THE CIEE PLEDGE
Whereas the International Institute for Education (IIE) has launched “Generation Study Abroad” a five-year initiative that seeks to double the number of U.S. students studying abroad through credit or non-credit programs by 2020, and

Whereas the IIE seeks to enlist organizations both within the higher education industry and beyond, public and private, to encourage meaningful, innovative action that will help hundreds of thousands more college students go abroad, and

Whereas studying abroad is now widely acknowledged by leaders in higher education, government and business as one of the most important components of a 21st century education, as globalization brings with it the demand for a U.S. workforce that both possesses knowledge of other countries and cultures and is competent in languages other than English, and

Whereas studies show students who study abroad have better grades, experience less attrition, graduate from college at higher rates than students who do not study abroad, and are better prepared to contribute to our global society, and

Whereas studies show that over 90% of high school graduates plan to study abroad in college, yet less than 10% of U.S. college students ultimately study abroad due to three primary barriers – cost, curriculum and culture, and

Whereas the Council on International Educational Exchange’s (CIEE) mission since 1947 has been to develop and deliver international study abroad and exchange programs and services to help people gain understanding, acquire knowledge, and develop skills for living in a globally interdependent and culturally diverse world, and

Whereas CIEE applauds IIE’s bold challenge to leaders in higher education, government, business, and high schools, as well as to faculty, parents, mentors, and students themselves to overcome the barriers to study abroad through bold innovation, practical solutions, and sustained commitment,

Therefore CIEE accepts IIE’s Generation Study Abroad Challenge to double the number of U.S. college students who study abroad by 2020 by drawing on its 65 year history of innovation, practical solutions, and sustained commitment to the higher education and secondary education fields by pledging to address each of the barriers of cost, curriculum, and culture with specific, concrete, action-oriented programs.
COST

CIEE will help U.S. college students overcome the barriers of cost by:

1. **Financial Aid - $20 Million by 2020**
   a. CIEE pledges to award $20 million in scholarships and grants to support study abroad by 2020, including academic scholarships, financial aid to economically challenged students, and travel grants.

2. **Passports - 10,000 by 2020**
   a. CIEE pledges to sponsor 10,000 new student passports by 2020 through a "get ready to travel" initiative focusing on encouraging students to obtain a passport early in their college career.

3. **Affordable Program Innovation – 2X by 2020**
   a. CIEE pledges to double short-term program options for students not able to commit the financial resources needed to study abroad for a full semester or academic year, providing more options for students from more academic majors and personal backgrounds to study abroad.
   b. CIEE pledges to offer innovative semester-length programs by offering CIEE Global Institutes and the "open campus model" with an academic block system that provides flexibility and program options to students during fall and spring terms. CIEE’s open campus will better meet the needs of students with diverse and underrepresented majors.

CURRICULUM

CIEE will help university leaders and faculty overcome the barriers of curriculum by:

1. **Faculty-led Student Study Abroad - 10,000 by 2020**
   a. CIEE recognizes that to achieve the IIE GSE, faculty must play a prominent and central role. CIEE pledges to expand its Faculty-led and Custom program division to enable faculty to lead students on high quality international programs, supporting 10,000 student experiences by 2020.
   b. In addition, CIEE will create and sponsor a yearly Faculty and Custom program Award which will seek to honor creativity, innovation or brilliantly practical approaches to Faculty and Custom program. Faculty will be able to submit an application for consideration of the award and receive a $20K grant to help fund a subsequent Faculty and Custom program with CIEE. Submissions for the award will be shared broadly with the field to inspire continued growth in interest and engagement of faculty in education abroad.
2. **Practical Faculty Training on International Programs**
   a. CIEE pledges to expand the depth and breadth of its International Faculty Development Seminars, widely recognized as the leading seminars offered to the field to build faculty expertise in education abroad. CIEE commits to organizing and executing faculty summits to engage faculty on program development in specific fields. CIEE commits to offering seminars focusing on intercultural engagement and best practices in organizing Faculty and Custom programs.

**CULTURE**

CIEE will help university and secondary education leaders, faculty, teachers, parents, mentors, and students overcome the barrier of culture by:

1. **Create Change Agents – CIEE ‘I Believe’ Campaign**
   a. CIEE pledges to help stakeholders believe in the achievability of a high quality study abroad experience for all students, from all backgrounds. Changing culture means changing behaviors, encouraging positive behaviors, and discouraging less positive behaviors. CIEE pledges to raise awareness of positive role models, champions of change, innovators, problem solvers, and change agents.

2. **Early Introduction to Global Education – CIEE’s K-20 effort**
   a. CIEE pledges to embrace IIE’s call to enhance global education programs in U.S. high schools through study abroad programs that encourage language acquisition, leadership skills, and intercultural skills development. CIEE will work with secondary education superintendents, principals, heads of schools, teachers, parents, and students to encourage early adoption of global skills and competencies. By 2020, CIEE will increase participation in its high school summer by 20-fold.

3. **Address Specific Underrepresented Populations - Outreach to MSI’s and Students with Disabilities**
   a. CIEE pledges to expand its outreach to Minority Serving Institutions and will customize product offerings to meet the needs of this targeted audience. CIEE commits expanding its work with MSIs to 100 institutions by 2020.
   b. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act by President George H. W. Bush in July 1990, and in partnership with Mobility International USA (MIUSA) and the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange, CIEE pledges to provide 25 full scholarships for international exchange to students with disabilities in 2015.