

First Generation 2.0:

Lessons Learned, New Research, & Missing Populations

Christina Dinges, Study Away Advisor

Susquehanna University, dinges@susqu.edu

Stacey Lydon, Alumni Engagement & Scholarship Officer

University of California Education Abroad Program, slydon@eap.ucop.edu

Mona Syed, Program Coordinator, Study Abroad

The University of Texas at Austin, msyed@austin.utexas.edu

Michelle Tolan, Field Director for Diversity Access & Research

Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University, mtolan@ifsa-butler.org

Enrollment

Undergraduate: 2,200

Institutional Type

Private
Residential

Academic Profile

The School of Arts and Sciences
The Sigmund Weis School of Business

Study Abroad Office Structure

Centralized

Annual Student Mobility-Study Away

450-500



Ethnicity of Current Students
(based on headcount)

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		% change
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Headcount	2,305		2,261		2,215		2,187		2,093		-9.2%
White	2,022	87.7%	1,950	86.3%	1,871	84.5%	1,801	82.4%	1,681	80.3%	-16.9%
Black/African American	69	3.0%	74	3.3%	98	4.4%	116	5.3%	108	5.1%	56.5%
Hispanic	80	3.5%	98	4.3%	97	4.4%	117	5.3%	115	5.5%	43.8%
Asian	32	1.4%	26	1.2%	24	1.1%	30	1.4%	35	1.7%	9.4%
Pacific Islander	1	0.1%	2	0.1%	5	0.2%	3	0.1%	2	0.1%	100.0%
Native American	2	0.1%	5	0.2%	3	0.1%	3	0.1%	3	0.1%	50.0%
Non-Resident Alien	34	1.4%	30	1.3%	43	1.9%	37	1.7%	37	1.8%	8.8%
Two or More Races	21	0.9%	30	1.3%	42	1.9%	50	2.3%	54	2.6%	157.1%
Unknown	44	1.9%	46	2.0%	32	1.4%	30	1.4%	58	2.8%	31.8%
Total US Minority	205	8.9%	235	10.4%	269	12.1%	319	14.6%	317	15.1%	54.6%

Source: Alex Smith, Registrar

First Generation* First-Time, First Year Students

	2010		2011		2012		2013		2014		% change
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
First-Generation	n/a		192	32.1%	213	33.8%	212	36.0%	187	32.5%	n/a

*First Generation students are those for whom neither parent has earned a bachelor's degree.

Source: Alex Smith, Registrar

University of California Education Abroad Program

Systemwide Office

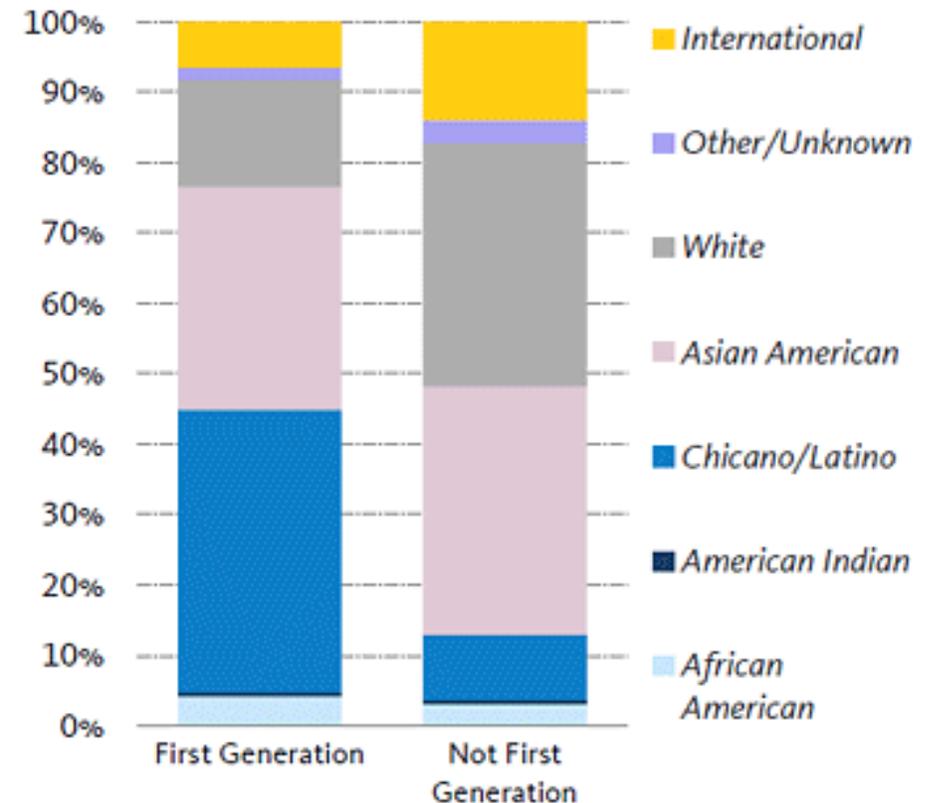
University of California

- Large, public research university system
 - 188,290 undergraduates enrolled in 2013 across 9 campuses
 - **25 percent** of UC students are first-generation college-going = 47,000+
 - **46 percent** of the 2013 entering freshman class were first-generation college going students

UC First Generation Entering Students

Fall 2013 University Wide Statistics

UC's entering first-generation students are more likely to be from an underrepresented minority group, to have spoken a language other than English at home and/or to have a lower income than students who had at least one parent who graduated from college. They are also more likely to be transfer students.



UT Austin First Gen Demographics

- Approximately 22% of undergraduate population are first generation college students
- Since 2010 have been enrolling majority minority student populations
- Focus on four year graduation rates
 - First generation college student have highest attrition rate , 30% (2004)
- UT Study Abroad has primarily aligned its diversity and access initiatives with Academic Success Programs on campus

Why are you here?

- In what capacity do you work with first generation college students?
- Do you have programming specifically for this population?
- What do you hope to get out of this session?

Session Overview

- Current research landscape
- Relationship building, outreach, and campus collaboration
- Who are we still missing?
- Lessons learned

Research Landscape

Taking Student Affairs Research and Looking Through the Lens of Study Abroad

- National Survey of Student Engagement finds study abroad provides the type of ‘high impact’ college experiences that teach the cognitive complexity and intellectual engagement in today’s increasingly sophisticated world.
- As interest in study abroad has increased, the characteristics of the ‘typical’ SA student have remained relatively static: elite colleges, white, female, major in arts/humanities, and have **highly educated parents.**” (Martinez, M.D.; Ranjeet, B., & Marx, H.A. (2009).

By the Numbers

- According to the National Center for Educational Statistics (US Dept of Ed) as of September 2010 ~38-50% of enrolled students at 4 and 2 year institutions were first-generation college students (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2010/2010205.pdf>)
- First-generation college students are far less likely than their peers whose parents went to college to participate in study abroad (National Survey for Student Engagement)

Reoccurring Characteristics of First-Generation College Students

- Lack persistent guidance of academic system knowledge (academic capital)
- Less likely to take out loans, are financially and academically risk averse (St. John, Asker & Hu, 2011)
- May be less prepared to engage with faculty (Padgett, Johnson, and Pascarella, 2012)
- Less likely to pursue humanities and arts and more likely to select majors that are vocational, practical, and connected with high-paying careers (Terenzini, Springer, Yaeger, Pascarella & Nora, 1996)

UCEAP Data

UCEAP

- Out of 5,200+ participants, how many are first-generation college-going students?

We don't know because we don't track this information.

First-generation status is one of several that gives students a boost in the UCEAP Promise Awards, a systemwide scholarship application

In 2013-14 first-generation students made up 46% of students selected for scholarships

Summer 2015 Scholarship Applicants	% of Applicant Pool	% of Selected Students
First Generation	45.9%	54.1%

Campus Stakeholders and Successful Collaborations

Mona Syed

The University of Texas at Austin

Christina Dinges

Susquehanna University

Collaborating with Academic Success Programs and Campus Outreach

Through partnerships are developing targeted programming, enhancing outreach and advising, and funding support

- Examples from University of Texas at Austin and Susquehanna University

Including first generation specific talking points in all presentations

Additional Campus Partners

- Office of the Dean of Students
- Academic Advising Units
- Office of Admissions
- Office of Student Financial Services
- Multicultural Affairs Offices

Partnerships Yet to be Developed

- Student Veteran Services
- Student Organizations
- Parents
- Alumni
- Athletics

Cross Cultural Experience Requirement

- is off-campus (includes domestic programs)
- 2 weeks minimum
- does *not* have to be for credit
- 2013 Andrew Heiskell Award for Internationalizing the Campus, presented by the Institute of International Education (IIE) in recognition of Susquehanna's [Global Opportunities \(GO\)](#) program and other related initiatives.



Paved with Good Intentions

Now what?

Successes, Failures, and “A-ha!” moments

Paved with good intentions

- Nomenclature
 - First Generation, FGCS, “first gen”
 - How do we talk about study abroad?
- Round peg, Square hole
 - Gate-keeping or bridge-building?
 - Application requirements, GPA, timing,
 - Thinking ahead
 - Passport and visa requirements, onsite support

Paved with Good Intentions

- How “specialized” do we make their support?
- Identity perception
 - While abroad
 - Upon return

Paved with Good Intentions

- “Oopsies” and “A-ha!s”