



## LESSONS LEARNED

**To ensure greater efficiency of the SGroup activities we would like to provide our members with some observations made during the last application procedure for the Berkeley Programme 2014/2015.**

From past experience, we would like to share some observations to improve the application process and to answer to the most recurrent questions we have encountered:

- The SG/Berkeley Exchange programme was designed for graduate students. Nevertheless, **PhD students are eligible** and may apply, as long as they are enrolled in a graduate programme.
- Candidates **do not need to follow in the same field of study** and may apply to departments that are not directly linked to what they are currently studying. Nonetheless, there is a better acceptance rate when students do apply to their field of study.
- Some departments of the University of California – Berkeley are **more difficult for acceptance** than others. The most difficult departments to get into as an exchange student are: Civil and Environmental Engineering, Statistics, Political Science, Education.
- The departments that **do not accept** students are: The UC Berkeley School of Law, The Haas School of Business, The Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism.
- In recent years, the **best acceptance rates** were in the following departments: Architecture, Mathematics, Philosophy, Theater, dance and performance studies, and Linguistics.
- It is expected that students submitted for this exchange program will have a level of English equal of superior to a **TOEFL score of 230** (88 IBT, 570 Paper-Based).
- **The fee waiver only applies for auditing courses, not for concurrent enrollment** which signifies that the students will follow non-degree studies, i.e., students under the agreement will not receive a degree from the University of California, Berkeley and will not be registered as full-time students at the University of California, Berkeley.

Please note that the announcement of the selection results depends entirely on Berkeley. Yet, the SGroup assures the earliest possible communication of the results which are generally communicated between early to late May.

If you have your own comments on the Berkeley Programme implementation, we will be glad to incorporate them in the lesson learned. You are welcome to send your feedback to the SGroup Secretariat at [sgroup@sgroup.be](mailto:sgroup@sgroup.be).



USEFUL WEBSITES	
Berkeley International Office	<a href="http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/">http://internationaloffice.berkeley.edu/</a>
Visiting Scholars and Postdoc Affairs	<a href="https://vspa.berkeley.edu/">https://vspa.berkeley.edu/</a>
Concurrent Enrollment	<a href="http://extension.berkeley.edu/info/concurrent.html#fees">http://extension.berkeley.edu/info/concurrent.html#fees</a>
UC Berkeley Visiting Scholars Benefit Plan	<a href="http://www.garnett-powers.com/academics/ucb/">http://www.garnett-powers.com/academics/ucb/</a>
University Health Services	<a href="http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/vspd/visitingscholar.shtml">http://www.uhs.berkeley.edu/vspd/visitingscholar.shtml</a>
International House	<a href="http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/index.html">http://ihouse.berkeley.edu/index.html</a>
Cal Rentals	<a href="https://calrentals.housing.berkeley.edu/">https://calrentals.housing.berkeley.edu/</a>
Craigslist Apartment Rentals	<a href="http://sfbay.craigslist.org/search/apa/eby?query=&amp;srchType=A&amp;minAsk=&amp;maxAsk=&amp;bedrooms=&amp;nh=48">http://sfbay.craigslist.org/search/apa/eby?query=&amp;srchType=A&amp;minAsk=&amp;maxAsk=&amp;bedrooms=&amp;nh=48</a>
Visitor Services	<a href="http://visitors.berkeley.edu/">http://visitors.berkeley.edu/</a>
Getting to Berkeley	<a href="http://visitors.berkeley.edu/gethere/public_transit.shtml">http://visitors.berkeley.edu/gethere/public_transit.shtml</a>
Campus Map	<a href="http://berkeley.edu/map/">http://berkeley.edu/map/</a>