can help advance scholarship and outside funding opportunities for both. It will also help to expand the types of projects that our students can become involved to address more holistically other aspects of health and well being on an international platform.

The students committing to the internship have completed their foundational studies in landscape architecture, and are prepared to meet the challenges presented by the trip. The methodology in the grant outlines the connections being made between the work and their academic experience. The internship comes at

the correct time within their academic career to advance their knowledge and prepare them for the upper level division studios they will begin in the fall quarter. I work with Kidlinks World Charity to establish the projects that students will work on while in South Africa. The director has strong familial ties to the country as her family lives there. The charity provides the funding for all the construction materials for the projects. I contract with Travel Learners to handle all of the logistics for the trip once we land in South Africa. They are a firm owned based in Wisconsin, and have significant connections to the South African communities that we work with as well.

This is a positive expression of the Cal Poly motto of "learn by doing" and allows us the ability to advertise and promote our great university. Please feel free to contact me should you need any further information or clarity on the financial aspects of the grant. I can be reached at djwatts@calpoly.edu or at 756-6437. I look forward to your response, and hopefully your support for this worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Watts". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

David J. Watts RLA, ASLA