



MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

## International Education



- **Study Abroad opportunities are an integral part of the true well rounded, liberal arts education. Including, but not limited to:**
  - **MSU’s Strategic Initiatives part 3.C...Create appealing global learning opportunities at home and abroad.**
  - **COPLAC’s mission statement**
  - **Recognized as a High Impact Practice in Higher Education and identified as one of the key tenets to the MSU Texas Signature Experience.**
  - **Contributing to the personal growth, intercultural development, and career attainment of our students**

- **Study Abroad provides a “Value Added Component” to *students and faculty* by:**
  - **Providing opportunities for international study while earning 3-6 hours of academic credit**
  - **Allowing over 1,200 MSU students to study abroad and given over 70 faculty the opportunity to have international experience since inception (1985)**
    - **Providing faculty development with international experience at no cost to the university (salary/benefits)**
  - **Complementing the university Undergraduate Research Program (EURECA) by completing original, in-depth research papers or professionally related projects (photography, graphic design, theatre)**

- **Study Abroad provides a “Value Added Component” to *the university* by:**
  - **Supporting the globalization of the curriculum**
  - **Generating over 810 semester credit hours (equal to more than \$235,000 in just tuition & fees) during the summer 2018 terms with no expense to university other than original office overhead**
  - **Complementing EURECA by having students complete original, in-depth research papers or professionally related projects (photography, graphic design, theatre)**
  - **MSU serves as a national consortium leader with 9 other schools sending their students and faculty to our British Studies Program**

- **Midwestern currently leads a 9 school consortium, making it one of the largest study abroad consortiums in the country.**
  - **Leading this consortium heightens the profile and name recognition of MSU both nationally and internationally**
  - **Currently offer four international programs that sent 144 students abroad in summer 2018:**
    - **British Studies Program (London)**
    - **Spanish Language Program (Granada, Spain)**
    - **French Language Program (Tours, France)**
    - **Global Health & Wellness (Grenada, West Indies)**
  - **Last summer, brought in tuition and fees from 21 students at partner universities that have never sat foot on campus (over 200 in last 10 years) in addition to 123 MSU students.**
    - **We DO NOT Scholarship students from partner schools who participate.**

- **Good steward of university funds:**
  - **Recently, when exchange rates were more favorable between the USD and GBP, we were able to prepay a larger amount of expected invoice in a deposit, saving both the university and our students money.**
  - **Work with local travel agents to secure bulk airfare pricing, keeping overall cost lower**
  - **All study abroad faculty travel/lodging/per diem is paid from program funds, not university budget.**
- **These are sound, academic programs--not tours or vacations. These programs add valuable skills to our students as they prepare to enter an increasingly global marketplace.**

- **Study abroad was identified by the university's Signature Experience Task Force as one of the practices that should be further implemented in creating the signature experience. Internships were also identified, and our office plans to pursue international internship opportunities as well.**
- **From 2009-2015, the average number of MSU students participating was 58 students. From 2016-2018, the average number has been 101, growth of approximately 75%!**
  - *This growth has been funded through favorable exchange rates and subsequent cost savings, which are not guaranteed.*
- **We continue to look at programs underrepresented in current study abroad data and design programs to fit their needs (Grenada as an example). Additionally, we have at least one additional program ready to roll out but is being held back for lack of scholarship funds. This will increase participation numbers even further.**
- **When the number of students studying abroad grows, the university will see an increase in summer credit hour production.**

- **Scholarship Funding:**
  - **\$50,000 is currently budgeted for MSU study abroad scholarships annually, which was originally designed to provide 50 MSU students a \$1,000 scholarship to offset costs of study abroad.**
  - **Now we consistently have close to (or over) 100 MSU students studying abroad. In order to stretch the scholarship budget to accommodate this growth, the level of scholarship awards have been reduced and we have been using reserves/savings to cover the additional expenses.**
    - **We have been able to fund our growth (and subsequent scholarships) from program reserves and savings due to favorable exchange rates primarily from BREXIT turmoil and a stronger US Dollar. This is not sustainable long term and will change once BREXIT negotiations are finalized and currencies recover.**
      - **When exchange rates move back to more historical figures (approximately 30-40% higher than current rates), we will no longer be able to fund overages from reserves. This will result in reduced participation numbers due to capped scholarship funds.**

**\*When the study abroad enrollment grows, the university benefits from additional tuition/fee revenue with no additional expenses other than potential scholarships.**



Total MSU Students by Year										
	London	Spain	France	Grenada	Germany	Total	Scholarship Budget	Actual Expenditure	Net	~MSU Tuition & Fees Generated (All Students)
2005	34					34				
2006	41					41				
2007	49					49				
2008	52					52				
2009	53					53				
2010	55					55				
2011	53					53				
2012	47					47	\$58,000			
2013	54	7	3			64	\$58,000			
2014	62	10	6			78	\$50,000			
2015	37	15	9			61	\$50,000			\$132,661
2016	80	9	7		5	96	\$50,000	\$78,000	-\$28,000	\$199,139
2017	60	17	7		4	84	\$50,000	\$74,000	-\$24,000	\$182,854
2018	76	30	5	12	6	123	\$50,000	\$83,000	-\$33,000	\$236,880

Funded from Program Reserves



Participation numbers have increased, but we have been forced to cut scholarship amounts to students and depend heavily on program reserves to supplement our scholarship budget. We have been able to cover these from reserves/savings due to a favorable exchange rate from BREXIT turmoil the last 3 years, but that is unsustainable long term.

22840-2840-12

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
Total Staff Salaries (Director & Asst.)	\$114,524	\$114,524
Fringe Benefits	\$38,718	\$38,718
Travel	\$14,931	\$14,931
Maintenance & Operations	\$6,771	\$6,771
Utilities	\$475	\$475
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$175,419</b>	<b>\$175,419</b>

---

22844-2840-12

	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>
Scholarships	\$50,000	<b>\$75,000</b>

*3 year average deficit has been \$ 28,333*

This increase will help fix today's problem. We will likely be coming back again next year to fund further growth. If not approved and exchange rates change, participation will be limited to numbers we can afford, cutting revenue to the university (a net loss of ~\$100K).

Total MSU Students by Year										
	London	Spain	France	Grenada	Germany	Total	Scholarship Budget	Actual Expenditure	Net	~MSU Tuition & Fees Generated (All Students)
2005	34					34				
2006	41					41				
2007	49					49				
2008	52					52				
2009	53					53				
2010	55					55				
2011	53					53				
2012	47					47	\$58,000			
2013	54	7	3			64	\$58,000			
2014	62	10	6			78	\$50,000			
2015	37	15	9			61	\$50,000			\$132,661
2016	80	9	7		5	96	\$50,000	\$78,000	-\$28,000	\$199,139
2017	60	17	7		4	84	\$50,000	\$74,000	-\$24,000	\$182,854
2018	76	30	5	12	6	123	\$50,000	\$83,000	-\$33,000	\$236,880

Tuition & Fees from Study Abroad



When participation numbers are up, MSU generates higher levels of tuition and fees. If we are forced to cut back participation numbers due to current budget constraints, MSU revenues decline significantly.

- **Increased participation in study abroad was requested upon our office in 2015. Since that time, we have been able to show proven and sustainable growth in our programs. Additionally, as part of the signature experience, study abroad expansion and further participation will be expected.**
- **Due to growth, we have seen an increased demand on our stagnant scholarship budget. Fortunately, we haven been able to temporarily offset the shortfall in scholarship funds from program reserves, but this will not be sustainable once exchange rates stabilize from a BREXIT deal.**
- **Therefore, we are requesting an increase to our scholarship budget to assist with proven growth that has added SCH to the university.**
  - ❖ **If scholarships are increased, we will be able to use reserves for their proper purpose, which is to launch new programs. This will allow us to grow even further and generate additional semester credit hours to the university.**
  - ❖ **Every dollar of requested increase will come back to the university through tuition and fees.**
- **Bottom Line-Study abroad expansion has been positive for the university but current funding model is unsustainable as exchange rates will not always be this favorable. We want to continue growing, and not be forced to return to lower participation rates because of exchange rate fluctuation.**



MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

