ISEP STUDY ABROAD

PHONE: 1-703-504-9960 | FAX: 1-703-243-8070
www.isep.org | info@isep.org

May 13, 2016

ISEP Receives Recognition for Work in Study Abroad Access Initiatives

TORONTO — Thought leaders in international education gathered Thursday to celebrate contributions to the field through the annual ISIC awards ceremony. The award for increasing access in global student mobility was presented this year to ISEP for their work in diversifying the population of students participating in study abroad and exchange.

Dr. John Lucas, ISEP's President and CEO, was in Toronto to receive the award. In his remarks, Lucas thanked ISIC for their commitment to raising the profile of diversity and access initiatives as an important role that organizations can and should play in mobilizing students.

> *"ISEP is honored to receive this recognition on behalf of our member institutions across 54 countries. Together, we share the common value of building a more peaceful, just and inclusive world through international understanding. ISEP pledges to use this award to advance our work in creating excellent international opportunities for a diverse group of talented young students from around the world."*

Each year the ISIC Award winner is nominated and selected by ISIC's global partners, card issuers and students worldwide. "Throughout the voting process ISEP was the evident winner of the 2016 ISIC Award for its commitment to supporting international student mobility. For the ISIC Association it is fundamental to support both existing students and those people who aspire to participate in education. By rewarding organizations like ISEP and their study abroad programs, the ISIC Association provides support in cultivating intercultural understanding, increasing educational opportunities and facilitating student life across the world," explained Todd Almeida, ISIC Association Director General.

As the recipient of the 2016 ISIC Award, ISEP will receive a 10,000 euro financial contribution, proudly sponsored by MasterCard, to support the growth of its inspiring work to increase quality access to education.

About ISEP: ISEP is the largest study abroad network in the world. Made up of over 300 member colleges and universities in 54 countries, ISEP is a non-profit educational community dedicated to helping students overcome the financial and academic barriers to study abroad. Since 1979, ISEP has sent over 51,000 students on affordable, high-quality programs, that in return, help develop culturally sensitive skill-sets needed for today's global workforce.

About International Student Identity Card: The ISIC Association is the non-profit organization behind the International Student Identity Card. First established in 1953, the ISIC card is now issued in over 130 countries to all bona fide students over the age of 12, regardless of their nationality, race, gender or religion. The ISIC card is endorsed by UNESCO and is the only internationally accepted proof of bona fide student status, giving access worldwide to over 150,000 products, services or experiences in every stage and area of student life.

Press contacts: ISEP: Mary Catherine Chase, mcchase@isep.org and ISIC: Philippa Elliott, p.elliott@isic.org