Bridging the Gap:
A Student Services
Approach to International Education

November 7, 2018

Katherine Ford, Director of International Programs, FFUK





Study Abroad in Prague

- 12 Third-Party Program Providers
- 3 direct-enrollment programs at public universities
- 3 direct-enrollment programs at private universities
- Approximate number of non-degree seeking, non-European students enrolled each academic year:

1,500-2,000





FFUK International Relations for Non-Degree Seeking Students

- Erasmus+
- Exchange Agreements
- Direct Enrollment
- Česká studia
- Customized Programs





East and Central European Studies (ECES)

- Example of direct-enrollment program (semester, summer, J-Term)
- Primary partners with universities in US, Singapore, and China
- Based on American study abroad model
- Enrolls 70-130 students per semester/summer
- Facilitates 30-45 English-taught courses per semester





Customized Programs

- Short-term summer programs, usually facultyled
 - University of Connecticut (USA)
 - The College of William and Mary (USA)
 - Simon Fraser University (Canada)
- Semester-length customized programs
 - UPrague
 - First-year programming
- Complete service customization





Student Service Approach for Non-Degree Seeking Students

- Recognizing the type(s) of students you're working with
- Identifying level of comfort with studying and living abroad (and independence) for those students
- 3. Identifying key expectations from partner universities
 - Health and Safety
 - Accommodation
 - Pre-Departure Support
 - Orientation Programming





Health and Safety

- Health insurance for non-EU students
- Emergency support
- Emergency preparedness (large and smallscale)





Accommodation

- Support for students in finding appropriate university accommodation
- On-site residential coordinator
- Visa documentation





Pre-Departure Support

- Pre-Departure Guide
- Webinars
- Visa Advising
- Campus Visits
- Academic advising (course registration & equivalencies/transfers)





On-Site Orientation

- Airport transfers & accommodation check-in
- Administrative meetings, ID cards, & transportation passes
- City orientation and interaction with local students
- Country orientation (day trips)
- Czech language courses





Summary

- Czech universities are in a key position to offer direct-enrollment options
- Utilizing local resources
- Student services as vehicle for building trust and partnerships internationally







Questions?