**Faculty Member Contact Information**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Ms. Laura Strand</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contact Info</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIUE Email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lstrand@siue.edu">lstrand@siue.edu</a></td>
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<td>Campus Box</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Art &amp; Design</td>
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1 Funded URCA Assistant

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<th>X</th>
<th>This position is <strong>ONLY</strong> open to students who have declared a major in this discipline.</th>
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<tr>
<th>X</th>
<th>This project deals with social justice issues.</th>
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This project deals with sustainability (green) issues.

This project deals with human health and wellness issues.

This project deals with community outreach.

This mentor’s project is interdisciplinary in nature.

Are you willing to work with students from outside of your discipline? If yes, which other disciplines?

- No

How many hours per week will your student(s) be required to work in this position?
(Minimum is 6 hours per week; typical is 9)

- 10 hours

Will it be possible for your student(s) to earn course credit?

- Yes, ART 325-016 (3 credit hours)
Location of research/creative activities:
- Art and Design building

Brief description of the nature of the research/creative activity?

Through 28 years at SIUE I have traveled and taught with a focus on the cultural history and importance of textiles and their creation. Through this project URCA students are helping me to create a more complete history of this collection. This has included photographing each object, observing and recording information, linking notebook entries that detail their acquisition and conducting research to augment that information. This includes 83 textiles from Nigeria, 51 from India including Chennai and Ladakh, and 81 from Mexico including 61 textiles representing the Trique indigenous group of weavers.

Brief description of student responsibilities?

Continuing this semester’s work with the textiles collected during research and classes in Mexico in 1995-2006 we will focus on the notebooks I wrote and the slides I took in Mexico to add information to each textile. This student will learn to look carefully at each object, measure it, describe it, note any irregularities in the object and note special features of each object. Using this information, research the item using whatever aspects we agree necessary and/or interesting to pursue. Adding to the information available documented for each object aids their use in the classroom and will benefit the collection.

URCA Assistant positions are designed to provide students with research or creative activities experience. As such, there should be measurable, appropriate outcome goals.
What exactly should your student(s) have learned by the end of this experience?

Each student will learn the value of looking closely at every object made by hand. Through observing closely, we will expose the materials it is made from, the processes used to create it, the design and its history. Through further research we will investigate aspects of the cultures that support and use the object. It is my intention that every assistant learn more about artwork and the pursuit of fine craftsmanship through this research.

Requirements of Students

If the position(s) require students to be available at certain times each week (as opposed to them being able to set their own hours) please indicate all required days and times:
- Monday and Wednesday from 9-12 or Friday all day
If the location of the research/creative activities involves off campus work, must students provide their own transportation?

- Work will be performed at SIUE

Must students have taken any prerequisite classes? Please list classes and preferred grades:

- No

Other requirements or notes to applicants:

- No