



October 14, 2016

Dear Presidents and Chancellors:

The Study Missouri Consortium recently concluded another successful year promoting international education on behalf of Missouri's higher education institutions. Nearly 40 public and independent colleges and universities were members of the group last year and collaborated on several initiatives to attract international students to Missouri and underscore the importance of international education.

A growing number of students from throughout the world are choosing our state as their destination for higher education. For the past several years, Missouri has ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation in the number of international students attending our colleges and universities, according to the annual [Open Doors Report](#) from the Institute of International Education. During the 2014-2015 academic year, more than 21,700 international students attended a higher education institution in Missouri, an increase of 19 percent from the previous year. This progress is a reflection of the quality higher education opportunities available in our state and the work your respective institutions are doing to provide educational opportunities to international students.

The Open Doors Report also examines the economic impact of international education. According to the report, foreign students contributed approximately \$615 million dollars to Missouri's economy during the 2013-2014 academic year.

The Study Missouri Consortium also promotes the importance of study abroad programs with the goal of increasing the number of Missouri students who choose to study in another country. Nearly 5,000 Missouri students studied abroad during the 2014-2015 school year.

Last April, about 400 international and study-abroad students participated in Study Missouri's annual International Education Day at the State Capitol in Jefferson City. Each year, the students are introduced in the House and Senate chambers, and the chairs of each body's Education Committee highlight the importance of international education in Missouri. International education advisors report that this event is a highlight for many students interested in seeing government in action.

In May, Study Missouri sponsored a booth and hosted a reception at the annual NAFSA convention in Denver. Consortium members interacted with international educators and recruiters from around the world, distributed materials and answered questions about higher education opportunities in Missouri. The group has begun making plans for next year's conference in Los Angeles.

**[www.dhe.mo.gov](http://www.dhe.mo.gov) • [info@dhe.mo.gov](mailto:info@dhe.mo.gov)**

205 Jefferson Street, P. O. Box 1469, Jefferson City, MO 65102 • (573) 751-2361 • (800) 473-6757 • Fax (573) 751-6635

Study Missouri Membership Letter

October 14, 2016

Page 2

If your college or university is currently a member of Study Missouri, I applaud your support of the group's work and encourage you to continue your membership. If your institution is not currently participating in Study Missouri, I urge you to join the consortium. A list of member institutions is included with this message.

A membership application is attached for your consideration. If your institution is already a member of Study Missouri, a membership renewal form has been sent directly to your consortium representative. The membership deadline is Nov. 1.

Thank you for helping to make Missouri a leader in international education.

Sincerely,



Zora Mulligan

Commissioner of Higher Education



**2015-16**  
**Participating Colleges and Universities**

[Avila University](#)

[Central Methodist University](#)

[Columbia College](#)

[Crowder College](#)

[Culver-Stockton College](#)

[Drury University](#)

[Fontbonne University](#)

[Harris-Stowe State University](#)

[Jefferson College](#)

[Kansas City Art Institute](#)

[Lincoln University](#)

[Lindenwood University](#)

[Maryville University](#)

[Metropolitan Community College](#)

[Missouri Southern State University](#)

[Missouri State University](#)

[Missouri University of Science and](#)

[Technology](#)

[Missouri Valley College](#)

[Missouri Western State University](#)

[Moberly Area Community College](#)

[North Central Missouri College](#)

[Northwest Missouri State University](#)

[Ozarks Technical Community College](#)

[Park University](#)

[Saint Louis University](#)

[Southeast Missouri State University](#)

[State Technical College of Missouri](#)

[St. Charles Community College](#)

[St. Louis Community College](#)

[Truman State University](#)

[University of Central Missouri](#)

[University of Missouri - Columbia](#)

[University of Missouri - Kansas City](#)

[University of Missouri - St. Louis](#)

[Washington University](#)

[Webster University](#)

[Wentworth Military Academy and  
College](#)

[Westminster College](#)