February 5, 2013

Dr. Daniel Obst
Deputy Vice President, International Partnerships
Institute for International Education (IIE)
809 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Dr. Obst,

This letter documents the commitment of Texas A&M University to participate in the Generation Study Abroad challenge issued by the Institute for International Education (IIE) to double or significantly increase the number of students studying abroad by 2019. Specifically, Texas A&M pledges to double, by 2019, the number of students studying abroad, with the baseline being the 2,009 reported to IIE for Open Doors 2013.

To facilitate meeting the target listed above, Texas A&M has requested goals be set by the deans of each college for increases in the number of students participating in high impact learning experiences, including studying abroad. Funding to assist in meeting these goals has been disbursed, and progress will be tracked to ensure accountability.

Texas A&M has taken this bold step as part of its Quality Enhancement Plan, “Aggies Commit to Learning for a Lifetime”. When students make a commitment to engage purposefully in a high-impact learning experience such as studying abroad, they are developing habits and skills to prepare themselves for lives of leadership and service to society.

We are pleased to participate in this important endeavor to increase engagement of students abroad.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pamela R. Matthews
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs