

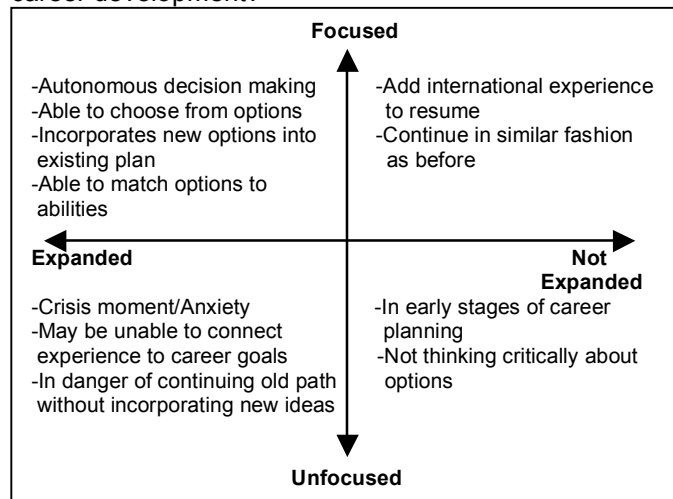
Since study abroad is now being considered as a factor in student career development, it seems there also are implications for academic advisers, who work to help integrate student needs and aspirations into a personal plan for the future (pp. 3-4).

Research Purpose: "to understand the nature of career advising in the context of returning study abroad students from the adviser perspective, by examining the roles (both perceived and practiced) of CI academic advisers at the University of Minnesota regarding study abroad and career planning."

Research Methodology
Concurrent Mixed Methods approach

Online survey: 150 faculty/adviser population
21% response (31 practicing advisers)
Interview: 3 advisers from CCE and CLA

Research Question 1: What do academic advisers perceive to be the impact of study abroad on student career development?



An overarching description of these impacts could be that study abroad simultaneously expands and narrows the student's vision of career. Through an experience abroad, advisers see students discovering a wealth of career options that they had not previously considered, including new majors, new foci of study, work abroad, or graduate study (at home and abroad). Students may also return with an understanding that their field is studied globally.

Research Question 2: What advising strategies do academic advisers use when addressing the student needs related to those impacts?

Strategies such as inviting a student to share their experience or enquiring about a student's personal well being are overarching and maintain the student-adviser bond. On the other end of the spectrum, strategies like incorporating study abroad into a degree proposal, which is a structured activity with a set of institutional requirements, ensures that issues are systematically addressed and seems to have favorable outcomes.

Research Question 3: What do academic advisers perceive the role of Curriculum Integration workshops to be in supporting these activities?

CI Goal for Advisers:

To "develop innovative practices, materials, partnerships, and professional alliances that will allow academic advisers to integrate and articulate study abroad into the major and minor academic program of all undergraduates enrolled at all four campuses of the University of Minnesota"



Suggestions for CI Workshop Activities:

Allow advisers to spend a session sharing their perceptions about the effect of study abroad on career development.
Facilitate adviser brainstorming on strategies they can use in their own academic area.
Provide an overview of available services related to study abroad and career development.
Draw on current research to educate advisers as to the impacts of study abroad on career development.

"Short of every adviser becoming completely aware of each of their advisees' status as returned from study abroad, a solution to this problem could be to provide advisers with a structured set of questions to ask students in an advising meeting. Hannigan (2005, pp. 13-14) offered a set of questions for students who have worked abroad that could also be used with returned study abroad students:

1. Did overseas experience clarify and confirm the student's career goal(s)?
2. Did it eliminate a possible career goal previously under consideration?
3. Did it develop a set of career options that the student had not considered prior to the sojourn?" (p. 69)