
The New **F** Words

Rethinking access in the 21st century

Eduardo Contreras University of Portland

Trixie Cordova Diversity Abroad

Sara Spiegler Case Western Reserve University

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1. Objectives

→ Review the old and new Fs

Consider the history of the original “four F’s: Finances, Faculty, Friends, & Fear,” and suggest new F’s: Future & Fit

→ Evaluate where the field is with these F’s

Collectively assess how (or if) the field has made any advancements in diminishing these Fs.

→ Offer ideas to reduce these Fs

Provide a set of ideas to address the barriers to access for the field to move forward

The origin of the four Fs

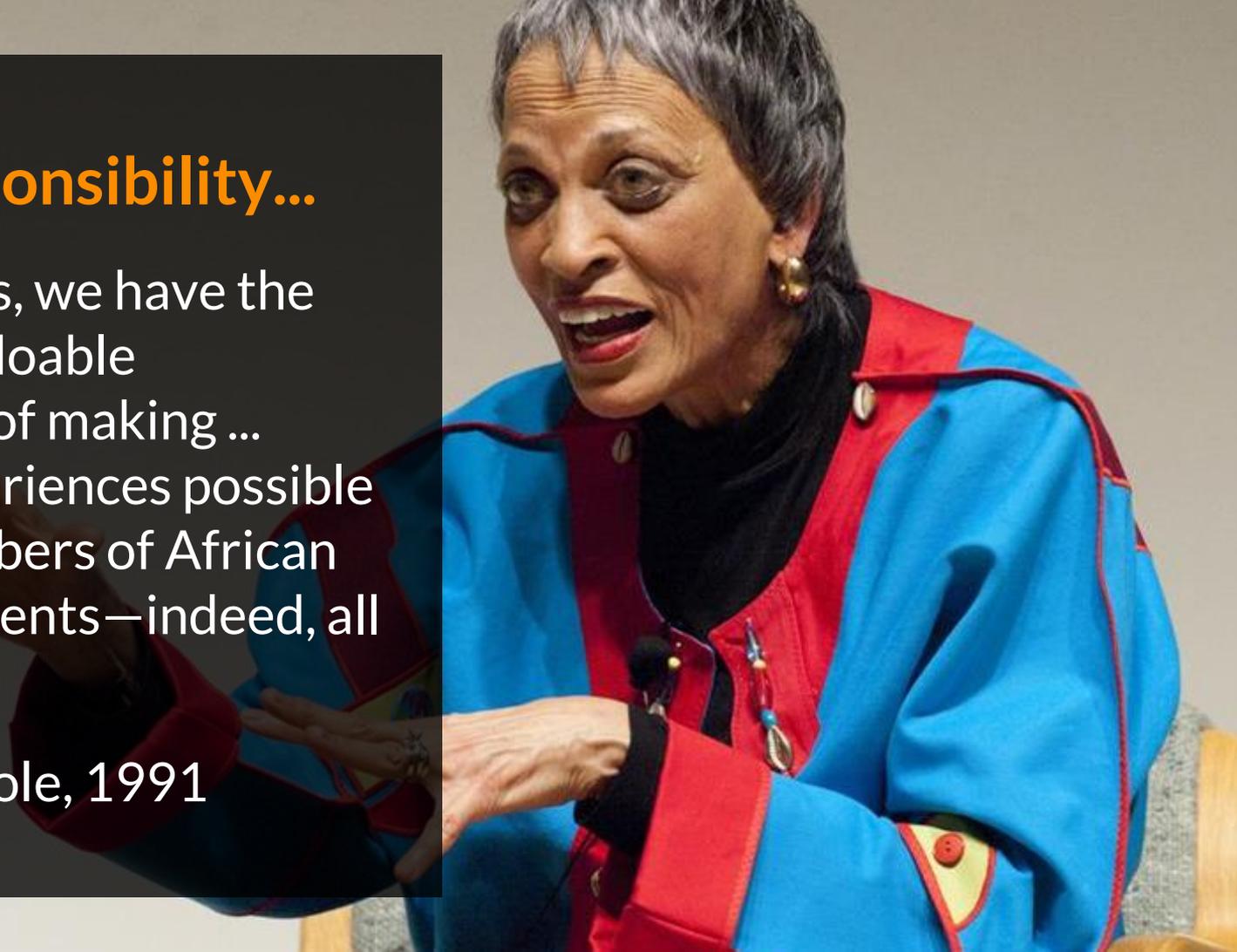
In 1991, Johnnetta Betsch Cole gave the keynote address at the CIEE conference where the topic was “International Education: Broadening the Base of Participation.” There she introduced the main barriers she saw to access for the African American Women attending Spelman College.

- Faculty & Staff
- Finances
- Family & Community
- Fear

On our responsibility...

“My colleagues, we have the awesome yet doable responsibility of making ... enriching experiences possible for larger numbers of African American students—indeed, all students.”

Johnnetta B Cole, 1991



Rethinking the Fs for today

- Faculty
- Finances
- Family
- Fear
- Future
- Fit



Photo: Fox 32 Chicago news footage, March 11, 2016

Faculty & Finances

Faculty play a vital role in

Advocacy

Recruitment

Support &

Legitimacy

Finances can be addressed in the following ways

Clarifying reality of cost over rhetoric

Considering the “double expense” of loss of work time

Exploring all options for funding from student perspective and from an institutional perspective

Partnership with campus and off-campus allies

Family & Fear

Family plays an integral role in

Awareness of, access to, and participation in study abroad for diverse students

Prioritizing familial obligations over individualism

Pressuring students to “finish college on time”

Framing whether or not is it a “worthy” investment of time and money

Fear impacts student experiences because it

Limits their willingness to go overseas

Raises questions regarding their safety

Increases concerns on how their identity will impact their time abroad

Future & Fit

Future is the focus for students

Graduating from college to ensure they obtain a good job

How will study abroad benefit their future career

Unpacking students' study abroad experience

Helping students articulate the skills they've gain during their study abroad experience and how it relates to their future careers. How to talk about study abroad in interviews

How does study abroad Fit in my degree?

Must graduate on time/Can't afford to take on an additional semester

My major isn't offered in study abroad

Group questions

- In what way, if at all, is our group's F word still relevant in 2017?
- If our group's F word is a barrier still, what are ways to remove it?



Groups

Faculty

Finance

Family

Fear

Future

Fit



PAL

There are no easy ways to overcome these barriers, but this acronym can provide a pathway to increased access

→ **Partnership**

This work does not need to be done alone. Partner with campus allies and off-campus agencies in this work

→ **Advocacy**

Advocate for your students internally (on campus) and externally (with providers and agencies).

→ **Leadership**

Much of this work requires individual efforts and leadership. Beyond this it is important to foster goodwill with your own sphere of influence to advance access

Thank you!

**Eduardo
Contreras,
Director Studies
Abroad**

University of Portland
contrera@up.edu

**Trixie Cordova,
Associate
Director**

Diversity Abroad
tcordova@diversityabroad.org

**Sara Spiegler,
Assistant Director
Education Abroad**

Case Western Reserve
University
sara.spiegler@case.edu

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