The Value of International Students and Scholars
Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program Act

Presented by: Alejandra Parra, Sr. Director, International Student & Scholar Services
1,078,822 international students studied at U.S. colleges and universities in 2016/17.

In 2016/17 there was an increase of 3.4% over the prior year in the number of international students in the United States.

International students enrolling for the first time at a U.S. institution declined by 3%.
International Students Contribute to Our Economy and American Innovation

International Students Grow the U.S. Economy

While **international students make up only 5% of overall U.S. college enrollments**, they make significant contributions to our communities.¹

International students contributed nearly **$37 billion** to the U.S. economy last year.²

International students created or supported **over 450,000 U.S. jobs**. That’s three jobs for every seven international students.³

Nearly **one-quarter of the founders of the $1 billion U.S. startup companies** first came to America as international students.⁴

International Students Help America Lead in Innovation

For America to **remain the leader in scientific discovery**, we must continue to attract the best and brightest from around the world.⁵

U.S. productivity is generated largely by **advances in technological improvements**. Technological improvements are largely **driven by the rate of innovation**.⁶

In 2016, **all six American winners of the Nobel Prizes in economics and scientific fields were immigrants**.⁷

Immigrants have been awarded **40% of the Nobel Prizes** won by Americans in chemistry, medicine, and physics since 2000.⁸
OPEN DOORS FACT SHEET: Florida

Educational Exchange Data from *Open Doors* 2017
INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank in U.S.</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>45,718 (+5.2%)</td>
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<td>ESTIMATED FOREIGN STUDENTS EXPENDITURE IN THE STATE**</td>
<td>$1,438,658,254</td>
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* Rankings include all 50 U.S. states in addition to Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands
** Economic analysis produced by NAFSA: Association of International Educators based on enrollment data from *Open Doors* 2017. [www.nafsa.org/eis](http://www.nafsa.org/eis)
At FIU

Total number of International Students: 3,290

Undergraduate Students: 1490
Graduate Students: 1060
OPT: 709

Countries represented: 136

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<th>TOP 5 COUNTRIES</th>
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<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>667</td>
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<td>Venezuela</td>
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Issue Brief: The Value of International Students and Scholars

• **Ask:** To publicly express support for the international students and scholars who are contributing to U.S. colleges and universities, to local communities, and to the nation.

  ▪ Public expressions include:
    - Tweeting about economic benefits to state/district
    - Delivering a floor speech on the importance of international students and scholars
    - Supporting legislation that removes barriers for international students and scholars to study, research, work, and live in the U.S.
A quality education is a global education. Unfortunately, too many students are graduating college without the global skills needed to thrive in the global economy. We know that over 80% of college freshmen want to study abroad, yet only 10% of students study abroad before they graduate, and minority students are greatly underrepresented within those numbers. The Simon Program provides a path to correct this imbalance.

U.S. STUDY ABROAD CONtributes TO...

Student Success

- **Higher Graduation Rates**: Four-year graduation rates are 18% higher for students who study abroad.
- **Higher GPA**: Studying abroad has been shown to increase a student’s GPA.
- **More Employable**: 75% of companies said a global perspective was important for their staff.

U.S. STUDY ABROAD CONtributes TO...

The Nation

- **American Workers**: 23 million jobs in the United States are tied to international trade.
- **86% Believe Business Would Increase**: If more staff had international experience.
- **Global Engagement**: Students who study abroad show greater improvements in language skills.
- **Enlightened Citizenship**: Studying abroad develops a greater appreciation of U.S. culture and less fear of others.
Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Program

• Four Goals:
  ▪ Increase the number of U.S. college students studying abroad for credit to 1 million students annually;
  
  ▪ Ensure the diversity of study abroad participants reflects the U.S. undergraduate population;
  
  ▪ Significantly increase the proportion of study abroad that occurs in nontraditional destinations outside of Western Europe;
  
  ▪ Make study abroad an integral part of U.S. higher education.
Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Strategic Role Playing and Rebuttals
7:30 AM–8:30 AM
Sphinx Ballroom, Almas Temple

Sen. Bill Nelson (D)
10:00 AM–10:30 AM
716 Hart

Sen. Marco Rubio (R)
12:30 PM–1:00 PM
284 Russell

Rep. Theodore E. Deutch (D)
2:00 PM–2:30 PM
2447 Rayburn

Debrief and Planning for Year-Round Advocacy
4:00 PM–5:00 PM
Sphinx Ballroom, Almas Temple