STUDY ABROAD

40th Anniversary and Year in Review 2019-20

MAKE THE WORLD YOUR CLASSROOM

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A brief history of Study Abroad at NC State

The Study Abroad Office (SAO) had its humble beginnings in 1979, when it was both Study Abroad and International Services all in one as a special program of the Alexander International Residence Hall, led by Marty Babcock. Funding for the office came from laundry machine revenues.

Jim Palcic was the first person officially hired to manage study abroad at NC State in July 1980. He only served two months due to his tragic death. Susan (Su) Randall took over in office from 1983 to 1985, followed by Cindy Chalou, who was hired into a newly created 9-month, full-time position of Coordinator of Study Abroad. Cindy oversaw substantial growth in the program over the next nine years. In January 1996 Ingrid Schmidt was hired into the 12-month Director of Study Abroad position, and in 2005 was given the title of Associate Vice Provost for International Affairs. Kim Priebe was promoted to Director in 2017, after having served in various roles in the office since 2005.

In 1996 the SAO had two full-time permanent and one temporary staff member, and now includes 14 full time positions plus 5 student staff. Early statistics show that 66 students went abroad in 1985-86, with 56 students on summer programs in England, France, and Mexico, 1 student on a semester program, and 9 students participating in ISEP exchanges. SAO added many more programs over the years. At our 25th anniversary in 2005 we were serving around 675 students per year, and we now serve over 2,000 annually with growing interest each year. The office continued to be part of Student Affairs, serving under Gerald Hawkins and then Alex Miller until July 2000, when it was moved to Academic Affairs under then Provost Kermit Hall. The Office of International Affairs was then created to house both the SAO and OIS, led by interim director Tony Moyer, and in May 2002 the university’s first Vice Provost for International Affairs, George Wilson, was hired to oversee the entire division. The Office of Global Engagement is now under the leadership of Dr. Bailian Li.

Study Abroad has grown and changed significantly in its first 40 years at NC State. It will be interesting to see what the next 40 years will bring!
The 2019-20 academic year brought unprecedented challenges due to a global pandemic, plus many achievements!

Study Abroad’s successful efforts with curriculum integration, strategic scholarship support, and enhanced, inclusive, college-specific advising have led to increased participation over the past seven consecutive years. The 2019-20 year was on pace to have record participation, with a projected total enrollment of 1,816 students. Unfortunately, due to the spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19 and ensuing global pandemic, spring 2020 study abroad programs were suspended in March and summer programs were canceled outright soon thereafter. Total enrollments capped out at 648 due to all travel being restricted.

Despite obvious challenges, Study Abroad has had other major successes included establishing implementing college-based advising, and establishing a new advising team after realigning position responsibilities and reporting lines. Much of the fall was spent on cross-training, and establishing new and strengthening existing processes to better serve the campus community.

Multiple major crisis response efforts throughout the year (political upheavals in South America, COVID-19 spreading throughout the globe, and more), in addition to a few vacancies and new office structure created an exceptionally challenging year for Study Abroad. Despite all of this, we accomplished a great deal, particularly with our diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, re-entry programs and support, college-based advising, and pivot to working remotely and supporting students with new, virtual programming.

Thank you for our campus partners who actively encourage and support our students in their educational pursuits abroad! We look forward to continued partnerships as we celebrate our 40th year and look to the future with great anticipation as we reenvision the future education abroad.

Kim Priebe, Director

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1979 - 1 Faculty-led program, 18 Students abroad

1980 - Housed in Alexander Hall

1983 - Su Randall led SAO

1985-86 - Cindy Chalou becomes first full-time coordinator

1990 - 66 Students abroad, 10 Faculty-led programs, 8 Exchange partners

1996 - Ingrid Schmidt named Director

2000 - Newly situated in Academic Affairs, Provost Unit

2005 - Moved to Holmes Hall

2007 - Housed in Pullen Hall with Lee Hall advising suite

675 Students abroad

Launched online applications

7 Full-time staff

2 Full-time staff

15 International exchange students

Dave Stuckey managed SAO

Cindy Chalou becomes first full-time coordinator

Su Randall led SAO

Housed in Alexander Hall

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MILESTONES

2010
- 1,104 Students abroad

2017
- Kim Priebe named Director
- Joined Generation Study Abroad

2019
- 14 Full-time staff
- Awarded over $500,000 in scholarships
- 70 NC State Group Programs

2020
- Global Pandemic requires evacuation of 400+ students abroad
- 1,816 Projected students abroad, 152 International exchange students

Awarded Chancellor's Creating Community Award and IIE Generation Study Abroad Seal of Excellence

Establishment of new models due to COVID: Remote Global Internships and Single-Course Virtual Exchanges
PARTICIPATION INCREASE
Projected enrollments were 1,816, a 2.65% growth in participation from the previous year. This would be an 8th consecutive year of enrollment increases had COVID-19 not impacted academic travel.

19-20 HIGHLIGHTS

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION INITIATIVES
Established our first diversity, equity and inclusion mission statement. Completed the inaugural year of the new Global Diversity Advocate program. Trained faculty on designing programs through a DEI lens.

ENHANCED ADVISING
Established a dedicated advising team. Implemented new Peer Advising program, resulting in a 733% increase in attendance over the previous year. Established Walk-In Advising, as well as chat- and Zoom-based advising following shifting to remote-based work.

INCREASED STUDENT SUPPORT
Following the early-return of over 400 students in spring, developed numerous new programs to support students, including Counseling Center drop-in hours and a student-led panel to reflect on their COVID-19-impacted study abroad experience.

PARTICIPATION INCREASE  (projected)
Projected enrollments were 1,816, a 2.65% growth in participation from the previous year. This would be an 8th consecutive year of enrollment increases had COVID-19 not impacted academic travel.

AWARDS & RECOGNITION
Study Abroad received IIE’s Generation Study Abroad Seal of Excellence in fall 2019 for surpassing its goals as a Commitment Partner.
Kyle Keith was the recipient of the New Professional Award for NAFSA: Association of International Educators, Region VII.
Kory M. Saunders was a finalist for the Diversity Abroad Rising Star in International Education Award.
STUDY ABROAD ENROLLMENTS

STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPATION OVER TIME

- 2014-15: 1248 Traditional Study Abroad, 51 Research Abroad
- 2015-16: 1259 Traditional Study Abroad, 60 Research Abroad
- 2016-17: 1370 Traditional Study Abroad, 60 Research Abroad
- 2017-18: 1565 Traditional Study Abroad, 100 Research Abroad
- 2018-19: 1639 Traditional Study Abroad, 130 Research Abroad

40 YEARS OF ENROLLMENT TRENDS

- Traditional Study Abroad
- Research Abroad

*Data missing from 1996-97 through 2001-02
The Study Abroad Office worked, often around the clock, to address the impact of a novel coronavirus, COVID-19, on our students abroad, beginning in late January when the first CDC Level 3 warning went into effect for China and we had to suspend spring 2020 programs in China. Soon thereafter, we were faced with suspending programs in South Korea and Italy, then all of Continental Europe, then UK and Ireland, all between early February and early March. The US Department of State established a brand new advisory level, Global Level 4 Health Advisory-Do Not Travel, in mid-March and NC State suspended all study abroad programs and university-affiliated activities globally for spring and summer '20.

We recalled nearly 450 students from around the world in spring, both studying abroad (approximately 280) and International Travel Gateway. We are proud that we successfully communicated with 100% of the students during the suspension and recalling of students. 92% (424) returned to the U.S. or their home country, 22 remained abroad to complete their program.

Participation includes Traditional Study Abroad and Research Abroad combined.

Projections are based on actual student committed applications plus an assumption that non-NC State summer program applications would be at least comparable to the previous year.
Study Abroad is grateful for the strong partners throughout campus who helped us support our students during a very difficult time. We worked with DASA to provide quarantine housing if students were unable to do so upon their return to the US. We worked with the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, Student Ombudsperson, and DASA, to determine eligibility for financial support for return flights home. Study Abroad helped arrange flights for some individuals, when appropriate, and directed others to PackEssentials for financial support as needed. We supported group program leaders through the evacuation process, helping facilitate the safe return of their student group, including assistance with flights, rental cars, and more.

As universities closed around the world, Study Abroad monitored closures, and our partners’ capacity to convert to remote instruction, understanding the impact on students. We worked with colleagues in Enrollment Management and Services to address academic issues and ensure that students could complete their semesters either through their host institution via online coursework or at NC State.

Throughout the evacuation, remainder of spring semester and during the summer, Study Abroad has been engaging with students in new and creative ways. See pages 11-13 for more details on the numerous new resources and new programming implemented to help support early returned students.

Study Abroad also supported our 69 incoming exchange students through the transition to remote learning in spring. 13 remained at NC State for the spring term, and 56 students returned to their home country. Study Abroad successfully advocated to allow international students who remained in NC over the summer earn credits from institutions in their home countries, as well as for those who returned to their home country in spring or summer and could not return to NC for fall ’20 to be able to earn credits from institutions in their home countries. We donated to the University 300 N-95 masks that were gifted to us by a partner, Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

As we look forward, we will continue to develop new program models to better ensure that global learning can continue when travel must be suspended for any reason, and be accessible to all students.
SUPPORTING STUDENTS' GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

2,195
total number of students served in 19-20

1,816
study abroad participants (projected)

176
International Travel Gateway registrants

152
Incoming exchange students

PROGRAM EVALUATION FEEDBACK

92%
I feel more independent and have greater self-confidence

96%
I am better able to navigate the unfamiliar

91%
My problem-solving skills have improved

90%
I have less fear of unfamiliar languages and cultures

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ENHANCED ADVISING AND STUDENT SUPPORT

The creation of a dedicated Advising Team during the 2019-2020 academic year has enabled the Study Abroad Office to expand and improve upon advising support for students.

Increased Accessibility through Walk-In Advising
Offering walk-in support for students has long been a goal of the office. The creation of three new advising roles made implementing regular walk-in advising hours feasible. Starting in October 2019, drop-in advising was available in our office in Holmes Hall twice a week. An additional weekly "pop-up" walk-in advising event was held once a week in the evening. Walk-in advising gives students an easier point of access to the office and serves as a starting point for the study abroad process.

Reenvisioning Peer Advising
Peer advising, which was previously offered but underutilized, was completely reimagined, with the recruitment and training of 8 peer advisors from a range of majors and study abroad experiences. The peer advisors were integrated into the walk-in advising hours, and were responsible for the pop-up advising evening once a week. The new model resulted in a 733% increase in the number of students served.

Adaptation and Integration of Advising Tools
The advising team has continued to work on improving tools and worksheets to better serve students, provide transparency around the application and study abroad experience, promote reflection on goals and motivations related to studying abroad, and to increase use of inclusive language.

Shift to Virtual Advising
Following the shift to remote work due to COVID-19, the advising process shifted to serve students completely virtually. Adaptations included use of Zoom to conduct advising, creation of a virtual office space, and chat options to remain accessible to students.

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SPRING 2020: SUPPORTING STUDENTS FACING NEW CHALLENGES

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic during the spring 2020 semester created unprecedented challenges for study abroad students. Some students had their semesters cut short, while others never even arrived to their host country before their programs were suspended. With help from partners on campus and abroad, we supported students to ensure academic continuity, advising on financial aid implications, as well as support for early-returned students.

VIRTUAL DROP-IN SUPPORT SPACE
With support from the Counseling Center, a weekly virtual space was created for early-return spring study abroad students to connect and receive support.

ENGAGING ONLINE
Organized virtual events to engage with population of spring 2020 early return students, including an Instagram photo contest, COVID-19 Student Perspectives panel via Zoom, and a Virtual Re-entry Resources Fair.

SPRING 2020 STUDENT RESOURCES PAGE
Created a webpage with curated resources for early return students, like managing reverse culture shock, leveraging study abroad in job and internship searches, and ways to go abroad again.

MITIGATING ACADEMIC AND FINANCIAL AID IMPLICATIONS
Worked with academic departments and OFSA to advise and support students on issues related to academic continuity and financial aid.
The spring 2020 PackAbroad cohort has shown resiliency, maturity, and resourcefulness in managing a crisis situation faced by few of their fellow study abroad alumni. Read how their, albeit shortened, experiences have impacted their growth.

[During my time abroad,] I discovered my love for a cultural experience and my love for the Latin language and culture. I learned how passionate and motivated I can be and how I can put my mind to anything.
- Rani Madhiwala, Universidad Adolfo Ibanez (Chile)

I was in Vienna for about seven weeks before I was recalled home due to COVID-19, and I got to have some amazing experiences in that time... I’m so grateful I got the time abroad that I did because even though I was devastated to come home so early, I’ll never forget the times I had or the people I met while I was on exchange.
- Katherine Bublitz, Vienna University of Economics and Business (Austria)

During this time, I’ve learned that I’m a lot more resilient than I thought. I was halfway across the world during a pandemic, and I figured it out. I made a smart decision, got everything in order, and stayed safe. Now that I have experienced one of the hardest travel scenarios possible, I know that I can do anything.
- Claire Henson, University of Adelaide (Australia)

I have grown into someone I am proud of as I have stood up for myself, worked (very creatively) through extreme problems, and truly pushed myself to overcome this great challenge of studying abroad.
- Bailey Poplin, Université Catholique de Lille (France)
EXPANDED DIVERSITY & INCLUSION INITIATIVES

Increased Outreach and Student Support

- Developed Study Abroad's first Diversity, Equity and Inclusion statement
- Offered drop-in advising in OIED Campus Community Centers
- Offered four sessions for the "Traveling While..." series to highlight study abroad opportunities and resources for students from populations traditionally underserved in study abroad
- The Global Diversity Advocate program completed its inaugural year. Our GDAs engaged in the following activities:
  - Facilitated Traveling While Black and Traveling While GLBT
  - Panelist for Traveling While First in the Pack
  - Presented at NCAIE Study Abroad Now What? Re-Entry Conference
  - Completed student video interviews for Diversity Abroad
  - Participated in Global STEM Stories for the Diversity in STEM Symposium

Program Director Support

- Marketing and Recruitment Strategies for NC State Study Abroad and recruitment presentation
- Designing Study Abroad Programs through a DEI Lens training

NC State's Identity Based Resources have been highlighted by outside organizations as a best practice, and have been replicated by colleagues at other institutions.

#PACKABROAD
Since 2011, 103 NC State undergraduate students have received the prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship. Administered by the U.S. Department of State, the Gilman Scholarship Program broadens the student population that studies or interns abroad by supporting those who might not otherwise participate due to financial constraints. In 2020, Sarah Sebastian, an undergraduate in the College of Sciences, was selected as NC State’s inaugural Gilman-McCain Scholarship recipient. The Gilman-McCain Scholarship provides funding to dependents of active-duty military service members participating in study or intern abroad programs.

In the last decade, the Study Abroad Office has administered the transfer of over $3 million in scholarships to our students. The bulk of this support comes from annual giving donations, the colleges, and trademark licensing funds. These awards have been crucial to expand study abroad access throughout our campus.

Average award amounts received by students have increased from approximately $1,100 to over $1,600 over the course of the last decade. We have strategically shifted to larger awards targeted directly for students with significant financial need. Even with increases in the size of awards, over 1,800 students have received scholarships since 2010.

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2005 - The Prague Institute is established as the first and only permanent overseas NC State facility under NC State College of Design’s administration, serving as a year-round study abroad destination. Prague offers programs throughout the year, every fall, spring, and summer.

2013-14 - The Prague Institute enrollments surpass 150.

2017 - The Institute is elevated to a university-wide center, and becomes a unit of the Office of Global Engagement. The Prague Institute is renamed to the NC State European Center in Prague, or “NC State Prague” for short.

2017 - The inaugural Prague Spring Connect program runs in fall, designed for first-year students who are admitted to NC State for the spring term. Since then, 71 Spring Connect students have participated, allowing future NC State students a head start on their NC State degree.

2017 - NC State establishes partnerships with Czech Technical University, the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, and Charles University to strengthen local ties and provide new opportunities for collaboration.

2019 - NC State Prague rents a residence building with capacity up to 70 beds, exclusively for NC State Prague students and on-site student housing assistants, expanding its capacity to host students.

2020 - Hosted over 2000 students from all academic majors. NC State Prague is the top study abroad destination for NC State students. 15.4% of NC State students choose Prague.

2020 - NC State Prague hosts the new Global Leadership Minor program. The program was designed with the Shelton Leadership Center, as an interdisciplinary and innovative program taught in three European countries.

NC State Prague's future: Strengthening local partnerships and fostering research collaborations between NC State faculty and international partners.
Studying in Prague was an enlightening experience that I will forever remember. The culture, people, and community of Prague were so unique and I enjoyed learning about each aspect. The students I met from NC State were such fun and I still talk to them to this day!

-Sydney, Political Science, Classic Summer 2019

Studying in Prague gave me a more global perspective on engineering practices. Not to mention, learning about the people and the culture was an invaluable and unforgettable experience.

-Aarushi Vashisht, Engineering, Classic Summer 2019

NC State Prague Enrollment by College

[Pie chart showing distribution of enrollment by college]
Being in the U.K helped me learn what a future career in the animal science field can look like. Unlike a normal lecture, our program abroad had multiple opportunities to interact with animals and experience hands-on learning. The unique experiences and knowledge I obtained abroad can now be applied to my future internships and career.

Jaren Baluyot, Animal Science
UK: Intro to Animal Behavior and Veterinary Physiotherapy

One of the profound impact that sometimes goes unnoticed is the personal and professional growth of the faculty directors. I was able to connect with so many students on-campus strongly through my study abroad that it helped me teach and advise better through their feedback. I was able to perform research on rhinos in the field. These courses helped me learn the challenges of managing wildlife and the conflicts that are present due to local laws. I developed lifelong friendships with veterinarians in South Africa whom I would have never met by sitting in my office in Riddick Hall. I learned so much through each of my courses and it has helped me become a better person, better professor and a better veterinarian overall.

Dr. Shweta Trivedi, Teaching Associate Professor and Study Abroad Program Director
I learned as an artist, it’s great to use references and the world around you as inspiration and the environment around you to influence your artwork... I needed to actually travel to Prague and physically immerse myself in the environment, the community, and people to truly understand and gain the necessary experience so I can apply it to my art.

LaQuan Allen, Art + Design; NC State Prague Classic Summer

Not only did I become more confident, but I also got a better idea of what I wanted to do with my degree. The projects allowed me to realize I enjoy designing and coding digital interactions - for games, installations, and web - so I want to pursue a career that incorporates the two. I also learned about other design skills and techniques, such as writing game design documents and conducting participatory design workshops, which I can use to improve my designs.

Jasmine Lang, Graphic Design Hong Kong Polytechnic University
I am looking forward to applying what I have learned about patience and understanding [to my future career as an educator]. The language barriers, diversity, and different cultures have provided me the opportunity to grow in how I work to understand and learn as a future educator. With such abundantly diverse classrooms, these skills will be ones I most definitely apply to my classrooms in the years to come when working with both students, parents, and other colleagues.

Ashton Crump, Middle Grades Science
NC State Prague: Classic Fall

My program offered a volunteer opportunity to teach English in an Italian Elementary school once a week and it was the most rewarding experience. I have been thinking about teaching abroad for a year or so and this was the perfect chance to see if I would like it. It was also really unique to see how the Italian school system worked.

Lauren Fels, Elementary Education
Semester at Lorenzo de Medici Institute
Studying abroad is all about learning more about yourself! When you are in a new context it reveals new things about yourself, and interacting with more types of people also allows you to see your similarities and differences to them. I realized that I am good at bringing people together during my time abroad.

Lauren Bartek, Civil Engineering
Stellenbosch University

The College of Engineering is grateful to the Study Abroad Office for its consistent support of engineering students and for assisting faculty in their international initiatives, in particular numerous faculty-led trips. Congratulations on forty years of great accomplishments! Looking forward to many more years of dynamic and fruitful collaboration.

Hélène B. Ducros, Director of Global Programs,
College of Engineering
My classes were completely different from those at NC State, in fact most of my classmates weren’t American students. As part of the international curriculum, I shared class with students from countries such as Australia, France, Colombia, Finland, and Iran. One field trip that I went on through a Cultural Journalism and Publishing class I took was to the Vanity Fair magazine headquarters in Milan. Shaking hands with the Editor-In-Chief of Vanity Fair Italia and chatting with him in his office is an experience I never would have had without study abroad!

Elena Betancourt, International Studies and Spanish Languages and Literature Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

As a foreign language teacher, I can say first-hand that having the opportunity to go abroad has had a great impact on the growth of our students both academically and personally. Languages are not just words and rules, but also the culture in which they are used. Therefore, to truly master a language, you must immerse yourself in the culture that uses it. That is one of the greatest contributions our SAPs offer to foreign language learners. I myself have seen many times how students who went abroad return in some way transformed, not only because they return more mature and confident, but also because their experience abroad gives them a clearer view of the role that their second language can play in their careers and future.

Samuel Sotillo, Senior Lecturer and Program Director
While abroad, I became more responsible, independent, and outgoing. All great characteristics for any future career path. I also did research related to my major (PSE) for a large Finnish company. Through this research, I gained both technical and professional knowledge.

Jamie Kanzler, Paper Science and Chemical Engineering
JAMK University of Applied Sciences

Studying abroad enriched my life and hundreds of students’ lives over two decades. Twenty years I led summer study abroad courses in Europe and Canada with students from two U.S. universities and a multitude of European countries. These experiences provided me with an extraordinary education and observations about sustainable use of natural resources in fifteen countries.

Gary Brian Blank, Associate Professor
Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources
Here's what students, faculty, and staff in the College of Science had to say about study abroad's impact through the years.

I have seen so many lives changed by study abroad. I have seen students learn more about the world and even more about themselves. I have seen future doctors learn about healthcare in other countries and learn new ways they may care for their future patients. I have seen friendships made that last for years. I have seen students gain a deeper understanding of their majors and return to school with a deeper respect for their field of study. I am grateful for these opportunities for our students and for the care the study abroad office takes in showing students ways in which they can bring their authentic selves with them abroad.

Dr. Jamila Simpson, Assistant Dean for Academic Programs, Student Diversity and Engagement

I plan to work in global public health in the future so any international experiences help to develop skills necessary for this job. While I was on my exchange I spent two weeks travelling Southeast Asia. I really want to work in tropical medicine so having experiences in areas like this will help prepare me for my future career. Along with this, I took a cultural anthropology course that really opened my eyes up to different cultures which will aid me in my plans for global health.

Aiden Winters, Microbiology
University of Adelaide
Here’s what students, faculty, and staff in the College of Veterinary Medicine had to say about study abroad’s impact through the years.

I am very interested in working abroad with veterinary medicine as well as working in the field with zoological species. So this trip was very insightful about supplies that needs to be brought as well as problem solving in the field.

I loved being able to work with a bunch of different species I have never worked with before. This included Darwin’s Finches, marine iguanas, and of course the Galapagos tortoise.

Ashley Souza, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
Galapagos Islands: Equatorial Zoology and Medicine

The strategic collaboration between the College of Veterinary Medicine and the Study Abroad Office has advanced our international study aboard opportunities for DVM students. Students now have the opportunity to engage with impactful, immersive, experiential international learning opportunities in countries including Uganda, the Galapagos and China.

Dr. Andy Stringer, Assistant Professor of Veterinary Global and Public Health
Division of Academic and Student Affairs

Here's what students, faculty, and staff in the Division of Academic and Student Affairs had to say about study abroad's impact through the years.

"Being able to learn about the Italian Renaissance in Italy, and more specifically, in Florence, was incredible. The entire city was our classroom! My walk to class was full of evidence of the Renaissance, which made class discussions so much more engaging. I thoroughly enjoyed learning outside of the classroom through experiences and observations! Additionally, the amount of support provided from NC State faculty, as well as LdM (my institution in Florence) faculty was far beyond my expectations."

Caitlin Burke, Elementary Education
Italy: History and Italian Studies in Florence

Students who study abroad gain a global mindset. They are more prepared to engage in a global economy and be engaged global citizens. Students who study abroad gain multiple skills that will lead to their success: flexibility, adaptability, independence, critical thinking, and appreciation of difference.

Dr. Brian Peters, Associate Director in Academic Advising Programs & Services
Poole College of Management

Here's what students, faculty, and staff in Poole College of Management had to say about study abroad's impact through the years.

I plan on becoming a CPA so this program will help me to work with people from all over the world. I gained so much respect for the world around us while traveling abroad to the Czech Republic. In the business world, I will come in contact with people from different backgrounds and countries. Having this respect will allow me to communicate effectively with them.

Erica Gales, Accounting
First Year Inquiry in Prague

[Study abroad] has put global engagement as a central element of the college's vision and strategic plan. On a more practical level, the expansion that has occurred in the college has given faculty and staff a chance to engage globally by traveling and developing partnerships with international business schools.

Robert L Sandruck, Director of Global Programs
We have seen tremendous growth in our students who have studied abroad. Many have never traveled abroad previously and they return feeling more independent and confident. In addition, the cultural competence they gain really prepares them well for careers in the fashion and textile industry.

Heather Lyerly, Director of Academic Services

I really hope to work for a fashion company on a global scale one day. So studying abroad really helped me to begin to understand what that can look like outside of what I learn in the classroom. I recognize that Cuba is just one country in the region but ideally, I’d like to work with countries in Latin America and being able to get first hand experience being in a Latin American country has really opened my eyes up to the possibilities of where my career could go.

Ariana Ferreira, Fashion & Textile Management, Cuba: History, Environment and Culture in Havana
Incoming Exchange Students

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Embrace the experience in all its shades—ups, downs, highs and lows. It will probably be different to what you had planned or imagined but that doesn’t mean it’s not going according to plan. There’s a lesson embedded in every experience, be intentional about identifying and learning those lessons. I participated in the Atlanta excursion, purposed to help us engage with the cycle of poverty and explore the work of Martin Luther King—this was an edifying experience filled with insight and food for thought.

Thabani Mtsi, Stellenbosch University
(Stellenbosch, South Africa)

International students enrich the NC State campus and the experience of domestic students.

NC State hosted 13 incoming exchange students in 1990-91, the earliest records available. By 1995 we had 41 students, and 154 exchange students in 2018-19.

- **Enhanced Support**
  - Focus groups on programming with exchange student and orientation leaders
  - Developed internal website to provide more information to incoming exchange students
  - Collaborative orientation programming with OIS
  - New program assessment
- **Diversity & inclusion training**
  - Implemented for both exchange students and orientation leaders
- **Increased Interaction with Domestic Students**
  - Incoming exchange student panel at Pre-Departure Orientation our outgoing students
- **Academic Advisor Training: Intro to Incoming Exchange Students**
- **Global Student Leader Training for Orientation Leaders**
We would like to thank you for your continued support of Study Abroad over the last 40 years. Your impact enriches the work that we do.