**UVM Generation Study Abroad**

**Growing and diversifying the number of UVM students
who have an international experience**

Every student who wants to succeed in the global economy should study abroad or have another substantive international experience. Yet less than 10% of U.S. undergraduates study abroad prior to graduation.This is simply not enough.

UVM has signed on to be a Commitment Partner in the Institute of International Education’s “Generation Study Abroad” initiative to double the number of U.S. students studying abroad by the end of the decade.

UVM has committed to achieve the following by the end of 2020:

* Increase the number of UVM students (medical, graduate, undergraduate) with an international experience annually from 725 to 1,000 students, a nearly 40% increase;
* Increase the number of UVM undergraduate students studying abroad for a semester or longer by 20%;
* Grow UVM students currently underrepresented in international experiences, including but not limited to STEM students, Vermont residents, first-generation college students, students from families with limited financial resources, students of color, and athletes.

**Join the UVM Generation Study Abroad Challenge**

To reach this target, the larger UVM community will need to join together to act decisively.

**Units/departments that join the commitment agree to:**

* Make a significant pledge to help increase the number of UVM students who study abroad;
* Undertake new and expanded activities to encourage and enable more students to study abroad;
* Update OIE (Office of International Education) twice annually on their activities and progress towards meeting pledged targets;
* Share strategies and best practices with colleagues upon finding a successful strategy/action.

**OIE will support commitment members in the following ways:**

* Provide data, study abroad resources and tools that may help your efforts, including invitations to campus Think Tanks and webinars related to study abroad;
* Recognize commitment members on the UVM Generation Study Abroad website;
* Also, units which make substantial progress toward helping UVM meet its goals in the first year (2017-18) will be eligible to be considered for a grant ranging from $5,000 to $10,000 to support continued progress.

 **Count us in!
To join the UVM Generation Study Abroad Commitment, complete and submit this form to** **GoAbroad@uvm.edu** **by February 15, 2017 with the subject line “Count us in!”**

**Step 1: Review your/our baseline data and Set Your Goal!**

Deans and associate deans of academic units will receive by email the baseline information reflecting international activity for their students as recorded over the last three academic years by the Office of International Education. Non-academic campus partners will receive institution-wide data.

**My department/unit** pledges\* to .... (specify goal in 2-3 sentences):

**Step 2: Agree to Actions**

My unit pledges to conduct new or expanded activities that help broaden participation in study abroad. These might include (*please check all that apply*):

 Incorporate more emphasis on study abroad into our unit’s programs and communications for admitted and first-year students

 Create a new sustainable study abroad program (travel-study, semester-long, or exchange with an institution abroad that matches our students’ curricular needs)

 Help students engage internationally through service learning, research, or internships

 Improve curricular integration and/or syllabi matching

 Identify strategies to support more underrepresented students studying abroad

 Advertise OIE’s processes to capture currently uncounted participation (especially grad students)

 Engage study abroad returnees in new and creative ways

 Advertise and encourage colleagues to fill out the “UVM Faculty/Staff who’ve studied abroad survey” <http://bit.ly/2fLTJZh>

 Advertise and encourage alumni to fill out the “UVM Alumni who’ve studied abroad survey”

 Assist in reinforcing the messages of affordability, employability and academic excellence as they relate to international education, and reinforcing the message that only programs listed in iAbroad are approved

 Identify possible sources of future financial support for students

 Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Step 3: Describe Actions**

Submit an additional sheet (no more than one page) describing the actions your unit is committing to reach your unit’s goal, or help UVM reach its overall goal.

Contact information for our unit for UVM Generation Study Abroad:

Name:
Title:

Unit:

Email address:

Leadership signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_