CIEE Government & Legislative Update

Asenith Dixon, VP, Government Affairs & Advocacy
Erica Carley Harris, Manager, Government & Public Affairs
Cornelia Mueller, VP Student Life
Phil Simon, VP Professional Exchange Programs
Matt Smith, Executive Vice President Exchanges
Agenda

• The CIEE advocacy team
• CIEE approach to advocacy
• The realities of government relations during the pandemic
• Biden administration priorities
• Inbound to the U.S. – BridgeUSA programs
• Coalition building
• U.S. government funded programs
Introducing Asenith Dixon

Vice President for Government Affairs and Advocacy
CIEE
CIEE Approach to Advocacy

• Congress
• White House
• U.S. Department of State
• Foreign governments
• Grasstops
• Grassroots
• Media
Congress

Our goal is to cultivate relationships with a critical mass of U.S. Senators and Representatives through communication, education, and collaboration to strengthen MOC's commitment to international exchange and study abroad programs.
White House

The Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship

• Partnership with the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs

• Fellows joined by Vice President Kamala Harris and Taoiseach Micheál Martin
Foreign governments

• Helpful on site for U.S. study abroad programs
• Engaging together on inbound to the U.S. programs
CIEE Engagement in Study Abroad Destinations

• CIEE work actively in all our study abroad locations with government officials on many different levels to help students gain access to study abroad.

• We cultivate relationships with U.S. Embassies around the world.
Monitoring of Governmental Restrictions

Management of Study Abroad

- Countries/locations
  - CIEE locations that remained always open for U.S. travelers i.e.
    - South Korea
    - Costa Rica
    - Ireland
  - Governmental entry restrictions

- Study Abroad Programs
  - Travel restrictions were applied or still apply to
    - Program type and or length
    - Course delivery – online, hybrid or F2F
  - Essential need to travel for study abroad in many EU and Asian countries
  - Enrolled in a local host university program or high school

- COVID preparedness adjusted to programs, planning and delivery on-site
  - Local entry requirements
  - Apply local protocols to academics and student life activities to mitigate outbreaks
Re-Open Europe

- **Schengen Area Entry**
  - Summer 2020
    - No students on CIEE programs in Europe
  - Fall 2020
    - First students study abroad in Germany and Portugal on essential need to travel
  - June 2021 Re-opening of the EU for third country nationals / US citizens for non-essential need to travel
    - June 14 announcement by the President of the European Commission that represent the European Council Ursula von der Leyen
  - Challenges
    - Patch work - Schengen countries apply their own epidemiological entry requirements
    - Travel from the U.S.
      - CIEE monitors travel restrictions and updates recommendations
    - Independent student travel
Monitoring for Re-opening

• **Australia**
  - Has eased Covid related travel advice for the U.S.
  - No concrete updates on student arrival yet.

• **China**
  - No new policy announcement.
  - Ongoing Covid outbreak in northern China is still met with strict zero-case approach

• **Japan**
  - No policy updates have been announced, likely delayed by the general election on October 31.

• **Singapore**
  - The government is actively exploring the lifting of international travel restrictions further in addition to the Vaccinated Travel Lane scheme launched last week

• **Argentina**
  - The full border opening continues its course for Nov 1.
  - No specific announcements regarding the granting of student visas
Break for questions
Politics and International Education and Exchange

• Infrastructure bill
• COVID relief (CARES, ARP)
• 2022 Election
Biden Administration Priorities

Joint DOE DOS Statement

“The United States cannot afford to be absent from the world stage: U.S. leadership and engagement makes an essential difference abroad, as well as at home. Indeed, in today’s interconnected world, our foreign and domestic policies are inextricably intertwined in pursuit of a preeminent goal – improving the lives of the American people.”

- Joint Statement of Principles in Support of International Education
Coalition building

Issue Brief on the Importance of Increasing Access to and Diversity in International Education and Exchange Programs

Authors:
• Roslyn Clark Artis, JD, EdD
• Connie Ledoux Book, PhD
• Jennifer Clinton, PhD
• John S. Lucas, PhD
• James P. Pellow, EdD
• Dawn Michele Whitehead, PhD
Issues for inbound to the U.S. programs

• Travel bans
• Presidential Proclamation 10052
• Visa backlogs
Introducing: The Coalition for American Public Diplomacy and Leadership

• Founded in 2020 by CIEE and InterExchange
• Mission: to strengthen U.S. Department of State BridgeUSA programs by raising awareness of the many ways they advance U.S. public diplomacy, national security, and economic prosperity
Grasstips, grass roots, and media

• Working with industry associations and their memberships to educate Congress on our issues
• Many positive media stories about the importance of international exchange visitors to the U.S. economy
U.S. government funded programs awarded to CIEE

BridgeUSA Leadership Development Program
• Includes all BridgeUSA Programs
• 10 seminars in 2022/2023
• 200 participants
• Small grants program

Ambassadors Fund for SWT
• 100 participants in 2022
• Nine central and eastern European countries
• Countering Russian influence