DEVELOPING SCHOLARSHIPS TO CREATE ACCESS FOR UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS IN EDUCATION ABROAD
Lindsay G. Calvert, Gilman Scholarship Program Director, Institute of International Education (IIE)-Houston

Deidre Ellis, Manager of Student Services, Diversity Abroad

Hanni Geist, West Coast Representative, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)-San Francisco

Monya Lemry, Associate Director, Study Abroad, The University of Texas at Austin
Scholarship & grant models that create inclusive environments

Effective ways to repurpose scholarship models for an underserved population and increase access

Advising practices to guide underrepresented student populations towards study abroad participation
  - Recruitment, pre-departure, overseas, re-entry
SHOPPING CART METHOD
FIRST ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP
- Increase participation by maximizing the use of campus financial resources

- Assess whether giving money to students in a “reward for participation” fashion is effective

- Found awarding “just in time” scholarships was not moving us forward as an institution

- Implemented “planning scholarships”
## “PLANNING” VS “JUST IN TIME” SCHOLARSHIPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Just in Time Scholarships”</th>
<th>“Planning Scholarships”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apply at the same time as program</td>
<td>Apply semester or years before program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Know funding at the last minute</td>
<td>Know funding way in advance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decreases ability to plan for the experience</td>
<td>Increases ability to plan for the experience</td>
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<tr>
<td>Usually individual / single awards</td>
<td>Multiplier affect with matching awards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stressful to the student</td>
<td>Reassures the student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional / Historical</td>
<td>Innovative new approach</td>
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</table>
Neither parent graduated with a four-year degree

- More likely
  - Come from a racial/ethnic minority group
  - Have low socioeconomic status
  - More likely to speak more than one language
  - Have had multi-cultural experiences to draw upon and help them succeed abroad
  - Be independent and able to problem solve

Far less likely to study abroad than peers whose parents graduated from college (National Survey for Student Engagement)
Student engagement – academic success & reduction in attrition

Student goals to complete degree

Student need to reduce financial barriers

Award prior to program selection

Re-purpose existing scholarships
FIRST ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP

- Award to high financial need, first generation in college students (undergraduate level)
- $3000 awards
- Allotted 25 awards per year for 5 years
- Encourage students to plan early in their college career
- Apply prior to completion of 60 hours (first 2 years)
- Have two years to utilize scholarship
- Open to all program types
- Annual competition, application/essay, selection committee
- First cohort Fall 2012
- Annual reception to engage students
- Collaboration with retention programs on campus
- Set up advising hours centrally on campus (go where they are)
- Scholarship essay writing workshop
- Assigned Study Abroad Program Coordinator
- Initial one-hour advising appointment
- Personal follow up each semester until participation is confirmed
- Peer mentoring
- Early disbursement of funds for upfront costs (i.e. passport, flight)
- Ensure program selected has strong on-site support
- Assigned Study Abroad Program Coordinator
- Re-entry engagement
  - Recruit for peer advisor programs
  - Speaking engagements for events organized by both Study Abroad and Retention Program
  - Leadership opportunities on-campus
Note: Students still have additional semesters to utilize their award.

268 first-generation college students have received awards that allow them to pursue their courses of study in China, Spain, Brazil, Costa Rica and other countries (March 2014).

UT Austin was recognized with the Simon Spotlight Award for this initiative.
Start small

Re-purpose “just in time scholarships” to “planning scholarships”

Collaborate with student retention programs

Collaborate with diversity and multicultural affairs offices

Provide additional outreach and advising to underrepresented student populations

Seek joint funding with colleges, departments, clubs on campus

Work with exchange partners and affiliates to create matching grants or align existing scholarships
DAAD SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS

- Funding for
  - Study abroad
  - Internships
  - Senior thesis research
  - Language courses

- All full-time students eligible

- Previous knowledge of German not always required, but advantageous

- Monthly stipend or lump sum

- Health insurance

- Some travel reimbursement

open to all fields :: merit based :: no language requirement

:: flexible scholarships :: transparent application process
APPLICATION COMPONENTS

- Merit based scholarships
- Online application process
- RISE internships – application to up to three internships at a time
- Documents to submit:
  - Résumé
  - Project Proposal (demographic info can be shared, not required)
  - Two Letters of Recommendation
  - Program Acceptance Letter/Invitation from German university* (for scholarships/grants)
  - Proof of Enrollment
  - Transcripts
  - Language Evaluation Certificate (language skills required based on program)

* Submission after scholarship is granted possible
- **DAAD Scholarships & Grants**: Online application + application material to be sent to DAAD NY, selection by external committee from the various disciplines (details at www.daad.org)

- **DAAD RISE & RISE professional**: Online application + application material to be sent to DAAD Bonn, selection by DAAD and PhD student/company

**APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS**

- Online application
- Mail application to DAAD
- Committee meeting & decision
- Student leaves for Germany

**Timeline**
- Deadline
- 2-4 months
- 4-15 months
Purpose & Goals: Diversifying Study Abroad

GILMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Students

- Ethnicity
- First-generation
- Disabilities
- Community colleges, HBCUs, HSIs, MSIs
- Underrepresented fields of study (STEM)
Diversifying Study Abroad – Countries and Regions
APPLICATION PROCESS

Online Application
- Data
  - Home institution/Academics
  - Transcripts
  - Advisors
  - Program
  - Optional survey (demographic)
- Essays
  - Statement of Purpose
  - Follow-on Service Project

Advisor Certification

Study Abroad Advisor

Financial Aid Advisor
SELECTION PROCESS

- U.S. institution advisors, administrators and faculty
- 2 panelists read ~70 applications
- Selection criteria, guidelines
- Rating and ranking process
- IIE staff facilitate selection panels / evaluate & assign award amounts
SCHOLARSHIP COMPONENTS

A Review
APPLICATION COMPONENTS & PROCESS

- Data
  - Student demographics
  - Academics
  - Abroad program and location

- Qualitative – Essays
  - Elements related to scholarship purpose
  - Statements of purpose/intent
  - Address challenges
  - Project proposals
  - Creative

- Paper
- Online
- Submission & deadlines
SELECTION PROCESS

- External vs. internal
- Collaboration with campus departments
- Train on criteria and guidelines
- Develop rating system
- Awarding
MARKETING STRATEGIES

- Campus promotion / press releases
- Study abroad fairs
- Student workshops / info sessions
- Social media
- Peer to peer outreach / alumni ambassadors
PEER TO PEER OUTREACH / AMBASSADORS

**DAAD**

**Home University:** Bowdoin College  
**Major:** German, Environmental Studies and Dance  
**Program:** Antioch in Tübingen

**Home University:** University of California, Santa Barbara  
**Major:** Global & International Studies  
**Program:** Undergraduate Scholarship

**Home University:** South Dakota School of Mines and Technology  
**Major:** Geological Engineering  
**Program:** CBYX

**Home University:** University of Missouri, Columbia  
**Major:** Biochemistry  
**Program:** RISE

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**Gilman**

**Recipient:** Donald Meeks  
**Country:** Czech Republic  
**Year:** 2014  
**Home Institution:** Scottsdale Community College  
**U.S. Region:** West  
[View Donald's Profile]

**Recipient:** Ben Nia  
**Country:** Australia  
**Year:** 2013  
**Home Institution:** University of Texas at Austin  
**U.S. Region:** South  
[View Ben's Profile]

**Recipient:** Erika Morton  
**Country:** China  
**Year:** 2014  
**Home Institution:** University of Memphis  
**U.S. Region:** South  
[View Erika's Profile]

**Recipient:** Rosa Reyes  
**Country:** France  
**Year:** 2012-2013  
**Home Institution:** University of New Mexico  
**U.S. Region:** West  
[View Rosa's Profile]
# STUDENT SUPPORT

## DAAD
- DAAD Scholarship Information booklet
- DAAD FAQs
- Webinars
- All-grantees meeting in Germany
- Support through US and Germany offices

## Gilman
- Pre-Departure Orientation Video
- FAQs
- Webinars
- Social media, email, Skype
- U.S. Embassy/Consulate
EFFECTIVE OUTREACH FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

- Collaboration & Partnerships
  - Diversity & Multicultural offices
  - Financial Aid Office
  - Student services
  - First year programming
- Scholarship gifts to campus organizations
- Scholarship promotional plans (templates)
- Open communication about award process
- Follow-through
Establishing a point person

Developing relationships
- Availability, visibility, consistency

Ask the students!
GROUP DISCUSSION

- Challenges
- Best practices
- Take aways
Lindsay G. Calvert, Gilman Scholarship Program Director, Institute of International Education (IIE)-Houston – lcalvert@iie.org

Deidre Ellis, Manager of Student Services, Diversity Abroad – dellis@diversityabroad.org

Hanni Geist, West Coast Representative, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)-San Francisco - geist@daad.org

Monya Lemry, Associate Director, Study Abroad, The University of Texas at Austin – mlemery@austin.utexas.edu