

JNCL-NCLIS joins the Institute of International Education's Generation Study Abroad initiative

JNCL-NCLIS commits to promote study abroad among our 97 member associations, institutions, and companies.

November 18, 2014—JNCL-NCLIS has joined the Institute of International Education's Generation Study Abroad initiative to help more Americans to gain international experience through study abroad programs. This is one of 142 new commitments announced by IIE on November 17, bringing the total Generation Study Abroad coalition to 450 partners. The announcement marks the start of the 15th annual celebration of International Education Week.

IIE's Generation Study Abroad seeks to mobilize resources and commitments with the goal of doubling the number of U.S. students studying abroad by the end of the decade. As the nation's language advocacy organizations, JNCL and NCLIS are firmly committed to the promotion of study abroad as a fundamental component of the development of the linguistic and cultural capital of the 21st century.

Under the new partnership, JNCL-NCLIS will take concrete, action-oriented steps to expand opportunities for study abroad through its 97 member associations, institutions, and companies, many of which are already a part of IIE's Generation Study Abroad initiative.

"This initiative is a vital component of the overall movement to improve our national capacity in language and culture, and JNCL and NCLIS welcome it." -Dr. William Rivers, Executive Director

Generation Study Abroad partners to date include 298 colleges and universities of all sizes and types across the country and around the world, as well as 13 governments, 16 education associations, 67 international partners, and 56 study abroad, K-12, and social network organizations who have committed to specific goals to increase the number of U.S. students studying abroad. Commitments include actions to diversity the population of students who participate in study abroad and provide additional financial resources to make this possible.

IIE launched Generation Study Abroad early this year in the belief that the number and proportion of today's students who graduate with an educational experience abroad is far too low. Currently, fewer than 10 percent of all U.S. college students study abroad at some point in their academic career, according to the [Open Doors Report on International and Educational Exchange](#) published by IIE with support from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Generation Study Abroad aims to grow participation in study abroad so that the annual total reported will reach 600,000 by the end of the decade.

New Open Doors data, released on November 17, is available on the Open Doors [website](#).

"Globalization has changed the way the world works, and employers are increasingly looking for workers who have international skills and expertise," says Dr. Allan Goodman, President of IIE.

“Studying abroad must be viewed as an essential component of a college degree and critical to preparing future leaders.”

About Generation Study Abroad

Generation Study Abroad seeks to significantly increase study abroad participation by bringing employers, governments, associations, and others together to build on current best practices and find new ways to extend study abroad opportunities and resources to tens of thousands of college students whose needs are not currently served by existing programs. Generation Study Abroad will sustain an ongoing dialogue about the need for more students from all backgrounds and in all fields to gain international experience. This will include research to identify and break down barriers hindering students from studying abroad, communications to share strategies and best practices to increase study abroad, and fundraising to mobilize additional financial resources. IIE will also hold a [Summit on Generation Study Abroad](#) on October 1-2, 2015 to engage stakeholders in higher education and all commitment partners.

About JCNL-NCLIS

The Joint National Committee for Languages is a 501(c)3 professional association that develops policy recommendations for language and international education, working to advance language as a 21st century skill vital for global security, economic growth, and social justice. The National Council for Languages and International Studies is a 501(c)4 action organization that advocates in Washington to transform these ideas into policy.

About the Institute of International Education

The Institute of International Education is a world leader in the international exchange of people and ideas. An independent, not-for-profit organization founded in 1919, IIE has a network of 19 offices and affiliates worldwide and over 1,200 member institutions. IIE designs and implements programs of study and training for students, educators, young professionals and trainees from all sectors with funding from government agencies, foundations, and corporations. IIE also conducts policy research and program evaluations, and provides advising and counseling on international education and opportunities abroad.