

The ISEP Conference

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**Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC**

Preparing Students for a Global Society

Presented By:

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**Commission on the Abraham Lincoln
Study Abroad Fellowship Program**

Study Abroad – A Definition

Study abroad is an educational program of study, work, research, or internship that is conducted outside the United States and that awards academic credit.

How do students benefit from study abroad?

- Improves learning
- Prepares for global citizenship
- Prepares for the workplace

Globally Competent Students

- 1) **Have a diverse and knowledgeable worldview**
- 2) **Comprehend the international dimensions of their major field of study**
- 3) **Communicate effectively in another language and/or cross-culturally**
- 4) **Exhibit cross-cultural sensitivity and adaptability**
- 5) **Continue global learning throughout life**

IES Longitudinal Survey of Student Perceptions of Impact of Study Abroad

- **Reinforced commitment to foreign language study – 86%**
- **Enhanced interest in academic study – 80%**
- **Influenced perspective on view of world -95%**
- **Influenced me to seek greater diversity of friends – 91%**

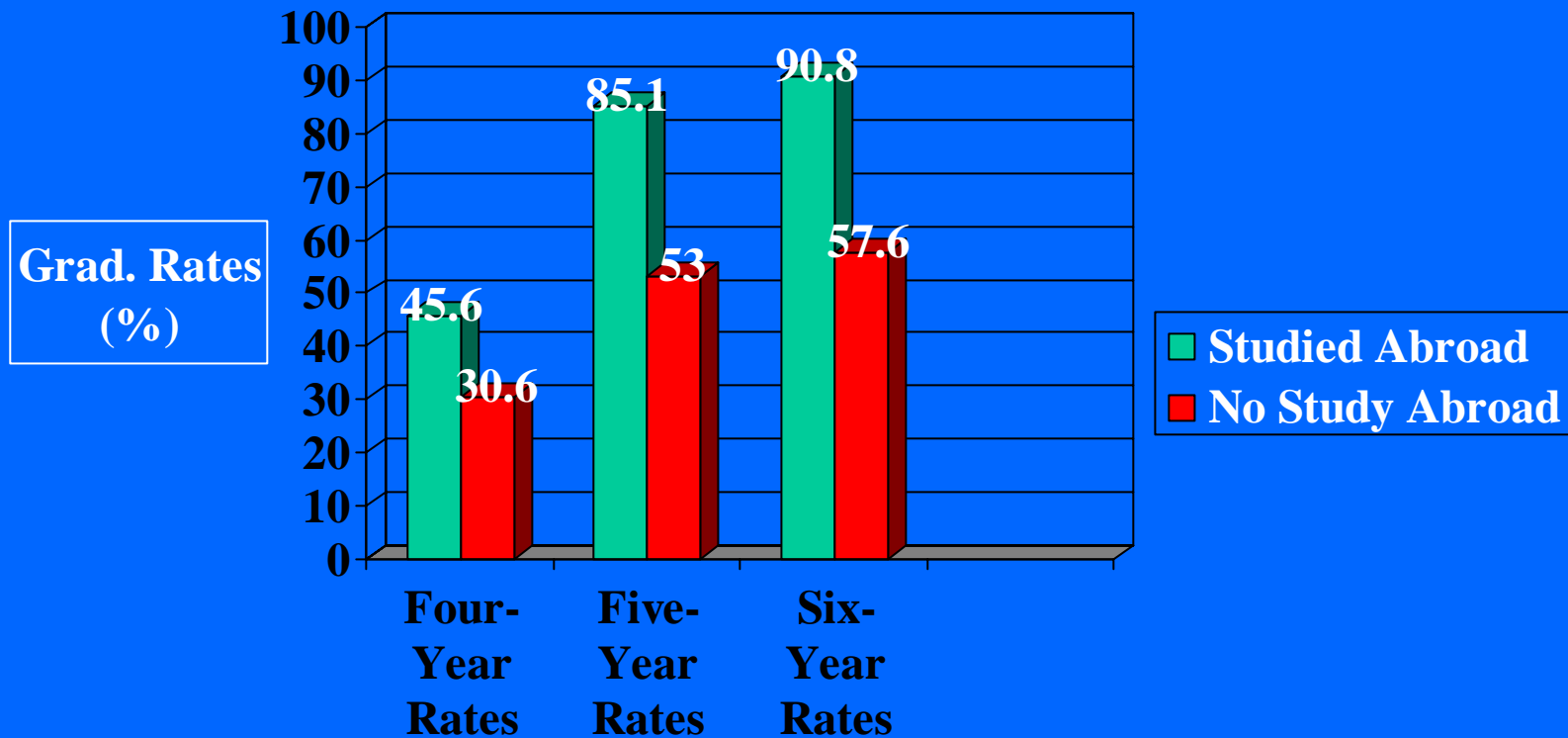
Ref: Mary M. Dwyer Study, IES

IES Longitudinal Survey of Students Perceptions of Impact of Study Abroad

- **Influenced me to explore other cultures – 64%**
- **Enabled me to tolerate ambiguity – 89%**
- **Enabled me to learn something about myself – 98%**

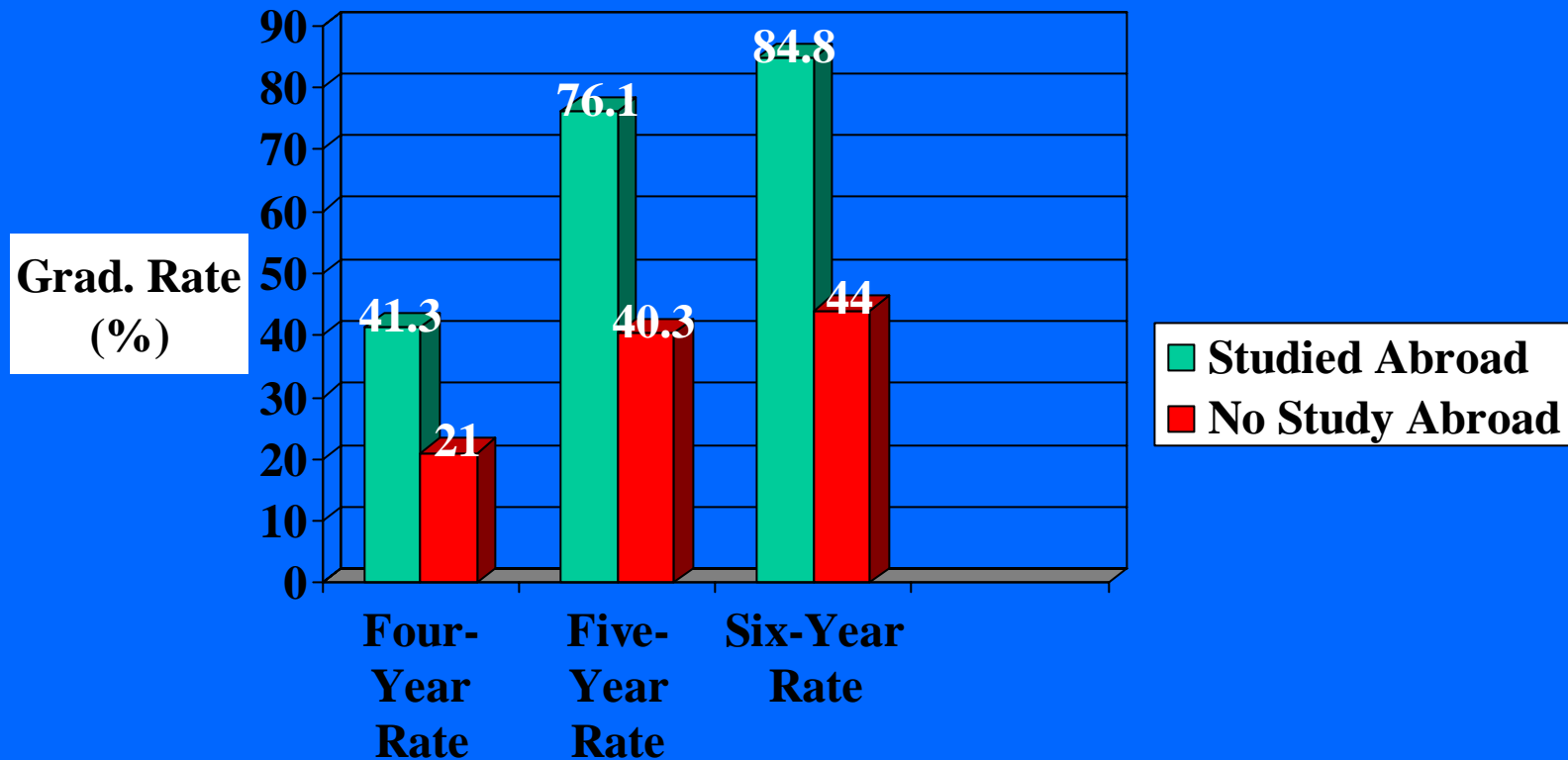
Ref: Mary M. Dwyer Study, IES

Study Abroad Improves Graduation Rates



Ref: University System GA Study

Improved Graduation Rates for Students of Color



Ref: Univ. System GA Study

How Does the Nation Benefit?

- **People to people diplomacy.**
- **Develops informed leadership for the future.**
- **Economic competence.**
- **Aids multicultural understanding and sensitivity among the American people.**

- **To achieve these outcomes, high quality study abroad experiences are needed.**

Globally Competent Faculty

- **Should satisfy the expected competences for students.**
- **Demonstrates an interest in other countries, cultures, and world affairs.**
- **Participates in international meetings.**
- **Encourages and support students in pursuing study abroad.**
- **Incorporates international dimensions in his/her courses.**

Globally Competent Faculty

- **Advocates and supports international education.**
- **Values and works with international students.**

Sen. Paul Simon's Vision

- **A need for substantially more students to study abroad**
- **An Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program**
- **More students studying in developing countries**
- **More diversity among the study abroad student population**

- **The Lincoln Commission believes that a study abroad experience is an essential part of an education for developing global competencies.**

- **The Lincoln Commission believes that all college students should have the opportunity to study abroad and that it is an imperative that colleges and universities make these opportunities available to all students.**

**The Key Elements of the
Proposed Lincoln Study
Abroad Fellowship Program**

ONE MILLION STUDENTS **STUDYING ABROAD**

The Commission's vision is composed both a goal of one million students studying abroad and the conviction that the goal can be achieved.

Key Recommendations

- **Diversity of students, institutions, and destinations should be a hallmark of the Lincoln Study Abroad Program**

Key Recommendations

- **The demographics of the U.S. undergraduate student studying abroad population should be similar to that of the U.S. undergraduate student population.**
- **Efforts are to be made to expand the number of American students studying in nontraditional countries.**

Senate Bill S.3744

- **Co-sponsored by Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Norm Coleman (R-MN). There are now thirty-five (35) co-sponsors.**
- **Establishes the “Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Act of 2006.”**
- **The “ACT” authorizes the program recommended by the Lincoln Commission.**
- **Program has goals that support broadening access to study abroad opportunities and increasing the number of students studying in nontraditional locations.**

Senate Bill S.3744

- **Will award fellowships to undergraduate students**
- **A majority of funds allocated under the Act must go to fellowships for students (no less than 85%)**
- **Fellowship will be awarded via (1) a national fellowship program and (2) institutional grants.**

S.3744 – Missing Items

- **Eligibility for consortia to apply for grants**
- **Sustainability requirement**

S.Res. 308

- **Introduced in November 2005 by Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Lamar Alexander (R-TN)**
- **Declares 2006 as the “Year of Study Abroad.”**
- **Recognizes the important role that study abroad plays in shaping U.S. education and global leadership and encourages all U.S. citizens to promote and support expansion of study abroad opportunities.**

www.lincolncommission.org

www.yearofstudyabroad.org

THANK YOU