
Listserv Summary: Policies for “Visiting Students”

August 22, 2016

An inquiry was made to the AIEA listserv asking for insight regarding policies regarding a visiting student population (fee paying students, not exchange). The poster asked specifically if members:

1. Could suggest any other term for these students other than the possibly controversial “visiting students?”
2. Could provide suggestions for a title of the Senior Director who will be leading this initiative? In short, this person would grow the visiting population through strategic partnerships, customized programs, as well as existing degree programs.
3. Know an institution that has a specific office for this population and how it is organized in terms of support and resources?

Summary of Responses:

There were five responses to this inquiry.

Suggestions for Senior Director Title:

- “A popular Euro term for the leader would be "Managing Director" (as in CEO). Since few people outside Pathway providers use it in higher education you might land a well qualified person outside the normal ranks of university administrators to take this on and make it successful.”
- Director of International Affairs, International Programs
- Manager, Visiting Student Programs

Suggestions for terminology for these students:

- “From my commercial perspective, the "visiting students" is best. It is the way they define these kind of students in the UK and the EU should be a big market. Free Mover is a popular term when talking to the ERASMUS partners, but nobody here gets that.

Japan may turn out to be quite nice too, I don't think the Visiting Students term will have a problem for marketing.”

- “At [...] we have a category that is fee paying but not on a reciprocal exchange, we consider these students ‘non-degree seeking students.’”
- Visiting Students
- “Non-degree-seeking, fee-paying”

Three of the five respondents provided details on their specific office that handles these types of students:

1. One respondent provided detailed policies from their institution: Here is a link to our website as it relates to undergraduate students:

http://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/undergraduate_admissions/admitted_students/non-degree_students/

Here is a link as it relates to graduate students:

<http://bulletin.sc.edu/content.php?catoid=52&navoid=1273>

2. One university has had a special unit at [...] working with fee paying visiting students for over 15 years. The unit is within the international office and while it still relies on other central units for processing admissions, they have found it enormously helpful to have one office working with cohorts of visiting students who can then move these applications and students through the various central units (admissions, housing, faculty office for course registration). The unit can also act as a service unit to faculties wanting to take advantage of this model of student enrollment.
3. One institution serves non-degree-seeking, fee-paying international students entering on J-1 visas through its International Programs office. These students apply through an application system managed through our Terra Dotta Systems software (i3s), not through the regular admission process as degree-seeking students. In addition to charging international student tuition, we also charge an administrative fee that covers the students’ orientation program costs and some of their administrative costs.

Two of the five respondents replied that they had other programs or knew of separate programs for these students:

1. One respondent mentioned that there are some programs in NYC and a few in DC have programs like this that are run through the Continuing Education or Extension, like these:

<https://www.studyabroad101.com/programs/georgetown-university-washington-dc-semester-in-washington-dc-program>

<https://www.studyabroad101.com/programs/american-university-washington-d-c-washington-semester-at-american-university>

2. We also have an American Semester program that offers semester long study programs at [...] for any student desirous of taking classes who are not enrolled in degree programs. This program is for credit. [...] offers a Visiting International Professional Program tailored for non credit experiential learning through the University.

