



**XAVIER**  
UNIVERSITY

February 12, 2014

Institute for International Education  
Generation Study Abroad  
809 United Nations Plaza  
New York, New York 10017

IIE/Generation Study Abroad Project Director:

On behalf of Xavier University, I enthusiastically pledge the institution's support for IIE's Generation Study Abroad commitment to increase the number of U.S. students studying abroad by 2019. Xavier University plans to sign onto this commitment by setting the goal of tripling the number of students studying on semester-long study abroad programs from the current 20 (average) per semester to 60 per semester by the academic year 2018-19.

*The Xavier Way*, our current strategic planning framework, emphasizes the importance of international engagement and outlines goals for the institution. In alignment with this broad charge, the University's Global Connections Cross-Functional Team recently completed a report articulating a five-year framework for comprehensive internationalization that will help guide the University's future internationalization efforts. Part of this plan calls for an increase in the number of transformative immersion experiences for Xavier students.

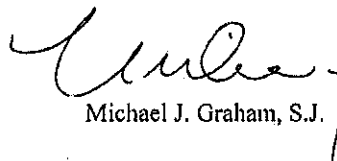
Historically, Xavier has had strong short-term faculty-led programs but not a culture or infrastructure to systematically support semester-long study abroad opportunities. Three years ago the areas of International Student Services, Intensive English Program, and Study Abroad were consolidated into the Center for International Education. With this move, study abroad was provided a full time staff position for the first time at Xavier. This new infrastructure, in combination with increased student interest and our strategic plan framework, sets Xavier up to be ready to grow.

We plan to meet our goal by:

- Developing intentional connections with academic departments to create Pathways to Study Abroad for various majors (degree plan models showing study abroad integrated into the degree plan);
- Cross-training with academic advisors so that all first-year students receive information about study abroad from academic advising;
- Establishing a peer advising network;
- Creating a home school bill model for a select number of semester programs, and allowing institutional aid to apply to these programs, thus equalizing the study abroad experience for students with financial need; and
- Coordinating with colleges/departments to establish course equivalencies for the home school bill programs.

We are enthusiastic about the opportunity to increase the number of Xavier students studying abroad and being part of this exciting IIE initiative.

Cordially,



Michael J. Graham, S.J.