GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

University of Iowa
International Programs
Annual Report

2011
In this report, you will find an overview of the activities International Programs (IP) has undertaken during 2011 and the priorities on which we have focused this past year. We have been very busy this year. IP is a catalyst for institutional internationalization and a hub for global activities. IP staff and our faculty affiliates support the international priorities of the departments and colleges that make up the university. But we also initiate projects and programs that bring additional energy and reach to the activities that are taking place in the academic colleges. In both ways, through our own initiatives and by lending support to faculty and student initiatives across campus, IP leads the university's global efforts.

The University of Iowa admitted its largest and most diverse undergraduate class ever this past fall, bringing the total number of international students to 3,463, including 1,754 undergraduates. UI faculty and staff have done an outstanding job of welcoming these students to the university and helping them to achieve their educational goals. The UI student body is well over 10% international, the year, which is a significant change from only a few years ago. Students from Iowa and around the country will benefit from the presence of these international students, who bring new perspectives and languages to the university community.

As we continue to expand options for UI students to participate in educational programs abroad, IP hired a new staff member, Leslie Michelkus, to focus on UIWA, or Work, Intern, and Volunteer Abroad. While we will continue to send students abroad to study in classroom settings, a new focus on internships, service-learning programs, and volunteer opportunities will give students a chance to immerse themselves and gain other kinds of experiences that can be valuable both in life-long learning and in looking for a job after graduation. “Experiential learning” is what we call it; and these programs give students the edge they need in an increasingly global marketplace.

Finally, I have put particular emphasis on working with the colleges in cultivating and supporting linkages and agreements with institutions abroad. Let me give you just one example of the kind of connections that I want to support in my role as senior international officer of the university. Professor Nguyen Van Hung from the Haiphong Medical University arrived in Iowa City one snowy day in December 2010 as a Fulbright Scholar in residence in the College of Pharmacy. Working with Professors Barry Carter and Bernard Schnittman, Hung hopes to immerse Vietnamese educational practices and to develop collaborative practices that will provide for greater integration of medical and pharmacy professionals in Vietnam. A reciprocal visit this past December reaffirmed commitments on both sides to a partnership that promises to involve multiple colleges at the UI and to encompass education, training, and research priorities. Our partnership with Haiphong Medical University will reap benefits both here in Iowa and abroad.

I hope you will enjoy our annual report, and I look forward to another year of globalization at the University of Iowa.

International Knowledge Center, Bangalore, India, opens
The UI partners with GenNext Education to provide support in India for our linkages with businesses and educational institutions, our study abroad partnerships, and our recruitment efforts to bring highly-qualified Indian students to Iowa City to pursue their education.

UI graduate Jacob Soll receives a 2011 MacArthur Fellowship, also known as the “genius award.” Jacob Soll, a professor of history at Rutgers University, studied abroad through CIEE in Paris during his undergraduate education at the UI, which eventually led him to France for graduate work and Cambridge for his Ph.D.

The Peace Corps celebrates a milestone
During the 50 years since its founding in 1961, more than 600 Iowans have served as Peace Corps volunteers. The UI’s Peace Corps office is housed within International Programs.

Two receive the Rex Honey African Studies Lectureship Award
Prime minister of Zimbabwe Morgan Tsvangirai and Nobel Prize-winning Nigerian writer Wole Soyinka received these awards in memory of UI geography professor Rex D. Honey.

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UI Professor Roberto Ampuero is appointed Chilean ambassador to Mexico.
Internationally published author Roberto Ampuero, a UI assistant professor of Spanish, will begin serving as Chilean ambassador to Mexico in January 2012. Ampuero received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Iowa as an international student.

Trudy Huskamp Peterson receives 2011 International Impact Award
Trudy Huskamp Peterson, whose graduate degrees are from the UI, is the former archivist of the United States, founding executive director of the Open Society Archives, and the director of archives and records management for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

International Studies B.A. moves to CLAS.
International Programs created and nurtured the International Studies B.A. program in its early years. So that it can continue to grow and to flourish, the UI has moved to a new home in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The international Studies M.A. program is still administered by International Programs.

Message from Downing Thomas
Associate Provost and Dean of International Programs
Dean Thomas on the campus of Sichuan University, China

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011
Farfum Ladroma served in the Peace Corps in Tonga, South Pacific. Approximately 35 UI graduates are currently serving in the Peace Corps.
Dan Olinghouse chose to study political science and Arabic for a year in Cairo, Egypt. At the start of Dan’s second semester, the recent Tunisian revolution sparked protests against the Mubarak regime across Egypt. After a few days of observation, Dan opted to return safely to Iowa. He is continuing his education in Arabic and working toward a degree in psychology at the UI. For more on study abroad, see page 8.

Wei Du, a finance and accounting major from Jinan, China, was chosen to be the 2011 Homecoming Queen at the UI. Du has been involved with numerous organizations during her time at the UI, including Business Student Ambassadors, Delta Sigma Pi, Dance Marathon, and the Tippie College of Business’ competitive Hawkinson Institute of Business Finance. Du exemplifies the growing population of highly-qualified international students on the UI campus. For more on international students and scholars, see page 10.

India native Rajiv Ranjan came to the UI as a Foreign Language Teaching Assistant in 2010 but ended up staying past his one year term because, as he explains, “Iowa is cold but Iowans are warm.” He is working toward a Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition and keeps busy with classroom visits to local schools. He enjoys capturing students’ interest with Bollywood song and dance, and he’s found American kids to be smart and very open to new ideas. For more on community engagement, see page 14.

Kim Tranel, an International Studies M.A. candidate, received a Stanley Graduate Award to conduct research in Terra Nova, Brazil, during the summer of 2011. She lived and worked on a small coffee farm for seven weeks alongside native workers, observing day to day operations. Her goal is to provide a link between coffee drinkers and coffee growers and to shed light on global connections of a staple item in U.S. society. For more on student research and activities, see page 12.

Catriona Parratt, an associate professor of American Studies, spent a month on the Isle of Skye, one of Scotland’s Hebridean islands, conducting preliminary fieldwork as part of SkIowa, a cultural studies and sport studies project exploring sport’s role as a medium of cultural exchange between the Scottish Highlands and Islands and the U.S. Specifically, she investigated how Americans and Skye people “know” one another, themselves, their places, and their cultures through sport. For more on faculty research, see page 6.
Major Project Activities in 2011

International Programs (IP) Major Project Awards support collaborative, campus-wide research and creative activities related to International topics. Generous funding is provided by the Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization and winners are chosen through a highly-selective process. IIP offers assistance to two major projects: visit iTunes and search “worldcanvass.”

March 2011. Organizer: James Gelbin (History, co-director of IP’s African Studies Program)

A Celebration of East Africa brought together scholars, journalists and politicians from Tanzania and around the world to discuss democracy and opposition politics in Tanzania, Kiswahili poetry and the HIV/AIDS pandemic, tobacco addiction in Tanzania, the role of Muslim militancy in Tanzania, and the future of multiparty democracy in Tanzania.

April 2011. Organizers: Megareese H. Mikil, Inna Kostina and Jyka Soplava (Asian & Slavic Languages and Literatures)

20 Years after the Berlin Wall: Women’s Shifting Roles and Status in Post-Communist Europe examined the public and private stages of the post-socialist “shift” in the lives of women in Russia and Eastern Europe since the fall of the Berlin Wall. Scholars explored in depth the officially sanctioned throwbacks to pre-1917 domesticity and the ever-increasing “double burden” borne by women.

Fall 2011. Organizer: Corey Creekmur (Cinema and Comparative Literature)

Comics, Creativity and Culture activities began in September and continued throughout the fall. This highimpact, community-wide project received major funding from IP and the Obermann Center for Advanced Studies and resulted in thoughtful, multi-disciplinary, town/gown collaborations around an artistic form of communication that is often overlooked in the academic environment.

October 2011. Organizer: Paul Greenough (History, co-director of IP’s South Asian Studies Program)

New Culture and New Welfare in South Asia focused on art in India and South Asia. Participants discussed the making of art in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka since independence and whether it’s a matter of privilege or a necessity for life, like food and shelter, which ordinary people need to relieve the dreariness of poverty.

In 2011, 137 UI faculty held official (one 3) appointments with IIP. Many more joined IP-affiliated faculty on interdisciplinary projects, applied for research travel funds, and worked with IP’s dean, associate dean and unit heads to envision, shape and fund projects. In 2011, 37 IP faculty held official (zero 1) appointments with IP. Many more joined IP-affiliated faculty on interdisciplinary projects, applied for research travel funds, and worked with IP’s dean, associate dean and unit heads to envision, shape and find funding for new international, research, service and learning opportunities. On these two pages, we introduce you to a few of the people and projects that made 2011 a memorable year for IP and the UI.

Special Projects

International Programs awarded significant grants to help fund two special projects in 2011:

The Caucus as a Crossroads: Dagestan, Russia and Regional Security, directed by William Pasenger (Political Science) and Inna Kostina (Asian & Slavic Languages and Literatures), Re-creation: Musical Reception of Classical Antiquity, directed by Robert Kitterman (Classics)

Faculty Research Travel

a sampling of the research projects which received assistance from IP in 2011

RUSSEL CIOCHON Department of Anthropology traveled to China and Thailand to conduct further research on fossilized jaw fragments that have been identified as early human but may, in fact, be from an unknown species of ape. While in China, he spoke on “Evolution and Ape Diversity in Pleistocene Asia” at the symposium themed “Human Evolution in Southern China.”

ROBIN HEMLEY Nonfiction Writing Program met with conference steering committee members in Melbourne, Australia, to plan the next NonfictionNow conference. The conference will be held in Melbourne as a partnership between the UI and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and will bring together four to five hundred writers and academics from around the world for three days of panels on nonfiction, as well as readings by some of the best nonfiction writers in the world.

RUSSELL VALENTINO Cinema and Comparative Literature gave a keynote address at the conference “The History of Translation in Cross-cultural Perspective” at the Russian State Humanities University in September. He then traveled across the breadth of Russia, conducting basic research and focusing on the notion of crossing as cultural mixture, by contrast to ideas of cultural purity.

RALPH RUSSO, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science attended the 13th European Mathematics and Economics (EME) Congress in Trieste, Italy, in June and presented a talk titled “Increasing Convex order and Bas Bounds on the Empirical, CTE.” The talk was based on his current research with UI colleague N.D. Shyamalkumar and was part of a session devoted to Risk Theory.

ADRIEN WING College of Law visited India in April to present talks on Middle East democracy; observe hearings at the High Court and meet with government officials; and discuss possible collaborations between the O.P. Jindal Global University Law School and the UI through study abroad programs, internships, and faculty and student exchange for research, teaching or study.

SUJATHA SOASAL School of Journalism and Mass Communication presented a paper on the press and collective memory at the annual conference of the Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC) in Hyderabad, India. She also visited Vishvar, the host organization for the UI-Writers course “International Development Through Multimedia Storytelling.” India. Vishvar is an NGO that houses female children of marginalized communities and gives them access to public education and vocational training.

SCOTT MCNABB College of Education traveled to Thailand, Laos and Cambodia. McNabb delivered art supplies to the Angkor Hospital for Children in Siem Reap, Cambodia; collaborated with colleagues from the Fulbright Foundation in Thailand on the preparation of orientation materials for Fulbright scholars heading to Thailand; and met with various individuals to discuss the current state of Thai politics as well as the reputation efforts being made on behalf of Karen refugees on the Thai/Burma border.
The cultures, traditions, hopes and expectations of others around the world can be better understood by stepping outside one’s home territory to live as others live, see what others see, and develop a more nuanced understanding of a complex world. Study abroad literally puts the world at one’s feet and as the reflections of study abroad students and donors demonstrate, can spark a passion that burns throughout one’s life.

Nearly one in five undergraduates will embrace a study abroad experience while at the UI—and the opportunities become richer year after year. This year, for example, Cuba is a destination. Students will learn from and be inspired by the culture, history and atmosphere of the formerly off-limits nation in a three-week nonfiction writing workshop, just one among many short courses being offered this year. It is new also possible for students who have finished their freshman year to accumulate General Education Program credits in courses taught in four European locations during the summer. An expanding thirst for international adventure was made significantly more accessible to students thanks to the generosity of donors such as the Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization, the Bedell family, the estate of Ann Morse, and Joel and Sandra Barkan (see profile).

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As my retirement from Iowa approached in 2005, Sandy and I thought about how we might give back to the university that had been the focus of our careers since 1972. We agreed to support study abroad by a UI undergraduate as both of us had had overseas experiences as undergraduates that shaped our careers and lives. Sandy spent a memorable year in Paris in 1961-62 where she lived in the apartment of the sister of François Mitterrand, became fluent in French, and had her first experience with European society and culture. This ultimately led her to the field of comparative literature with a specialization in African literatures. She retired from the UI as associate dean of the Graduate College in 2007.

My own study abroad experience was in 1962 when I spent two months in rural Kenya in the Crossroads Africa program, the forerunner of the Peace Corps. President Kennedy met with us before our departure and I met Jomo Kenyatta, the legendary African nationalist, before returning to the U.S. It led me to UCLA to study comparative politics and African politics for my Ph.D.

Each spring break, UI students across many disciplines participate in the service learning course International Perspectives: Xicotepec in collaboration with Rotary International. The course prepares students culturally and professionally for team work in an international environment with specific projects aimed at improving community life in Xicotepec, Mexico.

The Barkan Scholarship for Study Abroad

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We wanted to create a similar opportunity for a UI student. Study abroad opened our eyes and helped us better understand American culture and society as much as it informed us about the world beyond our shores.

- Joel D. Barkan, professor emeritus of political science at the UI

If you are interested in supporting International Programs, visit www.uifoundation.org/International to learn more.

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In the end, it was the experience of completely involving myself in a new community, with customs and practices different from those of the largely individualist western cultures, that made me grow the most in my undergraduate career.” — BRIAN BUH, 2011 UI GRADUATE, ON HIS STUDY ABDROAD EXPERIENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Top ten study abroad countries for UI students

With number of students studying in each country indicated

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New in 2011, the IOWA INTERNATIONAL SUMMER INSTITUTE IISI allowed students to fulfill General Education requirements in Florence, Paris and London during the summer, and the program is expanding in 2012 with a course in Madrid. Courses are taught in English by UI professors and students have the option of taking up to three classes sequentially.

Over the last five years, the INDIA WINTERIM program has offered more than 30 courses in entrepreneurship, art and architecture, biodiversity and sustainability, social justice and law, and much more. UI students are able to interact with and learn directly from leading social entrepreneurs, academic institutions and non-profit organizations across several cities in India.

http://international.uiowa.edu
$83.2 MILLION
is the estimated annual economic impact from University of Iowa international students and their dependents

In 2011, the University of Iowa welcomed its most diverse freshman class in history. Over 10 per cent of new students hailed from countries outside the U.S., making this another second-breaking year for international student enrollment. In total, 3,463 international students from 111 countries call the University of Iowa home, and for the first time in UI history, the majority of those international students are undergraduates.

International students and scholars are introduced to American culture and life at the UI through a variety of programs. The Life in Iowa series explores American customs and practical skills through workshops and social activities. Friends of International Students, which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2011, matches international students with community volunteers. And On Iowa!, a new orientation for all first-year UI students, supplements the regular international student pre-semester orientation programs.

Highlight on international scholar: Henri Nkeupo

Henri Nkeupo, a native of Cameroon, is a Ph.D. candidate in International Trade Law and a research scholar for the College of Law at the University of Iowa. He has been very impressed with the welcoming atmosphere of the community and he’s even visited local classrooms to speak about his home country and culture. In one visit, he had to explain to some high school students what their rights to culture and education are and show how those rights are sometimes violated in Africa.

Nkeupo founded the African Trade Law Expert (ATLE) initiative to help African countries understand trade agreements and to show them how to make good use of those agreements. His goal is to help Africans understand the relationship between trade, environment and human rights in order to use trade as a developmental tool. For more information, visit http://www.africantradexpert.com.

countries and territories are represented at the University of Iowa

*TOP 10 SHOWN BELOW WITH THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM EACH COUNTRY
“It’s an opportunity for students to explore two facets of their humanity that are not just important to human development, but have become important to professional schools and employers: leadership and intercultural sensitivity.”

– TRAVIS HENDEZON, UI GRADUATE STUDENT, ON THE BRIDGING GLOBAL AND DOMESTIC DIVERSITY PROGRAM

University of Iowa students have numerous opportunities to engage in international activities here on campus and outside U.S. borders. Besides participating in a study abroad program (see page 8), students can receive funding to conduct research abroad during their undergraduate or graduate studies. Both students and faculty can prepare for overseas travel with language programs through the Autonomous Language Learning Network. Those interested in learning less-commonly taught languages can take courses from the Foreign Language Teaching Assistants, who arrived in 2011 from Turkey, Brazil, and Oman.

An interdisciplinary M.A. program in International Studies is offered through the Graduate College and administered and supported by International Programs (IP). A number of certificates are available as well, including certificates in Human Rights, Global Health Studies and Latin American Studies. A Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition is offered as well.

IP facilitates several cultural training programs, including Bridging Global and Domestic Diversity, an intercultural leadership training course for undergraduate and graduate students from varied cultural backgrounds. Students can also explore other cultures through the Global Village, a living-learning community on campus, or through student organizations like Global Buddies, which matches new international exchange students with American students for social activities.

UI student funding awarded in 2011

EXTERNAL FUNDING

• Boren Fellowships: Three students received Boren Fellowships to Pakistan, Kenya and Chea

• Fulbright U.S. Student Program: Four students received Fulbright fellowships to conduct research or teach English in Togo, India, Brazil and Colombia

• Fulbright-Hays/Andrew W Mellon Foundation: One student received an award for dissertation research in Turkey

FUNDING AWARDED BY IP

$79,500 in internal funding was distributed to undergraduates and graduate students, including the following awards:

• Stanley Undergraduate and Graduate Awards: 29 students received a total of $60,000 to conduct research in 27 different countries

• International Programs Graduate Student Conference Travel Awards: 36 students received a total of $35,000 to participate in conferences in 21 countries

• IP South Asian Studies Program Scholarships for Travel or Study: $4,000

• Global Health Studies Conference Travel Award: 1 student received $500

• Other IP Funding: $5,000

Bridging Global and Domestic Diversity

NAME: Bisi Martins-Adekunle
HOME COUNTRY: Nigeria
FIELD: Epidemiology

“I applied to the Bridge program out of curiosity. After being in the U.S. for a couple of months, I still had problems interacting freely with different people. From the program, I have learned that there is no right or wrong way when it comes to culture, ideals and beliefs. It’s a program that develops you so that you can fit into a diverse world, not by losing your identity, but by identifying with it and understanding that others also have a right to their own identity.”

Global Village Living-Learning Community

NAME: Yuhao Chen
HOME COUNTRY: China
FIELD: Psychology

UI freshman Yuhao Chen (photo, second from left) decided to live in the Global Village in order to make friends from the U.S. and other countries. The International Crossroads Community and the Hispanic Language and Cultures community combined in 2011 to form the Global Village, a multi-cultural living-learning community for UI students interested in world issues, languages and cultures. Activities include celebrating international holidays, cooking international foods, and attending various cultural events around the community. Yuhao enjoys attending floor events to learn about her fellow residents’ diverse cultures in a fun atmosphere.

Fulbright U.S. Student Program

NAME: Luke Juran
HOME COUNTRY: United States
FIELD: Geography

While conducting research in India on a Fulbright grant, Luke Juran was introduced to Sangeeta, a shy young girl with a severe cleft lip. Through his volunteering work with the Missionaries of Charity Hospital and Research Center, Luke was able to connect Sangeeta and her family to the hospital’s Smile Train program, a nonprofit that provides free cleft lip and palate surgeries to children around the world. The surgery was successful and now Sangeeta is outgoing and loves smiling. Luke continues to work with Smile Train to provide the same relief to other children.
The 14 academic programs and centers of International Programs (IP) fill the calendar each year with an impressive array of lectures, symposia, conferences, films and other public events on every subject. From the changing linguistic scene in India to how European environmental concerns are portrayed in popular culture. These events allow for a rich exchange of dialogue between UI and visiting faculty, students, scholars, and community members.

IP also reaches out into the community through a variety of internationally-themed programs. The International Classroom Journey brings volunteer cultural ambassadors from around the world into Iowa classrooms to expose K-12 students to different cultures in a personal setting. Yume Hidaka, the UI’s Japanese Outreach Initiative coordinator, shares her native culture with community groups, Iowa residents, and students of all ages through interactive presentations and classroom visits across the state. The Going Global in Iowa program helps community groups, businesses and organizations develop cross-cultural skills to serve an increasingly international population.

Teachers can also benefit from IP’s resources, each year, in partnership with the College of Education and the Stanley Foundation. IP hosts the Global Education Summer Institute for Teachers to guide teachers in their efforts to infuse global perspectives into their classrooms. The College of Education and the Stanley Foundation also collaborate with IP for International Education Week and International Day, which this year hosted over 300 middle school students for presentations and activities focused on the "The Human Right to Arts and Culture.

Intimate, interdisciplinary conversations, which are the hallmark of each WorldCanvass program, offer Iowans and others around the world a new way to experience the thoughtful exchange of ideas. Scholars, faculty, students and community members convene around a common topic and join host Joan Kjaer in peeling back the layers of complexity that surround our understandings of culture, history, literature, language, politics, artistic expression and global interdependence.

Recent WorldCanvass programs have explored richly diverse themes such as the global water crisis, comics as communication, the experience of “otherness,” and Ralph Ellison’s novel “Invisible Man.” The history of sustainability, Japan, and global science fiction are just three of the topics slated for spring 2012.

These events, generally held in the Senate Chamber of the Old Capitol Museum, are open to the public and taped for statewide television and radio distribution. The series is also available as a free podcast on iTunes. The creative partnership between IP and the UI Pentacrest Museums, UTV, KRUI-FM and Information Technology Services has allowed WorldCanvass to reach more than 200,000 Iowans in their homes and a worldwide audience through the Internet.

WorldCanvass 2011 topics

MARCH: Starving for Water: The Global Water Crisis
APRIL: Women in Post-Socialist Eastern Europe
MAY: Italian Art and Culture
SEPTEMBER: Comics, Creativity and Culture
OCTOBER: New Culture and New Welfare in South Asia
NOVEMBER: Being the Other
DECEMBER: Iowa and Invisible Man

WorldCanvass Studio 2011

MARCH 4: Dancers in Company
MARCH 6: James Zogby – Arab Voices: What They are Saying to Us and Why it Matters
OCTOBER 3: Roy Bennett and the Hard Road to Democracy in Zimbabwe
OCTOBER 27: The Caucasus as a Crossroads: Dagestan, Russia and Regional Security
OCTOBER 28: Traditional Mongolian group AnDa Union

Download these programs for free on iTunes - search “WorldCanvass”