

# **Education Abroad & Sexual Assault Prevention**

Anjie Bertramson

International Programs- Global Learning

Washington State University

## What We Know

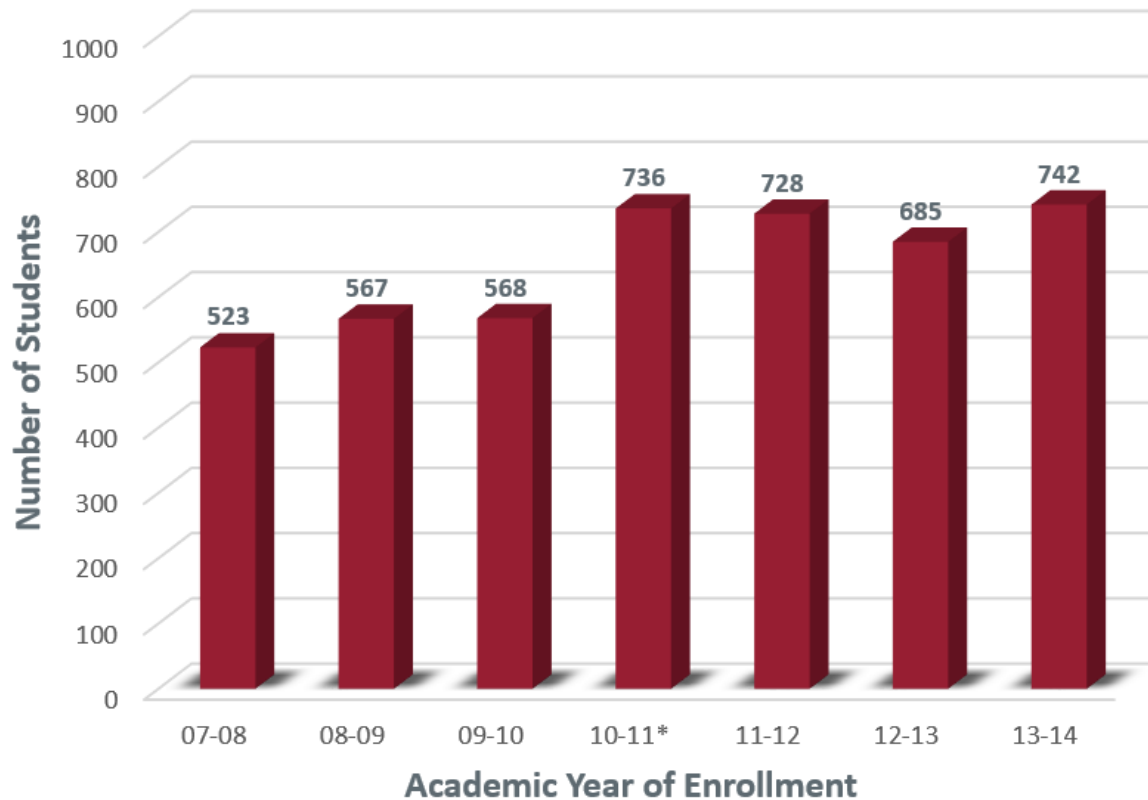
- Growth in U.S. participation abroad (Open Doors 2013)
- Increased risk for sexual assault in female undergraduates abroad (Kimble, M., Flack, W.F., Jr., Burbridge, E. 2012, October 1)
- Increased use of alcohol abroad, on average 105% (Pedersen, Larimer, & Lee, 2010)
  - On-campus 92% of claims involved alcohol (United Educators Claim Data)
- Interplay between sexual violence, substance use, and consent

## Possible Factors & Challenges

- Factors:
  - Vulnerability
  - Local culture unfamiliarity
  - Increased drinking
  - Unfamiliar surroundings
  - Similar to first semester in college
- Challenges:
  - Limited research
  - Many cultural perspectives
  - Participant perceptions
  - High number of participants
  - Self reporting

## Case Study: WSU

- National statistics & WSU



# Preparation & Prevention

- Conduct screening
- Pre-Departure Orientation
- SCEA

## Safety Tips

- Be a safe and smart traveler:
- Know your surroundings

## Social Competency

- Alcohol
- Be a responsible, and intelligent drinker
- Know a local drink laws
- The majority of sexual assault accidents occur when people participate in excessive drinking
- Drugs
- DO NOT do drugs, or even use

## Sexual Assault and Risk Reduction

- Sexual assault = any sexual activity that is done without your consent
- College women face high rates of sexual assault while studying abroad
- Risk Reduction Tips:
  - Listen to your gut
  - Make your person
  - Have a safety plan
  - Drink in moderation
  - Be a proactive

## Global Learning Emergency Contact Information

- Refer to the "In an Emergency" Card given to you by Global Learning. This is an easy way to keep all the important information in one place.
- Keep this card with you at all times!

### In an Emergency

To Contact WSU Global Learning 24/7:  
Call: 001-509-332-2521  
Say: "I am abroad and need to contact WSU Global Learning"

US Department of State:  
Consulate/ Embassy: [www.usembassy.gov](http://www.usembassy.gov)  
US Overseas Citizens Services: 001-202-501-4444

### Local Emergency Numbers:

Medical:  
Police:  
Fire:  
Faculty/Program Director:  
WSU International Programs - Global Learning  
Bryan Hall 105, PO Box 645110  
Washington State University  
Pullman, WA 99164-5110  
[ip.globallearning@wsu.edu](mailto:ip.globallearning@wsu.edu) • 1-509-335-6204

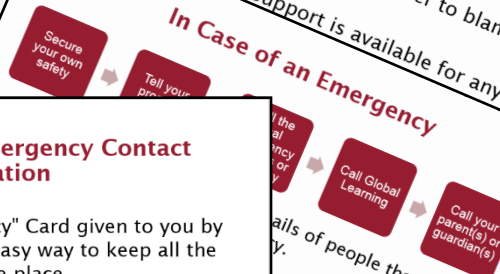
## Sexual Decision Making and Consent

- The definition and practice of sexual consent can vary by culture

## Support for Victims and Survivors

- Victims are never to blame when a sexual assault occurs
- Support is available for anyone affected by sexual assault

## In Case of an Emergency

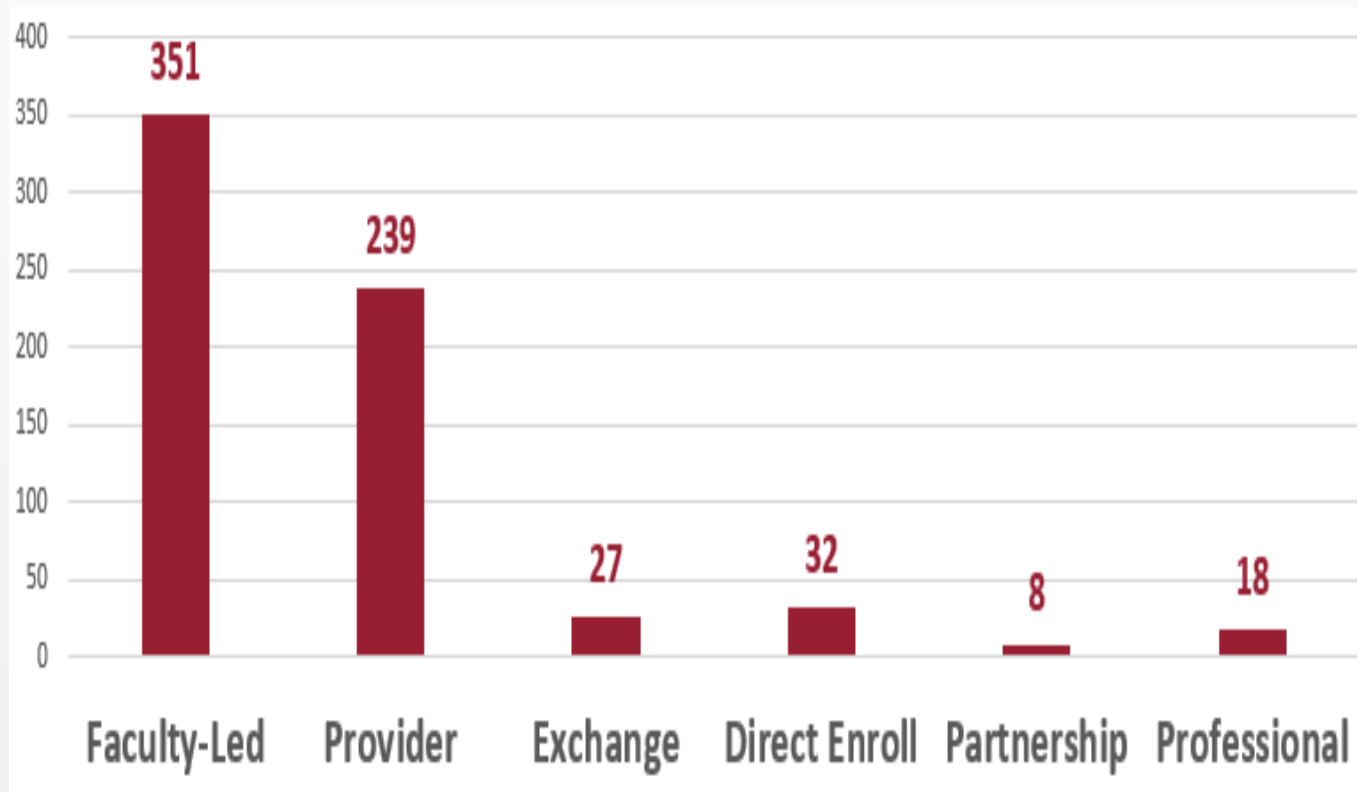


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## **Social Competency in Education Abroad (SCEA)**

- Started in 2007
  - Continual expansion
- Initially for programs with more risky behavior
- Partnership with Alcohol & Drug Counseling, Assessment & Prevention Services (ADCAPS)
- Title IX, Clery Act & “Dear Colleague” letter
- Transformative Learning Theory (Mezirow, 1991, 2003) and Harm Reduction Theory (Dimeff, 1999)

## 2013-2014 Participation by Program Type



## SCEA Curriculum

- 1 to 2 in person sessions + Online e-CHUG
- High risk health behaviors: substance use & sex
  - Challenging expectations
  - Cultural differences & laws
  - Skill and strategy development
- Framework:
  - Country specific knowledge
  - Risk taking
  - Norms clarification & perceptions
  - Problem solving scenarios



## 2012-13 SCEA Measures

### SCEA Pre- Questionnaire

- **Perceived Knowledge**- 11 questions to assess students' perceived knowledge about SCEA.
- **Country Knowledge**- 10 items measuring drinking knowledge, country of origin knowledge, & sexual norms in destination country.

### eCHUG online course & Assessment

- **Assesses**: Perceptions of drinking norms, and provides individualized feedback.

### SCEA Post- Questionnaire

- **Country Knowledge**-10 items measuring drinking knowledge, country of origin knowledge, & sexual norms in destination country.
- **Program Evaluation**- 12 questions about program evaluation & intention to change behavior.

## SCEA Results

- Effective at increasing:
  - Destination country knowledge (cultural norms, substance use, & sexual behavior)
  - Intention to be aware of situational contexts that may be risky or harmful
  - Intention to decrease and/or moderate substance use while abroad
  - Intention to practice caregiving and maintain agreed upon social contracts within the cohort prior to departure and while abroad

## WSU Preparedness

- 24/7 Emergency Contact
  - Internal Emergency Response
- Incident Report
- Risk Management- itinerary review
- Faculty training:
  - Emergency response
  - WSU Sexual Harassment & Discrimination policy
    - Application abroad
  - Incident reporting
- Affiliates:
  - Notification & reporting

## **Title IX, Clery Act & Education Abroad**

- Office of Civil Rights recommends taking preventive measures
- Title IX: Universities must take “effective corrective action” in response to sexual harassment
- Obligated to respond in accordance with Title IX and “Dear Colleague” letter on-campus and abroad

## Future

- Continue to:
  - Evaluate best delivery
  - Have WSU inter-campus collaboration
  - Maintain compliance
- SCEA:
  - During & post program surveys
- Increase faculty training
- Tabletop scenario exercise

# Question & Answer