

## **Sage Corps joins the Institute of International Education's Generation Study Abroad initiative**

*Sage Corps commits to growing our partnerships with university/private funding sources to make our unique services available to low-income students. Additionally, we will collect data between now and 2019 recording the professional opportunities our students are receiving when they return from their abroad experience with us.*

**[July 23, 2015]**—Sage Corps has joined the Institute of International Education's Generation Study Abroad initiative to help more Americans to gain international experience through study abroad programs. This is one of more than 600 new commitments announced by IIE.

IIE's Generation Study Abroad seeks to mobilize resources and commitments with the goal of doubling the number of U.S. students studying abroad by the end of the decade. Under the new partnership, Sage Corps will take concrete, action-oriented steps to expand opportunities for students to gain valuable experience abroad. Additionally, we have seen that the skills Sage Corps students acquire while interning abroad at startups opens many professional doors. In the past, our students go on to intern and work at top businesses around the world because of their global experience. Therefore, we pledge to collect data between now and 2019 that records the professional opportunities our students are receiving when they come out of our internship program. We will share this data with Generation Study Abroad to promote the global experiential learning initiative, thus showing how interning abroad accelerates a student's career prospects.

*"We founded Sage Corps based on our core belief that college students should gain meaningful international experience before they graduate. Recognizing the financial strains that come with traveling and living abroad, we have helped 40% of our Fellows secure financial support. As a commitment partner of Generation Study Abroad, we are excited to continue this effort and contribute to the increased participation of our university students in global programs."*

**– Sage Corps Founder, Matt Meltzer**

As of May 2015, Generation Study Abroad partners to date include over 400 colleges and universities of all sizes and types across the country and around the world, as well as 14 governments, 25 education associations, more than 100 international partners, and 100 study abroad, K-12, and social network organizations who have committed to specific goals to increase the number of U.S. students studying abroad. Commitments include actions to diversity the population of students who participate in study abroad and provide additional financial resources to make this possible.

IIE launched Generation Study Abroad early last year in the belief that the number and proportion of today's students who graduate with an educational experience abroad is far too low. Currently, fewer than 10 percent of all U.S. college students study abroad at some point in their academic career, according to the [Open Doors Report on International and Educational Exchange](#) published by IIE with support from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Generation Study Abroad aims to grow participation in study abroad so that the annual total reported will reach 600,000 by the end of the decade.

“Globalization has changed the way the world works, and employers are increasingly looking for workers who have international skills and expertise,” says Dr. Allan Goodman, President of IIE. “Studying abroad must be viewed as an essential component of a college degree and critical to preparing future leaders.”

## **About Generation Study Abroad**

IIE’s Generation Study Abroad seeks to significantly increase study abroad participation by bringing employers, governments, associations, and others together to build on current best practices and find new ways to extend study abroad opportunities and resources to tens of thousands of college students whose needs are not currently served by existing programs. Generation Study Abroad will sustain an ongoing dialogue about the need for more students from all backgrounds and in all fields to gain international experience. This will include research to identify and break down barriers hindering students from studying abroad, communications to share strategies and best practices to increase study abroad, and fundraising to mobilize additional financial resources. IIE will also hold a [Summit on Generation Study Abroad](#) on October 1-2, 2015 to engage stakeholders in higher education and all commitment partners.

## **About Sage Corps**

Sage Corps is a selective experiential learning program that sends top college students abroad to work at tech startups for 8-12 weeks.

In two years, Sage Corps has received 1,217 applications from college students across the U.S., and accepted 75 Fellows from 26 different universities. Sage Corps Fellows work side-by-side with company co-founders to grow a global startup. Separately, Sage Corps Fellows attend curated event programming and meet top entrepreneurs, CEOs, investors, and executives at multinationals abroad. Finally, all Fellows connect with a Sage, business leaders across the U.S. who provides professional insights and job opportunities. In addition to becoming an IIE Commitment partner, Sage Corps is also a LeanIn.org partner, encouraging top-tier female college students to gain global work experience.

## **About the Institute of International Education**

The Institute of International Education is a world leader in the international exchange of people and ideas. An independent, not-for-profit organization founded in 1919, IIE has a network of 19 offices and affiliates worldwide and over 1,200 member institutions. IIE designs and implements programs of study and training for students, educators, young professionals and trainees from all sectors with funding from government agencies, foundations, and corporations. IIE also conducts policy research and program evaluations, and provides advising and counseling on international education and opportunities abroad.