100,000 Strong in the Americas

International Scholars Research Cultural Conservation

“Beautiful Program” Encourages International Sustainability

OECD Student Ambassador Gives Unique Perspective
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Greetings!
The UA Office of Global Initiatives (OGI) continues to connect the UA to new opportunities and good friends world-wide.

This year, we’ve played a role in alumni reunions in Doha, Riyadh, Mexico City and Santiago. We’ve also found new ways for alumni and other friends to engage in and support critical university initiatives.

I’ll highlight just a few of these initiatives here:

• The UA hosted two higher education delegations on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. The first was made up of officials from throughout Latin America; the latter solely from leading institutions in Brazil. Both delegations rated the UA visit as their most significant.
• UA hosted twenty-five universities to explore a new language program, for Mexico’s technical and polytechnical universities, in which UA will play a key role.
• UA faculty are developing plans for a sustainable agriculture demonstration site in Qatar (an effort made possible by UA Alumni!).
• UA engineering students are participating in industry-funded design projects in Hermosillo and Nogales, Sonora.
• The UA is honored to participate in an ongoing high-level strategic technology effort between Mexico and the U.S. known as FOBESII.

These initiatives will continue to define the UA’s role in an increasingly complex and interrelated global environment. The UA has been and will continue to define the globally-relevant Land Grant university, a key hub in the global knowledge network.

We can all be proud of these tremendous successes. But this is just the beginning. Stay tuned, and Bear Down!

Best regards,
Mike Proctor
Vice President, Global Initiatives

10,000 Strong in the Americas

In March of 2011 President Barack Obama introduced the “100,000 Strong in the Americas” initiative, aimed to foster region-wide prosperity through greater international exchange of students. The University of Arizona was selected among 21 higher education institutions to participate. Last December the program attracted 24 visitors and interpreters from various Latin American countries to the UA campus.

The visitors were introduced to University department heads and deans, allowing for important discussions regarding mutual interests and academic programs.

Sean Manley-Casimir, Executive Director of the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC), was vital to the success of the visit, witnessing the benefits of the program first-hand. The English Language Officer (ELO) recently reported the UA’s highest-ranked feedback among other institutions. The report notes, "[The UA visit] was the best part of the trip” The visitors emphasized that, “The University of Arizona was the one university which really had a complete approach to education and what they can offer and what we can offer them.”

“The high quality of the institutions represented in this group made for excellent partnership opportunities for the University of Arizona, some of which are already leading to concrete collaboration activities.” Manley-Casimir explains.

Save the Date: Global Health Forum

The University of Arizona College of Medicine Global Health Forum will be hosting their annual conference on Saturday, March 29, 2014, in DuVall Auditorium at UAMC, with a pre-reception and networking session on Friday evening, March 28. This year’s theme is ‘Global Health: Today and Tomorrow’ and will feature a diverse array of speakers from departments across both the health sciences and main campus. For more information and to register, please visit globalhealthaz.org or contact the Conference Co-Chairs, Aubri Carman (acarman@email.arizona.edu) or David Carpenter (dwcarpenter@email.arizona.edu).
I n Early in 2013, a group of UA deans, department heads and vice presidents traveled to Qatar to attend the Gulf Cooperation Council UA Alumni Reunion and to conduct business meetings with individuals in the Middle East. The reunion in Qatar was organized by a committee of prominent alumni chaired by Mr. Ali Abdul Abdullah Al Sadiq. The reunion was widely attended by prominent alumni in the gulf region including His Excellency, Alumnus Al Emadi, Minister of Finance and Economy in Qatar and Alumnus Mr. Mohammed Sharaf, CEO of Dubai Ports and Founder of the UA- GCC Tucson Friends and Alums.

UA representatives met with Dr. Turki Al Rasheed, the Chairman and Founder of Golden Grass Incorporated, a top agricultural company in Saudi Arabia, to discuss Chairman and Founder of Golden Grass Incorporated, Alums. Shareef Al Emadi, Minister of Finance and Economy in the gulf region including His Excellency, Alumnus Ali prominent alums chaired by Mr. Ali Abdullah Al Sidiqqi. The reunion in Qatar was organized by a committee of prominent alumni chaired by Mr. Ali Abdul Abdullah Al Sadiq. The reunion was widely attended by prominent alumni in the gulf region including His Excellency, Alumnus Al Emadi, Minister of Finance and Economy in Qatar and Alumnus Mr. Mohammed Sharaf, CEO of Dubai Ports and Founder of the UA- GCC Tucson Friends and Alums.

the University of Arizona welcomed three prestigious Afghan scholars to campus to research heritage conservation. Ms. Muzghan Hamraz, Ms. Arian Qayyame and Mr. Ahamd Omar Hamid are visiting from the University of Kabul Department of Archaeology and Anthropology. This visit is part of a larger partnership with the Drachman Institute, the Arizona State Museum, the School of Anthropology and the National Park Service. The project focuses on eight key areas: conservation theory, documentation and site assessment, artifact examination and care, architectural materials conservation, interpretation and public education, site management, disaster preparedness and heritage conservation law.

During their visit, the scholars are working with UA faculty from the Heritage Conservation Program to improve Kabul Universities’ teaching and research abilities for preserving Afghanistan’s rich cultural heritage. Additionally, the program hopes to strengthen relationships between Afghan and American professionals to sustain support and interaction between professionals. Preserving the land is key to the ethical sustainability of the environment, culture, and economy.

These visiting scholars are participating in a graduate certificate Heritage Conservation Program through the College of Architecture and Planning and Landscape Architecture. The program looks at the previously stated ideas in depth to prepare students for a career in Heritage Conservation.

Omani Teachers Visit Tucson

From May 11-19, 2013, eleven Omani science teachers visited Arizona, sponsored by Middle East and hosted by the University of Arizona Center for Middle Eastern Studies (CMES). The Omani educators hoped to learn about organizing and participating in science fairs. The intensive program was led by Lisa Adeli, CMES Outreach Coordinator. The group participated in a variety of site visits, which included: the Biosphere II, Flandrau Planetarium/Science Center and Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. The group also learned about innovative science programs through visits to high schools and the University, as well as through meeting with organizers and participants from all levels of science fair competition. Most important to their mission, the Omani teachers learned a great deal about science fairs – and the alternative, non-competitive model of science festivals. The climax of the program was spending a day in Phoenix at the Intel ISEF science fair international finals, where the teachers were able to see student projects, ask questions of participants, and envision their students’ future participation in the program.

Oman's unique culture and economy.

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Perhaps nowhere on campus is the international spirit more apparent than in Professor Nader Chalfoun’s architecture studio. Chalfoun’s program, a Master’s of Science in Architecture Design and Energy Conservation, is aimed at advancing the theory and principles of sustainability in building design, energy conservation and passive solar building techniques. The goal of the program is to expand the breadth of technical expertise available to architects and increase the range of job opportunities across private, public and academic arenas. This is achieved by incorporating research on the built environment and sustainability in design specialization. What makes this program distinctive is the fact that the 11 students in the program represent nine different countries around the world. There is an obvious mutual respect for their varying backgrounds, cultures, languages and professional ideas. Just about every one of the students noted learning their classmates’ language and culture were tremendous benefits to their academic careers. The key academic selling point of the program is that it is grounded in practice, not simply theoretically-based research. Mohamed Anees, from Egypt, was particularly drawn to the focus on “things we can do right now.” Ljiljana Spiric, of Serbia, cautioned that too often architects are “just designers, and are not focused on sustainability, but only on pretty buildings”. She adds that this program is a “beautiful opportunity for the future of architecture”. In order to apply to this program, students must have a professional degree. Many of them hold bachelor’s degrees in architecture. David Takaki from Mexico, has his degree in civil engineering, and worked in construction in Mexico. Aysan Abdo Lahzateh, of Iran, has a bachelor’s degree in architecture and a master’s degree in urban design. Anas Abu-Khrad completed his bachelor’s degree in his home country of Jordan. After working for a year, he realized he needed a change and needed to concentrate on what he loves, and this program has inspired him to focus on how humans interact with their environment. Shawn Hallissey, who is from Boston, is the lone domestic student in the program. He has been fascinated by the teamwork of the group and the unique perspectives everyone brings. In a group this diverse you might imagine challenges arising on a regular basis, however, Shawn brought up the only one: the metric system! “I insist everyone talks in feet, inches and Fahrenheit,” he joked. The future aspirations of this group guarantee that their education here at The University of Arizona will result in great things. Run Hong, from China, plans to develop the first green neighborhood in China for his final thesis. Mariya Salo is researching ways to collect solar energy in the warm summers of her native Russia, and store them to use for heat during the bitter cold winters. Aya Al-Hashim is hoping to help drive the development of a sustainability-centric building code in her home country of Oman. Kang Zhou, of China, is doing incredibly passionate research of thermoregulation in bee hives to determine how they adjust the structure of their hives to regulate temperature. The driving force behind this incredible program is Professor Nader Chalfoun. When asked what his motivation for this program was, his answer was simple. Pointing to the students, “this is my motivation – what better reward?” The studio is an impressive environment for work, research and productivity. Professor Chalfoun fondly explains that the program is a two-way street – “we learn from each other and they make me who I am”. The real value of all this,” she said, “is breaking down borders and enabling collaborations that can positively transform communities. The driving force behind this incredible program is Professor Nader Chalfoun. When asked what his motivation for this program was, his answer was simple. Pointing to the students, “this is my motivation – what better reward?” The studio is an impressive environment for work, research and productivity. Professor Chalfoun fondly explains that the program is a two-way street – “we learn from each other and they make me who I am”. Higher Education Leaders from Mexico Visit UA to Explore Partnerships By Alexis Blue, University Communications UA Global Initiatives hosted the delegation of university rectors, professors and other leaders in an effort to get members of both the UA community and the Mexican higher education community thinking about opportunities for mutually beneficial partnerships in research, teaching, business, student engagement and other areas. Such collaborations could serve to enhance, among other things, students’ workforce readiness, an important priority for UA President Ann Weaver Hart. “We want them to get to know the University better and think about the interests they may have and how they could look to the University as a partner,” said Sean Manley-Casimir, the director of Latin American collaborations for UA Global Initiatives. Over the course of their three-day stay, the leaders visited the UA’s Steward Observatory Mirror Lab, Biosphere 2 and Oracle (around the Arizona State Museum. “We hope this is a seed from which a very large tree will grow,” he said. One partnership already in development is between the UA’s Center for English as a Second Language (ESL), and universities in Mexico. The UA center is working to become the official English language-training provider for a number of Mexican universities, offering training for English language teachers as well as subject-matter instructors. During their time at the UA, the Mexican university leaders toured CESL, the UA’s College of Humanities, to learn about its educational offerings and support services. They also visited the UA’s National Center for Interpretation, a research and outreach unit charged with promoting intercultural communication. In an increasingly global culture, language is key to making connections and enabling collaborations that can positively transform communities, Suzanne Panferov, director of CESL, told the group during a luncheon. “The real value of all this,” she said, “is breaking down borders and building opportunities in ways our universities wouldn’t have otherwise.” Last week’s visit was part of a larger ongoing effort by UA Global Initiatives to build the UA’s international partnerships, said Dale LaFleur, director of institutional relations for UA Global Initiatives. “Expanding the partnerships with institutions in Mexico and Brazil and elsewhere is critical to the long-term success of University of Arizona engagement in these countries.”
UA Pride Alive and Well in Tokyo

Sometimes it just takes a few people and an idea to make a good thing happen. That is the case with the origin of the UA – Alumni Association Japan Chapter. In the late 1970’s, Masahiro Miki was on a business trip to Tokyo and met up with two other UA alumni. These three alumni discussed the activity of the UA alumni in Japan. With the help of the UA Alumni Association they were able to enlist another UA Alumnus to the group and together they coordinated the first alumni event in Japan. Since 1980 they have been trying to hold the gathering every year. According to Miki, “One of the exciting events I recollect was in accordance with the PAC 10 official game arrangement against Stanford University in Tokyo in 1987. The UA President, football team members, students and faculty went to Tokyo in 1987. The UA President, football team and a group of students and faculty went to Tokyo in 1987. The UA President, football team members, coaches, supporters, and the graduates in Japan got together at the American Club after the game. Today, I am so glad to know that some students of our alma maters in Japan select and go to the University of Arizona for exchange programs and/or graduate programs for advanced study.”

In June, Dale LaFleur, Director of Institutional Relations in the Office of Global Initiatives, participated in a Fulbright International Education Administrator Seminar in Japan. While in Tokyo, she connected with members of the Alumni Association Japan Chapter as well as students who are participating in study abroad and student exchange programs. According to LaFleur, “The connection between these alumni is strong and their love for the UA was apparent.”

As he reflected on the last three decades since that first event Miki commented, “Now, we are in the 21st century and are well connected. The world is getting smaller and we hope more UA alumni visit Japan. When they do, they hope we contact them freely as UA family. That is all that matters as one of the UA Wildcats. Bear Down!”

The University of Arizona Alumni Association Japan Chapter

UA Student Selected as an OECD Student Ambassador

The Organization for Economic Cooperation (OECD) is an organization devoted to promoting policies to improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world. The OECD enables governments to collaborate and address the economic, social and environmental challenges of globalization. Each year the OECD selects a group of students to serve as student ambassadors for the upcoming year and represent colleges and universities from across the United States and Canada. The OECD recently welcomed its 2013-2014 class of student ambassadors, and among the elite nine is University of Arizona student, Ryan Fulleman.

Ryan is a senior at the University of Arizona majoring in Economics with a minor in Japanese language. Ryan’s resume includes membership in the Honors College, Economic Society service as an international trade student volunteer with the University of Arizona Men’s Ultimate Frisbee team. Ryan was born in Valencia, California and raised in his hometown of Gilbert, Arizona. This past summer Ryan was awarded the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship and had the opportunity to study abroad in Tokyo, Japan, where he visited the OECD Tokyo Center and the UA Alumni Association Japan Chapter.

The nine students, who were selected through a competitive application process, will spend one year as ambassadors during which they will develop and organize on-campus programs and events featuring the work of the OECD. Events will focus on the OECD’s influence in the world of economic policy, cooperation and development. Additionally, two finalists will be selected to visit the OECD in Paris in May 2014.

For further information about the program, please visit: http://www.oecd.org/
International Research Development Grant

The purpose of the International Research Development Grant (IRDG) program is to provide travel support to tenured and tenure-eligible faculty for the development or continuation of international research. There are two annual granting cycles for the IRDG. The next application deadline is March 31, 2014 for travel starting between May 1, 2014 through October 31, 2014. The award is limited to a maximum of $1,500 for airfare assistance only. This grant is administered and funded by the Office of Global Initiatives.

Visiting Scholars Grant

The Visiting Scholar Grant (VSG) provides funding to assist departments in bringing distinguished international scholars to The University of Arizona. The funds are to be used for domestic portions of travel only (between U.S. port of entry and Tucson, AZ). The funds cannot be used for overseas or international portions of travel. Clear evidence of cost-sharing from at least two UA funding sources must be shown (not including VSG funds). The maximum award amount is $400 per award. The VSG requests can be submitted on a rolling basis. This grant is administered and funded by the Office of Global Initiatives.

Spring 2013 Scholars

Host Department: History Visiting Scholar: Professor Kaspar von Greyerz (Switzerland)

Host Department: Arizona State University Visiting Scholar: Professor Moshe Fischer (Israel)

2012-2013 IRDG Recipients and Country Visited:

Diana Archangeli .................................................. Scotland
Professor, Linguistics
Craig Aspinwall .................................................. France
Associate Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Bryan Carter .................................................. France
Assistant Professor, Africana Studies
David Christianson .................................................. Zambia
Assistant Professor, School of Natural Resources and the Environment

Julia Cole .................................................. Australia
Professor, Geosciences
Sapana Doshi .................................................. India
Assistant Professor, School of Geography and Development
Brenda L. Frye .................................................. Chile
Astronomer and Lecturer, Astronomy
Chris Gigraphy .................................................. Poland
Associate Professor, Computer Sciences
Celeste Gonzalez de Bustamante ................................ Mexico
Assistant Professor, Journalism
Jennifer Roth-Gordon ........................................... Brazil
Associate Professor, Anthropology
Hoshin Vijai Gupta .................................................. Spain
Professor, Hydrology and Water Resources
Ibrahim Guven .................................................. Turkey
Assistant Professor, Materials Sciences and Engineering
Eliot Herman .................................................. Israel
Professor, Plant Sciences
Pinnaduwa Kulatilake ........................................... Brazil
Professor, Materials Sciences and Engineering
Lois Leescher .................................................. Australia
Associate Professor, Biobehavioral Health Sciences
Jennifer McIntosh ................................................... Slovenia
Associate Professor, Hydrology and Water Resources
Emmanuelle J. Meullert ........................................... France
Associate Professor, Nutritional Sciences
Bijan Najafi .................................................. Germany
Professor, Geosciences
Mary-Frances O’Connor ........................................... Germany
Associate Professor, Psychology
Eyal Oren .................................................. Ghana
Assistant Professor, Public Health
Jadwiga Pieper Mooney ........................................... Chile
Associate Professor, History
Andrew Polk .................................................. Mexico
Professor, School of Art
Jay Rosenblatt .................................................. Germany
Associate Professor, School of Music
Christopher Scott .................................................. India
Associate Professor, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy
Adam Ussishkin .................................................. Malta
Associate Professor, Linguistics
Stacie Widdifield ................................................. Mexico
Professor, School of Art (Division of Art History)
Jeong-Yeo Yoon .................................................. South Korea
Associate Professor, Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering
Praise Zenzenga .................................................. Zimbabwe
Associate Professor, Africana Studies

2013 Institutional Partners

International partnerships play a key role in furthering the University of Arizona’s goal of strengthening global engagement and connection. Dialogue and collaboration distinguish these partnerships, which open up opportunities for individuals and institutions. The Office of Global Initiatives acts as a centralized hub for the development of collaborative research agreements, faculty development/capacity building, dual degrees, undergraduate transfer articulation agreements, intern options for undergraduate international students who are not already at the UA, and sponsored programs to name a few. Below is a list of institutional partnership agreements signed as of August 2013. For more information on partnership development with institutions abroad, please visit http://global.arizona.edu/ua-faculty.
Where is YOUR classroom?

Are you looking for a way to take your class beyond the ordinary and make it truly extraordinary? Study Abroad & Student Exchange is here to help you bring your UA classroom to the world.

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