

Participation in study abroad and research with faculty: Do expectations matter?

James Cole, Ph.D.
BCSSE Project Manager

Alexander C. McCormick, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
NSSE Director





Introduction

Study Abroad

- Benefits of study abroad are well-documented (Lewin, 2009; Kuh, 2008)
 - To become a global citizen
 - Increase international awareness; global learning
- Participation in study abroad lags other industrialized countries (Lewin, 2009)



Introduction

Undergraduate research

- “Many educators. . . have come to see the potential for authentic undergraduate research to be a high-impact educational practice for achieving excellence in liberal education” (Lopatto, 2010)
- Benefits include increased academic confidence, as well as skill development in information literacy, communication, research design (Kuh, 2008; Lopatto, 2010)



Introduction

Increasing Participation

- Develop expectations and enthusiasm as early as possible (Russel *et al.*, 2007)
- Expectations influence the upcoming choices (major, course selection, etc.) students make as their first year of college progresses. As Konings, Brand-Gruwel, van Merriënboer, and Broers (2008) claimed, “Expectations affect students’ motivation, engagement, and investment of effort in learning.”



Purpose

- This longitudinal study will investigate expectation to participate in two important high impact practices (study abroad and undergraduate research) and their actual participation in these activities by the spring of their senior year.



Data

- Data source: NSSE 2004 through 2010
 - Students who began college in the fall of 2003, 2004, or 2005 and were seniors 4 or 5 years later.
 - Longitudinal data linked at the student level.
- As first-year students, indicated their intention to participate in study abroad and research with faculty, then as seniors whether or not they completed either of these activities.



Data

- More than 38,000 students attending 594 institutions across the country.
- Institution Carnegie level:
 - 37% Baccalaureate
 - 46% Masters
 - 17% Doctoral



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

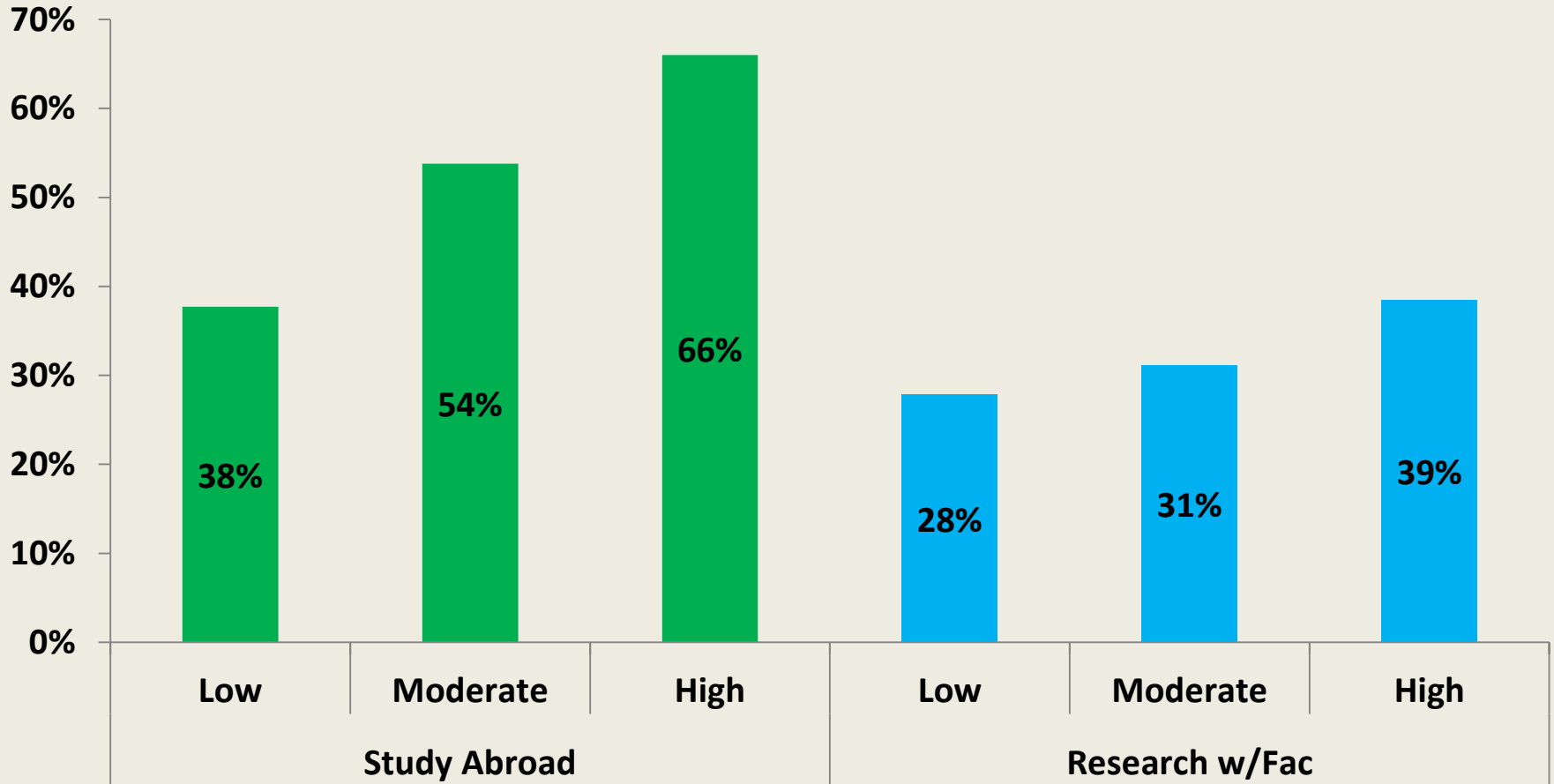
- More than 1/2 of first-year students expected to participate in study abroad
- About 1/3 of first-year students expected to participate in research with faculty

First-Year Expectation	Study Abroad	Research w/Faculty
Plan to do	52%	32%
Do not plan to do/Undecided	48%	68%



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

Differences by institutional selectivity

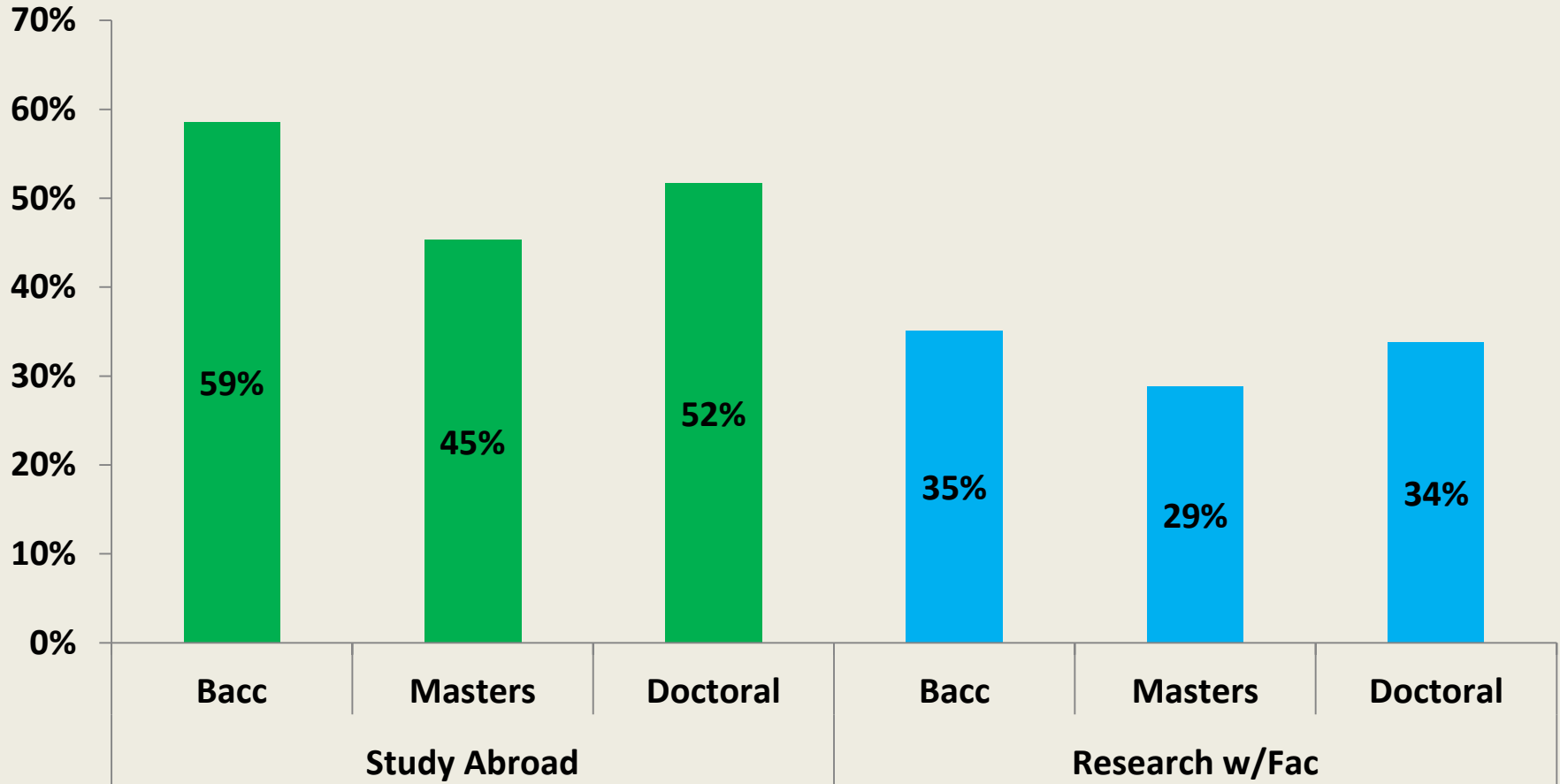


First-year students who plan to do study abroad or undergraduate research



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

Differences by Carnegie group

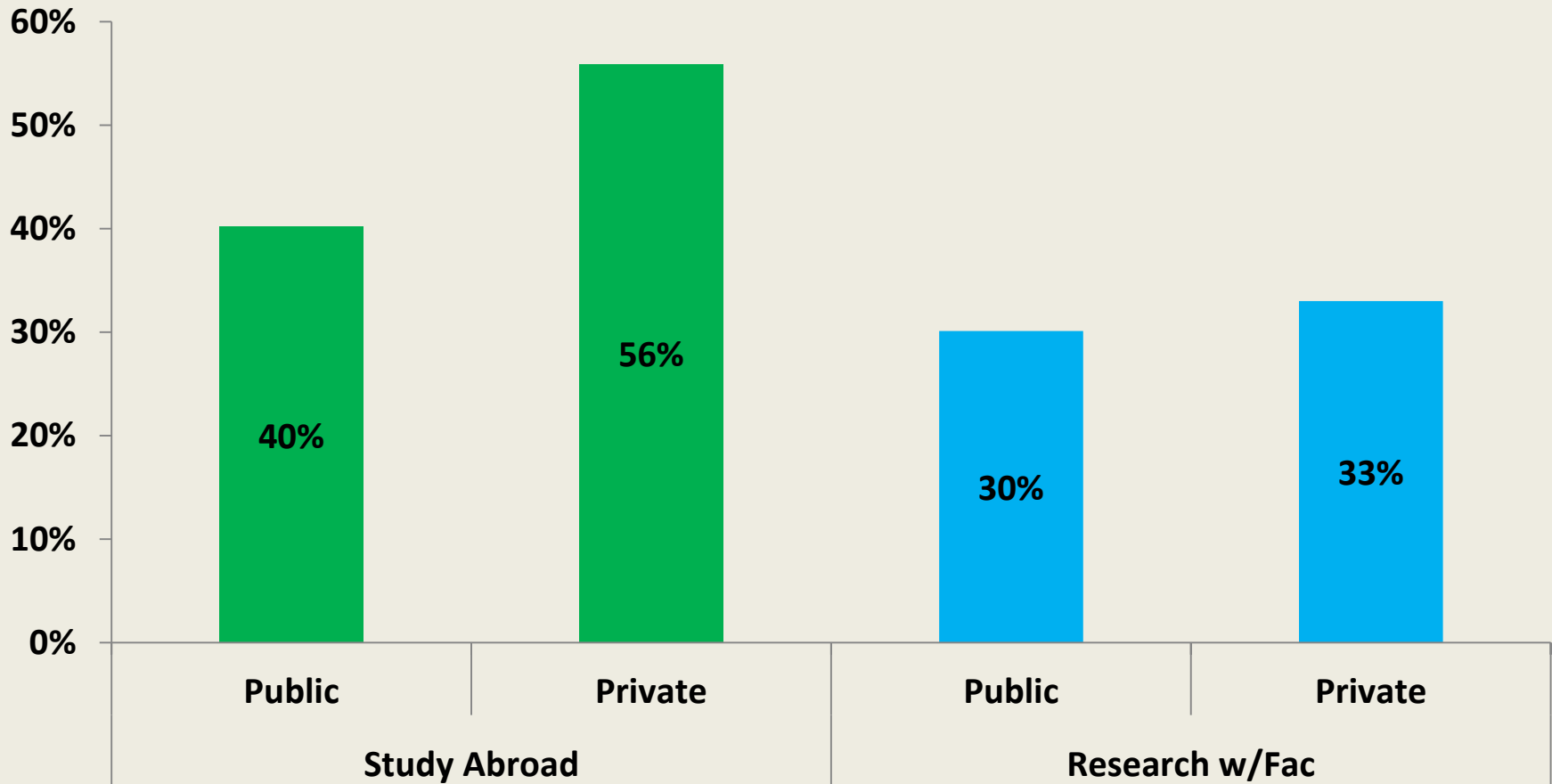


First-year students who plan to do study abroad or undergraduate research



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

Differences by control



First-year students who plan to do study abroad or undergraduate research



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

- What percentage of your students participate in study abroad and research with faculty?
- Are there programmatic efforts to increase awareness among first-year students of these opportunities?
- Are sophomores made aware of opportunities to study abroad or participate in undergraduate research?

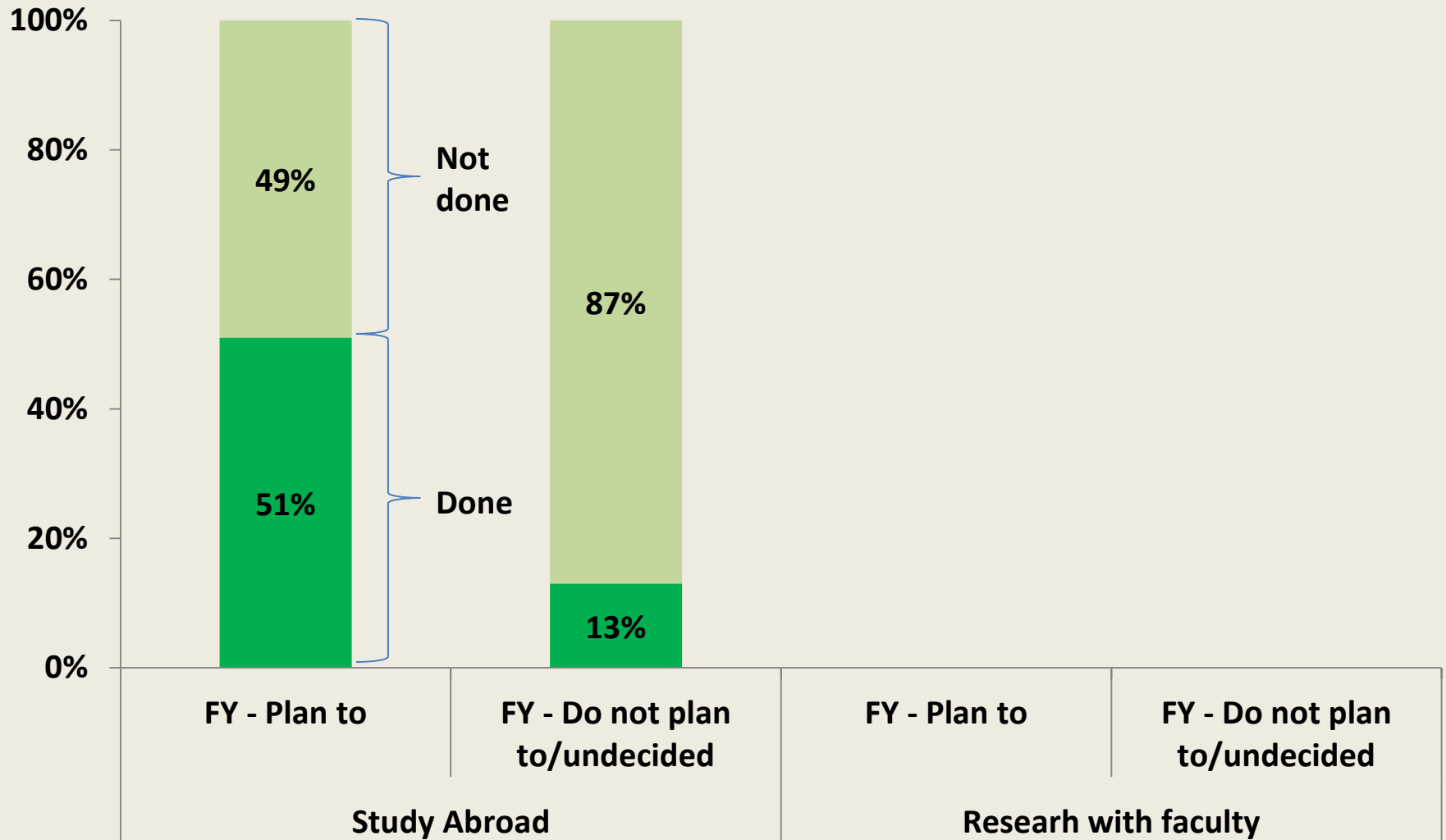


Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

- It is intuitive, and research has shown, that expectations lead to behavior.
- Thus, first-year students who plan to do study abroad or participate in research with faculty do so at a higher rate than those first-year students who do not have such expectations.

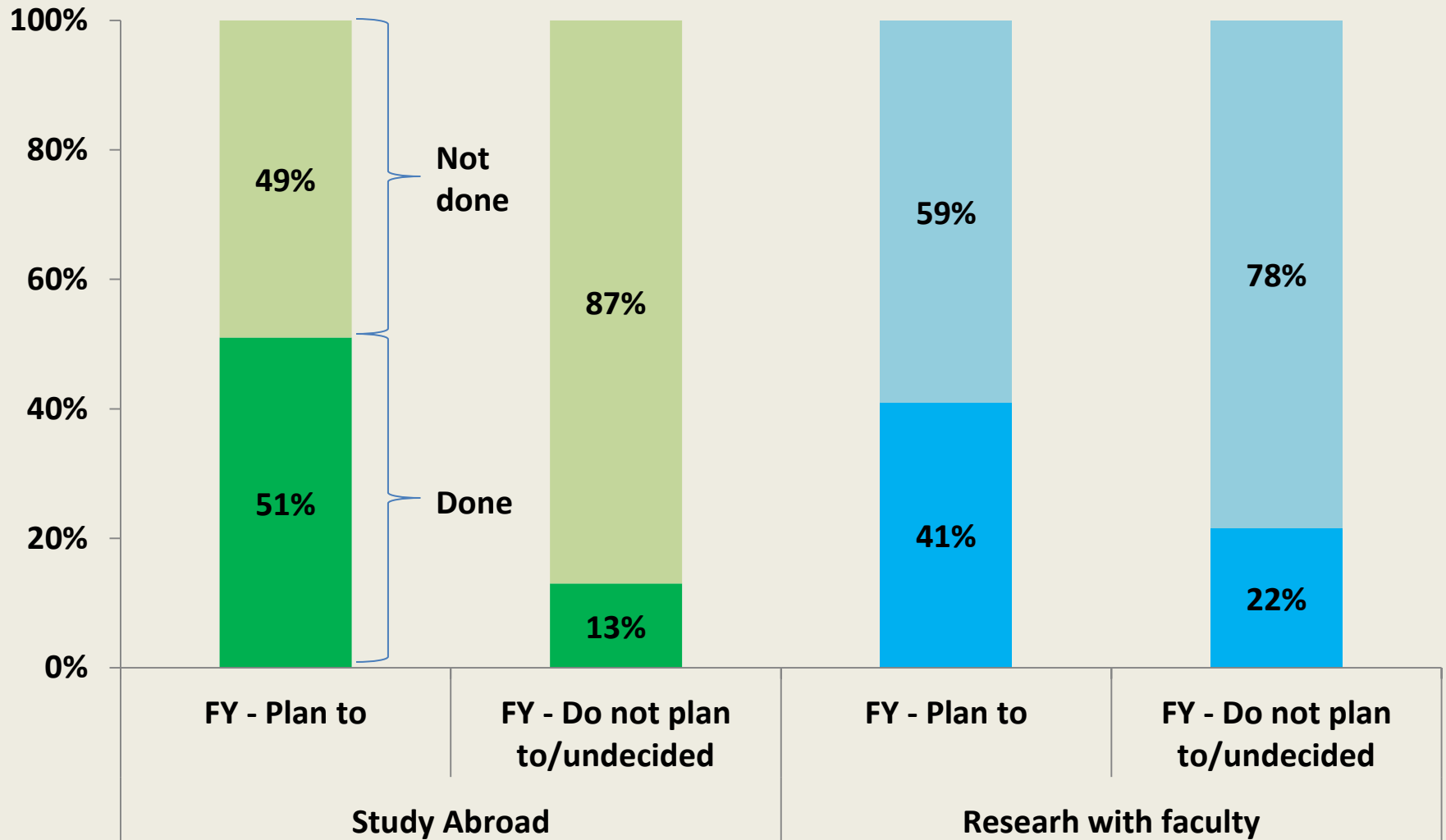


Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research





Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research





Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

- We also know there are some important student characteristics that are related to participation in these activities
- Overall, 55% of females and 43% of males expect to participate in **study abroad**.
- About 1/3 of females and 1/4 of males do participate by senior year.

	Study Abroad	
	FY Plan	SR Done
Female	55%	35%
Male	43%	26%



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

- We also know there are some important student characteristics that are related to participation in these activities
- Overall, 55% of females and 43% of males expect to participate in **study abroad**.
- About 1/3 of females and 1/4 of males do participate by senior year.
- However, not all who completed study abroad planned to do so in their first year.

	Study Abroad	
	FY Plan	SR Done
Female	55%	35%
Male	43%	26%



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

Study Abroad

**100 FEMALES plan
Study Abroad**

A&H	28%
Business	14%
Education	9%
Social Sci	28%
STEM	21%
First Gen	27%

**53 planned to
and did**

**47 planned to but
did not**

**11 did not plan
to, but did**

**64 completed
Study Abroad**

A&H	31%
Business	14%
Education	8%
Social Sci	28%
STEM	19%
First Gen	23%



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

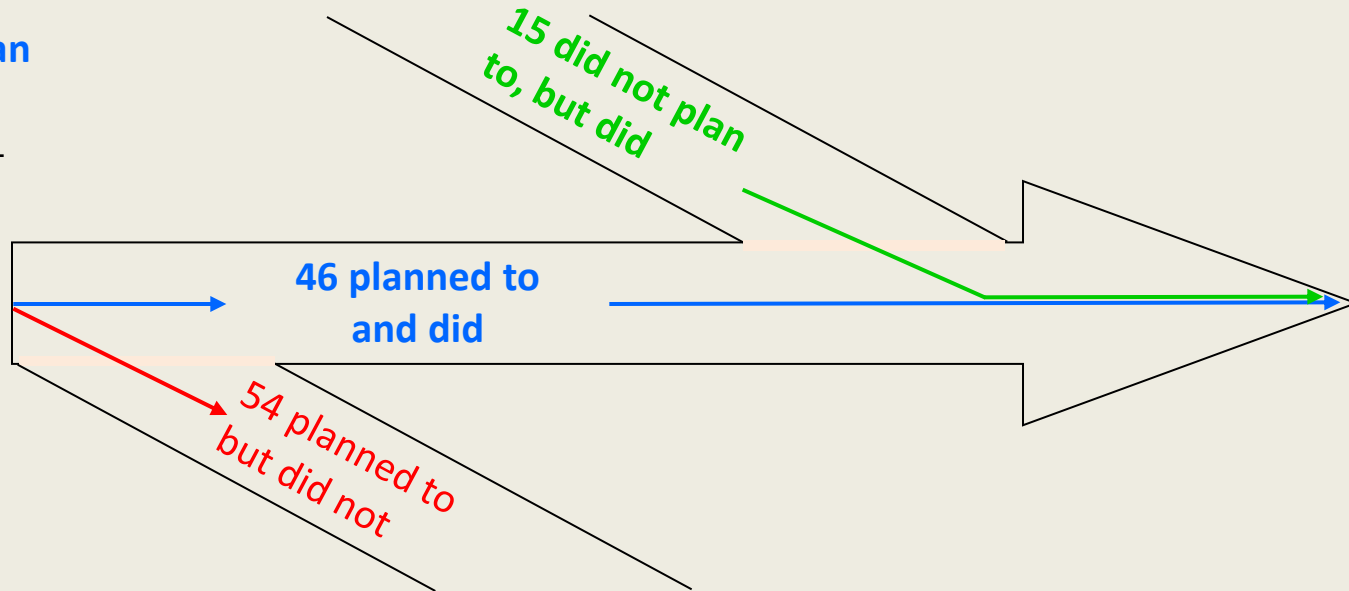
Study Abroad

**100 MALES plan
Study Abroad**

A&H	26%
Business	20%
Education	3%
Social Sci	24%
STEM	28%
First Gen	25%

**61 completed
Study Abroad**

A&H	28%
Business	19%
Education	3%
Social Sci	26%
STEM	25%
First Gen	21%





Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

- Overall, 30% of females and 37% of males expect to participate in undergraduate research.
- Similar to study abroad, we know that not all students who did participate in research planned to do so in their first year.

	Undergraduate Research	
	FY Plan	SR Done
Female	30%	27%
Male	37%	30%



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

Undergraduate Research

100 FEMALES plan undergraduate research

A&H	20%
Business	10%
Education	8%
Social Sci	25%
STEM	37%
First Gen	32%

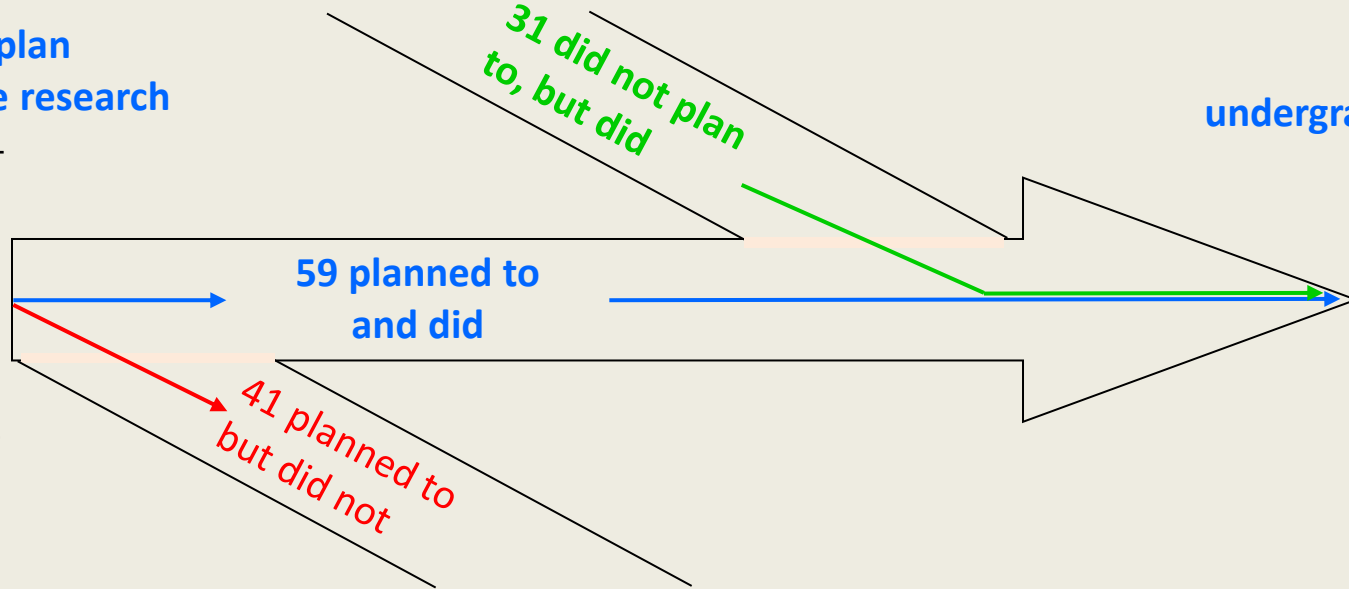
90 completed undergraduate research

A&H	20%
Business	8%
Education	7%
Social Sci	28%
STEM	37%
First Gen	30%

59 planned to and did

31 did not plan to, but did

41 planned to but did not





Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

Undergraduate Research

100 MALES plan undergraduate research

A&H	17%
Business	14%
Education	3%
Social Sci	17%
STEM	49%
First Gen	28%

42 planned to and did

39 did not plan to, but did

58 planned to but did not

81 completed undergraduate research

A&H	17%
Business	11%
Education	4%
Social Sci	18%
STEM	50%
First Gen	26%



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

- Student and institution characteristics are related to participation in study abroad and undergraduate research.
- However, important factors that can predict participation in one activity may not be as important for predicting participation in the other.
- We used logistic regression to examine the importance of these variables in predicting participation and how the predictive value of these variables varied between study abroad and undergraduate research.



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

<i>Variables in the Equation</i>	<i>Study Abroad</i>		<i>UG Research</i>	
	<i>Sig.</i>	<i>Exp(B)</i>	<i>Sig.</i>	<i>Exp(B)</i>
Public	.000	.611	.060	1.072
Institution size	.033	1.000	.006	1.000
Doctoral	.000		.000	
Baccalaureate	.000	1.742	.000	1.192
Masters	.000	1.272	.455	.968
Institution selectivity	.000	1.415	.000	1.132
First generation	.000	.678	.000	.885
Male	.000	.765	.937	1.002
Discuss grades/assignments with faculty	.938	1.001	.001	1.063
Talk about career plans with faculty	.279	.980	.000	1.077
Discuss ideas/readings with faculty outside class	.383	1.017	.000	1.165
Received prompt written or oral feedback from faculty	.694	1.007	.603	1.009
Worked with faculty on activities other than coursework	.000	1.076	.000	1.194
Worked harder than you thought you could meet faculty expect	.003	.950	.045	1.034
Grades	.000	1.195	.000	1.192
STEM	.000	.666	.000	1.889
FY intention to do	.000	5.479	.000	1.913
	Pseudo R Square	Cox & Snell R Sq	.218	.089
		Nagelkerke R Sq	.303	.129



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

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Conclusions

- Results reveal that there are institutional differences in both students' expectations and participation in these activities
 - More common at more selective institutions
 - Least common at Master's level institutions
- First-year intentions are highly predictive of participation in study abroad and undergraduate research.
- For both activities, women are more likely to carry out their initial intention
- Among those who did not initially plan it, undergraduate research "recruits" many more participants than study abroad



Conclusions

- First generation students participate in study abroad and undergraduate research at a lower level than their peers
- Males are much less likely to participate in study abroad
- STEM majors are much more likely participate in UGR, but much less likely to participate in study abroad
- Student academic performance is equally important for participation in both activities
- Faculty interaction seems more influential for undergraduate research than study abroad



Study Abroad and Undergraduate Research

Questions?

Comments?



Thank you!

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nsse.iub.edu/

Feel free to contact me with any questions regarding NSSE.

Jim Cole
colejs@indiana.edu