

# International Student Involvement Report

*In winter 2017 international students' fall 2017 involvement data was gathered. The involvement data was grouped into the nine Pick One categories. The table below compares international student involvement to the total involvement in that category and the total international enrollment at UI. Domestic student data is also included. In fall 2017 the total number of undergraduate international students was 2466 and total number of undergraduate domestic students was 20542. Undergraduate international students represent 10.72% of the total undergraduate student population.*

Category	Total Count in Category	Int'l Count in Category	Domestic Count in Category	Int'l Percentage (among all participants in Category)	Int'l Percentage (among all int'l enrolled at UI)	Domestic Percentage (among all domestic enrolled at UI)
Academic/Honors (Honors only)	3,498	245	3,253	7%	10%	15%
Employment <sup>1</sup>	6,024	396	5,628	6.57%	17.2%	29.3%
Leadership (ASB, LeaderShape, and Leadership classes)	414	19	395	4.59%	0.77%	1.92%
Intramurals & Sport Clubs (intramurals only)	3,121	42	3,079	1.3%	1.7%	15%
Fraternities & Sororities	3,775	24	3,751	0.6%	1%	18.3%
Volunteering <sup>2</sup>	5,574	31	6,773	0.56%	N/A	N/A
Multicultural Activities <sup>3</sup>	9	4	5	44.44%	N/A	N/A
Student Organizations	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data
Performing Arts	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data	No data

## Notes:

1. On-campus employment data was gathered on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
2. Volunteering data represents the number of entries in HireaHawk and not the number of unique students. One student might have multiple entries.
3. Not all multicultural programs identified whether a participant was an international student. The numbers in the table represent only Bridge participants.

In spring 2017 international students were invited to complete a short survey about their involvement on campus. 221 students participated in the survey.

Since you enrolled at the University of Iowa, which of the following activities have you been involved in? Select all that apply.

Activity	Count	Percentage
On-Campus Employment	103	47.25%
Student Organizations	94	43.12%
Volunteering	82	37.61%
Academic Organization	62	28.44%
Honors Program	61	27.98%
Multicultural Activities	46	21.10%
None of the Above	39	17.89%
Intramurals & Sports Clubs	29	13.30%
Leadership Activities	27	12.39%
Fraternity & Sorority Life	16	7.34%
Performing Arts	14	6.42%

## Involved Students

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When did you first get involved?

Year	Count	Percentage
First semester of your first year	90	55.21%
Second semester of your first year	43	26.38%
Second year	19	11.66%
Third year	9	5.52%
Fourth year +	2	1.23%

You indicated that you got involved after your first semester at UI. Why did you wait to get involved?

	Count	Percentage
I was not aware of the opportunities available	30	42.86%
I planned to, but I didn't do so until later	28	40.00%
I didn't know how to get started	26	37.14%
Language barriers	20	28.57%
Time constraints	15	21.43%
I didn't have transportation to get involved in these opportunities	13	18.57%
I was not interested in getting involved	7	10.00%
Other (please explain)*	7	10.00%
None of the opportunities on-campus interested me	1	1.43%

\*Other

I was in the IIEP program in my first semester at UI.
I was focusing on school
First time coming to US has so many things I need to learn before I got involved...
It takes time for me to adapt to new culture and environment
Just want to find feelings of organization
Honor thesis requires a senior standing.
I thought I wouldn't fit into

### Why did you decide to get involved in that experience?

	Count	Percentage (of 118)
To meet new people/to make friends	27	22.88%
To make the most of their college experience/ to have new experiences	25	21.19%
To prepare for employment, future career, etc./to build their resume	19	16.10%
It was something they were interested in or it sounded fun	19	16.10%
To help transition to the U.S./to improve English skills	13	11.02%
Other	9	7.63%
To earn money/SSN/help with financials	6	5.08%

### Students Not Involved On-Campus

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#### Why did you choose not to get involved on-campus?

	Count	Percentage
I don't know how to get started	16	43.24%
I plan to get involved, but I haven't done so yet	15	40.54%
Time constraints	12	32.43%
I was not aware of the opportunities available	11	29.73%
Language barriers	9	24.32%
I am not interested in getting involved	8	21.62%
I don't have transportation to get involved in these opportunities	6	16.22%
None of the opportunities available on-campus interest me	5	13.51%

## All Students

If you were to begin your studies at the University of Iowa again, would you make different decisions regarding your on-campus involvement? Why?

	Count	Percentage (of 118)
Yes	68	57.63%
No	50	42.37%

Yes (would make different decisions regarding on-campus involvement)	Count	Percentage (of 75)
Want to get involved in more activities than currently involved in	18	24.00%
Personal & career development	15	20.00%
Get connected & meet new people	11	14.67%
Get involved earlier	6	8.00%
Get involved in academic related activities	6	8.00%
Try something new	5	6.67%
Know & use university resources better	5	6.67%
Develop communication skills	5	6.67%
Other	4	5.33%

No (would not make different decisions regarding on-campus involvement)	Count	Percentage (of 37)
Satisfied with current involvement	18	48.65%
No time	7	18.92%
Need time to adjust	4	10.81%
Satisfied with decisions either involved/not involved/pace, etc.	3	8.12%
No need	3	8.12%
Focus on classes	2	5.41%

What other information could the University of Iowa provide to help you make decisions about your involvement on-campus?

	Count	Percentage (of 58)
Emails	9	15.52%
No additional information is needed/current information is sufficient	8	13.79%
Org fairs, info sessions, and alternatives for introverts	7	12.07%
Specific list of options and an introduction	6	10.34%
Work with national student organizations	6	10.34%
Website (including MyUI)	4	6.90%
Peer perspectives	4	6.90%
Physical materials or posting	4	6.90%
In-person presentation (orientation, in class, etc.)	4	6.90%
Videos & social media	2	3.45%
Tailor to specific needs or interest	2	3.45%
More effective communication	1	1.72%
Help integrate inclusion through CAB, DM, FSL, etc.	1	1.72%

## Conclusions and Recommendations

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1. Based on the involvement data from fall 2017, at a given point during the academic year, international student involvement in the Pick One categories is lower than the proportion of international students at the University of Iowa (see page 1). However, during their time at Iowa, international students participated in different involvement opportunities at a similar or higher rate (see page 2). When reviewing and measuring international student involvement in the future both data from single points in time and data across a students' experience should be used.
2. Continue to raise awareness of different involvement opportunities among international students at different times during the year. While over half of the survey respondents got involved during their first year, sharing involvement opportunities during different times in the year and across the student experience will be beneficial for those who haven't gotten involved yet or for those who would like to get involved in more opportunities.
3. Some students indicated that they don't know how to get started, or they aren't fully aware of all the opportunities available. It will be beneficial to provide all international students step by step instructions on how to get involved and where to find involvement opportunities.
4. Encourage students to get involved deeply in at least one experience.
5. When measuring involvement in the future, the survey should ask both "have you been involved in ..." and "are you currently involved in ..." questions.