

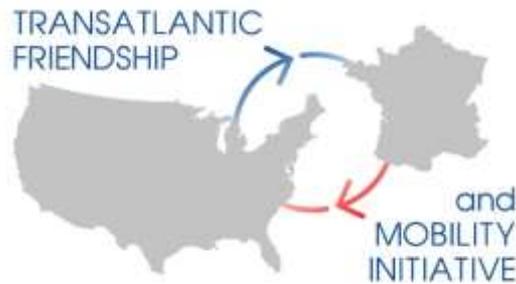
Workshop 4

Professionalizing Study Abroad Experiences: Developing Research and Professional Internships in the US and France

Chairs: Minh-Hà Pham (*Ambassade de France*) and Florence de Claassen de Mourgues (*George Washington University*)

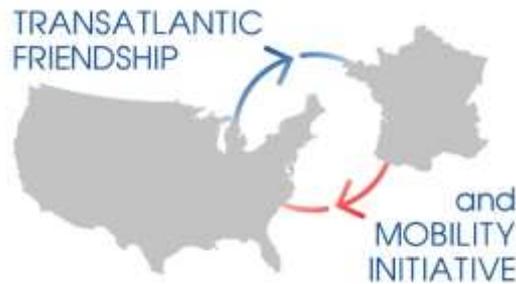
Panelists: Christopher Cripps (*PSL*), Stacy Burger (*Lehigh University*), Catherine Martineau-Huynh (*Centrale Supélec*), Marianne Conde Salazar (*CCIP*), Joannah Bell (*French American Chamber of Commerce in New York*)

Rapporteur: Léa Futschik (*Ambassade de France*)



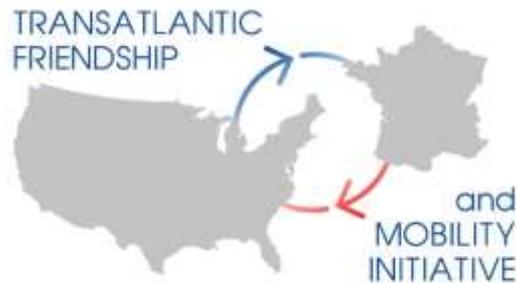
Situation Assessment

- Most U.S. and French students are interested in **career-focused study abroad programs**. Study abroad opportunities are perceived as an **advantage on a competitive job market** rather than solely as a cultural experience.
- There is a **growing demand from students for internship abroad** to increase their career perspectives.
- International educators are increasingly interested in developing **Work abroad, Internship abroad and/or Volunteer Abroad (WIVA) opportunities** to match student expectations.



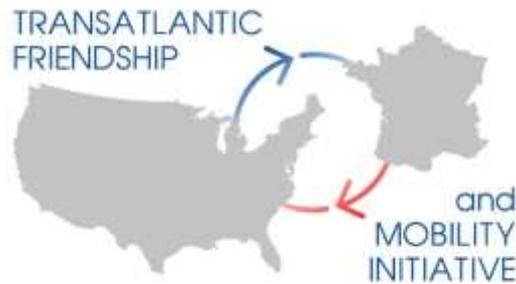
Work abroad models

- Semester-long programs with **study abroad/internship combination.**
- Programs offering extensive **pre-departure sessions and internship or research placements abroad.**
- **Special track one-year program** combining project-based learning in startup incubators and internship placements abroad. (ex: Digital Tech Year – Centrale Supélec).



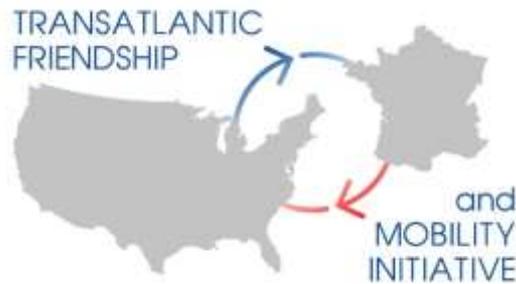
Questions to be addressed on research internships

- Research organizations, *Grandes Ecoles*, Universities: what are the different **methods for hosting undergraduate, Masters and PhD interns?**
- **Platforms offering research internships** to French students: how can they be expanded to foreign students and especially to US students (provide examples)?



Questions to be addressed on professional internships

- What are the **needs for French and US companies** hosting young people from the US and France?
- How can **business networks and alumni networks** have a proactive role in the placement of American and French interns in companies in France in the United States respectively?
- How can the **US France Alumni Platform** help American students find internships in French companies and provide French companies with access to the profiles of American students they are looking for?



Proposals for deliverables and resources to be implemented

- **Maintain this working group** after the seminar in order to identify (or develop) platforms with internship offers.
- **Commitment from business networks** to increase their capacity for hosting students going abroad.
- Develop of a **mentoring program for research internships**; host universities agree to identify “buddies.”
- Draft of a “**Guide for internships** in France for American Students” in English and a “Guide for internships in the United States for French students” in French (examples of résumés, cover letters and interview advice, sample internship agreement, explanation of visa process...).