

MISSION STATEMENT

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER MOTIVATES AND LEADS THE UF COMMUNITY TO THINK AND ACT GLOBALLY IN FULFILLING THE UNIVERSITY'S MISSIONS OF LEARNING, DISCOVERY, AND ENGAGEMENT.



Images taken by members of the UF community as part of the annual Global Culture Photo Competition.



Message and Reflections from the Dean -----	4
New Dean -----	5
About Us -----	6
UFIC Units -----	8
Title VI Centers -----	10
Associated Centers & Network -----	11
International Research & Program Development -----	12
Institute Spotlight -----	13
Faculty and Program Spotlight -----	14
International Student Involvement -----	16
Fulbright Scholar -----	18
Visitors -----	19
New Staff Members -----	20
Awards -----	21
Events -----	24
Global Culture Photo Competition -----	27
Study Abroad -----	28
Student Spotlight -----	30
Student Testimonials -----	31
Quality Enhancement Plan: Internationalization -----	32

MESSAGE AND REFLECTIONS FROM THE DEAN



With an enrollment of nearly 50,000 students, over 4,000 fulltime faculty and an additional staff of some 8,000 individuals, UF is one of the largest and most comprehensive universities in U.S. In addition, UF has more than 367,000 alumni resident in all 50 states and more than 135 countries around the world. The assertion

that UF is in Gainesville but the Gator Nation is everywhere is certainly true! We have a huge global footprint. Although often noted, it can never be overstated that we live in a global society. UF, as an important actor on the global stage, is part of that mix.

With a staff numbering over 45 individuals, UFIC is responsible for providing the essential leadership, support, creativity, and visibility to assure success for the broad international efforts and priorities of the university. Moreover, we serve as the “front door” for international students, visitors, and visiting scholars. We are also an essential administrative resource for students interested in study abroad opportunities and for faculty/staff members who are forging new international partnerships to support their scholarly

pursuits. UFIC will also play a prominent role in implementation of the Quality Enhancement Plan for campus internationalization in the Fall semester 2014. This role will further raise our prominence as a partner with units across the campus in furthering internationalization of UF.

This past year completed my 20th year in a leadership role for international programs both here at UF and at two other institutions prior to my arrival here in 2006. These years have been highlighted by enormous international opportunities, growing recognition of the importance of internationalization to higher education, and remarkably fruitful collaborations and partnerships with colleagues around the world. The years have also been marked, of course, by challenges but the good far outweighs the more difficult aspects of these two decades – and I have learned and grown through the difficulties, as well.

I am reminded as I reflect on my career track by how this all started: a study abroad journey to immerse myself in tropical biology in Jamaica and then two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines in the late 1960s. Prior to those two experiences, I had only been in seven states in the U.S. and had never been in another country nor spent time with people who looked different from me, spoke a different language, viewed the world through another lens, who lived in deep poverty, or whose life experiences differed markedly from mine. In short, I had little real knowledge of life. The clear lesson from my early experiences is that it is critical for young people to have international exposure early in their education.

Note how things have changed over the 35+ years of my career: When I accepted my first position as a university pro-

fessor following completion of graduate school in 1978, I was discouraged from embarking on international activities. “It’s OK to do international work as long as you get your job done” was the advice I was given by my department chair, chilling my aspirations at best. In contrast, my message to new faculty here at UF is that the time to engage internationally begins the day one first sets foot on campus...and we back up that advice with newly emerging guidance about how to document international activity in the promotion and tenure process at UF. We have come a very long way in recognizing the importance of international work in the context of higher education and the professoriate!

As I look back on this span of time, what stands out are people...students whose lives have been transformed by international experiences, faculty whose careers have been redirected through international engagement, international partners whose generosity, friendship, and passion have opened new avenues of scholarly creativity and inquiry. I have been fortunate that my positions at three different institutions have enabled me to travel to more than 80 countries, representative of all continents except Antarctica. I have met more caring and internationally committed people than I can count, seen more fascinating places than I can ever fully recall, tasted more exotic food than can be found in any cookbook or restaurant, and learned more about the world than is contained in any textbook or travel guide. It has been an extraordinary journey, one that I could hardly have imagined when I completed my undergraduate studies more than 45 years ago.

David J. Sammons, Ph.D. is the outgoing Dean of UFIC and Professor of Agronomy. He retired from UF at the end of December 2013. He has been at UF since 2006; first serving as the Director of International Programs at UF’s Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (2006-2009), and then as the Dean of UFIC (2009-2013). Prior to his tenure at UF, Dr. Sammons led international programs in the College of Agriculture at Purdue University for 11 years and then spent 2 years on assignment as a Senior Advisor at the U.S. Agency for International Development linking the U.S. higher education community to the Agency. He started his career as a professor in the Department of Agronomy at the University of Maryland for 15 years following completion of his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois in 1978.

Dr. Leonardo A. Villalón, Professor of African Politics in the Department of Political Science and Center for African Studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida has been appointed as the Dean of the UF International Center, effective January 1, 2014. Before coming to UF, he was an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Kansas, and also directed the undergraduate major in International Studies. Dr. Villalón earned his Bachelor's from Louisiana State University and his Master's from the School of Advanced International Studies at The Johns Hopkins University. He also received his DEA (Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies) from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de la Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques in Paris in 1985 before earning his PhD from the University of Texas at Austin in 1992, where he specialized in comparative politics and international relations. From 2002-2011 he served as Director of the UF Center for African Studies—a Title VI comprehensive National Resource Center funded by the U.S. Department of Education and other sources.



Dr. Villalón taught for two years as a Fulbright senior scholar at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar, Senegal. He has also taught at the Université Gaston Berger in St. Louis, Senegal, and has lectured and directed seminars and workshops at universities and other institutions in numerous West African countries. These have included seminars on civic education and democracy for teachers in rural Mali, workshops on democracy and the role of legislatures for the national parliaments of Chad and of Burkina Faso, and a seminar on consensus building for all parties to the conflict in Côte d'Ivoire. From 2001-05 Villalón served as president of the West African Research Association (WARA), the only sub-Saharan African member institution of the Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), based at the Smithsonian Institution. He is currently a member of the CAORC Executive Committee, on which he serves as Treasurer.

His research specialization is in contemporary African politics, and he has focused in particular on issues of Islam and politics and on democratization in the West African

countries of the arid region known as the Sahel. He is the author of *Islamic Society and State Power in Senegal* (Cambridge University Press), and co-editor of *The African State at a Critical Juncture: Between Disintegration and Reconfiguration* (Lynne Rienner), *The Fate of Africa's Democratic Experiments: Elites and Institutions* (Indiana University Press), and the journal issue *Economie morale et mutations de l'islam en Afrique subsaharienne* (Afrique Contemporaine 231, Paris), as well as of many articles and book chapters on politics and religion in West Africa.

Dr. Villalón's major current research focuses comparatively on the debates about religion and democracy in the overwhelmingly Muslim countries of Senegal, Mali and Niger, as well as on religion and educational reform in those countries. He is also interested in social change and electoral dynamics across the Francophone Sahel. In 2007 he was named a Carnegie Scholar by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, for a project entitled: "*Negotiating Democracy in Muslim Contexts: Political Liberalization and Religious Mobilization in the West African Sahel.*" From 2008-2011 he directed a project analyzing religion and ed-

ucational reform in the Sahel, as part of the "Africa Power and Politics" (APPP) international research consortium, in collaboration with Professor Mahaman Tidjani Alou, Dean of the Faculty of Law at the Abdou Moumouni University of Niger. With UF Professor Daniel A. Smith he codirected the three-year State Department funded "*Trans-Saharan Elections Project*" from 2010-2013, focused on the organization and conduct of elections in six countries: Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Chad. He is currently the principal investigator of a three year grant from the US Department of Defense Minerva Initiative Project, for research on social change and political stability in the same six Francophone Sahelian countries.

In addition to his extensive experience in Africa, Dr. Villalón has lived and traveled widely, including in Europe, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East. Born in Havana, Cuba and raised in New Orleans, he is bilingual in English and Spanish, speaks French and Wolof (the primary language of Senegal) fluently, and has studied Arabic and Italian.

University of Florida International Center (UFIC)

UFIC was established in 1991 to serve in a supportive and facilitating role to further UF's international aspirations, providing leadership, assistance and guidance to faculty, staff, administrators, and students as well as external stakeholders to further their international activities. In addition to assisting these clients, the Center also functions to enhance the University's ability to pursue and develop international activities and partnerships appropriate to its core missions.

Current strategic priorities of UFIC (2012-2016)

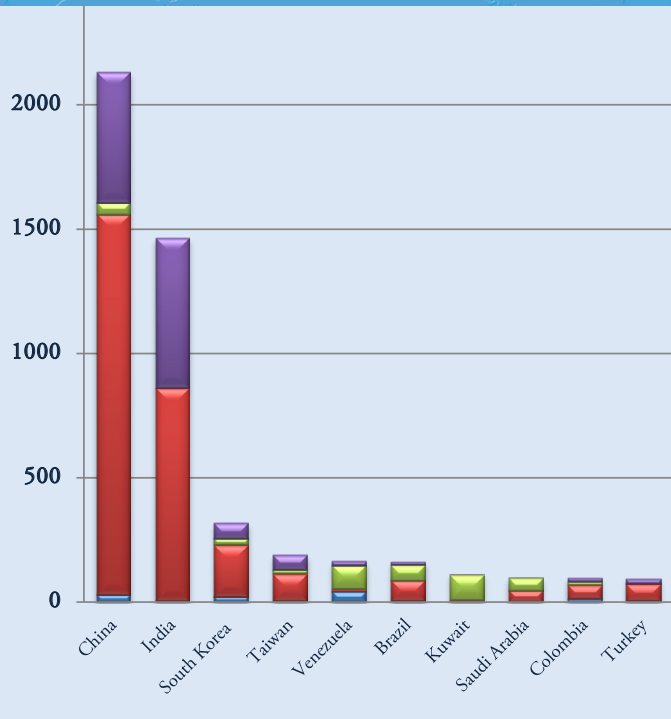
1. Increase visibility, advocacy, and communication for international engagement across the university.
2. Enhance the quality of and increase the options for international learning.
3. Promote international research and outreach opportunities.
4. Strengthen and make widely known the Center's administrative support services.

Some essential facts that characterize internationalization:

- UF is home to over 6,000 international students from more than 130 countries; as a group these students comprise approximately 12% of the total student population;
- On average 1,500 new international students enroll each academic year, and about 1,300 graduate annually;
- UF has international alumni present in 139 countries;
- About 2,000 students travel internationally annually to more than 50 countries to participate in study abroad programs, service-learning, and internships;
- Close to 2,000 faculty and staff have international roots or background, including many who are foreign born and educated, bringing international dimensions to their jobs and into our classrooms and laboratories each day;
- We have more than 260 institutional linkages with international partners validated by written cooperative agreements, and more than 120 reciprocal exchange agreements; these agreements describe and authenticate intentions, conditions, and boundaries for collaborative research, student exchange, international education, development cooperation, and other activities of international significance.
- We host about 1,100 visiting international scholars annually, including Fulbright Scholars who participate in numerous research and outreach programs on and off campus;
- Faculty members have been awarded numerous grants for collaborative research with partners across the globe;
- UF is home to four U.S. Department of Education Title VI Centers (Latin America, Africa, Europe, and International Business); their presence creates an extraordinary resource both on campus and in the outreach/service dimension;
- The Center for the Performing Arts brings myriad international artists and performers to campus each year, many of whom also visit classes and enhance the quality of the teaching mission from an international perspective;
- The Harn Museum of Art annually hosts family-oriented "Museum Nights" programs on international themes, some in partnership with UFIC. These programs touch the lives of thousands of area residents, students, and other members of the UF community
- Research scientists appointed to the Florida Museum of Natural History are engaged in multiple research activities at locations all over the world.

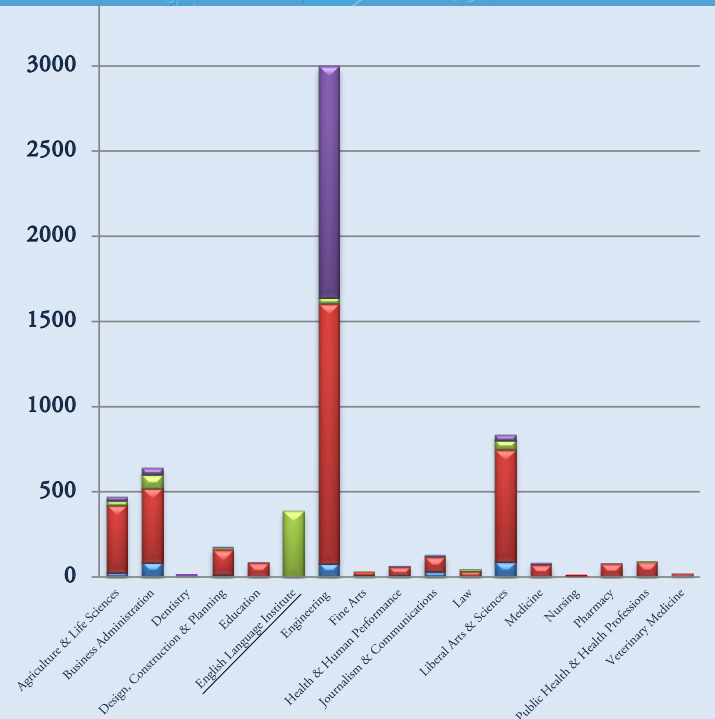
Top-10 Countries- International Students Total (Fall 2013)

- Post-Completion Training (OPT)
- Non-Degree
- Graduate
- Undergraduate



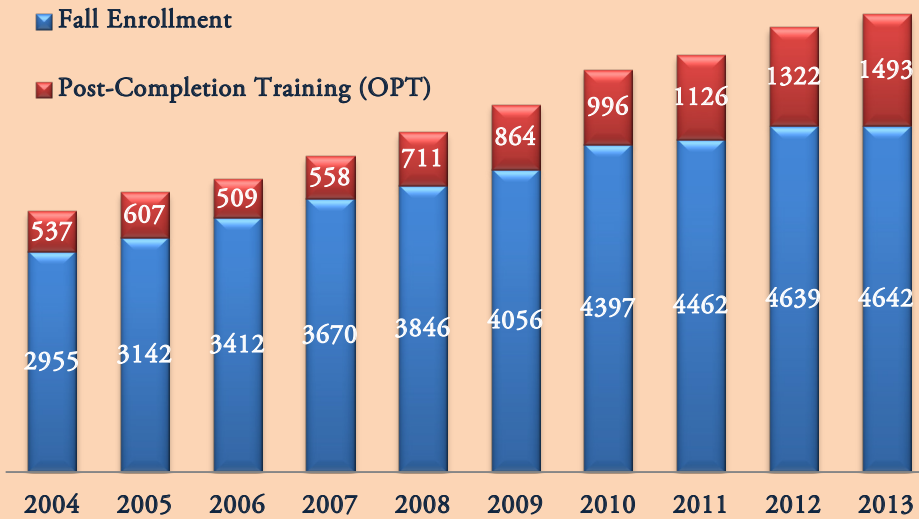
College Distribution- International Students (Fall 2013)

- Post-Completion Training (OPT)
- Non-Degree
- Graduate
- Undergraduate



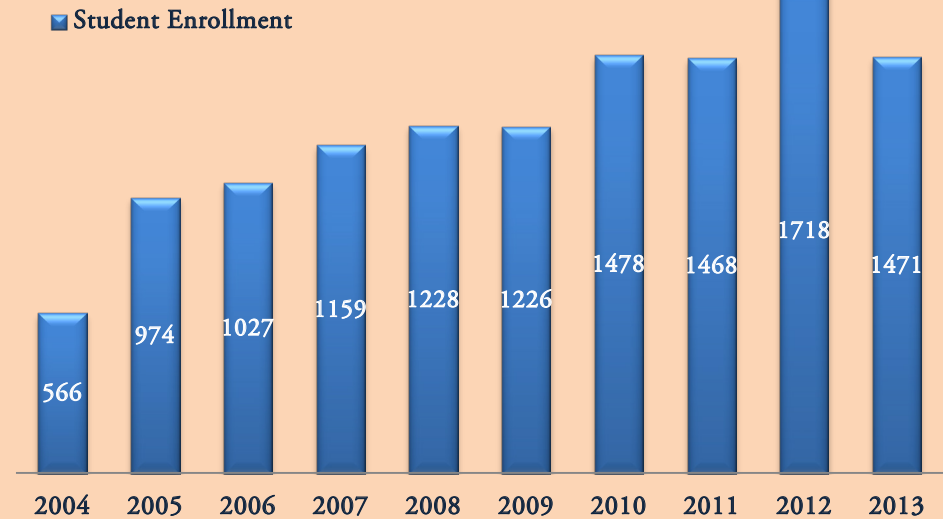
International Students

- Fall Enrollment
- Post-Completion Training (OPT)



New International Students (Fall Terms)

- Student Enrollment



UFIC UNITS

International Student Services (ISS)

As a compliance management unit, ISS is responsible to the Federal Government, UF Colleges and Departments, Non-Academic Units, and International Students. ISS serves as a primary resource to the UF's international student community in the following ways:

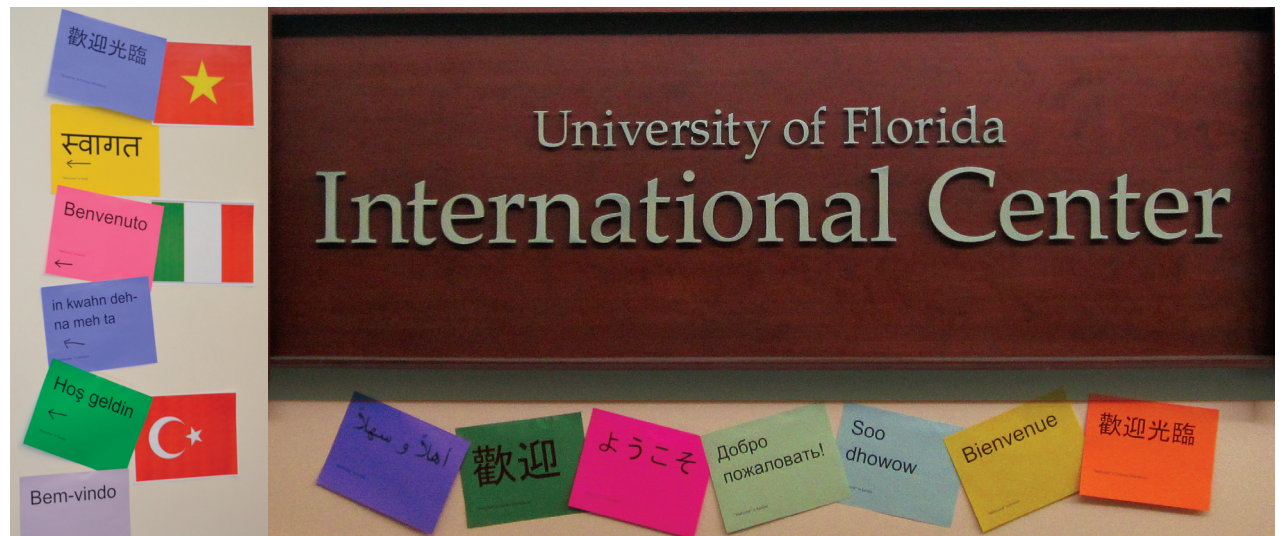
- Process I-20s for the application of the respective F-1 visa;
- Advise international students and their dependents, UF staff and faculty in academic units, along with non-academic units, on F-1 visa status maintenance and compliance with the Student and Exchange Visitor Program and U.S. immigration regulations;
- Verify, track, and submit visa status notifications through the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), as required by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security;
- Provide updated travel signatures and letters needed for verification of status, financial expenses, student employment, social security number or driver's license applications, and other immigration related matters;
- Conduct orientation sessions and informational workshops regarding immigration benefits for students, staff, and faculty;
- Support students with cultural adjustment matters, personal concerns, and other services to assure that international students and their families settle into life at UF comfortably.

Exchange Visitor Services (EVS)

The UF International Center is the official program sponsor designated by the Department of State to administer all UF-sponsored J-1 students, degree-seeking and non-degree-seeking. EVS interprets federal regulations covering the exchange visitor program, and also administers the program for international visitors to UF in the J-1 visa category including short-term scholars, research scholars, professors, student interns, and students from exchange partner institutions around the world. EVS works closely with academic units sponsoring the exchange visitors and with support units across campus to help assure that the visitors are able to complete their programs at UF successfully, comply with immigration regulations, and fulfill the requirements of the Exchange Visitor program for educational and cultural exchange.



Nara Zaki (Egypt) teaching at a local school in Gainesville about her country as part of the International Student Speakers Bureau Outreach Program.





International Education Week kick off by Dean Sammons and staff.



Students interacting with study abroad advisors during the fall study abroad fair.

Study Abroad Services (SAS)

The SAS unit is responsible for all aspects of a student's study abroad experience. A team of six advisors is on staff to advise prospective student participants on programs that meet both their academic interests and personal needs, assist with local and overseas schools' application processes, evaluate overseas transcripts, and assist with the pre-departure and re-entry experiences. The SAS staff plays an integral role in new program development, and is responsible for all risk management issues pertaining to study abroad, including emergency procedures, faculty training, and insurance enrollment. SAS manages study abroad course registration and works with the financial aid office to ensure the smooth transfer and disbursement of student aid to pay for study abroad expenses.

Program Development (PD)

The PD unit supports the creation of new and innovative, internationally-focused programs, consistent with the University's missions, and facilitates the engagement of faculty, students and staff to enlarge UF's global presence. The main focus areas are:

- Outreach to off-and on-campus audiences to engage them in internationally oriented activities and events;
- Engagement of faculty and partners to share information and facilitate work that expands UF's global presence;
- Development of new and innovative programs, frequently funded by external agencies and providers, to enhance international learning, discovery, and service opportunities for faculty and students.

Finance and Administration (FA)

The FA unit provides financial and human resources oversight and management for UFIC, including Study Abroad financial services. All budgeting is led and managed by the unit.

Information Technology (IT)

The IT unit provides support for all IT needs across UF-IC units, including support for our website and all data base management and reporting required by the federal government regarding international students and visitors on campus; IT also maintains UF's international travel website for all personnel on official university business at international locations.

TITLE VI CENTERS

UF is home to four U.S. Department of Education Title VI Centers (Latin American, African, European, and International Business) which are funded in part by the U.S. Department of Education. The Centers create an extraordinary resource both on campus and in the outreach/service dimension of the University's mission.

Center for African Studies (CAS) <http://africa.ufl.edu/>

CAS is housed in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at UF. As a National Resource Center for African Studies and one of the oldest of such centers in the United States, the mission is to promote excellence in teaching and research on Africa in all the disciplines at UF. It is the only National Resource Center for Africa located in the southeastern US, and the only one in a sub-tropical zone. The Center also disseminates knowledge about Africa to the wider community through an integrated outreach program to schools, colleges, community groups, and businesses. Central to this mission is sustaining contacts and expanding interactive linkages with individuals and institutions on the African continent. In addition to undergraduate education, the Center promotes and supports graduate and language studies as essential for the development of a continuing community of Africanist scholars. **For more information, contact Director Dr. Abe Goldman agoldmn@ufl.edu**

Center for European Studies (CES) <http://ces.ufl.edu/>

CES is housed within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at UF. CES was created in 2003 and is currently one of just ten Europe/West Europe Title VI Centers in the United States. The goal of these centers, as established by the US Department of Education, is to assist in the development of area and language skills among the country's best students through fostering culturally rich academic environments including language and area studies courses, degree options, and study abroad opportunities. The CES and other Title VI centers also play a critical role in fostering greater international awareness in the broader community through educational programs for state and local government, business organizations, K-12 students and teachers, the media, and the general public. **For more information, contact Director Dr. Alice Freifeld freifeld@ufl.edu**

Center for Latin American Studies (LAS) <http://www.latam.ufl.edu/>

LAS is the oldest Latin American Studies program in the United States, dating back to 1930. With over 160 experts on the region, the Center is recognized today as one of the top-ranked centers internationally and has been continuously designated as a National Resource Center by the US Department of Education since 1961. The Center (1) administers interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate training programs; (2) promotes interdisciplinary research on Latin America and the Caribbean, and on Latino populations in the US; (3) supports faculty and student exchanges between UF and institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean; (4) sponsors activities that enrich the intellectual and cultural lives of students, faculty and staff on the UF campus, and; (5) conducts outreach activities at UF and to educational institutions and the public throughout the state and southeastern US. **For more information, contact Director Dr. Philip Williams PJW@latam.ufl.edu**

Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) <http://warrington.ufl.edu/centers/ciber/>

CIBERs were created by Congress in 1988 to expand the nation's capacity for international understanding and improved success with global competitiveness in the business community. The CIBER network links U.S. businesses with the research and education capabilities of 33 prominent universities nationwide. The mission of CIBER is to promote education, research, and business outreach activities that enhance international business in university programs and contribute to sustaining and improving the competitiveness of American firms and individuals in global markets. **For more information, contact Director Dr. Andy Naranjo andy.naranjo@warrington.ufl.edu**

The UF International Center projects the University of Florida into the world through participation in networks and a formal presence at distance locations. These linkages provide valuable resources to leverage and sustain partnerships for the university.

Florida Network for Global Studies (FNGS)

UF through UFIC is part of a Florida-wide university association that formed more than a decade ago for the purpose of collaboration on a number of international opportunities of broad interest to all of us. Current FNGS member institutions include: University of Florida; University of South Florida; University of Central Florida; University of North Florida (UNF); Florida State University and Florida International University. The group meets by conference call once a month, and organizes an annual state conference on a major theme of international significance under the banner “Florida International Summit.”

In 2014, UF and UNF are responsible for the organization of the summit, which is scheduled for February 12, 2014, at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. The summit’s theme is: “Global Health and Medical Diplomacy: Haiti and Florida.” The summit plans to focus more specifically on diplomacy, looking particularly at U.S.-led medical interventions for promoting global health priorities as a component of our national commitment to global engagement and strengthened international relations. High profile individuals, including US Ambassador to Haiti Pamela White, the Florida Surgeon General, the Haitian Minister of Public Health and Population, the President of Adventist University (Haiti), the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy of the State University of Haiti, and Retired General Ken Keen, are expected to attend and speak at the conference. Sessions included in the conference will focus on health issues such as maternal and child health, vaccinations, medical infrastructure, the role of NGOs in Haiti, unique disease challenges that are transnational in nature, and medical education needs in Haiti to which UF and the other FNGS members can contribute. **For more information, contact Mabel Cardec mcardec@ufic.ufl.edu**

International Education Center (IEC)

To help improve the sustainability of agriculture and natural resources in developing nations, UF has launched a new education center with the nonprofit International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). IEC is based at the ICRISAT headquarters in Hyderabad, capitol of Andhra Pradesh state, in south central India. The center’s goals include enhancing sustainability of agriculture and natural resources, and spurring greater collaboration between UF and the counterparts from institutions in the region.

IEC promotes educational (including research and extension) activities related to agriculture and natural resources, with the primary goals of fostering technology transfer, generating new knowledge, and extending the knowledge thus gained to solve practical problems. IEC serves as a focal point to offer educational programs in India and other countries in South and Southeast Asia, using various modes of delivery, and will promote IEC excellence in the region for collaboration in capacity building, education, and research. **For more information, contact Dr. K. Ramesh Reddy krr@ufl.edu**

Beijing Center for International Studies

The world is watching the rise of China as a major economic and political power in global context, and UF has established a presence to capitalize on various opportunities in the country with respect to teaching, research, and outreach. UF has created the Beijing Center for International Studies with a modest operation staffed by an onsite director and a small support staff located in Beijing. The Center provides services to the UF community in five major areas:

- Offer an international studies program to UF students, in the format of an extensive, 13-week intensive summer Chinese language course; this course enables students to fulfill their language requirement in one summer;
- Provide information to UF students about opportunities to study/pursue research in China, especially those programs supported by scholarships that are offered by the Chinese government;
- Assist with marketing of and technology transfer between China and UF;
- Provide opportunities for UF faculty to conduct teaching or/and research in China;
- Recruit the best students from China to apply to and matriculate on the UF campus.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Program Development unit within UFIC is actively involved in new and innovative, internationally-focused programs which facilitate the engagement of faculty, students and staff to increase UF's global presence. Most projects are conducted in joint partnerships with multiple individuals and institutions in the U.S. and abroad. Some examples of current projects are noted below:

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)

-Middle East Water and Livelihoods Initiative (WLI):

Improving Rural Livelihoods through Sustainable Water and Land-use Management in the Middle East

The Middle East Water and Livelihood Initiative is a U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) funded program aimed to improve the livelihoods of rural households and communities in eight countries (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen) where water scarcity and quality deterioration as well as land degradation are prevalent. Research-based integrated water and land management strategies have been initially pilot-tested in selected benchmark sites representing the three major agro-ecological zones in the regions – rain-fed, irrigated, and rangelands. Results are now being out-scaled within the countries and the region. WLI is administered by ICARDA and partners with National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems, regional universities, the International Water Management Institute and five U.S. universities (University of Florida, University of California-Davis, University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, Texas A&M University, and Utah State University). **For more information, visit <http://icarda.org/wli/>**

For more information about all the projects administered by the Program Development unit, contact Dr. Sandra Russo srusso@ufic.ufl.edu

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR)

- Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS):

Gender and Participatory Action Research

CCAFS is a global project focusing on building adaptive capacity for agriculture and food systems that are more resilient to progressive climate change. UF's role is to develop appropriate participatory action research methodologies and strategies related to climate information services, with a particular focus on gender and social equity, at the CCAFS research sites across East and West Africa and South Asia. The focus is on identifying and addressing gender challenges associated with existing and proposed risk management interventions. UF is developing intervention protocols which will lead to improvements in research practices and, as appropriate, provide support to the research teams to refine existing methodologies and practice so as to better address gender challenges. **For more information, visit <http://ccafs.cgiar.org/>**

Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services (MEAS)

- Extension and Advisory Service Delivery for Women's Groups in Jordan:

Assessing Competencies & Building Social Capital

This project, funded by USAID through the MEAS program and administered from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, is a collaboration with Jordan's National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension Socio-Economic Division. The project works toward building the capacity of cooperatives and women's groups in water-scarce areas of the country. Female participants from three rural communities have been trained in cooperative management, fund-raising, and specific technical areas related to agriculture and water management. The research is to assess how the building of women's social capital and networks can help women to better utilize and share extension and agricultural services. **For more information, visit <http://www.meas-extension.org/meas-offers/pilot-projects/gender-research-jordan>**



Training with the Ngera Women's Cooperative, Ngera Community Center, Jordan.



MEAS women participating in the fundraising training, Ngera Community Center, Jordan.

The University of Florida is a leading research institution in the world as research awards were at \$640.6 million in the past year. The research enterprise plays an important role for the State, U.S., and globally as there are numerous research Centers and Institutes that are engaged in a variety of topics (See listing at www.centers.ufl.edu and www.institutes.ufl.edu). Among the established Centers and Institutes, the Emerging Pathogens Institute is profiled below to illustrate their global research and outreach:

The Emerging Pathogens Institute (EPI) was created in 2006 to provide a world-class research environment to facilitate interdisciplinary studies of emergence and control of human, animal and plant pathogens of concern to Florida, to the nation and to the world. The Emerging Pathogens Institute fuses key disciplines to develop research, education and outreach capabilities designed to preserve Florida's health and economy. While working to prevent or contain emerging diseases, EPI also works globally in order to identify and track new diseases before they reach Florida's shores. Our investigators can be found in multiple countries all over the world.

The goal of EPI's researchers is to understand evolutionary changes, and changes in transmission pathways, that lead to the emergence of new pathogens. They aim to use their discoveries to develop and implement interventions to minimize the risk of disease transmission. The institute also works to train the next generation of investigators in emerging diseases within an interdisciplinary setting, while disseminating information about emerging pathogens and their control to help those all over the globe.

EPI works closely with a number of research institutes and academic organizations outside of the United States. A major recent focus has been on infectious disease transmission in Haiti, a "next door neighbor" to Florida. Work in Haiti is based at a UF-operated research laboratory located in the Gressier/Leogan region west of Port-au-Prince. In the laboratory, research is currently underway on cholera, the etiology of diarrheal disease, sexually transmitted diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis; our TB studies will make use of a newly constructed BSL3 laboratory at the Gressier site. Community-based studies conducted by faculty and students from the College of Public Health and Health Professions are also underway at this site.

Living in a world of constant change, it is important to study new and re-emerging pathogens that threaten society's health and economy or those that hold the potential to do so. Our interdisciplinary research has been funded by the National Institute of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

EPI Investigators currently work in 18 countries and U.S. territories on at least seven different types of pathogens:

www.epi.ufl.edu

- **Bangladesh:** Cholera
- **Denmark:** Food Safety
- **Dominican Republic:** Tuberculosis
- **Gambia:** Diarrheal diseases
- **Haiti:** Malaria
- **India:** Diarrheal diseases
- **Kenya:** Malaria
- **Mali:** Diarrheal diseases
- **Morocco:** Tuberculosis
- **Netherlands:** Food Safety
- **Niger:** Measles
- **Peru:** Food Safety
- **Republic of Georgia:** Plague
- **Tanzania:** Malaria
- **United Kingdom:** Food Safety
- **Vanuatu:** Malaria
- **Virgin Islands:** Harmful algal blooms

For more information, contact Director Dr. J. Glenn Morris jgmmorris@epi.ufl.edu

FACULTY AND PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT



Dr. McCleery in his field station in Swaziland.

Study Abroad - Swaziland

Dr. Bob McCleery created a six-credits, three-week course that has become exceedingly popular in IFAS/CALS and created a demand for students wanting to experience African culture and ecology. This course has been co-instructed by faculty at the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) and, starting in 2011, the course has been taken jointly by UF and Swazi students. The purpose of this program is to provide students with an opportunity for hands-on learning in one of the most diverse and complex ecosystems on the planet. Students learn field survival skills, wildlife and plant identification, wildlife research techniques, ecology of African wildlife, and the linkages between conservation and social issues. Additionally, students engage in many of Southern Africa's most pressing conservation issues. Students also participate in community development projects, and gain an understanding and appreciation for the history and cultures of Southern Africa. There is a student research component that has led to five student-authored manuscripts over four years. Many students evaluating the program report the experience is life changing. This class has also led to the creation of courses at other institutions: Auburn University and Tarleton State University are now leading study abroad courses using this class as a model. Furthermore, Dr. McCleery is working with UNISWA to adapt this program to create a field class for all of their biology students.

A Lasting Bond

After graduating in 1994, Bob McCleery was anxiously awaiting to get a call from his Peace Corps recruiter. When the call came and the recruiter asked Bob if he wanted to serve in Swaziland, he responded with an emphatic yes and only a vague notion that Swaziland was in Southern Africa. After living and working in the kingdom for over three years, Bob formed lasting bonds with the people and landscapes in this picturesque country of just over one million people. Bob has brought those bonds to the University of Florida when he joined the faculty in 2010. Since that time he has worked with UFIC, the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, and IFAS to create a lasting research and education program to Swaziland and the rest of Southern Africa. Bob was recently recognized by *Popular Science* as having one of the top ten labs for undergraduates in the country. This recognition stemmed from his effort to increase UF students' exposure to field-based research and sub-Saharan Africa.

Ecological Research

Dr. Bob McCleery's research program is particularly active in Southern Africa where he has three major research efforts in areas of high endemism and rapid human growth (biological hotspots). Dr. McCleery and four of his PhD students are leading a group of colleagues from the UINSWA and UF to improve our understanding of how land-use changes (agriculture, settlement, urbanization, etc.) alter wildlife communities and ultimately impact human well-being. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, these projects aim to understand how land-use changes influence and reduce ecosystem services (i.e. pollination, pest control, disease resistance, seed dispersal) that are important to human populations. This work is critically important to developing regions where landscapes are rapidly altered without an understanding of the actual consequences.

His second major project in the region evaluates the impacts of elephants on faunal and floral diversity. Elephants are critical to maintaining healthy savannah systems; however when growing elephant populations are restricted to protected areas, their impacts can likely reduce ecosystem function and health. Dr. McCleery's research will be used to determine elephant management practices in Kruger National Park (South Africa) and Swaziland. Finally, Dr. McCleery has established a research and monitoring program throughout the protected areas in Swaziland. These protected areas are some of the last refuges for endemic wildlife and plants found throughout the region. Working with a local Non-Governmental Organization (All Out Africa, Inc.), he has devised a research plan that allows Swazi researchers and land managers to detect changes in the plant and animal communities as they respond to pressure from development, poaching, climate change and different management practices.

Research Center

One of Dr. Bob McCleery's lasting legacies in Swaziland is the creation of the Savannah Research Center, based in the Mbuluzi Nature Reserve, Swaziland. This facility was constructed with a grant that Dr. McCleery procured. The facility currently houses three full time ecologists. In its first 6 months of operation it has been utilized by 71 undergraduate and 4 graduate students from North America, and by 23 biology students from UNISWA. The facility will continue to be used to increase the quality of natural resources research and education in southern Africa and to facilitate inter-university and interdisciplinary research to address the pressing resource issues in the developing world. It also provides UF and IFAS with a foothold in a nation in southern African, where there has historically been only minimal UF activity.

For more information, contact Dr. Bob McCleery ramccleery@ufl.edu

Website: www.wec.ufl.edu/faculty/mccleery/



Students in Swaziland as part of a study abroad.

Field research station visit by members from the UFIC Program Development unit and UF faculty.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

GATORS FOR ASHA

There are numerous international student organizations on campus that focus on promoting respective cultures, engaging in community service, and programming events for social and professional networks. Among the various student-led and operated organizations, Gators for Asha is directed by students from India with participation from various U.S. and international students.

Asha for Education was founded in Berkeley in 1991 with the goal of providing basic education to underprivileged children in India. In the years since its inception, the organization has grown to having 47 chapters all over the US and many more chapters in other countries as well.

Asha-UFlorida, founded in Fall 2003, is an action group formed by professionals and students at the University of Florida and the surrounding Gainesville-Ocala region. The focus of the group is to raise awareness among the students, the faculty and the local community about the need for promoting basic education in India.



Annual running team kick off party - November 2013.

The objectives of this group are:

1. To provide education to underprivileged children in India.
2. To support and cooperate with persons and groups already engaged in similar activities.
3. To raise the required human and other resources to achieve the group objectives.
4. To provide opportunity to individuals based in the U.S. who wish to participate in Asha activities in India.
5. To address, whenever possible, other issues affecting human life such as health care, environment, socio-economic aspects and women's issues.

The group funds a number of educational projects in rural and urban India and maintains close personal involvement. 100% of the funds collected are used to support projects in India; all administrative costs are borne by volunteers of Asha or raised by volunteering at concessions stands during football games.

For more information, contact Shivashankar Halan shivashankar.halan@gmail.com

Dr. Meera Sitharam (sitharam@cise.ufl.edu) is the Faculty Advisor from the Department of Computer and Information Science & Engineering.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INVOLVEMENT



Asha volunteer visiting a project site in India.



Running team of Gators for Asha.

Gators for Asha has three different types of activities on campus:

- 1). Awareness:** The goal is to spread the word and raise awareness about the need for education of underprivileged children. The largest awareness event is Praharsha – a cultural fest with more than 1000 people in attendance. The event features songs, music, dance and free Indian food, and is hosted every year in the early Fall semester. Currently, plans are underway for a community dining event for Spring 2014.
- 2). Fundraising:** More than \$40k is raised annually through various fund-raising activities. The principal fund-raising initiative is Team Asha – a team that trains throughout the year and participates in the annual Gate River Run in Jacksonville, FL. Team Asha gets together and runs every week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and currently is in training for the event scheduled in March 2014. Members also volunteer at the Ben Hill Griffin stadium in the concessions stands during football games to raise money for administrative expenses.
- 3). Local Community Service:** Volunteering initiatives at local charities such as the Altrusa House, and clean-up programs via the adopt-a-highway program in the Gainesville community.

Visit facebook for all the latest updates and activities <https://www.facebook.com/groups/37183144285420>

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

For Dr. Karen Reed, a Clinical Assistant Professor at the *Department of Adult and Elderly Nursing* at the *College of Nursing*, life in Southeast Asia is full of intrigue, progress, and education. Dr. Reed became the first nurse to receive a *Fulbright Scholar Grant* as well as the first *Fulbright Scholar* from UF to travel to Cambodia. Given the opportunity to assist in the development of the undergraduate nursing program at the *Ministry of Health's Regional Training Centre* in the city of Kampot, Dr. Reed will serve in Cambodia from September 2013 to July 2014. In the past, Dr. Reed has served as a volunteer mentor and teacher for nursing students at the *Technical School for Medical Care*, and has provided continuing education programs for staff nurses at *Jeremiah's Hope and the Sihanouk Hospital of Hope* in Phnom Penh.

Dr. Reed's main objective, as a Fulbright Scholar, is to provide the Cambodian nursing students with a current body of knowledge which will allow them to enhance the quality of care provided to Cambodian citizens and to support the professional development of Cambodian nursing. She engages with her students with the same passion and energy that she demonstrates with her UF students. During the first three months of her tenure, Dr. Reed conducted lectures on various aspects of gerontology. Almost 75% of Cambodians are under age 30 and her students had little concept of how the human body changes with age and the role of the nurse in promoting wellness and healthy living for senior citizens as well as caring for them in times of illness. This knowledge is critical for these future nurses as Cambodia's aging population is expected to boom in the next 20 years, creating a tremendous gap in knowledge and care.

In her first quarter, she has led workshops for Cambodian nursing faculty and nurse preceptors from four of Cambodia's provinces in effective methods in lesson plan construction, the use of Bloom's Taxonomy in developing learning objectives, and a myriad of teaching strategies for Cambodia's nursing education system. Cambodian nursing faculty members routinely join her in the classroom as translators and to practice, with Dr. Reed's support, a variety of teaching strategies to enhance the learning experience. *"My role is to support the development of Cambodia's indigenous health care workforce—both nurses and faculty members—so that they can direct the future of Cambodia's health care delivery and nursing education systems."*

As in any academic institution throughout the world, the importance of having modern, educational tools is crucial in academic development. For Cambodia's nursing program, a lack of resources has put a dent in the program's advancement. With the guidance and assistance of Dr. Reed, a major overhaul of the library system was initiated. Outdated textbooks, some dating back to the late 1940s, were replaced by newer textbooks funded by Fulbright funds. Additionally, Dr. Reed has begun conducting clinical faculty and nurse preceptor teaching workshops as requested by the Regional Training Centre's director, Dr. Chhun Samnang. As a result of her successful campaign, Dr. Reed has been asked to participate in the International Nurse's Day Conference held in Phnom Penh in May 2014. *"Cambodia is my heart home. Receiving the Fulbright has been a dream come true for me and I wish to make the most of this opportunity by using my skill set in making a lasting difference on the Cambodian nursing profession."*



Dr. Karen Reed at the ruins of Angkor Wat in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

U.S. Fulbright Program

The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's flagship program in international educational exchange. Fulbright grants are made available to U.S. citizens and nationals of other countries for a variety of educational activities, primarily university lecturing, advanced research, graduate study and teaching in elementary and secondary schools. Since the program's inception, more than 250,000 participants --chosen for their leadership potential-- have had the opportunity to observe each other's political, economic and cultural institutions.

For more information of the program, visit the Council for International Exchange of Scholars @ www.cies.org

For more information on specific Fulbright opportunities, contact the following:

- **Incoming International Students:** Debra Anderson, International Student Services (danderson@ufic.ufl.edu)
- **Outgoing UF Students:** Dr. John Denny, UF Honors Program (jdenny@ufl.edu)
- **Incoming International Faculty & Scholars:** Adam Greenfield, Exchange Visitor Services (agreen@ufic.ufl.edu)
- **Outgoing UF Faculty:** Dr. Sandra Russo, Program Development (srusso@ufic.ufl.edu)

VISITORS



Representative from Indonesia along with Dean Chris Silver from the College of Design, Construction, and Planning and Dean Sammons following signing a partnership agreement.

UF hosts numerous visitors in various academic units during the course of the year. Most visitors also include a visit with UFIC to initiate partnership documents or for a courtesy visit to strengthen existing ties. During this year, UFIC hosted international visitors from: Belgium, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, France, Greece, Haiti, Indonesia, Poland, Russia, South Korea, Taiwan, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, and Vietnam. Some of our visitors are listed below:

NAME	TITLE	AGENCY	CITY	COUNTRY
Aleksander Bobko	President	University of Rzeszow	Rzeszow	Poland
Panos Kanellis	President	American Farm School	Thessaloniki	Greece
Jean Josué Pierre	President	Université Adventiste d'Haïti	Port-au-Prince	Haiti
Heeyhon Song	President	Songdo Global University	Incheon	South Korea
Brigitte Schnegg	Professor	University of Bern	Bern	Switzerland
Mauro Vieira	Ambassador	Embassy of Brazil	Washington, DC	United States
Valérie Drake	Cultural Attaché	Consulate of France	Miami	United States
Kemas Kurniawan	Department Head - Architecture	University of Indonesia	Depok	Indonesia
Jim French	Director – Technical Leadership	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture	San Isidro	Costa Rica

NEW STAFF MEMBERS

INTERNATIONAL CENTER

Brijesh Thapa, Ph.D.

Dr. Thapa is a Professor in the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management (www.hhp.ufl.edu/trsm) at UF. He is also the Director of the Eric Friedheim Tourism Institute (www.uftourism.org), and an Affiliate Faculty in multiple academic units and Centers. He joined UFIC as the Director for Strategic Initiatives on a part-time assignment. The overarching goals and responsibilities for his role are to raise the visibility of UFIC within and outside UF. Additional objectives are to identify opportunities and processes to rebrand UFIC beyond student services, and to generally strengthen the quality and efficacy of communication among UF stakeholders. There are four core areas that he will focus on during his appointment: Quality Enhancement Plan, Fundraising, Marketing Communications, and Strategic Affairs.

Overall, his research theme is within the nexus of tourism, conservation and sustainability. He has been involved in a range of projects at UNESCO World Heritage Sites in numerous countries with respect to tourism, cultural heritage, and natural resources management issues. Recently, he has been focused on numerous international capacity building and institutional development projects through curriculum development, research, and training.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Sarah McKune, Ph.D., MPH

Dr. McKune is currently the Health Sciences Faculty Liaison for UFIC. Concurrently, she is serving as the Director of Public Health Programs in the College of Public Health and Health Professions. She is a graduate of Wofford College in South Carolina and holds an MPH in International Health from Emory University and a PhD in Interdisciplinary Ecology from UF. She recently completed a postdoc in UFIC, working to improve gender integration within the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security (CCAFS) in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. McKune is also a Clinical Assistant Professor in Epidemiology. She has experience in program design, management, and evaluation in Sudan, Niger, Guinea-Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire and other African nations. In these countries and in the US, her work has focused on addressing public health problems, including HIV/AIDS, nutritional deficiencies, reproductive, women's and children's health, and disabilities.

STUDY ABROAD SERVICES

Jill Ranaivoson

Originally from the St. Louis metro area, Jill obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Media Communications and Religious Studies from Webster University and is working to complete a Master of Arts in International Education from SIT Graduate Institute. Her experiences abroad include studying and working in London, England and serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Madagascar. Prior to joining UFIC, Jill worked as an admissions counselor for SIT Study Abroad in Brattleboro, VT. Jill advises for Austria, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland.

Sarah Evans

Sarah grew up in Orlando, Florida and graduated from UF in 2010 with a B.A. in History and minors in Spanish and Latin American Studies. Her experiences abroad include a summer semester in Mexico, travel throughout Europe and Asia, and 2.5 years living and working in China. In her spare time, Sarah can be found reading, planning her next trip, or laboring in the kitchen, attempting to master various international cuisines. She advises for Asia, Brazil, all law programs, and works with non-UF students who wish to participate in UF's programs.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

Steve Ghulamani

Steve is a Gator through and through and has been in Gainesville for over ten years. At UF, he earned his Bachelor's Degree in History with a minor in Computer Science, and a Master's of Education in Educational Leadership/Administration and Policy. Originally from Miami, and he enjoys playing golf, kickball, basketball, a little bit of rugby, watching football and good movies. Before his appointment at UFIC, he worked in the UF Office of Admissions for 3 years.

EXCHANGE VISITOR SERVICES

Michal Katz

Michal was born and raised in Jerusalem, Israel. She arrived in Gainesville for her senior year of high school, and went on to become a proud Gator. Michal obtained her undergraduate degree in Psychology, with a minor in Anthropology from UF. Prior to joining UFIC, Michal worked for Shands, volunteered in the Arts in Medicine Program and recently returned to Israel for an internship at the "Global Jewish Distribution Center."

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATOR AWARDS

In 2004, an award was created to recognize outstanding international endeavors by UF faculty members and to encourage faculty to pursue international activities. Subsequently, a new award was created for faculty in the junior ranks, and in 2010 a new award was added to recognize the contributions of staff to campus internationalization priorities. The awards committee evaluated for excellence in international contributions in the context of at least two of the following factors: research, teaching, and service.

STAFF AWARD

Ms. Allysa Peyton

Harn Museum Curatorial Associate for Asian Art

Allysa expertly serves UF in her position as Curatorial Associate for Asian Art at the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art. Over the course of her first three years with the Asian Art Department, Allysa has come to embrace and expand the international aspects of this curatorial position by contributing to exhibitions, publications, teaching UF courses, symposia, intern supervision, and service to the UF and Gainesville community. International awareness, especially with respect to artistic creativity in Asian art, has been greatly improved through her roles in mentoring and supervising Harn Museum student interns, teaching Honors classes, assisting visiting research scholars from Asia, and providing UF class tours of the Harn's Asian collections.

JUNIOR FACULTY AWARD

Dr. Senthold Asseng, Associate Professor
Dept. of Agricultural and Biological Engineering

Dr. Asseng is a recognized leader in crop modeling, climate variability, climate change and adaptation research focusing on policy support for global food security. He has worked as part of international research teams in Germany, Australia, the U.S. and The Netherlands. Since 2011, Dr. Asseng is co-leading the Global Wheat Research Initiative of the Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project, an initiative of scientists from 15 countries. Since 2011, he has contributed to the Global Futures project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation working with the International Food Policy Research Institute, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center in Mexico and Kenya, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas in Syria/Jordan, and the International Potato Center in Peru. His extensive network and accomplishments have had a global impact and greatly contributed to the internationalization of IFAS.

SENIOR FACULTY AWARD

Dr. David Wood, Professor of Pediatrics
UF College of Medicine (Jacksonville)

For over twenty years Dr. Wood's research and advocacy efforts have focused on improving health systems for underserved children and adults. Since 2011, Dr. Wood has been the Director of the Program in Global Health Education at the College of Medicine. Under his leadership there has been a significant expansion and improvement in the quantity and quality of the global health educational experiences for medical students and other health sciences students. He oversees and manages the 6 service learning trips that occur annually and which are sponsored by the College, sending over 150 medical students and other health sciences students to the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Haiti and Thailand. In addition, the Global Health Track has promoted medical student participation in research in international settings. As a result, last summer 11 medical students worked on international health research projects.

INTERNATIONAL K-12 TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Donald DeVito

Dr. Donald DeVito is a Music and Special Education Teacher at Sidney Lanier Center School, Gainesville, FL. The Sidney Lanier Music Program is global in scope and is linked with universities and music programs internationally through research, cooperative music projects, and professional music education organizations. Examples include projects in Haiti, Pakistan, Guinea, England, Ireland and Brazil in which his students either receive adapted music education activities with schools in these countries or engage with other students and children in creating music and sharing curriculum using Skype and interaction through the International Society for Music Education, a professional organization of 70 countries. Dr. DeVito has spearheaded projects that have provided aid and education to international populations, many who are often forgotten. "His aid has gone beyond monetary support. He has shared his passion and professionalism enhancing lives of individuals with and without disabilities," said Ms. Denise Schultz, Principal at Sidney Lanier Center School.

OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AWARDS

The annual Outstanding International Student Awards Ceremony highlights the accomplishments of international students at UF. The awards are designed to recognize students who not only meet exemplary academic achievement, but also a wide range of accomplishments and community contributions. One of the highest priority goals for UF is to expand its international outlook and impact in education, research and service. UF's leadership has placed a special emphasis on internationalization because it is a direct outgrowth of UF's mission and reflects the importance of globalization in the world today. Our international students are a key element as we pursue these goals. While international students adjust to a different language, educational system and cultural environment, they also share with the UF community their language, educational system and culture.

ALEC COURTELIS AWARD

Pascale Atallah, LEBANON

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



Pascale Atallah is truly a global citizen. Pascale fluently speaks Arabic, French and English. She was born and raised in Lebanon, where she earned her B.S. in Chemistry, then lived in France where she received an M.S. in Chemical Engineering. Pascale finished her Ph.D. in the Department of Chemistry this year. Her research is related to additives for polyethylene extrusion. Her contributions to the department have gone beyond her research; Pascale has been nomi-

nated as the organic/polymer representative on the Graduate Host committee and the Department representative on the Graduate Student Council. Pascale's love for chemistry and kids led her to be involved in various science outreach events such as the Halloween Molecular Mania. Being a proud Lebanese, Pascale shared her culture by serving as the President of the Lebanese American Society and organizing various community events. One of Pascale's biggest passions is basketball. This led her to volunteer at the Martin Luther King Center and to coach basketball for kids between the ages of 8 and 10.

ALEC COURTELIS AWARD

Julius Adewopo, NIGERIA

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences



Julius Adewopo, obtained his BA from Federal University of Technology, Akure, Nigeria, his MA in Forest Resources from University of Arkansas Monticello, and currently is a PhD candidate in Soil and Water Science. His research focuses on the impact of management intensification on soil carbon, which will help promote long-term ecological sustainability. He has been awarded a competitive USDA-graduate student grant to support his research. He served as a delegate and coordinated a side-

event at high-level UN processes in New York and Ghana. He has also led a team of scientists and students from different universities to identify top priority research questions for soil science in the 21st century. Julius has served as President of the Mayors' Council and a member on the Presidential Housing Committee, Graduate Student Advisory Council, National Residence Hall Honorary, and Teaching and Research Awards Committee. His work has earned him many awards including the Marilyn Little Award, induction into the Honorary for Campus Leaders, Scarborough-Maud Fraser Award, William Robertson Award, and 2012 Most Outstanding Organization Leader.

SCARBOROUGH-MAUD FRASER AWARD

Sofia Appelberg, SWEDEN
College of Medicine



Sofia Appelberg came to UF from Sweden in 2009 to pursue her Ph.D. in the Interdisciplinary Program in Biomedical Sciences (IDP). Since her first year, Sofia has been involved in the IDP Graduate Student Organization. As community service chair, she organized students to participate in monthly events benefitting nationwide and local charity organizations. Currently, Sofia is responsible for organizing the IDP's post-graduation career seminars. As fundraising chair for UF Partners in Health, Sofia is also working to raise awareness concerning global health disparity and to improve medical care for people in need worldwide. Sofia's exceptional work has warranted the reception of two prestigious fellowships and the Alec Courtelis Award.

DIANE FISHER AWARD

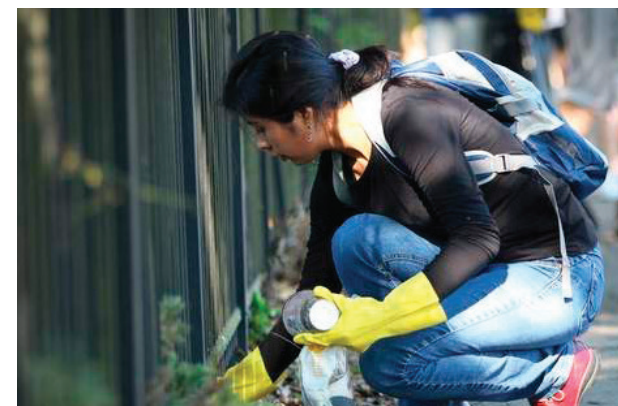
Michelle Asuncion, PHILIPPINES
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences



Michelle Therese Asuncion is a Reitz Scholar, University Scholar and Davis United World College Scholar from the Philippines pursuing a BA in Political Science with a Minor in Spanish, Latin American Studies and Anthropology and a Certificate in International Relations at UF. In her hometown at age 10, Michelle began her community service by tutoring out-of-school children. In Gainesville, she continues to mentor, empower and tutor at-risk students. While studying abroad in Madrid, Michelle served as a volunteer English teacher to at-risk migrant and Spanish young adults. She is an International Student Speakers Bureau speaker, Student Ambassador and Alumni Committee Liaison for UF's Center for Leadership and Service. She represented UF at UNICEF's National Conference in D.C. She is actively involved in numerous community service events.

DIANE FISHER AWARD

Aurora Cano-Choque, PERU
Warrington College of Business Administration



Aurora Cano-Choque comes from the Andes of Peru. At 17 she was selected to study at Red Cross Nordic United World College in Norway. Aurora started her undergrad in Economics and Chinese at University of Florida in 2011. Aurora has been member of the Freshmen Leadership Council, in which she organized an all-day event for 200 high school students at Florida Leadership Academy, in which she cooperated in the 2013 Great American Clean Up; Gator Global Educators, in which she coordinates international students and creates lesson plans taught to students at Howard W. Bishop Middle School; and the International Business Society. Next semester Aurora will be studying abroad in Hong Kong.

KONGO ACROSS THE WATERS

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art,
Gainesville, Florida

www.harn.ufl.edu

For more information, contact Director
Rebecca Nagy, rnagy@harn.ufl.edu



'KONGO across the WATERS' is a collaborative project by the Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida and the Royal Museum for Central Africa in Tervuren, Belgium with financial support from UFIC and other UF entities. The exhibition examines Kongo art from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Angola, Republic of the Congo, and Gabon. Further, the exhibition explores the impact of Kongo ideas on the art and culture of North America, especially the southeastern United States. To explore these relationships a multidisciplinary approach draws on current research in history, archaeology, linguistics, musicology, anthropology, and art history.

Why Kongo? The Kongo kingdom was the first organized political unit in Central Africa the Portuguese encountered in 1482. The power and authority of the Kongo king and the rich culture of his peoples made a tremendous impression on European visitors. Subsequently, over 100 years of forced migrations brought people from Central Africa through the ports of the Congo and Angolan coasts to the U.S., first to the Lowcountry of South Carolina and Georgia, and eventually as far west as New Orleans and as far north as Chesapeake Bay. Thus, the southeastern U.S. had a sizeable number of people from the Kongo region of Central Africa who brought with them significant aspects of

Kongo culture that became part of the American way of life. From this perspective, a number of characteristic themes are explored in Kongo culture in Africa and in Kongo-influenced culture in the American southeast.

Why now? The exhibition marks a milestone in the history of African presence in the Americas. In 2013, Florida commemorates 500 years of European presence, marking the arrival of Juan Ponce de Leon and his companions. Less well known is the fact that one of these companions was a black conquistador of African descent – Juan Garrido. The exhibition brings attention to the fact that 2013 is the anniversary of the arrival of the first African visitor to the Americas and will celebrate the subsequent impact of African cultural traditions in Florida and the U.S., especially those of the Kongo peoples.

Nearly 200 works, including sculpture, drawings, engravings, paintings, baskets, textiles, musical instruments, and objects from archaeological sites are on display. The exhibition will travel to major institutions in Louisiana (New Orleans Museum of Art), Georgia (Carter Presidential Museum in Atlanta), and New Jersey (Princeton Art Museum) before returning to the Royal Museum for Central Africa, in Belgium.



Teacher Workshop: The Human Image in Chinese Art and Culture

On July 14-16, 2013, UFIC, Confucius Institute at the University of South Florida (USF), and the Harn Museum of Art co-sponsored “The Human Image in Chinese Art and Culture” teacher workshop. The workshop was also supported in part by Santa Fe College, the Department of Humanities and Foreign Languages, and the U.S. Department of Education Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages Programs Title VIA grant “Opening Doors to Asia.”

The workshop was attended by twenty K-12 teachers from various counties across Florida. Teachers received comprehensive instruction focusing on connections between the museum’s collections and classroom implementation by Dr. Sheng Kuan Chung, Associate Professor of Art Education at the University of Houston. Dr. Chung focused on Asian aesthetics and the Relationship between Spirituality and Chinese Art. The teachers also had a studio activity on Ink Wash Painting. Teachers who participated in the workshop were also able to start developing instructional materials

on Chinese art and culture, with a commitment to pilot-test them in their classrooms in Fall 2013, and to share them with other teachers interested.

As resources available to teachers, the USF Confucius Institute has given a “Chinese Culture Box” to the Harn Museum. The culture box contains Peking opera masks, Chinese Proficiency test guides, a silk fan, water ink writing paper and Chinese writing/ painting brushes, and many other items. The box is available for teachers to take on loan. **For a copy of the resources offered to teachers during this training, please contact Mabel Cardec mcardec@ufic.ufl.edu**

Innovation through Institutional Integration (I-Cubed) Program

The I-Cubed program at UF is a five-year project funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to foster integration of all student-based research and training programs in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics), including SBE (social, behavioral & economic), disciplines. The goal of the Program is to facilitate collaboration and dialogue among all NSF-funded programs at the University of Florida through the synergism of their resources, capabilities and experience to fully involve graduate students, faculty and administration, thereby expanding the overall impact of the NSF programs across campus.

The I-Cubed program offers unique opportunities that are aimed at building students’ skills on how to collaborate across disciplines, build interdisciplinary teams or communicate their research to the general public. **The Program’s main objective is to integrate student-based research training and education programs to ensure that interdisciplinary synergy exists to advance student’s view of research.**

As part of the I-Cubed program, the annual Graduate Student Research Day (October 29, 2013) was hosted in partnership with the Graduate Student Advisory Council and the Graduate School. This year’s event was themed around Mentoring: Learning from Leaders. The event was open to all graduate students. The event featured posters from students, a keynote speaker from the UF Innovation Hub, and offered an array of workshops and panel discussions around the following topics: professional development, mentoring and leadership, and communication. In addition to awarding eight prizes to the top posters, the Graduate School and I-Cubed program also acknowledged seven recipients of the 2013 Graduate Student Mentoring Award. The Graduate Student Mentoring Award was established in 2012 to recognize the outstanding efforts of graduate students who have engaged in mentoring peers, undergraduate students, and K-12 classrooms (including teachers and students). The I-Cubed Program is managed by the UFIC Program Development Unit and is scheduled to be completed by December 2014. **For more information, contact Dr. Sandra Russo srusso@ufic.ufl.edu**



EVENTS

International Education Week

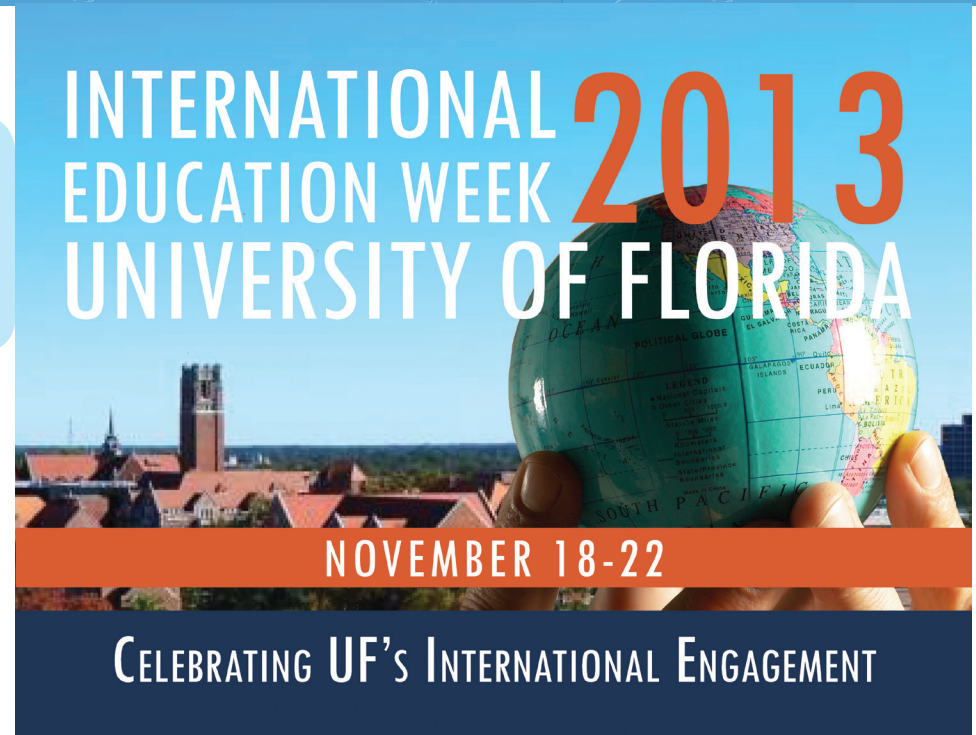
International Education Week (IEW) is an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. This joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education was celebrated on the UF campus as an effort to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences in the U.S.

The theme for this year was **“Celebrating UF’s International Engagement”** and numerous events were organized at various colleges, departments, and units who proudly displayed their presence around the world by hosting international musical performances, lectures, international film screenings, and receptions showcasing their global programs and international outreach.

For the first time, UFIC presented **“Portraits and Projects for Peace”**, a K-12 art exhibit in collaboration with the UF Center for Leadership and Service and Howard Bishop Middle School 7th Grade Teacher, Dr. Steven Doherty. The exhibit highlighted Dr. Doherty students’ portraits of people who committed themselves to improving the human condition and making the world a better place. Similarly, Projects for Peace (administered by the Center for Leadership and Service, and made possible by philanthropist Kathryn Wasserman David) is an initiative for undergraduate students to design grassroots projects anywhere in the world to promote peace and address the root causes of conflict among parties.

A major attraction for students during IEW was to experience and taste the many cultures present at UF. In addition, various demonstrations in martial arts, lessons in Hebrew writing, belly dancing, and a European short-film festival among many others were hosted. Also, as main contributors to IEW, The Harn Museum of Art highlighted their ongoing Asian, European and African collections fostering multiple ways of experiencing mesmerizing global art. The UF Libraries, the Colleges of Design, Construction and Planning, and Education also hosted week long activities and exhibits featuring their numerous international programs and services available to our multicultural university stakeholders.

UFIC is committed to an international agenda, and will continue to be proactively engaged in promoting and facilitating internationalization. **For more information, contact Mabel Cardec mcardec@ufic.ufl.edu**



During the K-12 Global Art Exhibition, young artists received certificates from Dean Sammons.



The Capoeira Club of Gainesville demonstrated their Brazilian martial art.

GLOBAL CULTURE PHOTO COMPETITION

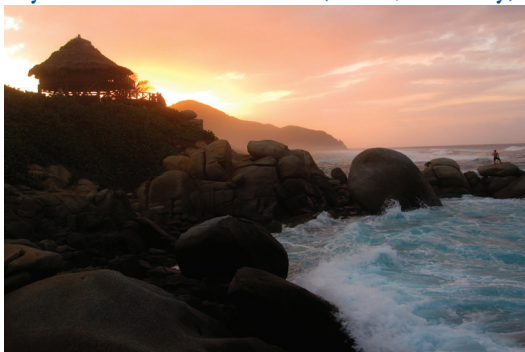
STUDY ABROAD & SERVICE LEARNING STUDENTS



1st Place: Food & Family
by Mallory Oxford (Florence, Italy)



2nd Place: The Egg Man in Berlin
by Elizabeth Lauren Moore (Berlin, Germany)



3rd Place: ¿Puede oírme ahora?
by Bryan Tarbox (Santa Marta, Colombia)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS, SCHOLARS & EMPLOYEES



1st Place: Gettysburg
by Kan Li (Gettysburg, PA, USA)



2nd Place: The City Never Sleeps
by Chloë Hawkings (New York City, NY, USA)



3rd Place: Holi
by Kan Li (Gainesville, FL, USA)

FACULTY, STAFF & ALUMNI



1st Place: Madam In Her Workspace
by Quynh-Le Nguyen (Inle Lake, Myanmar)



2nd Place: Vibrant Prayer
by Amanda Blanco (Istanbul, Turkey)



3rd Place: How Do You Get Your Honey?
by Christopher A. Johns (Bataan, Philippines)

STUDY ABROAD

STUDY



ABROAD

Discover new cultures
Develop/enhance foreign language skills
Take courses that count towards your major, minor or electives
Internship & service learning opportunities

Attend an information session
<http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/sas/>

1765 Stadium Road Suite 170 Hub - Phone: (352) 273-1539

UF International Center
University of Florida



Study Abroad Fair @ Plaza of the Americas

BECOME A "GLOBAL GATOR"

Study-abroad programs help students discover new cultures, increase global awareness, enhance foreign language skills, make new friends and establish new contacts!

In the past year (Fall 2012-Summer 2013), a total of \$86,500 was awarded by UFIC in scholarships to 79 students who were engaged in various study abroad programs. Average award was approximately \$1,000 per student. The majority of the recipients were awarded funds for programs conducted during the summer.

Plaza of the Americas
January 29, 2014 from 10am to 3pm

STUDY ABROAD FAIR



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL CENTER

September 18, 2013
from 10am to 3pm

Plaza of Americas STUDY ABROAD Fair



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL CENTER

The fall semester study abroad fair was organized by UFIC on September 18th, 2013 with much participation by students and faculty, as well as program providers. The spring semester study abroad fair scheduled for January 29th, 2014 will provide another opportunity for students to review and sign up for a study abroad program of interest. With over 50+ study abroad program representatives and UF-sponsored programs expected, students have an opportunity to explore the many possibilities that enable them to become “Global Gators.” UF faculty who lead study abroad programs and former study abroad students will be available to share their international experiences. The fair will also feature other universities and offer that sponsor UF-approved study abroad programs and internships. The Study Abroad Services staff will be available to explain the application process and help students begin the steps to find the right program. A representative from financial affairs will also be on hand to answer questions about financial aid available to students studying abroad.

Approved study abroad programs can count toward degree requirements such as General Education and summer study abroad counts toward the nine-hour summer residency requirement. Students considering studying abroad some time during their college career should visit the UF International Center. This past year, more than 2,000 UF students studied abroad.

For more information, visit www.abroad.ufic.ufl.edu



Students at the fall semester study abroad fair



Students on a study abroad trip (Australia) engaged in the Gator Chomp on Magnetic Island, Northern Queensland.



Students on a study abroad trip engaged in the Gator Chomp -Tuscany, Italy.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Kevin Prival

Major - Industrial and Systems Engineering; Studied Spanish in Spain – Senior Year

“I grew in many ways from this study abroad program. What was most significant to me was the idea of being different and courageous. During my time in Spain, I was definitely the minority in the crowd, especially being Haitian American. However, I made the choice to embrace it. At times it was a bit challenging, but I learned to make new friends, challenge my current knowledge and be brave enough to try new things.”

1. How did you finance studying abroad?

I financed my trip to Madrid, Spain through scholarships and student loans. I was blessed in receiving financial support from organizations like the Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship program.

2. What was your best experience abroad?

My best experience abroad was spending time with native Spaniards during this event called “intercambio” where Spaniards from my university mixed and mingled with International students in Spanish.

3. How did it influence your career?

Being now that I have studied abroad, it has influenced my career focus in a meaningful way. I now have a passion to work overseas and starting an international business. This trip has taught me to

think bigger, be more creative, and to branch out beyond the conventional paths of society.

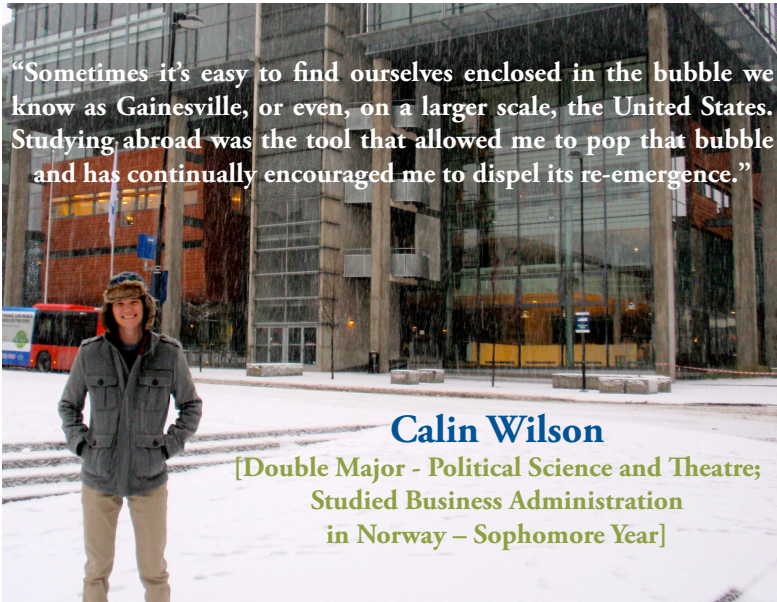
4. How did you pick your study abroad program?

I chose the UF in Madrid program because I enjoy learning Spanish, and I had great interest in learning about the culture of Spain. I was also able to enroll into business courses that were offered by UF while abroad through the UF in Madrid program.

5. How did studying abroad affect your academics?

While abroad, I learned to balance my studies, and be more flexible in my learning style. It was a culmination of being in the classroom and taking courses online.

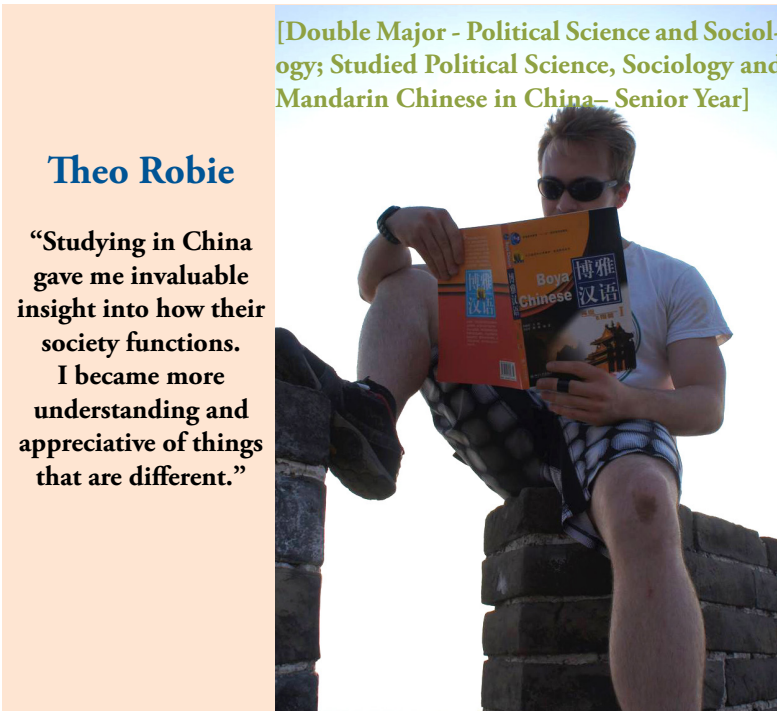
STUDENT TESTIMONIALS



“Sometimes it’s easy to find ourselves enclosed in the bubble we know as Gainesville, or even, on a larger scale, the United States. Studying abroad was the tool that allowed me to pop that bubble and has continually encouraged me to dispel its re-emergence.”

Calin Wilson

[Double Major - Political Science and Theatre;
Studied Business Administration
in Norway – Sophomore Year]



[Double Major - Political Science and Sociology;
Studied Political Science, Sociology and
Mandarin Chinese in China – Senior Year]

Theo Robie

“Studying in China gave me invaluable insight into how their society functions. I became more understanding and appreciative of things that are different.”

Katherine Ferguson

[Double Major - Anthropology & International Studies
Studied Spanish, Political Thought in Latin America and Latin American Cinema in Argentina – Sophomore Year]

“My study abroad experience influenced my career choice greatly. Within the US, our schooling tends to focus solely on the US and European history and influences, making it very ethnocentric. While abroad I was introduced to and lived in a society with a different history, culture and outlook on the world. Being immersed into that world allowed me to open my mind to the world and get out of the "American bubble" most of us grow up in. I changed my career track to focus more on foreign affairs and the US's role within a global society.”



Lidia Guzhva

[Major - Biology; Studied International Business and French in France – Freshman and Sophomore Years]

“Well, I’m pre-med, so studying abroad isn't exactly the first thing that comes to mind when one thinks of training in that field. Still, I feel like I learned many valuable skills while studying abroad. I’ve definitely expanded my communication skills. It also helps you learn how to relate to people who you would normally think live in a completely different world and understand how to maneuver through cultural differences.”



QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN: INTERNATIONALIZATION

Learning without Borders: Internationalizing the Gator Nation is a five year plan to further internationalize the learning experience at UF for undergraduate students. This initiative is the university's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) that is a required component for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS) re-accreditation process. The topic of internationalization was selected for the QEP to extend the internationalization efforts already at UF, and builds on the focus of the university's 2003 SACSCOC self-study Volume II, titled SACSCOC International Focus Report. Internationalization is also a component of the university mission and was addressed by several of the President's Strategic Work Plan goals, in recent years.

An International Task Force (ITF) was appointed in January 2011 through the Provost's office to be broadly representative of faculty, administration, staff and students as well as the 16 colleges. The ITF, led initially by the Dean of UFIC and currently headed by Dr. David Miller (College of Education), is tasked with developing the

QEP plan which includes the implementation of new initiatives and an assessment plan. The ITF was charged also with engaging all stakeholders in the development and implementation of the QEP.

Since the QEP is developed to enhance the learning environment, the ITF began by clearly defining the specific learning that was to occur. Thus, the development of the QEP focuses on two competencies: global awareness and inter-cultural competence, and three Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). The three SLOs that have guided the development of initiatives and the assessments are:

- **SLO1: Students identify, describe, and explain global and inter-cultural conditions and interdependencies.**
- **SLO2: Students analyze and interpret global and inter-cultural issues.**
- **SLO3: Students communicate effectively with members of other cultures.**

The ITF engaged all stakeholders in the development of campus initiatives and assessments that will lead to learning defined by SLOs for undergraduates. The campus initiatives that will begin in Fall 2014 are:

- ***Study Abroad:*** Increased opportunities for students, especially those in underrepresented disciplines. The increase in opportunities will be through scholarships, travel support, and faculty professional development leading to additional and improved offerings.
- ***Curriculum Enhancement:*** Increased course offerings that promote learning consistent with the SLOs. This will include faculty professional development and incentives to develop new courses to support the SLOs, and a systematic review of current course offerings relative to their ability to contribute to undergraduate learning in the context of the SLOs.
- ***Campus Life:*** Increased intentional interactions between international and domestic students through student organizations, dorm activities, and student affairs events.
- ***International Resources and Support:*** Provide support for international events (speakers, performances, etc.) and the development of an international calendar that will be advertised to students and other stakeholders.
- ***International Scholars Program:*** Development of an International Scholar program (certificates) to incentivize students to participate in the international curriculum and other components of the QEP.

For more information, contact QEP Director Dr. David Miller dmiller@coe.ufl.edu Website: <http://qep.aa.ufl.edu/>



Glenn Morris, EPI Director; U.S. Senator (Florida) Bill Nelson; and UF faculty members and student engaged in the Gator chomp at UF research lab in Gressier, Haiti.



Members from the UFIC Program Development unit and UF faculty engaged with staff from the Southern African Wildlife College in Hoedspruit, South Africa.



UF Study Abroad - Fiji : Program led by Dr. Heather Gibson – Department of Tourism, Recreation & Sport Management



Fall semester ceremony – Outstanding International Student Awards.

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Phone: 352-392-5323
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Contact us to learn more of if you
need additional information.