Subject: Important Updates to the Ross Undergraduate Global Semester Exchange Program

Dear Sophomores,

Global Initiatives is thrilled to inform you that there is now more opportunity to spend a semester abroad than ever! Global Initiatives has worked very hard to increase capacity within the program - both by adding new partnerships and also increasing slots at existing schools. Through these efforts, there will now be at least 90% more semester exchange slots available for your class compared to last year’s applicants!

The Global Semester Exchange application is currently available through M-Compass and is due May 31st at 11:59pm. In order to prepare for the application, you should:

- Review the Global Initiatives website and learn more about the partner schools
- Visit the Semester Exchange Canvas site to gain access to past information session presentations (including how to submit a competitive application)
- Meet with a Global Education Advisor - Drop-In Hours are Tuesdays (10am-Noon) and Wednesdays (1-3pm)

IMPORTANT: Please Read Carefully

If you’re interested in spending a semester abroad next winter, then it's key that you submit a competitive, high-quality application by May 31st at 11:59pm. Last year, Ross was able to address unmet demand for the Semester Exchange Program through student independent efforts and leaves of absence requests. This was a temporary solution for the launch and first year of the program. Because we are almost doubling our capacity through the Ross Exchange Program, the leave of absence process won’t be utilized as broadly as it was last year.

With the huge increase in capacity, the standard and preferred (and business-specific) modes to participate in an exchange as a Ross student is through the Ross Semester Exchange program or another UM program. So if you are offered a spot within the program and choose to decline it, or if you choose to not apply for a Ross program, it is very difficult to foresee a situation in which a leave of absence to study abroad will be approved.

What does this mean to you? If you're considering studying abroad during winter semester of your Junior year, then you should submit an application to the Ross Semester Exchange Program by May 31st. If you do not submit an application to Ross or another UM study abroad program, then you should plan to spend Winter 2017 at Ross. So that you don't miss your opportunity to study abroad for a full semester, you should plan ahead and apply by May 31st.

If you have any questions about this, please share them with Global Initiatives prior to the May 31st deadline.

Again, we are thrilled that more Ross students will have the opportunity to spend a semester abroad while receiving business elective credit through the Semester Exchange Program. We look forward to receiving your application!

Kind regards,

Global Initiatives