Bridging the Gap: A Student Services Approach to International Education

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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 faculty-led
  - University of Connecticut (USA)
  - The College of William and Mary (USA)
  - Simon Fraser University (Canada)
- Semester-length customized programs
  - UPraha
  - First-year programming
- Complete service customization
Student Service Approach for Non-Degree Seeking Students

1. Recognizing the type(s) of students you’re working with

2. 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 small-scale)
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?