

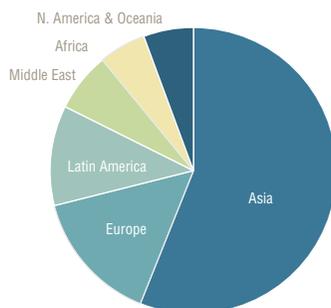


IIE is the source of first resort
for those **seeking information**
on international education.



IIE and the Freeman Foundation acted quickly to assist students here affected by the Asian currency crisis in their home countries. ASIA-HELP students met with Freeman Foundation president Houghton Freeman and his wife Doreen at a reception at IIE headquarters in New York.

Students come to the US from all over the globe. Many of IIE's programs are designed to strengthen the knowledge they gain while studying in the US.



SERVING THE EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY

As our world becomes ever more interconnected and our economies increasingly global, education with an international component is becoming a necessity, not the luxury it was once thought to be. IIE has an eighty year history of promoting international study.

IIE is the source of first resort for those seeking information on international education. IIE offices provide the guidance of professionals knowledgeable about US higher education. The Institute's website (www.iie.org) offers everything from online program applications to data about international student mobility. IIE's publications, *Academic Year Abroad* and *Vacation Study Abroad* are comprehensive directories of overseas study opportunities and have recently gone online as "IIE Passport."

Annually, with US government support, IIE produces *Open Doors*, an analysis of international student mobility. For the 1998-99 academic year, the number of foreign students in the US increased to a record high of 490,933. With more than half of those coming from Asia, the Asian currency crisis had the potential to devastate these students' academic careers. IIE, with a grant from the Freeman Foundation, created **ASIA-HELP**, a program of no-interest loans, distributing almost \$5 million to qualified Asian students. With the war in Kosovo, IIE initiated a similar program, **Balkan-HELP**, to provide emergency grants to students from that region.

A record 113,959 US students studied abroad as well. Most studied in the United Kingdom, Spain, Italy and France, but increasing numbers went to non-traditional sites. Charts illustrative of the *Open Doors* data appear throughout this text.

IIE also supports many programs that directly build capacity in the scholarly community. The **ASIA Fellows Program**, funded by the Ford Foundation, provides opportunities for Asian scholars to spend an extended period in another Asian country to learn about that country from an Asian, rather than a Western, perspective. This program also facilitates links among Asian scholars. With growing interdependence among Asian countries, this kind of intellectual leadership development is critical.

IIE also plays a vital role of convener, stimulating dialogue among education policy makers and the donor community, and produces reports which broaden the networks through which those discussions are shared. In December, 1998 IIE convened over 100 distinguished educators from five continents to reflect on the current state of higher education and its future evolution. The symposium was sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation, and produced a research report: *Higher Education in the 21st Century: Global Challenge and National Response*.