EDUCATION ABROAD & LGBTQ STUDENTS

December 12, 2016
AGENDA & TOPICS

- Intro & Framing
- Advising for LGBTQ students
- Travel Realities
- Ed Abroad Program Realities
- Group Dynamics
INTRODUCTION & FRAMING

- Introductions - Name, Pronouns (we’ll explain), Department, Connection

- Why is this important?
  - Environment for best educational experience
  - Group cohesion
  - General information
  - Principles of Community
HELPFUL LANGUAGE

• General Guide - provided
• Pronouns
• Learning is okay!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pronoun Type</th>
<th>Traditional Masculine</th>
<th>Traditional Feminine</th>
<th>Gender Neutral (Singular They)</th>
<th>Gender Neutral (Ze)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has laughed</td>
<td>He laughed</td>
<td>She laughed</td>
<td>They laughed</td>
<td>Ze laughed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has called</td>
<td>I called him</td>
<td>I called her</td>
<td>I called them</td>
<td>I called hir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has eyes gleaming</td>
<td>His eyes gleam</td>
<td>Her eyes gleam</td>
<td>Their eyes gleam</td>
<td>Hir eyes gleam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>That is his</td>
<td>That is hers</td>
<td>That is theirs</td>
<td>That is hirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pronoun</td>
<td>He likes himself</td>
<td>She likes herself</td>
<td>They like themself</td>
<td>Ze likes hirself</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

http://www.nationalreview.com/article/426040/what-are-your-pronouns-jay-nordlinger
ADVISING LGBTQ STUDENTS

You’re not on your own!

• Faculty leaders and Office of International Programs staff can tag team!

And there are resources to help:
• Diversity Abroad Climate Notes
• ILGA Sexual Orientation Laws Around the World Map
• Department of State LGBTI Travel Information
ADVISING LGBTQ STUDENTS

Basic Questions Students May Have:

- Can I participate in the program?
- Is housing going to work for me?
- How do you choose roommates?
- Are there scholarships?
- Can I travel after a surgery? Can I bring medications?
- If I need medical assistance or counseling while abroad, is it available?
- How will I be treated by the locals (or for that matter, by the other students)?
Deeper Cultural and Identity Questions to Consider:

- What is the climate of the society for LGBTQ individuals and communities?
- How ‘out’ would I want to be? Can I be myself safely in the location or will I choose to adapt to the culture?
- Is there a LGBTQ community and safe spaces?
- Does the society discuss the topic of sex, sexuality, gender?
Passports and Travel Documentation

Gender and Name:
- Travel information and identification should match
- Change options here: [https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/lgbt.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/lgbt.html)
- Gender expression vs. Gender on documents (borders, program providers)
- Medication or instruments - bring documentation of doctor’s orders

Culture
- Are there relevant laws to be aware of?
- What cultural norms should I anticipate (acceptance, ignoring, interest, disrespect, denial)?
- What about being ‘out’? PDA? Sexual relations?
ED ABROAD PROGRAM REALITIES

Choices to make with the student

• Will the proposed housing situation work? What options would work better?
• Roommate selection?
• Will you be out to the group? How can I help protect your privacy?
• How should I address you? What pronouns do you prefer?

Things for the leader to think about

• How can I create a positive group atmosphere for everyone?
• How would I handle a group atmosphere problem?
GROUP DYNAMICS

• Brainstorm: What makes a good group experience?

• Steps:
  a. Clear information/expectations
  b. Group guidelines
  c. Open communication - make sure they know you’re available
  d. Language matters!
  e. Individual connections
  f. Emotional Intelligence

• Hint: It’s not that different than any other group!
DISCUSSION TIME!
Association of International Educators
http://www.rainbowsig.org/international-education-resources/

LGBTI International Travel Information
https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/go/lgbt.html

International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association
http://www.ilga.org

OutRight Action International
https://www.outrightinternational.org/
Contact Us!

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