



STUDY ABROAD
CONFERENCE

9 November 2023



Short-term and
Faculty-led Programs
as Pathways to
Expanding Accessibility

Agenda

- Introductions
- Case Study: Global Gateway programs
- Discussion: Establishing a program
- Discussion: Encouraging DEI Initiatives
- Brainstorm and Wrap Up



Introductions

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Case Study: Global Gateway Initiative

The Global Gateway Initiative expands access to study abroad and away programs for UW-Madison undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need. The initiative provides both fully funded faculty-led programs and fellowships.

Preference is given to students with demonstrated financial need (Estimated Family Contribution under \$12,000).

- **SUMMER PROGRAMS**
- Full scholarship, including airfare, provided to every participant.
- Highly-structured thematic programs led by UW-Madison faculty.
- Designed for first- and second-year students from all majors.
- Introduce students to non-traditional study abroad/away locations.



Global Gateway History

2014-2015 Location: China | Students: 30

- First Gateway Summer programs run with support from the International Division, Institute for Regional and International Studies.

2016-2017 Location: Brazil | Students: 30

- Gateway Summer programs change location.

2018 Location: Brazil | Students: 15

- Partnership with OSFA begins.

2019 Locations: Botswana, India | Students: 30

Fellowships: 5

- Support from OSFA increases to allow for addition of another location. Fellowships added to the initiative.

2020 Locations: Botswana, India, Peru | Students: 45

Summer 2020 programs were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fellowships: 5 students were abroad in Spring 2020 when programs were canceled.

- Additional support from OSFA to develop a third summer program.

2021 Location: USA (Washington, DC) | Students: 13

Fellowships: 1

- In person study abroad/away programming resumes with a new domestic summer program location.

2022 Locations: USA (Washington, DC), Denmark | Students: 30

Fellowships: 5 Spring, 5 Summer, 5 Fall

- Second summer program location added with additional support from Scan Design Foundation. Both courses fulfill Ethnic Studies Requirement. Fellowships resume.

2023 Locations: USA (Washington, DC), Botswana, Singapore | Students: 45

- Additional support from DDEEA to increase student numbers.

Global Gateway Partnerships

The Global Gateway Initiative is a partnership between International Academic Programs (IAP), the Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA), and the Institute for Regional and International Studies (IRIS).

“The Office of Student Financial Aid is pleased to partner with Global Gateway to support access to study abroad programs, which have a transformative impact on students’ intellectual growth and development. We are committed to removing financial barriers to students’ participation in these powerful learning experiences.”

– Helen Faith, Director, Office of Student Financial Aid

“The Global Gateway initiative supports our mission of offering globally themed programming to campus and Wisconsin communities. Guiding students abroad to start to grapple with the complexities of our constantly changing world and then engaging them on campus and through outreach activities prepares them to navigate our increasingly interconnected world while embodying the Wisconsin Idea.”

– Patrick Rumble, Faculty Director, Institute for Regional & International Studies (IRIS) and Interim Associate Dean, International Division



Global Gateway Impact

- Student and faculty testimonials, current and past program blogs, and featured news: go.wisc.edu/gateway-impact.
- “Having Global Gateway on my resume helps employers know that I value diversity and an inclusive environment...During my time abroad, I gained leadership skills, lessons in cultural competency, and a new global perspective.”
- “Global Gateway **introduced me to communities and groups of people** that I would never have met otherwise. The diversity of the group was wonderful, and I **continue to be friends** with the people on my program to this day.”
- **Over 80% of students** report that the Global Gateway Initiative helped them to **increase their adaptability and flexibility**, and improved their ability to **understand and navigate cultural and geographic differences**.



Case Study: Global Gateway Singapore

- Singapore has opened my eyes to the different ways to promote racial and religious harmony in Singapore and at home.
- Participating in this program was the first time that I was ever so far away from my family! That made me extremely nervous but I'm glad I persisted. The family that I formed on this experience is genuinely like no other.
- The course content helped me to consider harmony and sustainability in a new way because of the guest speakers and excursions.
- Singapore opened my eyes to the value of collectivism in a space of great diversity.



Operational Priorities for UW Global Gateway Singapore Program

S/N	Area of Focus	Key Performance Indicators
1	Local Resources	Local knowledge & resources
2	Encouraging Dialogue	Going through different iterations during the different time frame till the final version
3	Administrative Efficiency	Consistent and ad hoc quality administrative support (e.g. Changes to itineraries prior to trip, visa processing etc)
4	Customer Service	Service attitude (e.g. friendliness, helpful, professionalism etc)
5	Educational Relevance	Able to arrange relevant sites for study visits/ immersion programmes
6	Accommodation	Quality of accommodation [cleanliness, security etc]
7	Student Experience	Able to complete learning trip itinerary on schedule and enhancing experience

Local Resources

- Knowing the correct parties/organizations to connect the students for the program
- Coordinating with reliable stakeholders like local agents, hotels and transport companies in the planning
- Ensuring equal representations for the different major religions in Singapore



Religious Leaders from Inter
Religious Organizations

Encouraging Dialogue

Proposal

- Proposal to meet the learning needs of the schools
- Process will go through various reiterations
- Changes made within the schedule, scope and cost

Pre-Departure

- Site visit where applicable [Meetings with religious leaders/ checking of hotels]
- Ample and transparent communication- Surprises are not welcome
- Final changes and iterations before arrival

On the Ground

- On the ground Health and Safety Briefings
- Frequent check-ins by the program coordinators to ensure quality and alignment with the program
- Changes and adaptations made accordingly [Changing Yoga classes]



Administrative Efficiency

Ensuring transparency and communication with the stakeholders

Contingency Plans to support if religious institutions or host organizations are unable to assist or if they drop out during the last minute

Ascertain that other stakeholders such as hotels, travel agencies are able to fulfil their roles. This is especially pertinent to prevent any Visa issues as students are travelling to Malaysia, a neighbouring country.



Customer Service and Professionalism

Sharing CIEE code of conduct with the vendors and different stakeholders to ensure alignment in objectives and values

Program Coordinators from CIEE and local guides to assist students on enquiries on programs, local culture and health/safety matters

Bridging the gaps between the curiosity of the UW students and the sharing by local religious leaders

Educational Relevance

- Sites and speakers are chosen according to the relevance to the course and syllabus covered
- Example of a learning outcome for the UW Gateway Program- To understand contemporary religious practices, architectural constructions, and community environments of each religious tradition.
- CIEE Singapore's role--- To ensure diversity in representation in terms of institutional visits and exchanges



Accommodation

- Safety being the paramount concern- Ensuring that the housing is clean and safe location with 24 hours support
- Program Coordinator a phone call away in case of emergency
- Convenient location where students have easy access to the subway [2 minutes] and buses





Enhancing Student Experience



Lag time minimized, so that all activities can be fulfilled and there is no overrun to ensure that there is free time for the students



Meals, visits, local interactions and activities were curated to promote variety and to cater to different MIs



Lessons come in the form of classroom hours and more than 15 field trips

Discussion: Establishing a Program

- How can institutions and providers work together to overcome the challenges associated with short-term programming?
- Which campus partnerships and providers are the right fit?
- What are the best recruitment practices/strategies?

Case Study: Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship



Presidents Changing the Face of Study Abroad

Leadership matters. Leaders take action. Action turns vision into reality.

Thank you to these university leaders who have demonstrated their commitment to making study abroad accessible to students from all backgrounds by matching CIEE's \$1,500 grant for their qualified students who applied for the Frederick Douglass Global Fellowship!



WILL YOU JOIN US?

- Donor appeal
- Cohort magic
- Get out of your own way
- Expand the impact



Discussion: Encouraging DEI Initiatives

- How can we better facilitate short-term programming as precursors or supplements to long-term immersion programs (rather than as replacements)?
- How can faculty-led programs contribute to DEI initiatives?

Discussion: Encouraging DEI Initiatives

- How can we develop the profiles of short-term programs to be more accessible for students and intrinsic for institutions and providers?
- How do we avoid designing programs that reinforce existing hierarchies and exacerbate systemic injustice?

Brainstorm: Pie in the Sky Thinking

What's next?

Wrap Up – Takeaways

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Thank You!

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