Exploring Responsible and Effective Integration

Forum on Education Abroad European Conference
October 24, 2014
Ryan Lorenz

- Welcome
- Session themes
- Presenter introductions
- Small group discussions and questions
- Reporting back to big group

Barcelona Resident Director
Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University (IFSA-Butler)
Erika Ryser Garcia

- Define community and integration
- Importance of facilitated learning in traditional destinations
- Responsibilities to students

Executive Director of Programs in Latin America and Spain
Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University (IFSA-Butler)
Melissa Hardin

- Sending school perspectives
  - Point of departure: familiarity
  - Student selection and preparation: from advising to re-entry
  - Expectations: multiple forms of facilitated engagement and guided reflection

- Challenges and opportunities
  - Academic and personal readiness
  - Availability and openness
  - Reciprocity

Assistant Dean for International Studies
Ursinus College
Elaine Heyes

- Hosting institution perspectives
  - Intercultural competencies and integration
  - The impact on local society
  - Constraints and distractions

- Strategies for immersion - inside and outside the classroom
  - Guided activities, culture, language
  - Buddy system, exchanges, volunteering, internship,
  - Sports & leisure activities
  - Homestays

- Matching expectations

Academic Coordinator
Specific Programmes for International Students
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Questions for Consideration

How do you define integration?

What are your expectations for U.S. students integrating into host communities?

What strategies can we employ to challenge students to integrate, especially in settings where there are a lot of U.S. students?

How can we help students to integrate in a host community whose dominant language is not English, when we are not requiring them to come with host community language skills?

How do our integration efforts impact the host communities?

Are the communities open and prepared to welcome our students?

What unique attitudes and experiences do host cultures have with foreigners, whether visitors or immigrants, that we should consider as we design integration programming?

How might local community members be motivated to take interest in visiting students?

Others?
Small Group Discussion

At your table, please choose 1-3 questions to discuss in depth. Select one participant who will report back to the group. The report should include 2-4 action items that each participant can take back to their institution for consideration.
Discuss 1-3 questions. Identify 2-4 action items.

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Reporting Back
Thank You