



## **Best Practices and Areas of Risk for Students, Faculty and Researchers Abroad**

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# Learning Objectives

## Agenda

- **Global Perspective**
- **Study Abroad By The Numbers**
- **Case Study & Cases In The News**
- **How Do We Manage Risk**
  - Prepare
  - Monitor
  - Respond
- **How Do We Keep Students & Faculty Safe**
- **Applicable Tips**
- **Q&A**

# Global Perspective

## Global Threats



# Study Abroad By The Numbers



# Quick Facts

Uptick in students studying in Latin America, Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa

Major fields of study were STEM (23%), Business (20%), and the social sciences (19%)

**46,090 full degrees** were completed abroad

**974,976 International students** studied at US Institutions in 2014/15

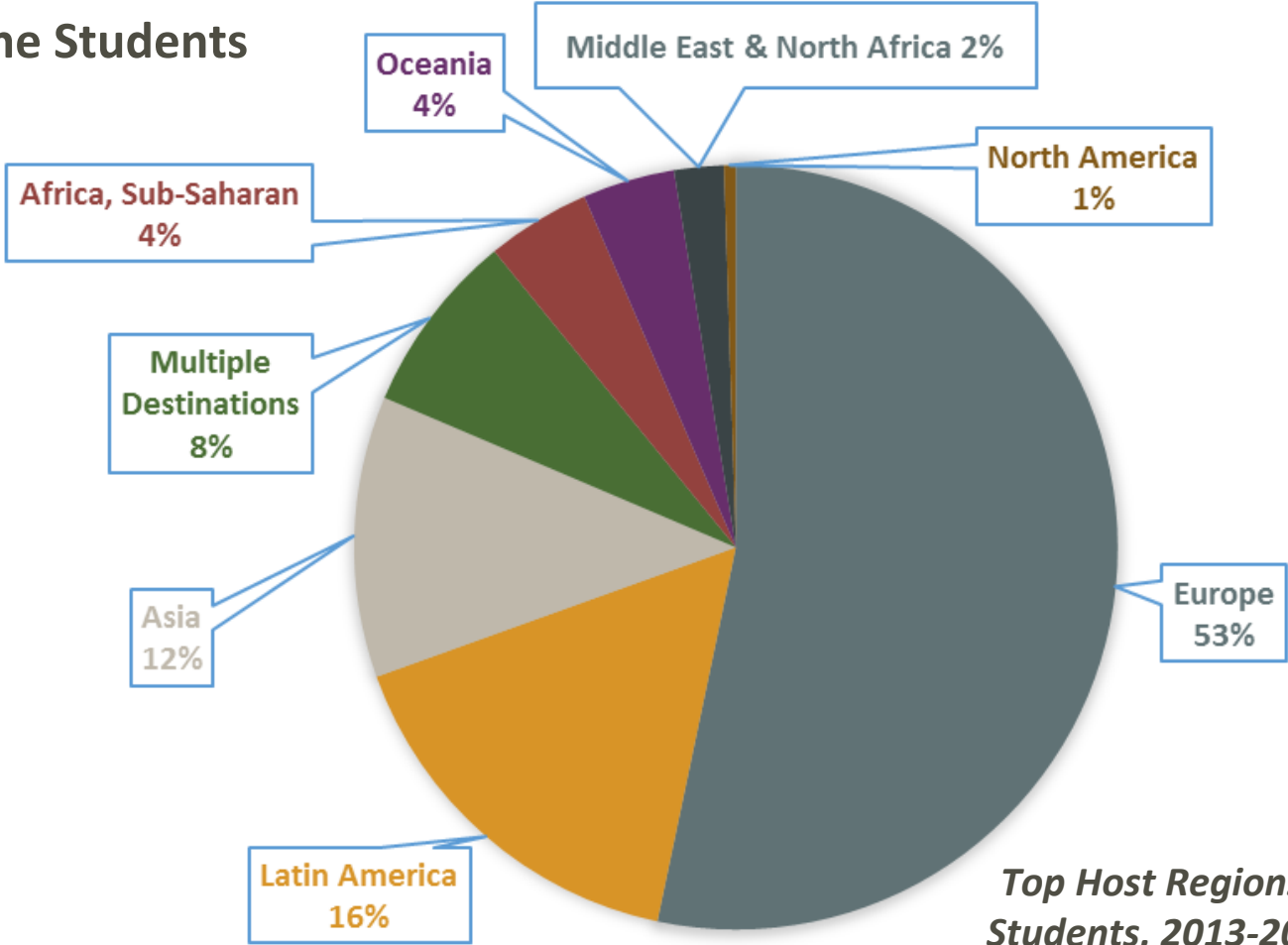
**300,000+ US students** studied abroad in 2014  
5% increase over 2013

**22,181 students at 326 institutions** worked volunteered abroad

**Women comprised 65%** of US study abroad students

# Where are students going?

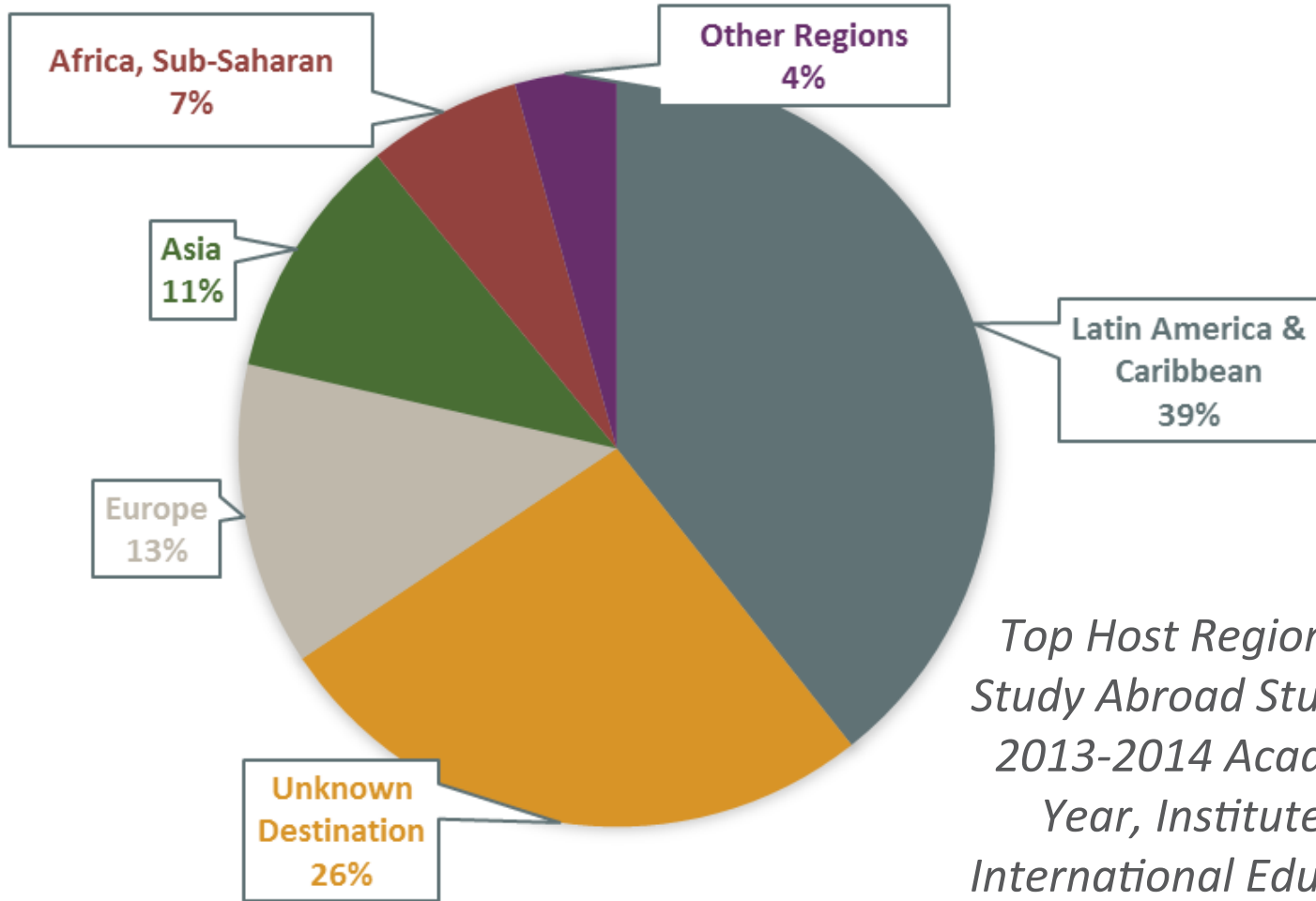
## Full-time Students



*Top Host Regions for Study Abroad Students, 2013-2014 Academic Year, Institute of International Education*

# Where are students going?

## Non-credit students, Internships, Volunteering



*Top Host Regions for Study Abroad Students, 2013-2014 Academic Year, Institute of International Education*

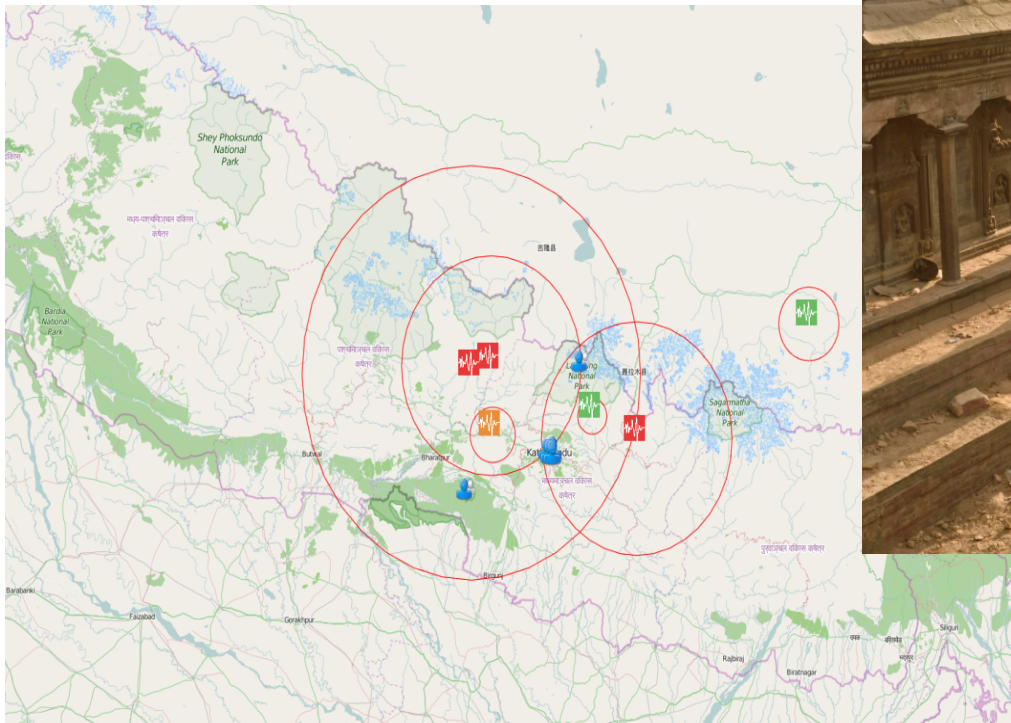
# Case Study & Cases in the News





# Nepal Case Study – April 25, 2015

## Keeping Students Safe



# Munn v. Hotchkiss School

- Fifteen-year old Cara Munn was bitten by a tick while hiking on a forested mountain in China during a summer trip organized by Hotchkiss School.
- The tick transmitted encephalitis, which in turn caused Cara serious neurological damage, leaving her permanently unable to speak.
- Cara and her parents sued Hotchkiss in federal district court, arguing that the school was negligent, failing to warn them and take protective measures that the trip might bring her into contact with disease-bearing insects.
- A jury awarded them \$10 million in economic damages and \$31.5 million in noneconomic damages.

Harvard New Private Law Blog: <https://blogs.harvard.edu/nplblog/2015/08/26/a-schools-duty-of-care-to-its-students-munn-v-hotchkiss-school-goldberg-zipursky/>



## Klotz et al v. World Learning, Inc.

- Janee Klotz was robbed, stabbed and sexually assaulted while studying abroad in Kingston, Jamaica.
- She was studying with the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vt.
- Klotz and five others sued the company, stating that it “knowingly subjected the students to an unreasonable risk of serious harm.”

USA Today: [http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/education/2009-05-27-study-abroad-main\\_N.htm](http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/education/2009-05-27-study-abroad-main_N.htm)



# How do we manage risk?





# Risk Management Approach



**Prepare – Monitor – Respond**

## PREPARE

- 24x7 Intelligence
- Threat Alerts
- Travel Itinerary Tracking
- Risk Assessment
- Training
- Emergency Preparedness

## MONITOR

- Real-time Alerts
- Location Tracking
- Safety check-ins
- Near real-time Itinerary Updates
- Accurate Contact Info

## RESPOND

- 24x7 Ops Center
- Medical Assistance
- Security Assistance
- Case Management



# Training and Practice

## Three levels of Training:

- **LEVEL I** – Student / Faculty
- **LEVEL II** – Professional / Advisor
- **LEVEL III** – Incident Management Team



# How do we keep students & faculty safe?





# Traveler Security

## Plan Ahead

Document a plan

Educate your people on that plan

Practice emergency, medical & cyber protocols

Revisit plan to incorporate lessons learned

# How to Empower Your Students and Faculty

The tactic revolves around the acronym “FACE”



**Focus**



**Attitude and  
Actions**



**Clothing and  
Appearance**



**Environment**

**If something doesn't seem right, trust your instincts.**

# Applicable Tips



# Best Practices

## Tips Travel Safety and Security



When entering a building or room, immediately identify all available exit and rehearse how to get to them.



In early stages of an incident run, or if unable to run, hide.



Gravitate away from incidents and gatherings of all kinds, such as protests.



If violent contact is imminent and unavoidable – fight with what's at hand.



Heed the instructions of authorities; remain calm and cooperative if stopped and questioned by authorities.



If violent contact is imminent and unavoidable – fight with what's at hand.

# Questions?

**How are you planning and preparing your students and faculty today?**



# Thank You!

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