

2019

AIEA Annual Conference

*What's Next?
Possibilities and Probabilities
in the Future of International
Higher Education*

Moving the needle on student mobility: Quantity AND Quality

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Western University, Canada

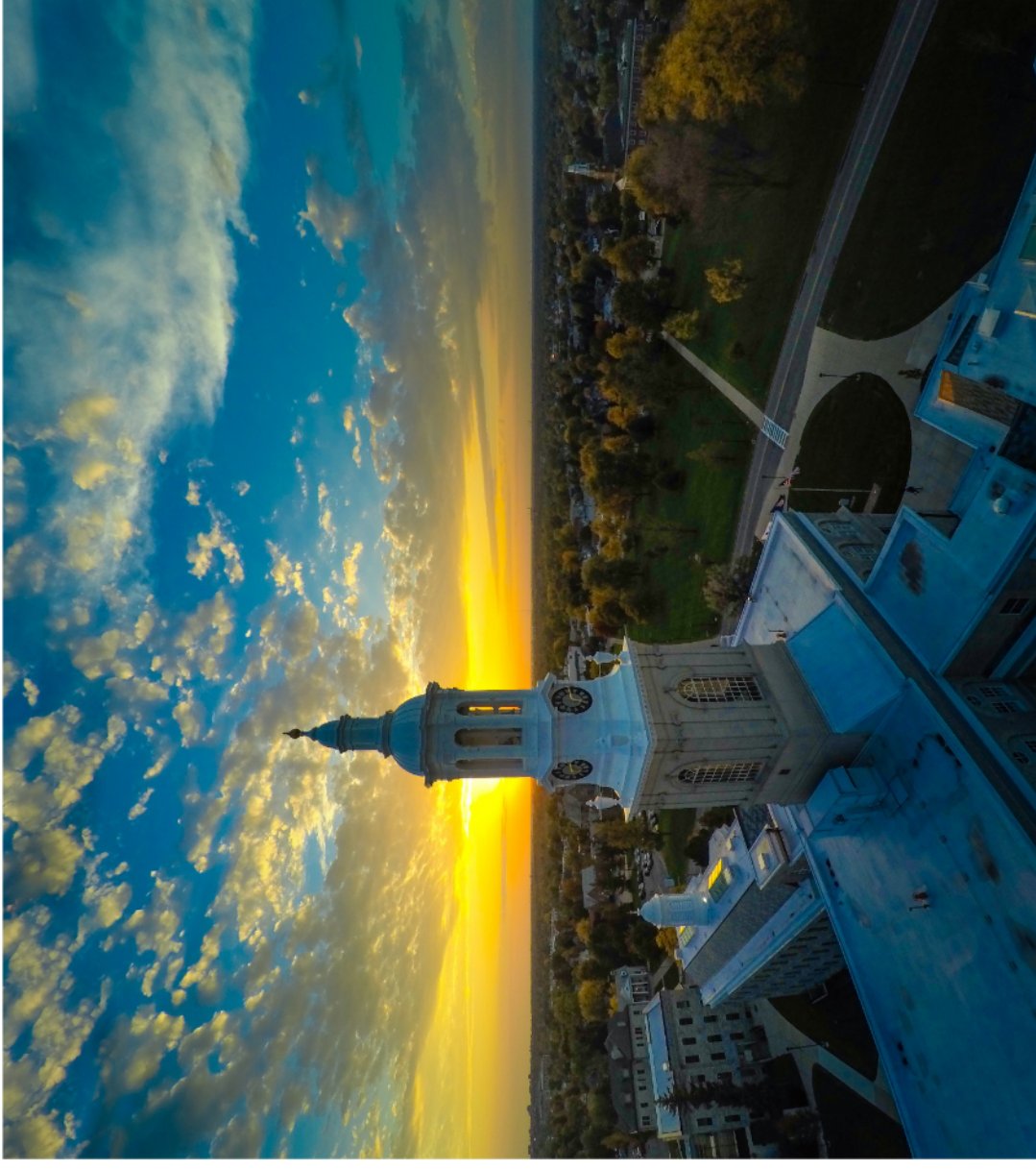
John Wood, *Interim Vice Provost for International Education*
University at Buffalo (SUNY), USA

Colleen Packer, *Director International Learning Programs*
University of Calgary, Canada



Comprehensive Public University

- **30,600+** Students (50 States, 106 countries)
- **6,000+** Full Time Employees
- **\$384 M** Annual Research Expenditures
- **\$1.6 B** Annual Revenues
- **255,000** Alumni in 150 countries
- **Top 25** U.S International Enrollment



Reform of Gen Ed: A Golden Opportunity

- Global learning a key part of many new gen ed. programs; study abroad has central role
- Replace outdated requirements with compelling global learning options
- Integrate/embed study abroad in UG curriculum and increase participation

UB Curriculum (launched 2016)

- New program features integrative *Global Pathway* requirement (9 credits)—one of two integrative pathways or course clusters required for Gen Ed
- Three options:
 - *Global Reflections* Sequence (3 campus-based courses)
 - *Language and Culture* Sequence (foreign language)
 - *International Experience* (study abroad)

International Experience Track

- Completed wholly or in part through study abroad (3-9 credits)
- Existing and new study abroad programs eligible to fulfill requirement
- May be combined with other *Global Pathway* options
- Student demonstrates integration of all elements of *Global Pathway*

Built-In Flexibility

- Many variants possible to suit student need:
 - Winter session study abroad as sandwich course between fall and spring courses
 - Summer session stand-alone programs, or ones linked to spring and/or fall courses
 - Full semester or academic year abroad fulfilling entire *International Experience* requirement

Advantages

- International Experience option brings study abroad to center of the UG curriculum
- Opportunity for all undergraduates
- Specific global learning outcomes
- Positioned as an attractive option
- Additional resources available to support student participation

Challenges

- Advising tools to help students take advantage of the opportunity
- Leveraging existing portfolio of programs
- Incentivizing development of new programs for different pathways
- Linking study abroad to campus-based courses

Long-Term Opportunity

- Embedding study abroad in the curriculum through pathways that *intentionally* integrate study abroad
- Gen ed capstone based in e-Portfolio obliges student reflection on *connections* between study abroad and the rest of the curriculum

Progress to Date

- Large number of students indicate interest in study abroad in first year through online Path Finder tool
- These students are promptly contacted for follow up
- Students being advised at earlier stage about their study abroad options, so they're better prepared
- More new programs are being developed with study abroad option in UBC in mind



**UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY**

- A publicly-funded, comprehensive research university
- Founded in 1966
- 14 faculties offering more than 250 academic programs
- 30,000+ students from 112 countries
- 163,000+ alumni in 50+ countries



Addressing the Barriers

Cost

Curriculum

Culture

Circumstance

NOVEMBER 2017

Report of the Study Group
on Global Education

Global Education
for Canadians
Equipping Young
Canadians to Succeed
at Home & Abroad



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Creating a Culture of Study Abroad

From the Top Down...

Setting bold targets and communicating them aggressively

Institutional & Faculty-Level Strategies

Collaborating & Communicating



Creating a Culture of Study Abroad

To the Bottom Up

Engaging academic
units in approval of
new exchange
agreements

Developing mobility
opportunities
beyond traditional
exchanges & field
schools

Getting creative
with traditional
mobility programs

Engaging and Empowering Academic Units

Identifying “preferred” partners and programs

Curriculum mapping

Identifying “mobility windows”

Creating “major advising pages”

Engaging and Empowering Academic Units

Educate
faculty &
advisors

Raise
awareness &
dispel myths

Identify
champions

Build
relationships



Western
UNIVERSITY • CANADA

- **Public, Comprehensive University**
- **London, Ontario**
- **30,000+ students from 127 countries**
- **3,800 FT Faculty & Staff**
- **318,000 Alumni**



Increase participation of Western students in international experiences from 3% (in 2014) to 10% (in 2019)

Formalized student safety abroad policy (2014)

Created Faculty led study abroad model (2015)

Launched online portal for international experiences (2015)

Implemented robust int'l travel registry (2016)

Need for scaled approach to Pre-Departure training for students



HEALTH &
WELLNESS



TRAVEL



ACADEMIC
PREPARATION



RISK
MANAGEMENT



INTERCULTURAL
ENGAGEMENT



GENDER NORMS &
SEXUAL VIOLENCE



CRITICAL & ETHICAL
GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



COMING
SOON

<https://www.uwo.ca/international/learning/FIME.html>

Quality Controls

- Rubrics used to evaluate all third party program providers
- Re-entry module in the works to support reflection and learning outcomes
- Student awards programs tied only to University sanctioned experiences
- Connect to Provincial Government's principles of Experiential Learning



7.2% students go abroad each year

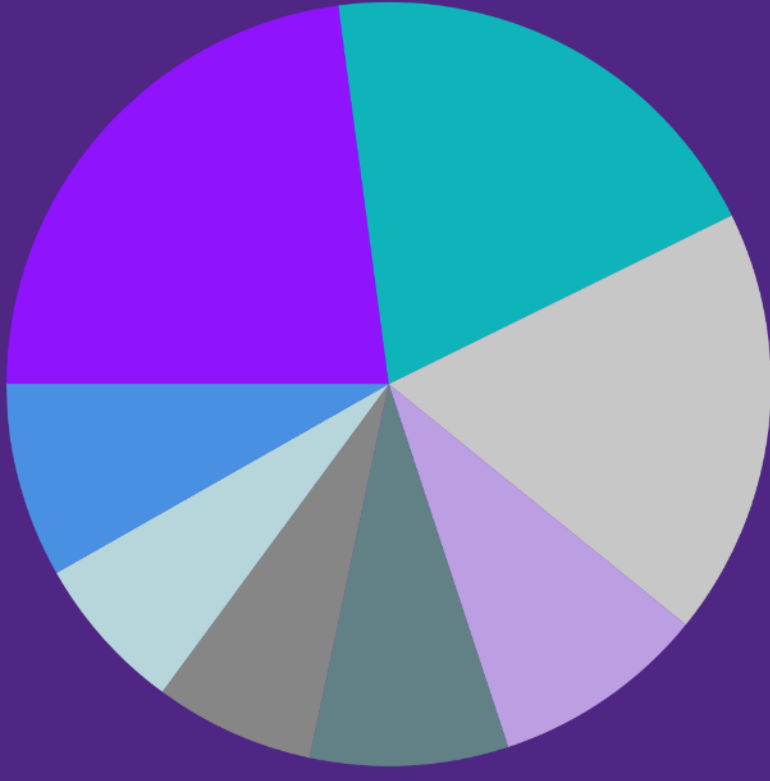
\$4 million in student support for learning abroad since 2012



>170 international learning programs in 40+ countries



23% of undergraduate students participate in international learning before graduating



- Faculty-Led (22.89%)
- Practicum/Placements (19.82%)
- Exchange (18.12%)
- Research (9.11%)
- Study Abroad & LOP (8.38%)
- Internship (6.77%)
- ASB & Community En.. (6.67%)
- Other (8.23%)



Discussion Questions

- What strategies has your institution developed to enhance both the numbers of students going abroad and the quality of their experience?
- How has your institution sought to achieve increased support across campus for student mobility goals?
- What specific approaches do you recommend to better ensure superior outcomes from the education abroad experience of your students?