FALL EDUCATION ABROAD NETWORK MEETING

October 12, 2016
EFFECTIVE ADVISING TO ADDRESS LEARNING ABROAD FEARS & CONCERNS
Your Role and What you Need to Know

LEARNING ABROAD CENTER
University of Minnesota
Introductions

- Kevin Dostal Dauer, Director, International Health, Safety and Compliance (Global Programs & Strategy Alliance, Dean’s Office)

- Zach Mohs, Associate Director (Learning Abroad Center)

- Scott Daby, Assistant Director- Advising and Enrollment (Learning Abroad Center)
What is the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance?
Today’s Outline

• Health and Safety Context
• Core Components of U of M Health and Safety Operation
• Health and Safety in Program Management
• Student Advising and Your Role
• Questions
Education Abroad Health & Safety

- Huge scope: University system sends about 6,000 students abroad each year

- More recent national focus on health and safety due to:
  - more students going abroad,
  - increase to non-traditional locations,
  - involvement of parents,
  - recent security events covered in news, and
  - immediacy of communication & expectations

- But is the world becoming a more dangerous place?
- What is the most dangerous part of going abroad?
Health & Safety Context

Terrorism in Western Europe 1970-2016*

© Datagraver.com 2016
Data: START GTD, wikipedia (*2016)
NB: ++1993 dataset not complete
*2016 up to September 1st, only people killed, number of attacks not available

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Health & Safety Context

Terrorism in the United States of America, 1970-2016*

© Datagraver.com 2016
Data: START GTD, wikipedia (*2016)
NB: **1993 dataset not complete
*2016 up to August 24th, only people killed, number of attacks not available

People killed
Number of attacks
Health & Safety Context

- 2002-2015: 80 U.S. citizens killed by terrorism
- 2016: 57 through August 30

- 2014: 32,675 U.S. citizens died in domestic car accidents

*Homeland Security News Wire, 30 Aug 2016*
Health & Safety Context

2001-2014:

• 3,412 U.S. citizens killed by terrorism both on U.S. soil and abroad

• 440,095 people died by firearms on U.S. soil

*Homeland Security News Wire, 5 Oct 2016*
### Most Common Causes of Death of U.S. Citizens Abroad

**October 2002 - June 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Death</th>
<th>Reported Number of U.S. Deaths Abroad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic accidents</td>
<td>3,104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>1,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drowning</td>
<td>1,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Other accidents”</td>
<td>1,294</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

U.S. State Department’s registry of American deaths abroad 8 Mar 2016
Health & Safety Context

What about study abroad?

• College students studying abroad are less likely to die than college students studying on campus in the U.S.

• Annualized mortality rates:
  – College students studying abroad: 13.5
  – College students on U.S. campuses: 29.4

Forum on Education Abroad March 2016
Health & Safety Context

So what is the most dangerous part of study abroad?**

What is the most dangerous part of study abroad *for our students*?
Health & Safety Context

Top 5 Incident types reported in 2015-16:

Illness
Mental Health
Pre-Departure Medical Advising/Support
Academic Issue
Injury
Education Abroad Health & Safety

Core Components of U of M’s Health & Safety operation:

- New 24/7 International Emergency Call Center
  - 612.301.CALL(2255)
- Daily monitoring of global areas of concern and evolving events
- Updated messages on major international events (Zika, Ebola, earthquakes, etc.)
- Quick accounting for students, faculty, and staff in emergencies and 24/7 emergency response and support
- Online pre-departure H&S orientation
- CISI insurance for all student travelers
- Prohibition on student driving abroad
- ITRAAC approval for DOS TW countries
- STEP registration
- Collecting and reviewing incident data
H & S: Program Management

• Vetting of programs when they are created
  – Complete a due diligence review of affiliates/partners
  – Ensure appropriate contracting of partners
  – Develop a 24-7 communication and emergency plan

• Continued monitoring of safety/security situation
  – Information and recommendations from US Department of State and security experts
  – Constant updates from staff in country

• Constant communication and training with staff in country
H & S: Incident Management

• Student travel tracking

• When an incident happens:
  – Onsite staff ensure safety of students and attend to any immediate health concerns
  – Onsite staff notifies LAC
  – LAC reaches out to emergency contacts for students
  – LAC posts statement in Safety Update section of website
  – Where relevant counseling services are offered to students and staff
H & S: Program Cancellation

• Programs are occasionally cancelled or suspended for safety/security concerns

• Recent Examples:
  – Turkey
  – Venezuela
H&S Pre-departure: LAC

- Register students for STEP
- Enrolled in CISI
- Student health disclosure form & process
- Online orientation
- Program-specific pre-departure orientation
- Parent orientation
- Onsite orientation
Talking with Students

• Listen, help them identify and articulate specific fears/worries, put concerns in context
• Layers of support and planning to mitigate risk
• Refer to Learning Abroad Center staff
• Encourage students to talk to past participants
• Level of on-site support varies by program type
• 300 programs in 80 countries
Discussion and Questions