Low Budget Solutions for High Impact Results: Strategies for Improving Access

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Overview

• Who is in the room?
• Where is the field in efforts to increase access?
• What are the barriers?
• What is PVAMU doing?
• What is UVI doing?
• What can we do?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Historically Black College or University (HBCU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minority Serving Institution (MSI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tribal College or University (TCU)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Predominantly White Institution (PWI)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
How long have you worked in education abroad?

Less than 3 years
3-7 years
8-10 years
11-15 years
15+ years

I am currently full time student.
Please choose the statement that best summarizes where you are in providing access to ALL students

3 - My organization does a fine job providing access to ALL students. I am here because my first choice session was full.

2 - My organization has been trying to provide better access to ALL students, but I could use some help.

1 - My organization is a little late to the game and we are just realizing that we need to do a better job reaching out to ALL students.

0 - What do you mean by access to ALL students?
2018-19 HBCU Working Group convened by The Forum

• Maxine Sample, Virginia State University
• Joy Carew, University of Louisville
• Evie Myers, Prairie View A&M University
• Tony Pinder, Emerson College
• Niki Sol, Anglia Rusking University
• Leslyn Tonge, University of the Virgin Islands
• Natalie Mello, The Forum

The HBCU Working group was charged with

(1) identifying specific education abroad challenges for HBCUs,
(2) reviewing existing resources on The Forum website to determine their applicability to HBCUs, and
(3) soliciting new resources from HBCUs that are specific to their needs.
Deliverables and Recommendations

• A list of recommended resources for The Forum website
• The Forum provided funding to colleagues from 3 HBCUs and 2 MSIs to attend the Annual Conference in Denver 2019

• Establish an ongoing mentoring program that continues beyond the Annual Conference so that mentors can be available to answer questions related to the Standards, The Forum’s work, best practices, etc.
• Offer a discount to colleagues from HBCUs who would like to enroll in the Professional Certification in Education Abroad Program.
• Recommend that there be another Working Group focused on HBCUs and their unique needs.
2019-2020 HBCU & TCU Working Group

- Maxine Sample, Virginia State University
- Fahmi Abboushi, Central State University
- Aleksandra Benedict, Florida A&M University
- Olivia del Viscio, CEA Study Abroad
- Maria Potter, Central State University
- Stephanie Tilley, Prairie View A&M University
- Leslyn Tonge, University of the Virgin Islands
- Xia Zhang, Alabama A&M University
- Natalie Mello, The Forum

The HBCU Working group was charged with

1. Create a mentoring program for professionals working at HBCUs & TCUs.
2. Identify specific training and development opportunities for colleagues at HBCUs & TCUs that focus on their needs.
3. Create a list of who/what benefits from education abroad.
Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Each organization shall prioritize equity, diversity, and inclusion.

- Each organization shall establish equitable and inclusive policies and procedures.
- Each organization should emphasize equity, diversity, and inclusion in program design, implementation, and goals, objectives and outcomes.
- Each organization should develop structures to examine, identify, and address systemic biases and deficiencies in its policies, practices, and programs.
- Each organization should ensure equitable access to education abroad.
- Each organization shall establish meaningful contacts and connections with diverse partners, employ and enroll diverse participants, and foster inclusive communities.
- Each organization should design its programs to provide opportunities for students to interact with broadly diverse peers, personnel, and members of local communities.
- Responsible parties should assess student learning related to portfolio and program learning goals and disaggregate data by student demographics such as gender, socioeconomic status, race, and ethnicity to check for equitable outcomes for all students.
What are the barriers that exist for non-traditional study abroad students' participation?
Prairie View A & M University
PVGoesGlobal: Key Strategies & Tips

- Know the demographic and needs of your students
- If staff capacity and time allows, build trust among students with hands on advising
  - Engage Alumni: Peer Advising is Powerful
- Have an active and relatable social media presence
  - Traditional Tuesdays (International Traditional Attire)
  - Student Stories & Features
PVGoesGlobal: Programming Model

- Programming that meets the needs & interests of student population
  - Secure the Bag: Financing & Budgeting for Studying Abroad
  - Leveling Up: How to Market International Experience
  - Catching Flights & Feelings: Intercultural Dating
  - Tip: Partner with Study Abroad External Providers

- Programming that affirms & celebrates student identity
  - Kinks & Curls: Natural Hair Abroad
  - Living My Best Life: Stories from African American Travel Bloggers
  - Greeks Abroad

- Programming that promotes study abroad access
  - PVPassportFair
PVGoesGlobal: PVPassport Fair

- Partner with CIEE Passport Caravan
- Purpose: To remove the initial financial barrier of considering to study abroad by providing sponsored passports to students who plan to go abroad
- Funding: Deans, PV Community & PV Alumni Community
- Outreach: Letters, Individual & Collective Meeting
- Marketing: PVPassportReady
PVGoesGlobal: Faculty Led Programs & Internal Funding

- Faculty Led Programs:
  - Reflects student academic interest & culture
  - Affordable: $3,000-$4,000 for 1-2 week immersive experiences

- Panthers Abroad Scholarship:
  - Funding Source: Semester International Student Fee
  - Award Amount: $750-$2,250/student
  - Eligibility:
    - 2.7 GPA+
    - Conduct Cleared
    - Essays & Letter of Recommendation
University of the Virgin Islands
KEEPING STUDENTS INFORMED

- Freshman Development Seminars
- New Student Orientation
- Fall Festival
- Alternate Spring Break
- On-campus radio programming
- Social media
- Roundtable Discussions
BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

- Collaborate with faculty and advisors
- Meet students half-way (assist with funding; application process)
- Flexible curriculum
- Students can design their own majors
PROGRAM MODELS

• Spring Semester Exchange
  • Students pay UVI tuition & Housing while abroad
• Danish Student Exchange Scholarship
  • Students pay UVI tuition; receives scholarship for housing and living expenses from Danish Government
  • Donor funded support is available
• The Washington Center
  • Funded by the local legislature
• UVI Passport to the World
  • In-house flexible payment plans
Other Tips & Strategies

- Collaborate with 3rd party provider to allow for flexible payments and better pricing;
- Use social media platforms to promote student successes while abroad
- Develop/create an electronic magazine
- Recognize students who participated in programs at on-campus events
  - Academic Awards
  - Student Engagement Awards
What are the barriers that exist for non-traditional study abroad students' participation?
What are some strategies that you can employ?
Resources

- **Scholarship Information for study abroad from Howard University**
- **Information from Winston Salem State University about Scholarships for Study Abroad**
- **The Center for Global Education’s Resources for All Students**
- **Northwestern’s Discussion of Race and Ethnicity**
- **Meaningful Travel Tips and tales: African American Perspectives**
- **Surviving Study Abroad as a Minority**
Articles

- Diversifying Study Abroad and Expanding Equity for Minority Serving Institution Students
- HBCU Students Abroad
- The Foundation For Campus Internationalization at Historically Black Colleges and Universities
- If Not Us Then Who? Exploring the Role of HBCUs in Increasing Black Student Engagement in Study Abroad
- Creating Global Citizens: Exploring Internationalization at HBCUs
- Increasing Diversity Abroad: Expanding Opportunities for Students at Minority Serving Institutions
- HBCUs Abroad: Design and Delivery of the First-Year Haiti Experience
- Putting Color Onto the White Canvas
THANK YOU