



March 21, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brian Whalen, President and CEO
whalenb@dickinson.edu
717-245-1031

**Forum on Education Abroad Releases State of the Field Survey Results
and Gender Bias Report**

(Carlisle, Pa.) – The Forum on Education Abroad announces the release of its 2013 State of the Field Survey, which will debut at the Forum’s Tenth Annual Conference, “New and Emerging Paradigms for Education Abroad,” to be held April 2-4 in San Diego. Now in its fifth iteration, the State of the Field Survey takes the pulse of the education abroad field on key issues, and compares current trends with those from past surveys.

With a body of data built up over five surveys, the Forum is able to report on trends and developments in education abroad that provide valuable data to help improve the quality of education abroad programming, to shape the Forum’s research and program agenda, and to inform the projects of Forum committees and working groups.

Highlights from the 2013 Survey include respondent concerns related to program funding, parent involvement and assessment.

All conference attendees will receive a copy of the 2013 State of the Field Survey, and will have the opportunity to learn more about the results in a conference session conducted by Chair of the Forum’s Data Committee, Margaret Wiedenhoeft of Kalamazoo College, titled “What is the State of the Field?”

The Forum’s Tenth Annual Conference will also provide the occasion to discuss the results of a recent analysis conducted by the Forum that suggests a gender bias in salaries in the education abroad field.

In 2012, the Forum conducted an Institutional and Program Resources survey on current practices in education abroad. The [Gender Bias and Salaries in Education Abroad Report](#) analyzes that data by examining gender-based discrepancies in salaries for education abroad professionals. The analysis reveals that there is a potential gender bias in education abroad salaries. When males and females are in these positions and most other variables are controlled (education, years of experience, etc.), males appear to have a salary that is approximately \$9962 higher than females.

-more-

A copy of the report is currently [available online](#), and conference attendees are invited to learn more and join the discussion at a conference session titled “Education Abroad Data on Women and Leadership: Empowering Women and Men to Change the Numbers in the Field,” facilitated by Sarah E. Spencer of The University of St. Thomas, Lisa Donatelli of Georgetown University and Sarah Groskreutz of the University of Minnesota.

The Forum intends to conduct further research on this important topic in order to serve its member institutions and organizations. Eventually this data will provide benchmarks for the field so that institutions and organizations can make informed judgments about salaries.

About the Forum on Education Abroad

Founded in 2001, The Forum on Education Abroad is the higher education association for U.S. education abroad and has over 650 institutional members. A 501©(3) non-profit association, the Forum is recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission as the Standards Development Organization (SDO) for the education abroad field. The Forum develops and disseminates comprehensive Standards of Good Practice, promotes best practices and excellence in curricular design, engages in data collection and research, conducts program assessment and quality improvement, and advocates on behalf of its members and the field of education abroad. The Forum is located on the campus of Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

-###-