



**SHOW ME THE MONEY:
BEST PRACTICES IN
STUDY ABROAD
SCHOLARSHIP ADVISING**

**NAFSA REGION III & VII
BI-REGIONAL CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 2012**

Facilitators

Kenya Casey, Associate Director
Emory University

Dawn Foster, Assistant Director
Georgia State University

Magnolia Hernández, Director
Florida International University



Session Overview

- I. Perceived Barriers
- II. Scholarship Advising Best Practices
- III. Professional Development/Funding Opportunities for Staff
- IV. Group Exercise



Perceived Barriers

Typical Scholarship application barriers:

- Deadlines
- Essays
- GPA
- Application materials
- Financial Aid status
- Time management
- Lack of awareness
- Competitiveness
- Limited funding for International Students





SCHOLARSHIP ADVISING:
MOST COMMON SCHOLARSHIPS

Most Common Scholarships

- Diversity Abroad
- Fund for Education Abroad
- Critical Language Scholarship
- Boren Scholarship
- Benjamin A. Gilman
- Rotary
- Fulbright
- Freeman-Asia
- Institutional Scholarships
- Program Provider Scholarships



Fund for Education Abroad

- **Award amount:** At least \$5000 and up to \$10,000
- **Deadline:** January 13th
- Must plan to study abroad for a minimum of 4 weeks in country
- Is committed to supporting education abroad in his/her campus community through work with the FEA and his/her campus education abroad staff upon return.
- Fund 10-15 students



Boren Scholarship

- Maximum scholarship **awards** are:
 - \$8,000 for a summer program (special initiative for STEM students only; 8 weeks minimum)
 - \$10,000 for a semester
 - \$20,000 for a full academic year
- **Deadline:** February 13th
- The program focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security.
- All Boren Scholars must agree to the [NSEP Service Requirement.](#)



Critical Language Scholarship

- **Award amount**– Most program costs
- **Deadline:** November 15th
- Offers intensive summer language institutes overseas in thirteen critical need foreign languages
- Students must have completed at least one year of general college course-work by program start date.
- CLS Institute Language Levels have pre-requisites for individual institutes.



Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship

- **Mission:** World understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.
- Administered by the Rotary Foundation
- **as of 2013-2014, will have District and Global Grants
- **DISTRICT GRANT:** to fund international service projects and individual scholarships (no restrictions to the latter)
- **GLOBAL GRANT:** to fund humanitarian project proposals and individual scholarships (with restrictions)



Fulbright US Student Program

- **Award amount**– Typically 9-month stipend
- **Deadline:** October
- Administered by IIE
- Provides grant opportunities for Research, English Teaching Assistants (ETA), and Special Programs
- Bachelor's and US citizenship as minimum requirements.
- Might have country- or program- specific requirements



Freeman Asia Scholarship

- **Award amount**– \$3,000 - \$7,000 depending on length of program
- **Deadline:** February, April, October
- Administered by IIE
- Provides awards to students who are participating in a study abroad program in Asia or East Asia; the scholarship favors students who have had little to no travel experience in the host country. US citizens or residents may apply.



Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

- **Award Amount:** up to \$5000 (up to \$8000 including Critical Need Language supplement)
- **Deadlines*:** Summer, Fall, & AY – March 1st
- Spring – October 2nd
- Established by the International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000 and provides scholarships for undergraduate study abroad programs
- Applicants must be U.S. citizens and eligible to receive the Federal Pell Grant, and must study abroad for a minimum of four weeks in one country



Institutional Scholarships

Award: \$1000-\$20,000

Deadlines: 3 – 9 months
prior to program start date

Requirements:

- **GPA- 2.75**
undergraduate, 3.2-3.5
graduate
- **Application-** may include
essays,
recommendations, and
proof of financial need
- **Lack of overseas
experience**

- Six colleges and universities
in USG system have a study
abroad scholarship
- Funded by student fees
and/or administration,
alumni donations, etc.
- Awards amounts and
winners may be automatic,
or determined by committee
or mathematical formula
including reviewer
ratings





SCHOLARSHIP ADVISING:
BEST PRACTICES

Marketing

- Facilitate scholarship information sessions
- Scholarship information sent from financial aid office
- Create scripts for specific scholarships
- Provide a scholarship table at study abroad fair
- Build your study abroad scholarship page
- Share information with “key” offices/faculty/staff
- Utilize program websites as a resource
- Highlight student successes on campus (PR/Media)



Building Collaborations

On-campus Networks

- Enrollment Services
 - Financial Aid
 - Student Accounts
- Student resource Offices
 - Writing Centers
 - Scholarship office(s)
- Career Services
- Multicultural programs
 - TRIO
 - Student Support Services

Scholarship Review Panels (Gilman, NSEP Boren, CLS, FEA)

- Instructional Conferences
- Sharing information



Advising: Budget

- Communicate openly about program cost and financial need
- Discuss program options based on budget and financial aid
- Discuss program payment deadlines and fee schedule
- Openly discuss spending habits and priorities
- Learn about and share financial aid regulations
- Create budget sheets for students



Advising: Scholarships

- Work with students individually on scholarship requirements
- Consider *requiring* students to apply if eligible
- Advise students on developing feasible/attainable follow on projects
- Assign advisors to read/review essays
- Require appointments/interviews for nationally competitive scholarships
- Serve as a resource to help students complete service requirements
- Include students in your office's special projects
- Engage students in activities that add value to their experience





**SCHOLARSHIP ADVISING:
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES FOR STAFF**

Professional Development

Professional Development Opportunities for Staff

- Fulbright (India, Japan, Korea and Germany)
- Scholarship Review Panels
- YTYA Emerging Leaders Program through SIT
- NAFSA
 - Volunteer
 - Apply for a travel grant
 - Australian Higher Education Seminar
 - Baden-Württemberg Seminar





Share your best practices

FACILITATED DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS?

