



Short Term Program, Long Term Effect

LGBTQ Short-Term Programs Abroad



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Session Overview

- Why a session on LGBTQ student programming and why short-term?
- Trend Report: What programs are LGBTQ students participating in?
- Strategies: How can you help the LGBTQ student population navigate issues?
- Case Study: Short Term Program to Greece
- Considerations: What should you consider when advising a LGBTQ student?
- Resources: What is available for you and your students?
- Round-Table: Let's learn from our fellow colleagues!

Why offer this session?

- Study abroad enrollment is climbing, and the majority is being seen on short-term (2-8 week programs).
- In an effort to increase our study abroad participation we all must get innovative and creative with new ideas and programs.
- There are now over 4,000 Gay-Straight Alliance Networks at high schools nationwide, all in less than 20 years. These students are now coming into our colleges and are looking for support.
- The market wants short-term, but our industry struggles to see short-term as highly immersive. As experts in the field it's our duty to ensure these programs have a high level of immersion.

Trend Report

- What programs are we finding LGBTQ students are interested in?
 - Before answering this question, first we often have to go to them to inform them about study abroad. Why?
 - Many students feel they won't have the same support abroad as they do at home.
 - They aren't sure what countries are and are not welcoming to them.
 - Just like many non-traditional majors, they feel study abroad won't be available to them.

Trend Report

- What programs are we finding LGBTQ students are interested in?
 - Study Programs with an emphasis on sexual and gender identity, social justice, women's studies, race studies, etc.
 - Internship Programs working with local Activist Organizations, LGBT-focused rights and aids groups.
 - Group Programs studying with their classmates on Comparative LGBTQ History and Rights, Social Justice, Gender Studies, etc.

Strategies

- Strategy 1: Help the LGBTQ population navigate issues and see that study abroad is possible:
 - Safety: What destinations are/aren't welcoming of the LGBTQ community.
 - Comfort: What partners offer a Queer Resource Center, gender-neutral bathrooms, counseling services, etc.
 - Academic Success: What partners and/or programs offer courses that may be of interest to a LGBTQ student (as previously mentioned in the last slide) or simply offer the safety and comfort while offering a plethora of courses and majors.

Strategies

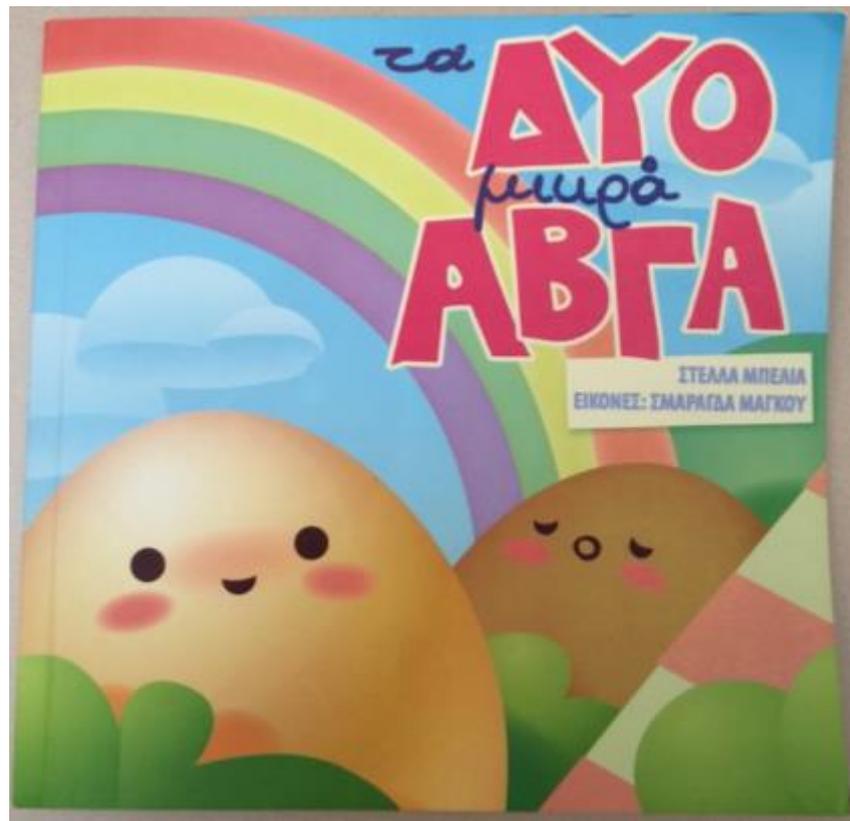
- Strategy 2: Create a LGBTQ Group **Short-Term Program Abroad**
 - Case Study: University of Louisville's LGBT Center
 - Course: LGBTQ History and Gender Studies in Greece
 - Visits:
 - U.S. Embassy (Human Rights Officer)
 - Athens Pride Ambassadors
 - LGBTQ Authors
 - LGBTQ Activists
 - Athens Rainbow House
 - Colour Youth – Story Circles
 - Ouranio Tokso Familes (LGBTQ family group)

Strategies

➤ LGBTQ Group **Long-Term Program Effect**

- Face-face interaction with locals.
- Collaboration and comparative discussion with the local LGBT community
- Design and implementation of an Advocacy Event
- From the on-site programming a project was identified – to create the first book in Greek geared towards kids with same-sex parents.
- The second group in Year 2 launched their program with a Book Launch Party, and now there is one book in Greek for same-sex families.

Strategies



Considerations

- As advisors, we must know topics to consider for this population:
 - Sexual status disclosure.
 - Gender transitioning.
 - Residential considerations.
 - Laws/Attitudes of the host country.
 - Local culture/host family beliefs.
 - Group programs geared towards a LGBTQ group, if a student isn't "out", how can you protect them from being attached to the program while abroad. (Facebook, course on transcript, group photos, etc)

Resources

- We know we can't know it all, there are resources available!
 - The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association (ILGA) offers Lesbian and Gay Rights maps that detail legal climate.
 - The Department of State's US Passports and International Travel Department has LGBTQ Travel Information for going abroad.
 - The National Center for Transgender Equality provides air travel and airport security tips for transgender individuals who often face difficulty and discrimination while traveling.
 - Out Traveler offers information on LGBTQ destinations and events.
 - NAFSA's Rainbow SIG – rainbowsig.org
 - CISabroad.com

CISabroad LGBTQ+ Top Program Destinations

Contact your study abroad office or visit cisabroad.com for additional resources



Top 10 Universities with LGBTQ+ Resources

1. **Semester at Macquarie University**- Sydney, Australia
2. **Semester in South Africa**, Stellenbosch University-Stellenbosch, South Africa
3. **Semester at the University of Sydney**-Sydney, Australia
4. **Semester in Hawai'i**, Hawai'i Pacific University
5. **Semester in Limerick**, University of Limerick- Limerick, Ireland
6. **Semester on the South Island**, University of Otago-Dunedin, New Zealand
7. **Semester in Edinburgh**, Edinburgh Napier University-Edinburgh, Scotland
8. **Semester on the North Island**, Victoria University of Wellington-Wellington, New Zealand
9. **Semester in Newcastle**, University of Newcastle-Newcastle, Australia
10. **Semester at the University of Westminster**- London, England

Advice to future LGBTQ+ students:

Honestly, I would just hope that this semester for people will act as another clean slate. If you've come to terms with your identity/gender/orientation later than many do, then studying abroad is a chance to test the waters. Embrace yourself and experience what it's like to just be free with who you are. I promise you it's the best feeling in the world.
Nick M., Summer in London



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Scholarship



FEA'S LGBTQ RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP

The Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) increases opportunities for dedicated American undergraduates to study abroad by reducing financial restrictions through the provision of scholarships of up to \$10,000.

FEA aims to increase and diversify the population of U.S. students studying abroad. Therefore, in partnership with the NAFSA Rainbow SIG with additional support from the Silver Lining Fund, FEA Rainbow Scholarships are dedicated to LGBTQ undergraduates to study abroad on programs of four weeks or more (in country). Applicants must meet all other FEA requirements.



TIMELINE

- Application opens: November 16, 2015
- Application closes: January 18, 2016



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Application form
- Financial Aid Form (by financial aid office)
- Recommendation Letter (by professor or advisor)



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or DACA student
- Currently enrolled as undergraduate at U.S. university or college
- Minimum of 4 weeks of study in country
- Program must be eligible for credit
- Student self-identifies as LGBTQ



FUNDING AMOUNTS

- \$5,000 for a full semester
- Up to \$10,000 for an academic year
- Pro-rated for summer



APPLY

- Online at: www.fundforeducationabroad.org
- Questions? fea@fundforeducationabroad.org
- For more information, call: 202.349.7340

FEA scholarships are made possible through the generous support of individuals, corporations, and foundations.

FEA would especially like to thank our partner:



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What do you do?

➤ Scenario One:

- You have a student who has identified as LGBTQ. They have chosen to study abroad in a Latin American country and stay with a homestay family. What should you consider as their Advisor?

What do you do?

➤ Scenario Two:

- You have a Queer Resource Center on campus and after completing a survey realize a majority of the students are interested in going abroad, but haven't been in to the study abroad office. What can you do to showcase your Universities education abroad opportunities?
- Choose one destination and list out 3-5 activities, events, discussions that could be used in designing a LGBTQ Group Program overseas for your Queer Resource Center and their students.

What do you do?

➤ Scenario Three:

- You have a student who has identified as Transgender. They have chosen to study abroad on a short-term program to Greece. What considerations do you need to take into account for hotels, customs, beach excursions, etc?
- You have a student who is currently studying abroad in Ireland. It's come to your attention that the student is completing their transitional surgery while studying abroad. Is there anything you need to do for this student? Will their visa/passport, etc, be affected?

Questions?

➤ Connect with us!

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