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I. Scholarships and Fellowships

NO SCHOLARSHIPS OR FELLOWSHIPS TO REPORT THIS WEEK.

II. News you can use

NEW IIE WHITE PAPER ON EXPANDING STUDY ABROAD CAPACITY AT U.S. INSTITUTIONS

The Institute of International Education (IIE) has released, in conjunction with its participation in panel discussions and workshops on study abroad at the NAFSA annual conference in Los Angeles, a new white paper: "Expanding Study Abroad Capacity at U.S. Colleges and Universities." This paper is the sixth in the Institute's series white papers on Meeting America's Global Education Challenge, and can be downloaded at: http://www.iie.org/studyabroadcapacity.

The following key findings from the survey provide a picture of some of the main issues related to expanding the capacity of U.S. institutions to send more students abroad:

- Targets: The majority of institutions surveyed (83 percent) indicated that they were actively trying to send a greater number of students abroad.

However, a significantly smaller portion (40 percent) has actually set targets for increasing study abroad enrollment.

- Anticipated growth: In the short term (over the next two years), the majority of respondents (77 percent) expect a relatively modest growth of 1-25% in study abroad participation, and few respondents (12 percent) expect growth of more than 25%. However, more institutions expect to see higher growth rates in the long term (over ten years), with over 45 percent of respondents indicating growth rates of more than 25%.
- Areas of Growth: The largest growth areas appear to be short-term programs sponsored by the sending institution (54 percent) and semester programs (35 percent). Growth areas varied by institutional type.
- Challenges: The most significant challenges to increasing study abroad revolved largely around costs and funding. The most frequently cited challenge was the rising costs for students (89 percent of respondents), followed by insufficient endowments or scholarship funding from the home institution (79 percent), rising costs for program operation and administration (73 percent), and not enough federal funding available for students to study abroad (72 percent). Student interest, program diversity and program availability appeared to not be significant challenges to increasing the number of U.S. students participating in study abroad.
- Strategies to increase U.S. study abroad: Survey respondents identified the following key steps that would help increase the number of students who study abroad: more study abroad scholarship opportunities (83 percent), more institutional funding for the study abroad office (55 percent), and stronger commitment from faculty (53 percent) and institutional leadership (38 percent).

The white paper can be downloaded at: http://www.iie.org/studyabroadcapacity

INSIDE HIGEHER ED

If you are looking for a good source to help you keep up with what is going on in the world of higher education, Inside Higher Ed is a free daily online publication that covers a variety of college and university issues. http://www.insidehighered.com

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION: SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING STATISTICS

http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/

Scholars, journalists and members of the general public will have a field day with the National Science Foundation's Science and Engineering Statistics website. Visitors will note that the data contained within the site includes publications, working papers, data spreadsheets, and analyses divided into broad areas that include "Education", "Federal Government", "Industry", "International", and "Social Dimensions". Users can delve deeper into these broad areas and come up with related publications, policy briefs, and so on. Near the bottom of the page, visitors can look over the "New Releases" area for new reports on federal science and engineering support to universities, research expenditures, and the ethnicity and gender makeup of federal scientists and engineers. Finally, visitors can also sign up to receive their RSS feed.

To find this resource and more high-quality online resources in math and science visit Scout's sister site - AMSER, the Applied Math and Science Educational Repository at http://amser.org.

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INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY

http://dl.clackamas.cc.or.us/ch104-00/index.htm

New students of chemistry may have trouble keeping their ionic and covalent bonds in order, so they should feel free to consult this helpful site created by Eden Francis, a teacher at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City, Oregon. The information on this site is divided into ten separate lessons, including "Lab Fundamentals I: Physical Properties", "Nature of Atoms: Atomic Structure", and "Chemical Nomenclature". Each lesson contains accessible explanations of each subtopic, along with useful graphics and illustrations. Each section concludes with a "wrap-up" area that will be helpful to students who wish to grain a sense of the overall thrust and focus of each section. [KMG]

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