

Voices of International Students

Nurturing Bright Futures:
Cultivating Graduate Attributes

Presented By:
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Introduction

My story

- Who I am
- Where I'm from
- Nature of the program



Voice Project

- What is a Voice Project?
- What I hope to learn?



Intent of the Voice Project

- Take on the “Voice” during the semester
- Research and explore the voice
- Regularly share our learnings in a Voice Journal and class discussions



The Voice Project Background

Dr. Carney Strange (creator of the project)

Dr. Maureen Wilson

Dr. Dafina Lazarus Steward

Dr. Nancy Evans



Methods

- Student Interviews
- Literature Review
 - “International Student Persistence: Integration or Cultural Integrity?” By Maureen Andrade
 - “Community College International Students and their Campus Involvement.” By Slantcheva-Durst & Knaggs
- Journaling
- Fieldwork: Saint Mary’s College
 - “Designing for Learning: Creating Campus Environment for Student Success.” By Strange and Banning



Outcomes/Results

Three main themes came from the project:

**Transition
Period**

**Breaking
Stereotypes**

**Different Cultural
Paradigms**

Findings

Transition Period

Religiously
Affiliated/Women's
Institution

Private and Public

Community
Colleges

Breaking Stereotypes

Financial Hardship

Transfer Student

Different Cultural Paradigms

Meaning

Language

Regional vs.
Holistic

Implementation/Application

Saint Mary's College

Adding a reflection room

Knowing spiritual counselors of other faiths in the South Bend area.

International Orientation (WMU)

Dating culture emphasis

Enhancing our pre-existing international orientation

International Student Transition Program

Different Cultural Paradigms

Student work culture

Ways to shrink the gap:
- Cultural exchange programs

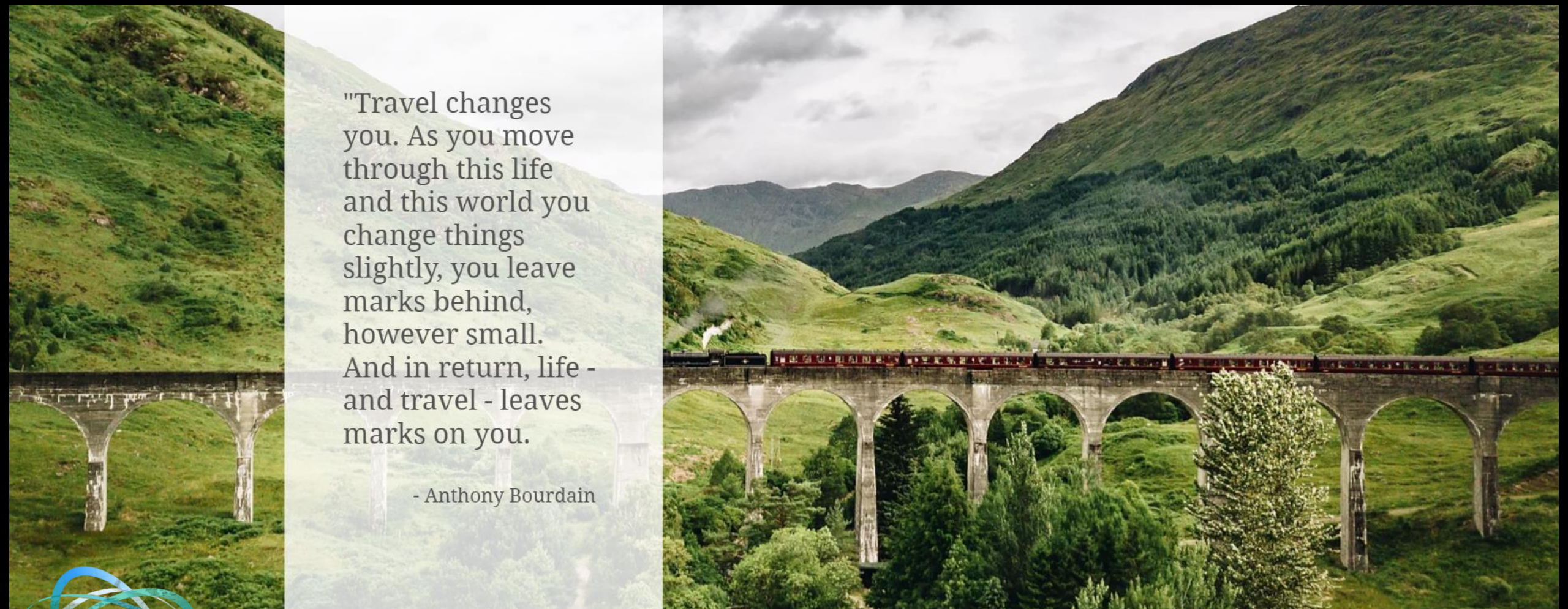
Advisor/Faculty/Staff workshops



Conclusion

What *voice* are you going to explore?





"Travel changes you. As you move through this life and this world you change things slightly, you leave marks behind, however small. And in return, life - and travel - leaves marks on you.

- Anthony Bourdain

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Sources

- Andrade, M. S. (2006). *International student persistence: Integration or cultural integrity?* Sage Publication, 8(1), 57-81.
- Slantcheva-Durst, S. & Knaggs, C. (2019). *Community college international students and their campus involvement.* Community College Journal of Research and Practice, 43(2), 81-93.
- Strange, C. C., & Banning, J. H. (2015). *Designing for learning: Creating campus environment for student success.* San Francisco, CA. Jossey Bass.

