Dear Student,

We are pleased to announce an important new support service for our students who are traveling abroad on school-sponsored travel. Amherst College is now an institutional member of International SOS, a membership that gives students studying abroad or traveling abroad on school-sponsored travel access to a full range of medical information and emergency services.

Please visit the Five College web site http://www.fivecolleges.edu/sites/riskmgmt/intltravel/ to access the International SOS Portal and learn more about the International SOS program benefits. This letter is an introduction to this new program; you should visit the website for detailed information. Use the Five College membership number 11BCAS000005 to access the International SOS website before you go abroad on school sponsored travel. Students should print a card from the web site or obtain a wallet card from the Career Center’s study abroad office, the Dean of Students office, or the Center for Community Engagement. Please know, however, access to services is NOT dependent on having the card on your person.

Here is a brief overview of the most important program features:

- **As a member, you have access to International SOS information services at no charge.** These information services range from the website information provided (including country risk ratings, U.S. State Department postings, medical travel recommendations and immunization requirements) to access to medical doctors via phone consultation, referrals to English-speaking doctors, to care assessment and translation services in case of hospitalization.

- **However, use of actual medical services (beyond information services) or any service that requires an expenditure of funds to another party is not free.** While members have access to International SOS clinics and doctors around the world, delivery of such services must be covered by the member and/or the member’s health insurance policy. This program and membership is not an insurance plan! Students are still required to have health insurance that covers them abroad. The College has limited insurance coverage through AIG for medical evacuation and repatriation; if these services are needed they must be coordinated through the Five College Risk Management Office and AIG for coverage to apply. See the Risk Management web site for more information (http://www.fivecolleges.edu/sites/riskmgmt/travel/).

- **Students traveling on school sponsored travel are required to register their trips using the International SOS Personal Travel Locator.** This will give you the opportunity to receive e-mail alerts from I-SOS and help enable your program coordinator to contact you in the event of an emergency.

- **We strongly recommend you use another feature of the International SOS membership: the online Emergency Record.** Students can input medical history, blood type, recent surgeries, allergies, etc., and this confidential information is only accessed by International SOS medical staff in an emergency situation where the student is not able to communicate. Travel plans and contact information (destination, dates, flights, hotels) can also be logged on the website, and will not be accessed unless the information is needed in an emergency.

We are very pleased to join over 100 other educational institutions now using International SOS services, which for many years have provided the best-available emergency medical services for military personnel, U.S. government officials and staff, and other worldwide organizations and corporations.

Students who are traveling for personal reasons (leisure travel) can purchase an insured International SOS membership at a 20% discount on the International SOS Portal.

Sincerely,

Beth Carmichael,
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http://www.fivecolleges.edu/sites/riskmgmt/