Leadership in Faculty and Student Driven International Experiences

Strategies for Building Institutional Capacity and Cross-Campus Collaboration


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Warm Up Questions

- What comes to mind when you think of co-curricular education abroad?
- To what extent is support for co-curricular education abroad formalized at your institution?
- How would you characterize the structure and relationships among the SIO, the Education Abroad Office(s) and co-curricular stakeholders on your campus?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience Type</th>
<th>Initiated by:</th>
<th>Monitored/Managed by Drexel?</th>
<th>Monitored/Managed by U-M?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study Abroad (Exchanges, Provider)</td>
<td>Study Abroad Offices/Faculty</td>
<td>Yes (SA)</td>
<td>Yes (Academic Units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Abroad (Faculty –Led)</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>Yes (SA)</td>
<td>Yes (Academic Units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Abroad Independent</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Yes (SA)</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Co-op/Internships</td>
<td>Students/Career Services</td>
<td>Yes (Career Services only)</td>
<td>Varies by Academic Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>Students/Faculty</td>
<td>Yes (SA/SIO)</td>
<td>Varies by Academic Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service</td>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Yes (SA/SIO)</td>
<td>Varies by Academic Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletics</td>
<td>Students/Administration</td>
<td>Yes (SA/SIO)</td>
<td>Varies (U-M athletics/intramural)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design Projects</td>
<td>Students/Faculty</td>
<td>Yes (SA/SIO)</td>
<td>Yes (Academic Units)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships</td>
<td>Students/Faculty</td>
<td>Yes (registration only)</td>
<td>Yes (Academic Units)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two Schools Two Structures

**U-M**
- SIO = Vice Provost for Global and Engaged Education
  - 5 years
  - Provost’s office
  - Tenured faculty member
- Senior Advisor for International Health, Safety and Security for 4 years
- Very decentralized international experience oversight

**Drexel**
- SIO = Vice Provost for Global Initiatives
  - 8 years
  - Provost’s office
  - Tenured faculty member
- Does not have an international risk manager. Associate Director of SA has this as part of their duties.
- Very centralized international experience oversight
Drexel Context & History

- Non-traditional calendar
  - Summer ‘vacation’ does not exist
    - Faculty led programs take place during term breaks

- Office of International Programs (OIP)
  - Focuses on strategy, communications, policy, faculty mobility, research centers, joint degrees

- Study Abroad Office (SA)
  - Central office– reports to OIP
  - Oversees undergraduate, graduate and professional student mobility

- Steinbright Career Development Center (Co-op office)
  - Oversees international co-op, reports to Sr. VP for Enrollment Management and Student Success
Drexel Participation Trends: Academic/Co-Curricular

- Increases in both full-term and short-term programs
- Most dramatic increase in Intensive Courses Abroad
  - Short term faculty-led programs taking place during breaks between terms.
- Increased student interest in non-academic Drexel affiliated travel
- Increased UG participation in international conferences
Break In/ICA
- For credit, Between terms, Faculty led, Tend to be UG

Intl experiences
- Take place at any time, Non-credit, Includes Alternative Spring Break, Conferences, Athletics, Research

Short Courses Abroad
- Take place during term For credit, Faculty-led Tend to be GR
Drexel Student Organizations
Infrastructure & Policy

- Drexel recognized student groups
  - Vetted and approved by Student Affairs
  - Required annual training related to budget protocol and leadership
  - Both UG and GR
  - Currently students fees cannot be used for intl activities—Student Affairs is working to change this as participation grows

- Study Abroad focuses on intl logistics of a program, registration of travel
Global Brigades at Drexel
A Case Study

- **Year 1 Totally Rogue**
  - Began as a student organization without permission to go abroad

- **Year 2 Bless the Caboose**
  - OIP and SA put resources to go on programs and evaluate

- **Year 3 Affiliate Organization**
  - 1 Credit Course Offerings
  - Funding from OIP
  - Variety of brigades
    - Architecture
    - Medical
    - Environmental
Drexel Lessons Learned

- Support and Encouragement for leadership development among students, staff, and faculty
- Policy, procedures, process
- Education of Stakeholders and Partners (Student Affairs, Student leaders, Civic Engagement, Faculty)
  - Faculty-Forums
  - Advisor Forums
  - Presentation Series
  - Online Resources
- Awareness, Promotion
- Funding
- Accountability
U-M Context

- Central team = Vice Provost, Assistant Vice Provost, Senior Advisor for International Health, Safety and Security
  - Campus-wide policy
  - Agreements/MoUs
  - Business owner for Travel Registry and Education Abroad Management systems
  - Incentive programs and funding to grow education abroad capacity

- Decentralized education abroad structure: 20+ academic units running programs
- Decentralized career services structure: 10+ units supporting internships and practica
U-M Academic/Co-Curricular Education Abroad

Not for credit  For credit

2004-2005: 423
2005-2006: 1263
2006-2007: 1136
2007-2008: 2055
2009-2010: 2116
2010-2011: 1319
2011-2012: 1482
2012-2013: 1041

Not for credit: 800, 1701, 1055, 2116, 1975, 1946, 2060, 2365
For credit: 1263, 1136, 1055, 1129, 1319, 1482, 1424, 1041
U-M Education Abroad Trends

- Participation data are challenging to gather on our campus!

- 6th in the nation for U.S. students in for-credit study abroad (Open Doors 2014).

- Greatest growth area: co-curricular student travel (volunteer, design projects, internships).

- The “Michigan Summer” = May-August. Growing demand for summer experiences.
U-M Student Organizations
Infrastructure & Policy

- Division of Student Life owns campus-wide policies for student organizations
- Academic units can layer own policies and services over campus-wide structure
- Sponsored Student Organizations (SSOs) and Voluntary Student Organizations (VSOs)
- No central ownership for international travel oversight – instead building capacity in sponsoring units
U-M Lessons Learned

- Harness student ideas and energy
- Incentive funds tied to safety plans and health insurance
- Capture VSOs by “sponsoring” the travel
- International Education Advisor dedicated to co-curricular student teams
- Apply best practices in study abroad to co-curricular applications and pre-departure requirements
- Build partnerships with student affairs professionals
Discussion Questions

- What is the SIO’s role in expanding education abroad to include co-curricular program models and student experiences?
- In addition to education abroad professionals, who are the key campus stakeholders involved in building service, professional and research oriented international experiences for students?
- How does the SIO build bridges among these stakeholders and encourage coordination over decentralization?
- How does the SIO bring some structure to student-led experiences while fostering student leadership and independence?
- How does co-curricular growth align with broader institutional goals for internationalization, engaged learning, student leadership or experiential education?