Education Abroad in Uncertain Times: Case Study Cuba

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Agenda

• Case Study Cuba: changes, advising, expectations, regulations, safety, faculty-led programs
• Examining other regions
• Small group discussions
• Reporting back and take-aways
Preparing Students for Cuba

- Are you ready to go? Preparing students for Cuba and managing expectations.
- Are they really that clueless? Getting students to understand what ‘being safe’ means before something bad happens.
Changes in Cuba

- Changing U.S.-Cuba relations
- Adapting to regulatory changes
- State Department
- Communicating with partners
Faculty-led Programs

- Developing and continuing programs
- Managing faculty expectations
- Advising and recruiting students
- Managing student expectations
Being a Successful Student in Cuba

- Preparation
- Managing expectations
- Flexibility
Questions?
Lessons from Cuba

- Nothing is routine. Always be prepared for the unexpected
- Stay ahead of the questions and more importantly anticipate the questions
- We don’t always have the answers and it’s okay to say so
- Provide regular updates to the parents
- Consult your peers and listen to their comments and suggestions
Questions for Discussion

- We are facing volatile times and many countries are experiencing periods of political uncertainty. How do we prepare our students to adapt to such uncertainties?
- What are our expectations of study abroad programs? What do we expect now that we didn’t before?
- Starting from our current practices and expectations, how can we better support our students abroad and each other?
- Identify your organization’s challenges/weaknesses in this area. What is needed and/or how can we improve?
Take-aways and Action Points