
Listserv Summary: Funding Sources/Models for Education Abroad and ISSS at large research institutions

December 2015

A query was posted to the listserv on funding sources/models for study abroad and ISSS at large research institutions.

Summary of Responses

There were 9 respondents to this inquiry.

As usual in our field, the funding sources/models are highly varied between institutions and it is difficult to compare. Generally speaking, the majority felt funding for their ISSS units were fairly stable, but not for their SA units. Some respondents have revenue streams (from an ELI, for example) from which they can allocate funding where needed.

More information is required on how offices are structured, ratio of number of students served to staff, percentage of students using internal programs vs. providers, specific services provided by ISSS (whether it includes H-1B/PR, for example), and many other factors. It would be interesting to undertake a more detailed study, but this is beyond the scope of the “project” at this time.

Narrative regarding whether SIOs felt funding levels were sustainable and institutional identities are removed from the responses below to honor requests for confidentiality.

Study Abroad Office Funding	ISSS Funding
<p>State funds support all personnel, benefits, operations; NOT travel: \$550K; \$125 fee generates \$250K/yr for staff travel & risk mgmt; Passport Acceptance Agency generates \$15K used for marketing; 2,400 students studying abroad; 3.5 advisors, 2 coordinators, 2 associate directors, 1 budget analyst.</p>	<p>State funds support all personnel, benefits, some operations: \$480K; \$100 orientation fee and a non-credit summer school program generate \$200K, used for student support, programs, workshops, orientation in China, and staff travel; 2,400 int'l students; 5 staff members</p>
<p>Combination of state and soft funds: personnel & benefits on state funding; SA application fee which funds travel/operations; (system wide office) contributes some funding; (system office) retains all tuition from faculty-led programs which allows office to be self-sufficient</p>	<p>Most staff paid by state funds; 1 position paid from a student activity fee that provides programming for int'l students; SA fee provides some funding for ISSS travel, operations, etc. Considering instituting visa service fees.</p>
<p>Primarily from budget allocation from Office of the Provost/Academic Affairs. Budget allocation may be a combination of state and other funding streams.</p>	<p>Through budget allocation from Office of the Provost/Academic Affairs 40%; through earnings charge back to departments on H-1B and J casework 25%; international undergraduate student surcharge 30%; and a one-time SEVIS check-in and orientation fee for new international students 5%.</p>
<p>The Study Abroad component is self-funded by fees charged to students who participate in the study abroad programs. The funding model is sustainable for the most part; however, we do not have a large staff, rather we have a small group of very dedicated staff. The Student Exchange component is self-funded by ways of our office retaining the tuition dollars of those students who study at (our institution). These dollars are not passed on to the colleges/schools providing the instruction, rather it covers the cost of student/faculty mobility governed by reciprocity agreements. The Student Exchange component may change over the next couple years; hence, we will then require state funding or some sort of internal institutional funding for this component to continue...which is an important part of globalizing our campus. We are undergoing a fee rate study in 2016.</p>	<p>Our International Student Services office is self-funded by fees charged to all international students, sponsored student fees, compliance fees, and optional service fees, such as OPT. We also provide tax service software for all international students, as part of their fees. For now, the fee structure is sustainable and we have not increased our fees each year, rather we have increased our recruitment and obtainment of international students. We adjust staffing as we increase our number of international students and it has worked well. Our fees will increase this year.</p>
<p>For study abroad, we are partial fees/partial state funds but really moving toward receiving fewer and fewer state funds. We do charge a fee to all students who study abroad and that is the majority of our revenue.</p>	<p>Our ISSS office is fully funded by fees. As of September, we no longer receive any state funds. Overall, I feel this is sustainable in the short run (next 5-10 years). We don't have a guarantee that we can increase fees, which I'd like to do</p>

	incrementally every 2-3 years. But there will be a breaking point for what amount I can set as a fee and when that happens (long-term), then I am expecting we will deal with how to fund the budget as costs increase each year.
We receive only about 5% of our budget from state funds. The rest comes from study abroad fees (\$750/student)	Our ISSS division is partially funded from visa processing fees for visiting scholars (\$425), and an international student fee, for undergraduates only (4200/student/year). This amounts to about 50-6-% of the budget for the ISS division.
Mostly from student fees, but not sure since respondent does not oversee SA.	I am responsible for the International Student/Scholar office, and we are funded in part from state funds and in part from “auxiliary,” which means funds that come from the auxiliary enterprises on campus (bookstore, parking, vending, etc.) but not from any self-supporting efforts within the office. Our total budget is around a million dollars.
Our study abroad office is funded primarily from state funds, and secondarily from a student fee charge only to those students participating in external programs -- we call this a 'credit approval fee'. I would say the percentages are approximately 80 percent state and 20 percent fees (state funds covers all salaries, CAF funds cover much of the travel and operations.)	Our immigration services is funded primarily from two different fees. One is a student fee paid by all incoming international students and scholars. The other is a fee paid by (institution) departments for processing sponsorships. I would say that over 95 percent of the office is currently funded by the two fees.
Study Abroad: all staff salaries are centrally funded. Operating budget from students who study abroad (\$90 per student for faculty led summer program and \$175 for semester/year programs).	International Students and Scholars: All staff salaries are centrally funded: Operating budget centrally funded (but supplemented by fees (sponsored student fees, J-1 fee (\$100), and permanent residence fee (\$2000)
Our study abroad office is funded from three primary sources. A) funds from the Education and General Fund, B) Student fees (\$150 per student), and C) revenues from our English Language Institute (subsidized)	Our International Services Office is funded from student fees. (\$100 per student per semester plus \$200 per semester for sponsored students)