About the Frank Family

Richard Frank earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 1963. He later earned a master’s degree from Sloan School of Management at MIT and subsequently served two years in Colombia as an MIT Fellow.

After a 26-year career in the World Bank Group, he was named COO of Darby Overseas Investments of the Franklin Templeton Group in 1997, where he continues to lead this international firm as President and CEO.

Dr. Irma Frank is a graduate of the Javeriana University Dental School in Bogota, Colombia, S.A. She received Pediatric Dentistry training at Harvard School of Dental Medicine in Boston, Massachusetts, and training in Cleft Palate at Tufts University.

Dr. Frank is the Associate Dean for International Programs at Georgetown University Medical School. She chairs the International Programs Committee which oversees all Medical School International Programs.

The Frank children - Pilar, Rick and Michael - were raised in a bilingual, bicultural family setting and have lived and worked abroad.

International travel and living has greatly enhanced the lives of the entire Frank family. They, in turn, believe it is critical for future engineers and scientists enrolled at SDSM&T to have the opportunity to gain a global experience and perspective.

Faculty Support

The Frank Committee may award up to $2,500 to faculty accompanying the student group or groups subject to overall limits of ten percent of the funding per group and a cumulative limit of ten percent for the annual funding provided by the Frank Family International Fund.

For more information please contact:

Ivanhoe International Center
South Dakota School of Mines & Technology
501 East Saint Joseph Street
Rapid City, SD 57701
605-394-6884
International@sdsmt.edu
The Mr. Richard and Dr. Irma Frank Family International Fund (Frank Fund) was established to emphasize the value of and to create opportunities for international educational experience for SD Mines students with benefits to the host countries. The Frank family established this fund with the following goals in mind:

- To provide invaluable international experiences that will significantly benefit engineers and scientists in today’s global environment.
- To aid in the recruitment of prospective students and make them aware they can have the same types of international experiences at SDSM&T that are provided at larger, more renowned universities.
- To enable the students to have an impact on the well being of citizens and communities of the locations they visit and work.
- To help provide international experiences to students with financial need that otherwise would not have been afforded this opportunity.

**Funding Criteria**

This fund will support students with humanitarian projects in international locations, with a donor preference for projects in Latin American countries. Funded projects must have strong work/service and cultural immersion components.

Criteria require the international stay to be at least four weeks in length. Recognizing that most projects are likely to take place over the summer months, thereby reducing the earning potential of students during this time, the donors have elected to offer financial support with a subsequent scholarship for participating students. Successful applicants may receive funding to support their international experience and a scholarship for the following academic year. Funding decisions, including amounts for the projects as well as the scholarships, will be made by a committee which will review applications on a rolling basis. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible.

Examples of types of projects that may be funded include, but are not limited to, international experiences with the student group Engineers and Scientists Abroad (ESA), Engineering Ministries International (EMI) projects where professional engineers and students form a humanitarian engineering team in a developing country and design a solution for a designated problem, or projects through charities in the host countries.

**Application Process**

Individuals and groups wishing to be considered for the Mr. Richard and Dr. Irma Frank Family International Fund awards shall research the opportunities available and learn specific information about the country they wish to visit. They must consult with the Ivanhoe International Center (IIC) on the SD Mines campus and receive their approval for the purpose and the country of the proposed visit. Applicants are required to confirm they have reviewed the U.S. State Department website on conditions in the host country before their travel begins.

Next, students must submit a written application describing their project, including a detailed budget, to the IIC to be forwarded to the committee. The committee will then hold interviews with the applicants and make awarding decisions after assessing both the application and the interview. Applicants will be notified of their award amount, including the scholarship amount, as soon as possible following the interview.

Please visit the Ivanhoe International Center for additional information on the application process.

![Peru: Building a playground for an orphanage](image)