Transcripts, Translations, and Transfers, Oh My! A Registrar’s Perspective on Study Abroad

May 17, 2023

#LaunchIDEASabroad

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.
USA Study Abroad

Mission:

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)'s mission is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange that assist in the development of peaceful relations. ECA is committed to fairness, equity and inclusion, and its programs strive to reflect the diversity of the United States and global society.

- 55,000 participants engage in exchange programs funded by ECA annually
- 15,000 American participants travel abroad on exchanges each year
- 101 U.S. public and private non-profit institutions funded

www.exchanges.state.gov
#ExchangeOurWorld
www.eca.state.gov

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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, particularly those from historically marginalized and/or 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
- Approx. 30 grants of up to $35,000

Capacity Building Initiatives
- Virtual and in-person, open to everyone

StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org
IDEAS Grant Competition

145 grantees

46 U.S. states + D.C. and P.R.

$5.4 million awarded

10,000 estimated students impacted

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IDEAS Grantee Curricular Integration Examples

University of Tennessee, Institute of Agriculture
- 2019 Grantee
- *Feed the 9.7 Billion: Preparing U.S. Students to Meet the Greatest Global Challenges in Argentina*
- Developed UTIA’s first ever January term

Pacific University
- 2019, 2022 Grantee
- Developed a new core undergraduate course, *Global Scholars First-Year Seminar*
- Internationalize curriculum

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Speakers

Julia Funaki
Director, AACRAO – International

Opal Leeman Bartzis, Ed.D.
Executive Director of Education Abroad, Michigan State University

Amy Pitts
Registrar, Study Abroad Office, Northern Illinois University

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AACRAO Study Abroad Committee

- Sandra Jardin, California State University-Northridge
- Lauren DiGrazia, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
- Emily Mraz, University of Minnesota
- Becca Morrissey, Grand Valley State University
- Zoe De Smet, American University of Rome
- Opal Leeman Bartzis, Michigan State University

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Poll

WHICH OF THESE BEST DESCRIBE YOUR POSITION?

- I work in a registrar’s office. 12%
- I work in a study abroad office. 29%
- I am an academic advisor. 57%
- I am none of these. 2%

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Poll

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUR REGISTRAR'S OFFICE AND YOUR STUDY ABROAD OFFICE?

- Wonderful – we have a seamless working relationship!
- Pretty good most of the time
- Strained and occasionally difficult
- Non-existent or mistrusting at times

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Study Abroad and Registrars

Relationship

Credit Pre-Approval

Transfer Credit Process

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Poll

WHICH OF THESE IS YOUR GREATEST AREA OF CONCERN?

- Figuring out a better system for course approvals

- Developing a better system for managing the administrative aspects of processing international transcripts

- Handling the volume of work related to study abroad credit transfer

- Convincing the institution that study abroad is important

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Study Abroad and Registrars

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Poll

WHICH OF THESE IS WORKING BEST AT YOUR INSTITUTION?

- Students’ awareness of study abroad course options
- Timely processing of international transcripts
- Process integration/workflows between the registrar’s office and the study abroad office
- Institutional commitment to study abroad

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# Study Abroad and Registrars

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Continue the Conversation

• Speaker emails:
  • Julia Funaki: funakij@aacrao.org
  • Opal Leeman Bartzis, Ed.D.: bartziso@msu.edu
  • Amy Pitts: amypitts@niu.edu

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Resources

• American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

• AACRAO EDGE (Electronic Database for Global Education):
  • [https://www.aacrao.org/edge](https://www.aacrao.org/edge)

• AACRAO On-Demand Learning (including the International Series)
  • [https://www.aacrao.org/events-training/training/on-demand-learning](https://www.aacrao.org/events-training/training/on-demand-learning)

• AACRAO/Forum on Education Abroad School of Record Relationships:
  • [https://forumea.org/school-of-record-relationships/](https://forumea.org/school-of-record-relationships/)

• ENIC-NARIC:
  • [https://www.enic-naric.net/country-pages.aspx](https://www.enic-naric.net/country-pages.aspx)

• NUFFIC (Dutch Organization for Internationalisation in Education):
  • [https://www.nuffic.nl/en/](https://www.nuffic.nl/en/)

• Forum on Education Abroad Standards of Good Practice:
  • [https://forumea.org/resources/standards-of-good-practice/](https://forumea.org/resources/standards-of-good-practice/)

• IIE Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange:
  • [https://www.iie.org/opendoors/](https://www.iie.org/opendoors/)

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Join the Conversation with AACRAO

OPEN AN EDGE SUBSCRIPTION

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CHECK OUT THE AACRAO WEBINAR ARCHIVE

EDGE ONE WEEK TRIAL SIGN UP

International Institute (July 17-20, 2023)

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Connect with IDEAS in Person!

• NAFSA 2023 – Washington DC:
  • Session ID# - 1331209
  • Democratizing Study Abroad from Info Session to Reentry
  • Wednesday May 31, 2023, 2:30 PM-3:20 PM

• World Learning Breakfast –DC offices:
  • Wednesday May 31 and Thursday June 1, 8 AM
  • Please register in advance as space is limited!

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Upcoming IDEAS Workshop

• Join us for our free, in-person workshop! Session topics include:
  • Understanding and supporting student intellectual development abroad
  • Ensuring that minority/marginalized students are academically and emotionally prepared for study abroad experiences
  • Funding global experiences
  • Creating connections between the study abroad experience and academic studies
  • And more!

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Stay in touch with the IDEAS Program!

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