Moving the Needle: Leveraging Innovation for Institutional Change in Study Abroad

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Examined three public-private partnerships:

- US-China Education Trust Student Leaders Program
- 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund
- Partnership in Innovation and Collaboration for Study Abroad

For the report: 17 individuals at 9 winning institutions interviewed; 32 grant winners and 39 finalists surveyed.
Institutional benefits found during three distinct phases:

1. Grant Development
2. Grant Funding
3. Post-Funding
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Benefits During Grant Development

- Establishing engaged collaborative groups
- Increasing support for study abroad
- Developing and enriching external partnerships
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Benefits During Grant Development

“The grant development process helped move the conversation from a general sense of support for study abroad to actual commitments of financial resources.”

• Applications had 11 different offices or departments across campus committed matching funds.
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Benefits During Grant Development

- Innovation Grants provided an opportunity to engage with external partners.
- 1/3 of non-winning finalists moved forward with at least a portion of the proposed project.
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Benefits During Grant Funding

- Establishing and growing new study abroad programs;
- Developing study abroad infrastructure;
- Engaging new student populations, developing study abroad in diverse academic majors;
- Engaging new faculty, campus leaders;
- Elevating the profile, prestige of study abroad.
67% said the grant helped develop new policies that encourage study abroad.

96% said new student populations studied abroad due to grant funding.

89% said more students were interested in studying abroad.

82% said there is broader awareness of study abroad across campus because of the grant.

89% said the grant had a positive impact on the number of students who study abroad.
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Positive, Sustainable Post-funding Outcomes

• Continuation of institutional funding and grant activities

• Development of internal collaborations, leadership support, and external partnerships

• Lasting curricular changes and models

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A majority of institutions continued to provide financial support even after grant was completed.
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Positive, Sustainable Post-funding Outcomes

- 89% said the grant strengthened existing partners
- 82% said the grant helped create new on-campus partnerships
- 64% said their institution was more supportive of study abroad activities

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Positive, Sustainable Post-funding Outcomes

• Lasting curricular changes, new models
• Most winning institutions included some form of curricular change or integration of study abroad for degree requirements.
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What’s Next?

› New 100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund and Partnership for Innovation and Collaboration in Study Abroad Grants

› Additional analysis and future reports
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Report available at:
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