MANAGING REAL AND PERCEIVED EMERGENCIES ABROAD
INDIANA UNIVERSITY OVERSEAS STUDY

August 2019

Keep in hard copy near main telephones:
This document outlines procedures for dealing with possible emergency scenarios that may arise in the course of study abroad programs. It also identifies the roles played by the Office of International Affairs as the first point of contact for IUPUI programs and that of IU-Bloomington as backup in its capacity as operative safety and risk managers for the IU system.

In an emergency, any staff member taking the first notification phone call will:

1. **Write down:**
   - Caller’s name, and phone/e-mail contact info
   - Title of the program involved
   - Location of emergency
   - A few key details

2. Refer the caller immediately to Stephanie Leslie (317-278-0716). If she is not available the call should then go to Kevanne Monkhouse (317-278-2097). If she is not available then seek out Sara Allaei (317-274-3261) or the most senior person present for handling of further communication.

   DO NOT HANG UP UNTIL YOU HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THE CALLER HAS CONNECTED WITH A LIVE PERSON.

3. **Immediately** take information collected in #1 to the person who is fielding the phone call.

4. **If no one is present in this capacity** – or immediately so – the staff member will:
   - proceed to the relevant question lists outlined here,
   - obtain information in detail,
   - promise contact within 30 minutes,
   - will then contact on an emergency basis one of the following as the first point of contact:

   **Study Abroad Emergency Cell Phone - 317-409-2925**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Leslie</td>
<td>317-278-0716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sara Allaei</td>
<td>317-274-3261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilary Kahn</td>
<td>317-278-1265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Charlton</td>
<td>317-278-2097</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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   - subject to the directives received from either of these individuals: contact and dispatch information to:
     - a. Kathy Sideli – Bloomington, on behalf of the IU system (812) 855-1139
b. Joe Scodro, Chief Legal Counsel, IUPUI 317 274-7460
c. GeoBlue Insurance – emergencies 610-254-8771 or
general inquiries - 610-263-2847
d. Amber Denney - (317) 278-7703 ; ambdenne@iu.edu
e. Steven Wintermeyer, Director Student Health Center –
direct office number (317) 278-2603
f. Any other person nominated by these people in the manner directed.

If you are not able to reach the IUPUI emergency contacts listed above contact one of the
following as the second point of contact:

**Emergency Contacts:**

**IU Bloomington - Overseas Study Emergency Cell Phone:** 812-327-9058
Overseas Study, Main Office: 812-855-9304
Kathleen Sideli: Susan Carty
812-855-9304 (office) 812-855-9305 (office)

IUPUI Police – 317-274-7911
The IUPUI Police have after hours contact information for many staff members in the Office
of International Affairs.

**Quick reference:** Guide to Information Collection

**Operating Principles**

- **Safety #1 Priority**
- **Caution/Restraint in Decision-Making & Language Chosen Think**
- **Minimize Liability**
- **Confidentiality**

**Checklists for guiding conversations:**

1. **Questions to be asked in all situations**
   A. Related to the situation p. 4
   B. Important general contact
      numbers and information p. 5

2. **Incident-specific questions**

   **Death**
   - Participant p. 7
   - Program leader: p. 8

   Participant:
   - Ill/sick (serious): p. 9
   - Injury (serious): p. 10
• assault or rape: p. 11
• missing: p. 13
• arrested: p. 14
• taken hostage: p. 15

Political emergency p. 16

Natural or man-made disaster p. 16

*** Front Line Staff Do NOT Complete the Steps Outlined in pages 17-25 of this Document. It is for informational purposes only. ***
1. Questions to be asked in all situations

   A. Related to Situation

   ☐ Is the Program Director or other on-site staff member in close contact now with all affected participants?

   ☐ What are the current physical and psychological conditions of affected participant(s)?

   ☐ What is the proximity of the event(s) to all program participants?

   ☐ What is the imminent risk to participant(s) if they remain where they are?

   ☐ Are all program participants, whether directly involved or not, aware of the emergency? How are they responding to the emergency?

   ☐ Are adequate food, water and medical attention available?

   ☐ Is adequate and secure housing available? How long will this housing be available? What other appropriate housing options are available as a backup, if needed?

   ☐ Should students be evacuated?
B. Important general contact numbers and information:

☐ Does the Program Director and/or other on-site staff members have the telephone numbers of the participants involved?

☐ Fax and/or e-mail numbers?

☐ Is a telephone tree among program participants established?
   (If not, it should be at this time, with instructions to students to call the Program Director or the next level of students if their immediate contact cannot be reached)

☐ For our records, record the information below for the attending physician(s), clinic(s) and/or other health professionals involved:

   the names

   Addresses

   Telephone

   Fax

   E-mail

☐ What are the name and contact numbers of the person, if any, who is providing translation services in this crisis?

☐ Record the following for the appropriate officials at the U.S. Embassy

   Names and titles

   Addresses

   Telephone

   Fax

   E-mail

Continued on Next Page
Record the following for the appropriate officials at the State Department in Washington, D.C.

Names and titles

Address

Telephone

Fax

E-mail

Record the following for the local law enforcement or public security officials involved.

Names and titles

Address

Telephone

Fax

E-mail

Do these people speak English?
2. **Incident-specific questions:**

If there is a death of a program participant:

- What were the circumstances surrounding the death?

- Was there police involvement?

  - If yes, what is the case number?

- Has the US Embassy or Consulate in the country been notified?

- Are the next of kin aware of the death? **OIA will consult with the Dean of Students and the OVST as appropriate on the next of kin notification.**

- Have the other participants been informed of the death?

- Have arrangements been made for the repatriation of remains?

- Have arrangements been made for an on-site memorial service?

- Have arrangements been made for counseling for program participants and host families, if necessary?
If there is a death of a Program Leader:

- What were the circumstances surrounding the death?
- Was there police involvement?
  - If yes, what is the case number?
- Has the US Embassy or Consulate in the country been notified?
- Are the next of kin aware of the death? **OIA will consult with the OVST on next of kin notification.**
- Have the program participants been informed of the death?
- Is there another faculty/staff member that can take over leadership of the group?
- Do participants need to return to the US?
- Have arrangements been made for the repatriation of remains?
- Have arrangements been made for an on-site memorial service?
- Have arrangements been made for counseling for program participants, if necessary?
If a participant(s) has fallen seriously ill:

- What medical treatment has the student received?

- What is the diagnosis, the prescribed treatment and the prognosis?

- Does the attending physician speak English?

- Are other participants at risk from this illness?

- Does the participant have the necessary financial resources to pay for bills or will the program cover these expenses to be reimbursed by the participant later?

- Is medical evacuation a desirable and viable action?

- If so, has the insurance provider been contacted to determine coverage?

  - Does the student have GeoBlue insurance? Should GeoBlue be contacted to arrange for director billing to the hospital or clinic or to discuss coverage levels or medical evacuation?

  - If the student doesn’t have GeoBlue, do they have IU’s Aetna student plan? Do they have insurance provided through a program provider? Has the insurance been contacted?
If a participant has been seriously injured:

☐ What are the details of the accident?

☐ What has the on-site response been?

☐ Does the attending physician speak English?

☐ Where has the participant been taken?

☐ What is the diagnosis, the prescribed treatment and the prognosis?

☐ Is medical evacuation a desirable and viable action?

☐ If so, has the insurance provider been contacted to determine coverage?

☐ Does the student have GeoBlue insurance? Should GeoBlue be contacted to arrange for director billing to the hospital or clinic or to discuss coverage levels or medical evacuation?

☐ If the student doesn’t have GeoBlue, do they have IU’s Aetna student plan? Do they have insurance provided through a program provider? Has the insurance been contacted?
If a participant has been assaulted or raped:

☐ What are the details of the incident?

☐ What has the on-site response been?

☐ Where has the participant been taken?

☐ If a rape or sexual assault, is counseling available and is it in English?

☐ Has appropriate local law enforcement been notified?

☐ Is the alleged perpetrator a member of the group? If so, what measures are in place to protect both the victim and alleged perpetrator?

☐ What is the medical diagnosis, the prescribed treatment and the prognosis?

☐ Is the participant interested in returning to the U.S.? If so, inform the student what the likely academic and financial consequences will be.

☐ Are there other offices on campus that should be notified or involved in this case?
  
  ☐ Julie Lash from Counseling and Psychological Services (317-752-3455) and Jason Spratt (jtspratt@iupui.edu - (317) 274-4431) should be contacted.
  ☐ Has the student received the sexual assault victim brochure?
INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT: RIGHTS, OPTIONS, AND RESOURCE GUIDE

For Emergencies Dial 9-1-1
http://stopsexualviolence.iu.edu/

Resources

For additional information on available resources on your campus and in the community, as well as a link to the University Sexual Misconduct Policies and Procedures, please visit the Stop Sexual Violence website: http://stopsexualviolence.iu.edu/

Resources

Where to Report

Law Enforcement
Indiana University Police Department (IUPD)
Responds to incidents on-campus.
317-274-7911 or 911

Indiana Metropolitan Police Department
Responds to incidents in the Indianapolis metropolitan area.
317-327-3811 or 911

IUPU Office of Student Conduct
The IUPU disciplinary process is fair and educational designed to promote a safe educational environment and develop students who are productive members of both the local and global community. Responds to reports of student misconduct.

Title IX Coordinator
Under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, sexual violence is considered a form of sexual discrimination. Violations are reported to a Title IX compliance officer.

University Title IX Coordinator
Emily Springler
Chief Student Title IX Officer and Title IX Coordinator
317-274-8400

Deputy Title IX Coordinators
Traci Strong
Assistant Dean and Director of Student Conduct
317-274-4301

Sara Mitchell
Interim Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Title IX Compliance
317-274-2274

Confidential Counseling Services
IU Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)
CAPS provides professional psychological services for IUPUI students in all locations.
719 Indiana Ave, Walker Plaza 120
317-274-2548

Other Campus Resources

Confidential Assistance
Confidential resources are available to provide support and advocacy for victims of sexual and gender identity violence. In addition, they can inform you of your rights and options available to you provided by university policies and procedures and according to state and federal law. Contact these resources directly.

Assistant Director of Interpersonal Violence Prevention and Response
317-274-2235

Community Health Network Behavioral Care Services
Provision andbben.com/behavioralcare

Employee Assistance Program
Provides professional and confidential counseling to full time employees, local residents, and HMO's employees and their household members.
317-234-8377

Medical Services
Immediate evaluation, treatment, and evidence collections are available at the following locations:
IU Health Methodist Hospital Center of Hope
317-060-4394 (available 24/7)

Eskenazi Health Center of Hope
720 Eskenazi Avenue (near Ball Residence)
317-290-8900

IUPUI Student Health
The IUJU Health Student Health Center offers services for general medical needs, such as annual exams, birth control, acute illness and injuries in two locations.
Campus Student Health Center
201 N Innovation Campus
317-274-2214

200 S Delaware Circle
316-227-2214

Office of International Affairs
The Office of International Affairs can assist students with visa and immigration advising and other support services for international students.
317-274-7000 or sirh.iupui.edu

Community Resources

Legal Services
For assistance with legal options, contact:
Indianapolis Coalition Against Domestic Violence
800-332-7785

Juliet Center
317-290-5372

Legacy House
http://www.chof.org

Protection Orders
If you need to file a petition for an Order of Protection, you can do at the City County Building.
200 East Washington Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Help is Available 24 Hours a Day
Below is important information to consider. Please see contact options under the "Resources" section.

Find a Safe Place
Most importantly, call 911 if you or anyone else is in immediate danger and try to get to a safe place. Once you are safe, contact someone you trust to be with you for support. This could be a friend, family member, a resident assistant or even a trained sexual assault advocate.

Seek Medical Attention
Medical attention should be sought as soon as possible. This is necessary to mitigate the risk of sexually transmitted diseases or pregnancy as well as treat any physical injuries.

Prevention of the Incident
If you have experienced any forms of sexual misconduct, it is important to preserve any evidence that may be useful in any legal action taken by you or your family. If you report an assault to a police officer, inform them of any possibility of a rape kit being taken or treated as evidence.

Counseling Support is Available
Counseling is recommended during this difficult time. Whether services are sought on campus or in the community, remember that self-care is an important part in coping with the event. Confidential counselors are available on your campus (see "Confidentiality & Privacy")

Report the Incident
There are several reporting options including reporting to campus or local law enforcement, reporting to campus Title IX Coordinator, going through the student conduct system, or reporting online at StopSexualViolence.iu.edu. Campus authorities can also assist in notifying law enforcement if requested, however, you may also decline to notify law enforcement.
If a participant is missing:

☐ When was he or she last seen?

☐ Does anyone have any idea about where they might have gone?

☐ If they had left and were expected to return at a specific time, when was the date and time of the expected return?

☐ Did the participant tell anyone of plans to be absent?

☐ Are search and rescue operations available on site and are these reliable?

☐ Have they already been initiated? If not, should they be?

☐ If other students are enlisted to search, have they been briefed adequately on what to do if they find the missing student or the various scenarios they may encounter?

☐ If you have determined that the student is truly likely to be missing, proceed with the following questions:

☐ Has the US Embassy been contacted?

☐ Have the local missing persons officials been notified?

☐ What is the case number?
If a student has been arrested:

☐ Has he or she been detained?

☐ Has the U.S. Embassy been notified?

☐ What has their response been? What is their advice?

☐ What agency made the arrest and filed the charges?

☐ What are the names, addresses and phone numbers of arresting authorities?

☐ What is the case number?

☐ What rights have been granted?

☐ Is he/she entitled to place a phone call?

☐ Is appropriate legal counsel available?
If a student has been taken hostage:

☐ Has the U.S. Embassy been notified?

☐ What is the Embassy's advice?

☐ Have the kidnappers made contact?

☐ Is negotiation support available on site?

☐ Who are the contact people at the Embassy, and at the State Department in Washington, D.C and what are their titles and contact numbers?
If the emergency is political in nature or if a natural or man-made disaster has occurred:

☐ Has the U.S. Embassy advised participants to take any actions?

☐ Have all participants been made aware of these precautions, and in writing?

☐ Are all participants following these precautions?

☐ Have local authorities imposed a curfew?

☐ Is travel in or out of the country being restricted in any way?

☐ Is the group in danger?

☐ Who or what is the target of any unrest?

☐ Has any particular group or organization been threatened?

☐ What kind of military or other security or public safety personnel are present?

☐ Are they unusually visible?

☐ How are they behaving with respect to the civilian population?

☐ Is evacuation a desirable and viable action?
Overview

The Office of Overseas Study at Indiana University (IU) is charged with the responsibility of coordinating the management of emergencies affecting participants in all IU-approved study abroad programs. In the case of campus- or school-specific IU programs, that responsibility is shared with the Office of International Affairs at IUPUI.

Assuring the safety and well-being of students, faculty and staff who are participating in IU programs abroad is of the highest importance, and all reasonable actions will be taken to accomplish this.

While acknowledging that no single plan can address all contingencies, the Office of Overseas Study (OVST) recognizes the importance of establishing, in advance, policies and procedures that are designed to safeguard the safety and well-being of study abroad participants and to limit IU’s legal liability. These policies and procedures, described in detail below, will serve to guide IU’s response to crises affecting participants abroad.

We should draw a distinction between "real" and "perceived" emergencies. Real emergencies are those that pose a genuine and sometimes immediate risk to, or that have already disturbed, the safety and well-being of participants. These include such occurrences as coups and other civil disturbances; natural and man-made disasters; incarcerations; serious physical or emotional illness; accidents; physical assaults; disappearances or kidnappings; and terrorist threats and attacks.

Perceived emergencies are those which pose no significant risks to the safety and well-being of participants, but which are seen as threatening by family members in the U.S. or by others, including, at times, students and colleagues at the home university. Perceptions of threat can arise out of a number of situations, including the sensationalized reporting of an event abroad; the distortion of information provided by a participant in a telephone call, e-mail message, fax or letter home; or simply out of the nervousness of a family member or student with little or no international experience. Such perceptions will sometimes affect family members and others in the U.S. more strongly than will real emergencies, and need to be treated seriously.

By closely following the procedures outlined below, the staff of OIA will be able to gather information that will allow them to respond appropriately to real emergencies, or to place a perceived emergency in its proper context, and thereby reassure family members and others in the U.S. Other units at IU with responsibility for campus- or school-specific programs are expected to follow the same procedures and to consult with OIA as appropriate.

After working hours, on weekends and holidays, a call to the Study Abroad Emergency Phone (317-409-2925) will reach the staff member who is on call for emergencies. To be prepared to answer calls in such cases, all staff who will handle emergency phone calls should have updated copies of the following at home: (1) access to iAbroad, (2) phone numbers for OIA staff and the contact list of relevant IU/IUPUI staff saved on the emergency phone (3) these procedures.
Operating Principles

In managing emergencies, real or perceived, OIA will be guided in its decision-making, before, during and after a crisis, by the following operating principles:

1. All responses to a crisis will be governed by the highest concern for the safety and well-being of students, faculty and staff participating in any IUPUI-sponsored study abroad program as well as IU students participating in external programs.

2. OIA will exercise caution and restraint in deciding when, and with whom, information about an emergency should be shared, and will operate according to the procedures outlined below in deciding how information should be shared. We will, from the outset, however, contact IU’s Director of News and Media or his/her designate and the Vice-Chancellor for Student Life to coordinate responses and resources.

3. All reasonable and prudent measures will be taken to limit IU's legal liabilities.

4. OIA will respond to emergencies by closely following the procedures outlined below, except when otherwise directed by circumstances or agencies outside IU's control.

Procedures

When an emergency, real or perceived, is reported, OIA will follow specific, pre-determined procedures in managing the emergency, in the order that they appear in this text.

PHASE I: An emergency is reported to the Office of International Affairs

A. Whoever learns of an emergency involving an IU student, faculty or staff member on an IUPUI-sponsored study abroad program should immediately contact OIA. If any IUPUI faculty or staff member learns of a crisis on an IUPUI study abroad program s/he should, in turn, inform OIA.

Every effort should be made to reach OIA by telephone, rather than by e-mail or fax. OIA will coordinate IU’s response to the crisis until it has passed.

Contact numbers:

**Study Abroad Emergency Cell Phone - 317-409-2925**

IUPUI Study Abroad, Main Office: (317) 274-2081
Fax: (317) 278-2213

Stephanie Leslie          Sara Allaei          Kevanne Monkhouse

IU Overseas Study (Bloomington) Emergency Cell Phone: (812) 327-9058

***FRONT LINE STAFF DO NOT COMPLETE THE REST OF THE PHASES***
PHASE II: OIA determines whether the emergency is real or perceived

A. OIA will gather as much information as is necessary to determine what risks, if any, study abroad participants are facing. In assessing these risks, appropriate people and organizations will be contacted, by telephone if at all possible.

B. In assessing whether the emergency is real or perceived, the appropriate staff member of OIA will contact a number of sources for detailed and accurate information.

The following people and organizations may be contacted (the OIA staff member determining the status of the crisis will check off these contacts if and as they are made):

- First and foremost, the IU Program Director or local coordinator abroad, the co-sponsored program administrator or the individual in charge of a non-IU program.

- The U.S. State Department Desk Officer of the country affected (call 202-647-4000 for specific contact information or see the Department of State Web page: www.state.gov).

It may be useful to contact the following organizations as well:

- Study Abroad and International Program Offices of other universities and colleges with programs in the same city or country.

- The U.S. State Department’s Citizens Emergency Center, which deals with serious illness, death, financial crisis due to theft, or arrest (call 202-501-4444).

- The U.S. Embassy in the appropriate country (see the Department of State web page for contact information).

- For civil disturbances, coups, natural disasters, etc., the U.S. State Department sometimes creates special Task Forces to monitor them; for background information on such crises, call the State Department's Operations Center at 202-501-4444.

- For information concerning a terrorist threat or action, call the State Department's Counterterrorist Office at 202-647-9892.

- For security information and assessments via the Office of Intelligence and Threat call the OSAC Electronic Bulletin Board: 202-663-0787 (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. EST).

- Local safety/crime agencies in the host country (discuss with on-site contacts or the US Embassy in host country before proceeding).

- In a crisis that is more general than IU-specific, it will be useful to stay in touch with NAFSA’s SECUSS-L network (care should be exercised in doing so, in order to avoid contributing to the propagation of a rumor). The Health and Safety Subcommittee for NAFSA’s Education Abroad Knowledge Community, may organize an operations center.
for the dissemination of information.

- Large program providers may also have useful information, because of their extensive international networks: CIEE: (212) 822-2600; IES: (312) 944-1750 or (800) 995-2300.

C. Reporting and Recording Procedures: The OVST staff member will:

- ask for information about a number of issues, and
- will take careful notes of sufficient detail so as to be able to write a chronological sequence of events leading up to, during and after the emergency.
- The circumstances may require a designated observer be appointed charged with providing written details of the event as it unfolds.

**PHASE III. OIA determines that the emergency is perceived rather than real and not widespread**

It is important, at this stage, to control the dissemination of information, which must be shared responsibly, on a need-to-know basis. OIA will need to decide to respond at this point in one of two ways:

**Response Scenario A: appropriate when the perceived emergency has not yet created widespread or persistent rumors**

1. OIA will take appropriate steps to defuse the situation and reassure concerned parties.

2. In most cases, OIA will need to do no more at this point than reassure the concerned parent, student or other individual who has contacted OIA as the result of media coverage or rumor. The OIA staff member who calls back the party registering the concern in the first place should tell him or her that appropriate inquiries have been made, that we are confident program participants are secure, that the program is proceeding normally, and that the participants’ welfare is being provided for, as before.

3. The IU Communications Director and the Office staff of OIA’s Study Abroad Office will be informed of what has occurred, and what the concerned parties have been told; it is important that all members of the staff be able to provide the same information in case other inquiries are received. OIA staff will also be told to whom they should direct all media inquiries.

4. Parents who request it can be given the telephone number of the appropriate Embassy abroad. However, embassies will not appreciate receiving calls from overwrought individuals, especially when there is no emergency.

5. The staff member handling the emergency should prepare a simple statement, check it with the OIA Associate Vice-President and/or the Associate Vice-President of Overseas Study if possible, and provide it to all other OIA staff who might answer calls. All calls on the matter should be forwarded to the Director of Study Abroad or other staff member who is handling the emergency if s/he is not available.
Response Scenario B: When a rumor is widespread and unusually persistent, and growing numbers of individuals, on or off campus, believe that an emergency really has occurred, or that participants are at risk

1. OIA will write a brief and accurate description of the perceived emergency, and will then communicate it to, and speak individually with:

   a. the IU Communications Director
   b. the Vice President of International Programs or his/her representative
   c. the Associate Vice President for Overseas Study
   d. the Vice Chancellor for Student Life
   e. the Dean of Students or his/her representative
   f. all members of the OIA staff
   g. University Counsel (as appropriate)

2. If OIA deems it appropriate, the person(s) listed as emergency contacts of program participants will receive accurate information about the perceived emergency, and about IU’s response. The information will be substantively the same as that contained in the description distributed to the individuals in #1 above.

PHASE IV. OIA determines that the emergency is real

Response Scenario A: the emergency is real and could affect the entire program

1. OIA will consult with the Program Director or other staff members on site and in the U.S., and with the IU Communications Director of News & Media, in order to decide what specific measures should be taken in responding to the crisis, and whether or not a crisis management team should be convened. It may be necessary to send a representative from IU to assist with managing the crisis on the ground.

2. Once the appropriate response strategy has been determined, OIA will communicate directly, preferably by telephone, with the Program Director or other staff members and the affected students; this communication will contain a detailed description of the course of action recommended in responding to the crisis.

   Students will be provided with verbal or written instructions as appropriate to the situation. If the matter is sufficiently serious, the Program Director or local coordinator will confirm that all program participants acknowledge receipt of this information in writing and fax or scan and email this signed acknowledgement to the Director of Study Abroad as soon as feasible.

3. OIA will take into account the following points in developing the written course of action:

   a. include a reasonable amount of detail in drafting the procedures;
b. reassure participants that steps are being taken to ensure their security and well-being, and that their cooperation is important in responding to the crisis;

c. tell participants that while it is not possible to eliminate all risk, we have had experience dealing with emergencies in the past, and that we will work with them in order to respond effectively;

d. tell participants if we have communicated with their emergency contacts;

e. direct participants to stay in close touch with the Program Director or local coordinator, to let him or her know of their precise whereabouts throughout the crisis, and to report any suspicious persons or packages or contacts;

f. remind students that if they are US citizens they will have registered with the US Embassy and that they may receive communication from the embassy and to maintain contact with them throughout the crisis;

g. tell participants to exercise common sense in responding to the crisis, and to avoid contact with or travel to the affected area (if they are not located at this area);

h. if appropriate, direct the Program Director or local coordinator and participants to remove all signs or any other objects at the academic center or at their home stays, that would call attention to them or to the program;

i. tell participants to keep a low profile, to avoid dress and behavior which will attract attention, to avoid using luggage tags, and to avoid places where Americans are known to congregate.

4. If the situation is sufficiently serious to warrant it, the Director of OIA will write a brief and accurate description of the event, and will then distribute it, with a copy of the written response strategy, to the following people:

a. the IU Communications Director of News & Media or his/her representative
b. the IU Vice President of International Affairs or his/her representative
c. the Associate Vice President for Overseas Study
d. the Vice President for Student Life
e. the appropriate representative of the unit sponsoring the program
f. all members of the OIA staff
g. The Dean of Students or his/her representative
h. University Counsel (as appropriate)

The Director will communicate when they can expect to receive another update from OIA.

5. Once the description has been emailed to the above individuals, OIA staff will direct all media requests for information to the IU Communications Director of News & Media or his/her representative in the Office of Communications and Marketing. In handling these requests, OIA staff will make every effort to appear cooperative, while at the same time letting the media know that OIA needs to avoid giving out information that might violate a
student’s right to confidentiality and that only the IU Office of Communications may respond to them directly.

6. The IU Office of Communications will provide no more information to the media than that contained in the Director’s description; that Office should also coordinate and arrange with the Associate Vice President for International Affairs and/or the Director all press requests for interviews.

7. The Study Abroad Director should handle all requests for information, including those from parents, students and other members of the IU community.

8. Depending on circumstances, the Study Abroad Director will communicate with the emergency contacts of program participants (as indicated on their application forms) in order to provide accurate information about the emergency, and about IU’s response. The information communicated will be substantively the same as that contained in the description distributed to the individuals in #4 above.

9. OIA will convene daily meetings to update those individuals who need to know the status of the crisis. They will be scheduled at consistent times each day so that individuals can attend as they need updated information and their schedule allows.

10. Responding to a serious crisis can take a toll on those involved. OIA will seek guidance from Counseling and Psychological Services on providing support to responders.

**Response Scenario B: the emergency is real, and particular to one or more individual students**

1. OIA will contact the Program Director or local coordinator, the IU Communications Director of News and Media, and other appropriate people abroad and in the U.S. in order to discuss with them the response to the crisis. OIA will be sure that all appropriate steps are being taken at this point to assure the immediate safety and welfare of participants, and will tell the student that their family/emergency contacts will be informed.

2. The Director will make these contacts, provide support to the family or other emergency contact persons, and work with them to determine a plan of action. The Director will communicate when they can expect to receive another update from OIA.

3. It may be necessary to send a representative from IU to assist with managing the crisis on the ground.

4. OIA will convene daily meetings to update those individuals who need to know the status of the crisis. They will be scheduled at consistent times each day so that individuals can attend as they need updated information and their schedule allows.

5. Responding to a serious crisis can take a toll on those involved. OIA will seek guidance from Counseling and Psychological Services on providing support to responders.
A special case: the death of a program participant

A. OIA will ask the Program Director or local coordinator at the site to:

☐ email or fax complete details about the circumstances surrounding the death

☐ confirm that the US Embassy or nearest Consulate in the country has been informed

☐ arrange for repatriation of remains, following any police or immigration procedures that need to be observed. Most IUPUI/IUPUC programs will require students to have the university’s GeoBlue Insurance plan. As part of this plan, they will have repatriation coverage which should be explained to government officials who normally handle repatriation for American citizens abroad.

☐ inform all students in the program about the death. (OIA will inform students on its other programs since many of the students abroad concurrently know each other but not until the repatriation procedure is in place and the family has been notified) OIA will make every effort to ensure that the program director and/or school staff receive the information of the death before the broader campus community learns of the death. Counseling and Psychological Services will be asked to provide support to students and to prepare faculty/staff to handle upset students and colleagues.

☐ arrange a memorial service on site (as appropriate).

☐ arrange counseling as necessary for program students and host families

☐ work with university officials to determine that if the cause of the death is infectious, how others students and their parents should be notified of any potential public health threat.

B. OIA will consult with the Dean of Students and Vice-President for Student Life regarding notification of next of kin. However, in most cases, if the police or embassy is called in, the next of kin are contacted by these professionals.

C. The Director will write a summary of the circumstances surrounding the death of the participant, and will notify all appropriate officials of the university.

D. OIA will convene daily meetings to update those individuals who need to know the status of the crisis. They will be scheduled at consistent times each day so that individuals can attend as they need updated information and their schedule allows

E. OIA should:

☐ Inform the Dean of Students/Registrar/Bursar of the student death so that the student’s status is changed in all active databases to avoid sending any bills or mailings to the deceased or to the parents of the deceased

☐ send condolences (a card, flowers or make a donation, according to family wishes)
☐ attend the memorial or funeral service, with the family’s permission

☐ check into fees and refund possibilities for unfinished academic term time/housing

☐ inform all affected individuals of the IUPUI Day of Remembrance which will remember the loss of the faculty/staff/student.

F. Responding to a serious crisis can take a toll on those involved. OIA will seek guidance from Counseling and Psychological Services on providing support to responders.

*This document is adapted from similar guidelines developed by Michigan State University, the University of Wisconsin, Madison and the Institute for Study Abroad at Butler University.

**OIA in this document refers to IUPUI’s Office of International Affairs. OVST in this document refers to the Office of Overseas Study in Bloomington.