IDEAS Program 2021-2022 Event Series

IDEAS Resources for Supporting Underrepresented Students

Tuesday, April 12th, 2022

#LaunchIDEASabroad
**IDEAS Program**

A program of the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, USA Study Abroad branch

**Seeking to expand higher education institutions’ capacity to grow and diversify study abroad programs for U.S. students**

- Increase number of all students studying abroad, especially those from underrepresented groups
- Increase the number of U.S. higher education institutions offering study abroad programs
- Expand study abroad to new overseas destinations, particularly those that are less common

**Grant Competition**

- Grants of up to $35,000

**Capacity Building Initiatives**

- Virtual and in-person, open to everyone

[StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org](http://StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org)
USA Study Abroad

Mission:
To advance U.S. foreign policy goals by increasing and diversifying U.S. study abroad through programs for both individuals and institutions and to support the next generation of diverse American leaders to gain the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in a globalizing world.

Rebecca Johnson
IDEAS Program Officer,
USA Study Abroad,
U.S. Department of State
Which training topic(s) would be most beneficial to you in your work?

Top training topic: Recruiting and supporting students from underrepresented groups

2019: 44%
2021: 45%

What is a Minority Serving Institution? https://www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo/doi-minority-serving-institutions-program
Registrant Recap

What is your biggest challenge in encouraging underrepresented students to study abroad?
Registrant Recap

What is your biggest success in reaching underrepresented students on your campus?
Speakers

Noelle Baldwin
Associate Director for Diversity, Recruiting, and Advising
IES Abroad

Dr. Kedrick Perry
Vice President for Equity and Inclusion
Loyola University, New Orleans

Becca AbuRakia-Einhorn
Manager of Education Abroad and International Fellowships
Gallaudet University

Laurie Melin
Director of Internationalization, and Inter-University Relations
Universidad del Sagrado Corazón
“We are a Hispanic Serving Institution that attracts many non-traditional students. Several barriers prevent these students from studying abroad. 67.7% of our students are first-generation college students, and many are also first-generation Americans. A large percentage transfer here from a community college, which limits the length of time we currently have to educate them and help them plan to go abroad. Further, many students have families to support and/or are employed full-time. Additionally, students prefer to pay-as-they-go to finance their education.”
Themes

Confidence

Cost

Collaboration
Loyola University New Orleans
January-term Program in CDMX: *Power in Movement*

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<tr>
<th>Knowledge</th>
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<td>Greater understanding of</td>
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<td>• social justice and economic empowerment movements on a global scale</td>
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<td>• how environmental justice takes shape</td>
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<td>• Spanish language</td>
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<th>Skills</th>
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<td>• Ability to operate on an international level</td>
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<td>• Readiness to compete in a global marketplace</td>
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<td>• Practice Spanish by participating in survival language workshops and interacting with local citizens of Mexico</td>
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<th>Attitudes</th>
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<td>• Increase cultural competency</td>
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<td>• Strengthen relationships within Loyola's Jesuit network</td>
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<td>• Develop a greater understanding of diversity in the U.S. and abroad</td>
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<td>• Demonstrate an appreciation of the relationships between New Orleans and Mexico City</td>
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Innovation

1. First ever January-term abroad
2. Office of Equity and Inclusion partnering with Center for International Education
3. Target population: First-gen, URM, Pell recipients, first time abroad
4. Cost to students = $0

Obstacles

- Health
- Family
- Cost
***Great Resource: Inclusiveness Abroad through Columbus State.
Gallaudet University

Deaf Access to Education Abroad

End Product: A freely available online resource (bilingual English/ASL) website designed to

EQUIP STUDENTS: Advice for deaf/deafblind/hoh students who want to study abroad

EDUCATE ADVISORS: Best practices for advisors working with deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing college students who participate in studying abroad.

EMPOWER PROGRAM DESIGNERS: Best practices for universities and program providers to create accessible and inclusive programs
Proactive Approach

- Sees themself abroad
- Defines their own interests (Challenge by Choice)
- Identifies their accommodation needs

Provider

- Analyzes accessibility landscape/environment and recognizes gaps
- Incorporates universal design into program planning or site center
- Identifies additional accommodations and makes a plan for obtaining them
- Develops funding plan for access

Student

Advisor

- Strengths-based advising
- Translate student needs
- Negotiates with and advocates to overseas partner

Successful Education Abroad
Where are we now? Why is this resource important?

Students with disabilities in a pandemic environment

• Staff reduction OR new hiring
• Staff are overwhelmed and understaffed
• Vaccine mandates
• Slashed budgets
• Complex travel arrangements
• Rapidly changing circumstances
• Demand high, supply low
• Students motivated, but overwhelmed
Resources For You

- **MIUSA**
  - Access to Exchange Summit (AES)
- **NAFSA: STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
- University of Minnesota Access Abroad
- Diversity Abroad
- Abroad with Disabilities
- National Deaf Center
- NACUA Notes
- Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Universidad del Sagrado Corazón
Increasing Hispanic students’ access to Education Abroad

**End Product:** A freely available online resource designed to:

- Increase access to information for Hispanic students and families
  - 3 informational videos with study abroad advisor
  - 1 career-focused video with career advisor
  - 4 informational flyers for family members
  - 4 informational flyers for students

- Connect with Hispanic students’ and family members’ concerns
  - 2 experience videos with parents
    - (1 includes students)
  - 2 experience videos with students

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Reach and impact of Spanish-language resources

Reach:
Institutions in 36 states and Puerto Rico.

Of the institutions who have accessed the materials:

- **19%** Less than 1/5 have previously used resources in Spanish.
- **50%** Half of them are or aspire to be Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI).
- **85%** The vast majority are 4-year institutions.
Where are we now? Why is this resource important?

Hispanic students in a pandemic environment

- Students access information more through online resources and less through in-person conversations.
- Parents have increased (valid!) concerns about safety of study abroad
- Study abroad advisors and student peers have less informal interaction with students considering study abroad
- New staff and faculty have less opportunity to engage with study abroad staff and learn how to support diverse student groups
Un ejemplo de los 8 videos

See CSU Chico and Middlebury’s websites for ideas about how to add these resources to your website.
Discussion
Recap and Final Questions
Future Initiatives

- 2023 Grant Competition
- Webinars
- Workshops
The IDEAS (Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for U.S. Students) Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by World Learning.