

National Student Exchange (NSE):

We have now managed NSE through one entire cycle and feel that we have a solid grasp of what our strategy should be for increasing student participation in this deeply engaging learning experience.

As the figures below show, many more students wanted to come to the UofU next year on a Plan B exchange (where they pay their home school's tuition) than we were able to accept; this has been a perennial situation for several cycles now. We are required to be balanced on Plan B, meaning that we can only accept as many students as we are able to place (for Plan A, where students pay the host school's tuition, we will accept all those who meet our attendance requirements). By increasing the number of our students going out on exchanges, with at least some of them opting for Plan B, then we will also be increasing the number of incoming students we are able to accept. Additionally, almost half the students going out on exchanges next year applied to the program after the annual March placement conference. Late application to the program limits students' exchange choices, particularly if they seek a Plan B placement.

So, our goals for 2016-17 are (1) to get more students to apply to the program, more in line with historical averages, and (2) to get interested students to apply earlier to the program.

Our plan to achieve these goals involves outreach, marketing in more places, particularly earlier in the Fall semester, and removing institutional barriers to placement, such as working with scholarship sponsors and the financial aid office to allow scholarships to be used for Plan B exchanges.

Additionally, we have begun identifying particular programs at the University of Utah whose students might be attracted to particular programs/coursework at other NSE campuses, such that we can "extend our campus" in a more regular way. For instance, University of Montana has a one-year Wilderness & Civilization minor that a few of our Environmental and Sustainability (ENVST) majors have wanted to participate in through NSE, because it fills a gap in our coursework. We plan on working with ENVST this year to standardize exchanges with Montana's program, which should be an attractive option for a steady stream of ENVST students. We will also explore similar partnerships with other departments.

National Student Exchanges for 2016-17				
	Incoming Accepted	Post - Conference	Outgoing Placed	Post - Conference
Plan B	2		2	1
Plan A	13	3	8	5
Totals for 2016-2017:	<u>15</u>		<u>10</u>	
15-year average	17		22	
Rejections – UofU was 1 st choice	13	<- all Plan B		
Considered UofU (2 nd , 3 rd , etc. choice)	12			