The Transatlantic Friendship and Mobility Initiative 2014 Awards

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The Transatlantic Friendship and Mobility Initiative, announced by the U.S. Department of State and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development on May 13, 2014, and endorsed by the Association of American Universities (AAU), the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), NAFSA: Association of International Educators and the Institute of International Education (IIE), aims to strengthen the historic ties between the United States and France by doubling the number of students studying abroad in our respective countries by 2025.

Within this context, in 2014 the Embassy of France has partnered with APLU, NAFSA, and IIE, for an exceptional call for projects aimed at increasing study-in-France opportunities, and at identifying American colleges and universities that are willing and able to leverage institutional commitment to the goals of the initiative.

APLU–NAFSA Partnerships for Innovation and Collaboration on Study Abroad RFP

The following projects were distinguished by the selection committee:

- **University of Arkansas’** expansion of student mobility programs (summer and spring semester) on the platform of nutritional science, culinary sciences and geological sciences in Beauvais;

- **North Carolina State University’s** “French language – the key to opening many doors”, focused on engaging North Carolina high school students for future study in France and the creation of a semester program on cultural diversity in Paris targeting underrepresented students;

- **University of Minnesota’s** enrichment of study abroad opportunities for underrepresented disciplines (business and engineering) and the creation of a semester-long module of skills development for future teachers of French in Montpellier;

- **Georgetown University’s** expansion of undergraduate research opportunities through a tailored one year program in Lyon that will allow students to develop a research topic and publish their work.

IIE Generation Study Abroad partnership (this RFP focused specifically on Minority serving institutions)

The following projects were distinguished by the selection committee:

- **Lehman College’s** creation of an internship exchange program in Montpellier for 8 students majoring in business and economics;

- **Texas A&M International University’s** “Global Partners” program that will develop summer, semester and full year exchange opportunities in Chambéry (Alpes-Savoie) for undergraduate and graduate business students.
These competitive proposals aim to demonstrate how limited resources can effectively mobilize the greatest number of U.S. students to study abroad in France.

The Embassy of France will be providing funding of $20,000 for each of these awards, which will cover up to 50% of each project’s total cost.

The Cultural Services and the Office for Science and Technology of the Embassy of France congratulate the recipients of the “Transatlantic Friendship and Mobility” Awards and thank APLU, NAFSA and IIE for their commitment to this Initiative.