

IEAP Initiative Status Report

Fall 2022



Initiative Title: Increasing Student Access to Study Abroad and Faculty Development for Short-term Study Abroad Experiences

Mission Based Center: Center for International Affairs (CIA)

Lead: Andrea Grove, Faculty Director

Date: November 30, 2022

OVERVIEW:

Purpose: Limited student access to study abroad experiences due to financial constraints and limited capacity for the faculty to offer short-term courses (UNIV 392).

Though the benefits of study abroad opportunities, a powerful form of experiential learning, are well-documented and highly related to our goals as a University, the experience is restricted to those who can afford it without help (however unintentional that restriction is). Two benefits in particular are an impact on global and local community engagement and development of skills that greatly increase the chances for employment upon graduation. In addition, students who study abroad contribute new perspectives to their courses and their peers upon return to campus. We aim to increase student access to longer term and short-term courses (UNIV 392) through financial assistance and through developing the faculty's ability to offer more of the UNIV 392 courses. The short-term experience is especially more accessible to students with commitments (family, work, health issues) that prevent them from leaving home for longer than a few weeks—lack of access is not only due to financial constraints.

Goals:

Specific Aim #1: Student Scholarships for UNIV 392 and Study Abroad Programs

- Improve access to Study Abroad
- We need to increase the reach of international perspectives to our entire student body to meet CIA's mission and objectives—as well as the University's.

Specific Aim #2: Faculty Development Programs

- Provide a greater number of UNIV 392 courses by mentoring faculty through a program that funds travel to a country of study, where a faculty member has some expertise, but not personal familiarity, contacts, etc. The main deliverable is a UNIV 392 course proposal.
- Provide faculty with means to enrich their foreign language abilities for teaching and research abroad.

Metrics/Data for Evaluation: Feel free to connect with [Matt Zivot](#), Director of Institutional Research, for assistance in thinking through how to convert your project or initiative's goals into measurable outcomes.

What metrics are you using to evaluate achievement of this initiative's goals?

- Feedback about students' international experiences (self-reported)
- Transcript data for GPAs, retention, and graduation rate
- Proposal for teaching UNIV 392 International Experience travel courses
- Foreign language use

What data will be necessary for determining impact?

- Qualitative feedback from student evaluations about the UNIV 392 courses will be used to make necessary adjustments to increase international experience as necessary to better meet student needs
- Comparison of students' performance in the short-term and longer-term Study Abroad programs to other CSUCI students on GPA, retention, graduation, and demographic information (ethnicity, first-generation, etc.)
- The number and quality of UNIV 392 proposals, International Faculty Development Grant applications, and Language Enrichment Grants will be assessed at the end of 2023 academic year
- A survey will be conducted to assess the usefulness of learning foreign languages and how it could be effectively integrated in teaching and research

How and when are these data being collected?

We have to wait for students who will travel on two UNIV 392s in December and January. I will need to work with IR to learn how to gather the data for the comparison between those who have studied abroad and those who have not.

STATUS:

Progress:

- We have awarded the two International Faculty Development Grants (and a third with Center funds).
- We have awarded the eight Language Enrichment Grants (and a ninth with Center funds).
- We have received a number of student applications for the Study Abroad Scholarships (12 to be awarded) and Passport Scholarships (25 to be awarded) but have not reviewed them yet. We needed to wait to see who is enrolled in the Spring UNIV 392 and who has been selected for spring Study Abroad (longer term). We can do that in the next few weeks.

Formative Assessment

Initiative-focused prompt: What problems have you encountered? What feedback would be useful to you at this point?

A few questions/issues/challenges:

- In my thinking, the data we will use will be from this year, but student information about study abroad will not be available for a while; by February we should have student evaluations from the Peru and India trips
- Should I be comparing any past data? I don't think so, but I'm unsure (if so, the hiatus in travel for the past few years will make that tough and we'll have to go back to Fall 2019 and before that).
- It is a challenge for me to manage the workload of data analysis at the moment, on top of the other Center work, and finally, perhaps most importantly:
- Things have changed dramatically because support for our UNIV 392 courses has collapsed. When a handful of UNIV 392 courses were cancelled due to Covid, we were told that the funding they were awarded from IRA would be held until we could travel again. In September, I was told that the funds for the canceled 392s were not in fact reserved as we were told they would be and 2) we had to reapply for those funds.

I resubmitted the previously funded applications for a total of \$170,028 (note this is the 2/3 amount; students would still pay an additional 1/3). The IRA committee voted against funding the courses scheduled to go in spring, summer and fall. President Yao has generously agreed to fund the \$27K for the spring course (Baja) that students *are currently enrolling in*. This is an unprecedented move, and the IRA committee is essentially ending our UNIV 392 program. If students have to pay 100% of the costs, a very small number of very privileged students will be able to go. Under those circumstances, the CIA Advisory Committee is opposed to running these courses at all.

I am struggling to understand how one of the university's most high impact practices could be ended, basically, without a discussion. This is even more puzzling that this is happening when, for the first time, we actually have an AVP for High Impact Practices and Experiential Learning and a Vice Provost overseeing this area. Recognizing that they oversee other HIPs too, this university investment in administration to assist Center work should be protected too.

At this moment, I likely have to inform six faculty that their courses cannot go forward, despite the immense amount of work they have done to propose them. The CIA's credibility is undermined as we have just awarded grants to increase the number of these student opportunities—and two who were funded with CIA funds last year are about to travel over the winter break.

Institution-focused prompt: From what you have experienced thus far, should this initiative be considered for permanent funding, if/when recurring funds were to become available? Why?

A few days ago, I would have said absolutely—as long as the IRA funds can continue, improving

student opportunities to study abroad in general (through training more faculty to increase course offerings) and so that it is not only students with discretionary income who can participate is truly a demonstrated need. The fact that helping students develop international perspectives is one of our core mission elements makes this work essential for the University to be true to its advertised ideals. Now that the funding has been cut off, we are devastated and uncertain about the future of the Center, given that this was our core initiative. The chart on the final page and tables following it show the support of the courses since 2013 (it goes back further but we only have complete data since that year).

Evaluation: What have you learned thus far? Include data used to inform this evaluation.

We have more interest in international faculty development and financial assistance with even small fees for Study Abroad than we can support. Please see table. We expect more student applications once we open the Passport application and share the Study Abroad application more broadly.

Opportunity

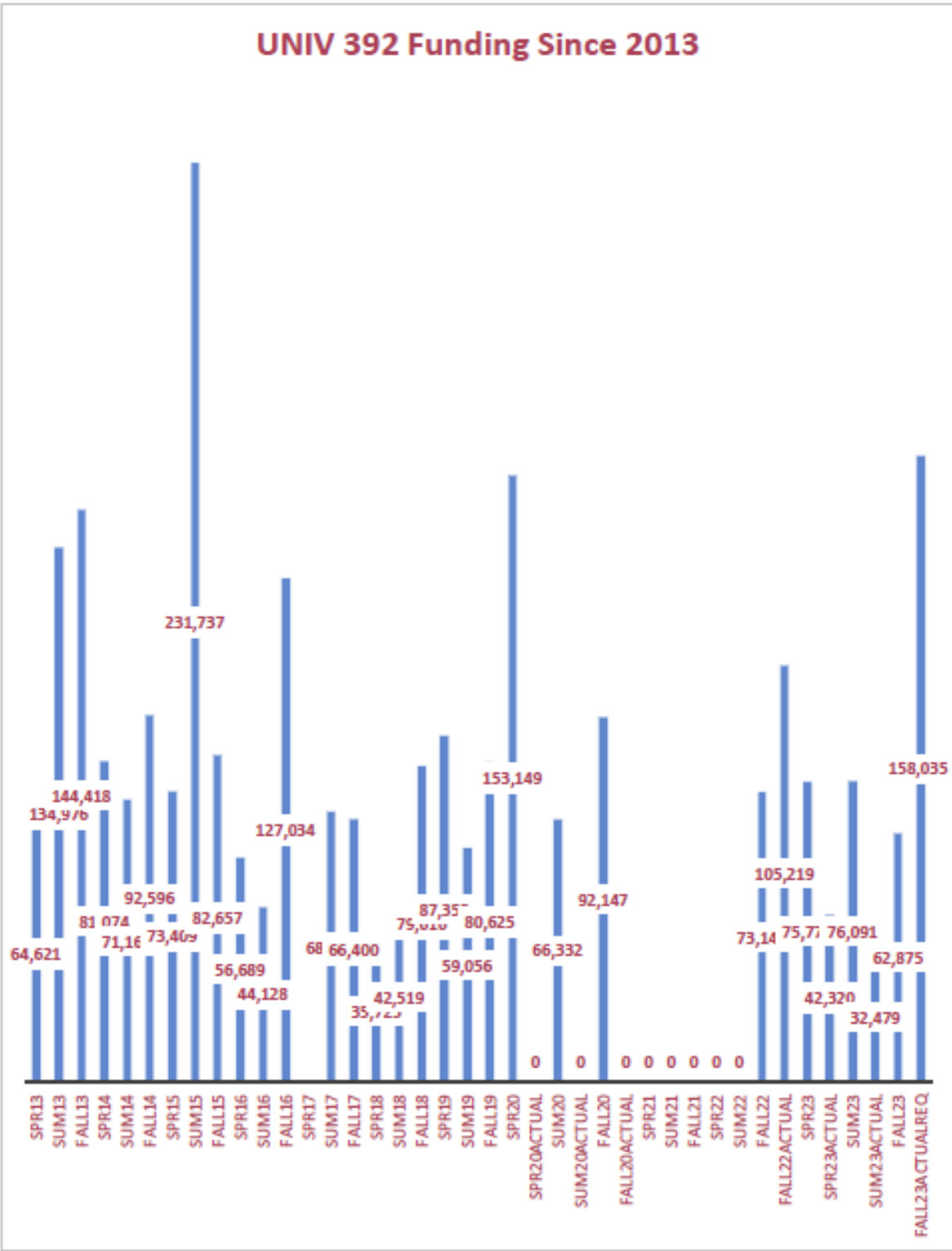
- International Faculty Development Grant – 5 applications; 2 awards available
- Language Enrichment Grant – 10 applications; 8 awards available
- Study Abroad Scholarship – 19 applications so far; 12 awards available
- Passport Scholarship – 4 applications so far; 25 awards available

We are blocked in multiple ways from doing this work, due to the IRA situation and, also, the travel funding policies that leave our faculty unable to pay vendors and book flights until just a few weeks before departure. I have been saying this for years: *we must fix this*. Faculty are so frustrated when they do this work that I fear we will lose them altogether.

Other: Is there anything else about this project or initiative that you would like to add? (e.g., Have new questions or opportunities come up through your experience in leading it?)

I have attended, over the years, several AAC&U and other conferences about internationalization of campuses. It has been incredibly disheartening to see how many colleges and universities, including CSUs, have created intentional internationalization plans under provost leadership, and how far away we are from what else is out there. Over 200 campuses have participated in the [American Council of Education's Internationalization Laboratory](#), which helps them assemble an internationalization leadership team on campus, analyze current internationalization activities and articulate institutional goals, and formulate a strategic action plan to take internationalization efforts forward. I have returned to campus with thoughts about trying to do this, only to be discouraged by the knowledge that there has not been the upper level or cross-campus support given limited time and resources. At least with this initiative from President Yao, we have finally a little more money to improve access for students to the short-term study abroad courses.

UNIV 392 Funding Since 2013



Spring 2013 – total \$64, 621

- \$34,608 - Costa Rica
- \$30,013 – South Korea

Summer 2013 – total \$134, 976

- \$25,000 – Germany (approx.)
- \$40,630 – Cuba
- \$37,016 – Spain
- \$32,330 – Ireland

Fall 2013 – total \$144,418

- \$30,125 – India
- \$42,037 – Japan
- \$72,256 – Japan

Spring 2014 – total \$81,074

- \$52,325 – Ireland
- \$28,749 – Germany

Summer 2014 - \$71,167

- \$36,167 – Spain
- \$35,000 - South Korea (approx.)

Fall 2014 – total \$92,586

- \$38,221 – India
- \$54,375 – South Africa

Spring 2015

- \$30,829 – Cost Rica
- \$42,580 – Australia

Summer 2015 – total \$231,737

- \$29,092 – Cook Islands

\$26,256 – England

- \$37,377 – Germany
- \$59,996 – Paris
- \$30,973 – Columbia
- \$48,043 – China

Fall 2015 – total \$82,657

- \$43,800 – Taiwan
- \$38,857 – Japan

Spring 2016 – total \$56,689

- \$35,725 – Costa Rica
- \$20,964 – India

Summer 2016 – Spain \$44,128

Fall 2016 – total \$127,034

- \$37,780 – India
- \$41,853 – Costa Rica
- \$47,401 – Taiwan

Spring 2017 - missing data

Sumer 2017 – total \$68,189

- \$34,884 – England
- \$33,305 – Germany

Fall 2017 – \$66,400 – South Africa

Spring 2018 - \$35,725 – Costa Rica

Summer 2018 - \$42,519 – Spain

Fall 2018 – total \$79,616

- \$41,881 – New Zealand
- \$37,735 – India

Spring 2019 – total \$87,353

- \$49,478 – Costa Rica
- \$37,975 – Germany

Summer 2019 - \$59,056 – Paris

Fall 2019 – total \$80,625

- \$48,901 - Singapore and Malaysia
- \$31,724 – Taiwan

Spring 2020 – \$153,149 cancelled

Summer 2020 - \$66,332 cancelled

Fall 2020 - \$92,147 cancelled

Fall 2022 - \$105,219

- \$39,549 (total is now \$56,067 b/c of airfare, which alone was \$40,131) – India
- 33,596 (total is now \$49,152 b/c of airfare which alone was \$29,652) – Peru

Spring 2023 – total \$75,774

- \$33,454 – Iceland - cancelled
- \$42,320 - Baja - funding revoked, President Yao funding most

Summer 2023 – total \$76,091

- \$42,612 – Spain – cancelled
- \$32,479 – England - (funding revoked)

Fall 2023 – total \$203,035

- \$62,875 (funding revoked) – Galapagos
- \$45,000 (funding revoked) – New Zealand
- \$54,472 - Taiwan (funds not yet applied for)
- \$40,688 - Taiwan (funds not yet applied for)