Greetings!

As we embark on a new year, we are entering an exciting chapter in international education at the University of Arizona – made possible by a robust platform of global initiatives from 2017.

Dr. Robert C. Robbins, the 22nd president of the UA, extolled the importance of international activities in order to maintain our role as one of the world’s great, land-grant universities. In 2017, the Office of Global Initiatives began work to support the Provost’s Office in a strategic planning process to guide internationalization at the UA, underscoring the importance of coordination across campus. Through an array of programs, events, and other activities, we made clear that our university is a welcoming environment and a campus built on diversity.

We saw the strongest international student retention numbers ever recorded at the UA, as well as growth in international student enrollment – even among steep declines at many U.S. universities. UA Study Abroad sent roughly 1,300 students on programs to dozens of countries around the world, promoting a more culturally-aware student body. We also received more than 1,600 international faculty and scholars, each of whom contributed greatly to the cultural, linguistic, and intellectual diversity of our community.

Through strategic partnerships, the UA continues to cultivate its historic and deeply-valued relationship with Mexico.

- Dr. Robbins chose Mexico City for his first international trip as president of the UA.
- He signed an agreement with the Universidad de Sonora, growing partnerships in the James E. Rogers College of Law and the College of Science.
- We celebrated two years of cultural, academic, and research initiatives with the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México – Center for Mexican Studies, known as UNAM-Tucson.
- The UA commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Mexican Constitution of 1917 with a dynamic lecture series.
- And we worked with our longstanding partners at Tecnológico de Monterrey in Hermosillo, Sonora to develop an innovate study abroad model that we hope opens doors for students and our partners.

This year’s Global Reach is our largest to date. It includes stories about international initiatives from our office and the entire UA community. As you browse the pages, please remember that we want to help you reach the world. We have created a contact page at the end of this issue that specifically outlines how we can help you with international activities.

We look forward to working together in the coming months to strengthen the global footprint of the UA, as well as internationalization at home.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Panferov Reese, Ph.D.
Interim Vice President
Office of Global Initiatives
The University of Arizona welcomes its 22nd President, Dr. Robert C. Robbins, a leader with a global vision.

During his first summer in his newly-assumed role, Dr. Robbins demonstrated his dedication to international education by visiting Mexico City to meet with valued partners. He also underscored the importance of the UA's relationship with Mexico by renewing a historic agreement with the Universidad de Sonora. Based on geographic proximity and shared opportunities and challenges, the UA and MEXICO are natural partners. This edition celebrates this vital connection.

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

Dr. Robert C. Robbins and the rector of Universidad de Sonora or UNISON renewed a historic agreement in 2017, enhancing the relationship between the UA and the Sonoran university. “The link between the United States and Mexico is vital to both of our peoples. We occupy the same region, and the link is especially apparent here on the campus of the University of Arizona,” said Robbins.

As part of the agreement, the top two physics students at UNISON will be invited to apply for early acceptance to the graduate physics program at the UA. The second project lies within the Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Program at the James E. Rogers College of Law. “This agreement will engage students, faculty, and community stakeholders with respect to applied research and experiential learning opportunities for our students, focusing on human rights, environmental science, and economic development,” Robbins added.

A Plan for the Future

Robbins saw the renewed agreement as a pathway to new collaborations between the U.S. and Mexico. “Our team has discussed many other opportunities around environmental sciences, around solar energy, and around smart cities,” he said. “I look forward to the tremendous growth in the partnership between our two great universities.”

For the Office of Global Initiatives, the agreement will serve as a platform to confront regional issues. “What better way to solve challenges than to have an ongoing dialogue between our universities and, specifically, between scholars and students?” said Dale LaFleur, director of institutional relations with the Office of Global Initiatives. “This longstanding partnership fosters collaboration regardless of changes in political climate.”

Ideas for collaborations?
Suzanne Panferov Reese
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Dr. Robert C. Robbins visited Mexico in late July, less than two months after beginning his appointment as the UA’s 22nd president. Over the span of three days, he crisscrossed Mexico City for meetings with high-level federal officials, the U.S. ambassador to Mexico, and his counterpart at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, known as UNAM.

Accompanying him on the trip were Jon Dudas, secretary of the university; Kimberly Andrews Espy, senior vice president for research; John Paul Jones III, dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences; Marc Miller, dean of the James E. Rogers College of Law; Joaquin Ruiz, vice president for innovation and dean of the College of Science; and José Lever, assistant vice president of Mexico-U.S. affairs in the Office of Global Initiatives.

"Strategically, our first priority in the world is Mexico," Robbins told members of Mexico’s National Council of Science and Technology, known as CONACYT.

During meetings at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Energy, and the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, Robbins and other UA leaders discussed efforts already underway that might hold potential for improving the health, prosperity and well-being of the people of Mexico, especially those who live in rural areas with limited access to electricity and clean water. Those projects include:

- The Smart Villages Initiative, which seeks to provide access to electricity in support of the idea that affordable, reliable and sustainable energy will give way to a wider range of development goals.
- Agrovoltaics, a novel approach to agriculture in which plants are grown beneath solar panels. The plants benefit from the shade, which reduces their water needs.
- A prototype "lunar greenhouse" that relies on hydroponics to grow crops that one day could be farmed on the moon and Mars.
- The Juntos por la Salud (Together for Health) Primary Prevention Mobile Unit, which provides free health promotion and prevention services in communities where a large number of people are uninsured or underinsured.
- Transforming waste sulfur into a lightweight plastic that could be used for lighter, more efficient batteries.

The potential to work with Mexico on developing a telemedicine system was one of the ideas Robbins presented while at the Ministry of Health. The UA’s telemedicine program is a national model for the delivery of health care via video conferencing.

During their meeting with UNAM officials, including Rector Enrique Graue, Robbins and the UA team discussed the long history of partnership between the two institutions and the potential for future projects that could leverage the expertise of UA and UNAM researchers around topics such as drylands agriculture.

Following the meeting, Robbins was treated to a tour of the Mexico City Olympic Stadium, built for the 1968 Summer Olympics, and a portion of the UNAM campus, a UNESCO World Heritage site that occupies nearly 3 square miles.

Robbins also visited the home of the U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, Roberta Jacobson, who held a reception in his honor. Among the guests were UA alumni, representatives from Mexico’s governmental, academic and private sectors, and Carlos Sada, undersecretary for North America in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Jacobson noted the UA’s long record of collaboration with Mexico, particularly in research endeavors and educational exchange.

Robbins pledged his commitment to ensuring that the UA continues to be a partner with Mexico.

"We’re here to build bridges."
The idea of Smart Cities is steadily increasing in popularity; now there is a burgeoning movement to create Smart Villages, and the University of Arizona is encouraging researchers to address this grand challenge.

Forty-seven percent of the world’s population and 70 percent of the world’s poor live in rural villages, more than a billion of whom lack access to electricity. This spring, leading scientists from more than a dozen countries gathered at Biosphere 2 to discuss the latest sustainable energy solutions for low-income and rural populations worldwide.

Conceptualized by Claudio A. Estrada, director of the Tucson branch of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM-Tucson) and researcher at the Renewable Energy Institute of UNAM, the 2017 Smart Villages Symposium brought together members of the Inter-American Network of Academies of Sciences or IANAS, the Office of Global Initiatives, the College of Science, and the Smart Villages Initiative.

“As a co-chair of the IANAS energy program, and given the UA’s interest in sustainability, I came up with the idea to hold a symposium open to the UA community and the general public where experts could share their experiences,” said Estrada.

John Holmes of the Smart Villages Initiative traveled from the United Kingdom to present the idea of providing villages with the same opportunities as urban areas, starting with reliable energy sources in the form of “mini-grids.”

Access to electricity is the core of the initiative, supporting the notion that affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy will give way to a wider range of development goals – specifically better education and health care, as well as clean water and proper sanitation.

“You have a massive inequity between cities and rural areas, and there is more of a focus on cities than ever before. But rural areas are still important – for food security, but also from a matter of fairness,” said Holmes. “By bringing solutions to rural populations, it gives people an informed decision of what they want to do. They get to decide if migrating to a city is right for them or if they want to stay in a rural area.”

Members of IANAS, which represents 20 academies of sciences in the Western Hemisphere, agreed the time is ripe to empower rural villagers across the Americas.

“At IANAS, we are committed to building the scientific capabilities of each country of America as a tool for social development,” said Estrada. “But this development must be sustainable; that is, it must have minimum or zero impact on the environment, so we don’t negatively affect future generations.”

IANAS scholars also delivered the status of their energy program, which focuses on five priority areas: energy efficiency, energy for unserved populations, renewable energy, bioenergy, and capacity building. Members maintained that meeting the basic energy needs of the poorest people in the world is a moral and social imperative.

“Because renewable energies are everywhere with different intensities and availabilities, one of the first actions we must take to have energy security in a community is the identification of these renewable sources and the technologies available for their use,” explained Estrada.

Joaquin Ruiz, dean of the College of Science, suggested making the Smart Villages symposium an annual event, and involving social scientists in the future.

“The idea of a smart village, which is a way of making any place resilient to climate change, includes small villages in semi-arid environments and large cities,” said Ruiz. “The solutions for resiliency are scientific, technological, and require social and political sciences for implementation. It’s a terrific grand challenge.”
The current Mexican Constitution, commonly known as the Constitution of 1917, was born from revolution – the product of a decade-long conflict that abolished dictatorship and incited dramatic societal change in Mexico.

A trailblazer of its time, the Constitution was the most socially advanced statement in the world on the rights of workers, the separation of church and state, and land reform, according to William Beezley, Professor of History at the University of Arizona.

As the accord reached its 100-year milestone, UA scholars and partners weighed the historical significance of the document during the lecture series “Mexico & The United States: A Shared Past, Present, and Future.”

The series was an effort to advance the understanding of Mexican culture by the Center for Latin American Studies at the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, with support from the Tucson branch of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM-Tucson) and the Office of Global Initiatives.

A Product of Revolution
The Mexican Revolution, which began in 1910, served as the direct catalyst for the Constitution, as it placed into law many of the social and political changes for which the revolutionaries fought.

Between 1914 and 1915, divergent revolutionary forces led by legendary figures such as Pancho Villa and Emiliano Zapata demanded social reforms and distanced themselves from Venustiano Carranza, the first chief of the revolution.

A sign of the rift, Carranza faced immense challenges as he sought to reform the old Constitution of 1857 using a conservative approach to the revolutionary agenda. In late 1916, Carranza called for a convention to simply modernize the accord, but delegates produced a sweeping document with socially progressive overtones that was issued on February 5, 1917.

Labor Reform and Equal Rights
A testament to the progressive nature of the Constitution, rights of workers were not placed into law in the United States until the New Deal of the 1930s. The Constitution of 1917 created a minimum wage, the right to strike and form unions, and an eight-hour workday.

It also established individual rights, prohibiting the government from infringing upon the liberties of any person. Everyone was deemed equal, regardless of social stature.
As Luis E. Coronado Guel, a Research Associate at the UA’s SBS Mexico Initiative, pointed out, the Bolsheviks were inspired in part by Emiliano Zapata’s vision for land reform, with their own revolution taking place in the months after the Constitution of 1917 was ratified.

A Division of Land
Land reform measures sought to divide large estates into smaller land holdings in Mexico, although the actual process of distributing land didn’t commence systematically until some years after the Constitution was approved.

These changes eventually gave way to the Ejido system, in which property was devoted to a peasant for as long as they toiled the land. According to Guel, this system remained in place for more than 70 years.

As Beezley stated, “in the U.S. Constitution, property ownership is a right; in the Mexican Constitution, property ownership is a social responsibility.”

Separation of Church and State
The Constitution of 1917 incited cultural secularization in Mexico, proclaiming the Catholic Church was under control of the government and had no legal personality. Clergy members were banned from running for office or even speaking about political matters in church.

Legal enforcement of these regulations was loosened after the Cristero Rebellion in the late 1920s when the Catholic Church and Mexican Government agreed to ease the religious stipulations set forth in the Constitution.

Further reforms came in 1994 when the Mexican Government restored some rights to churches, such as the authority to own and operate schools.

Political Change
Upon its inception, the Constitution of 1917 established a four-year term limit for the presidency – a carefully orchestrated reaction to the longstanding dictatorship of Porfirio Díaz, the main impetus of the revolution.

The term limit would later be extended. Beezley points to this as one of the main points of difference between the American and Mexican Constitutions.

“The Mexican Constitution now provides for the direct election, after a limited campaign period, of the president for one six-year term,” said Dr. Beezley – a contrast to two, four-years terms in the United States.

Looking to the Future
While the Constitution paved the way for dramatic change, challenges remain in aligning the document with the current social and political atmosphere in Mexico.

“How the Constitution calls for both a nation governed by the rule of law through transparency and without corruption,” said Beezley. “These goals have not been completely achieved.”

The lecture series explored these challenges, while also examining the relationship between the United States and Mexico in both historical and modern contexts.

“Mexico and the United States have maintained a special relationship for 100 years based on a shared commitment to democracy, environmental resources, trade, arts, as well as family and friendship networks,” said Scott Whiteford, Professor at the Center for Latin American Studies and Director of the SBS Mexico Initiative at the UA.

“Inherent to this relationship is the responsibility of all of us to learn more about the ties that bind us together and the opportunities created by cooperation.”

Questions about Mexican history?
Dr. Claudio A. Estrada, Ph.D.
cestrada@tucson.unam.mx

Land reform measures divided existing estates.

Ejidos are areas of communal land used for agriculture.

Constitution Day is a federal public holiday and is celebrated with parades, concerts and picnics.

Just like the U.S., Mexico continues to work for social rights, resources and the ideals of democracy.
In an effort made possible by international collaboration, researchers across three continents confronted a snakebite crisis in Africa. Venomous snakebites kill an estimated 150,000 people each year, a staggering number that top scientists are addressing by properly educating healthcare workers to use antivenom.

The University of Arizona Viper Institute, the African Society of Venimology, and the Institute of Biotechnology of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) partnered in 2017 to improve access to quality antivenoms and necessary training in areas of rural Africa plagued by snakebites.

The three partners collaborated with Ray Morgan, producer of the acclaimed documentary "The Venom Interviews," which follows U.S. herpetologists involved in antivenom production and research. With his help, the group created a series of training videos with English, French, and Spanish subtitles to educate African healthcare professionals about the appropriate use of antivenom.

The alliance also worked with government and industry leaders to develop high-quality, fair-priced antivenom treatments to sub-Saharan Africa, which faces shortages of safe, effective snakebite treatments.

According to Dr. Leslie Boyer, Director of the UA VIPER Institute, ensuring this region has sufficient fair-priced antivenom also benefits the United States. "The U.S. needs a legal and affordable way to obtain successful world antivenoms for the rare cases where our citizens are bitten by snakes from other places," she explained.

Developing these antivenoms for specific regions depends on excellent collaboration and communication, according to Alejandro Alagón, Professor at the Institute of Biotechnology at UNAM.

"We need to know exactly which snake venoms to use, how big a dose is required, and what the pharmacy storage conditions are like. The biotechnology alliance needs to have the best possible information from experts in Africa," he said.

The partners hope the video series is a first step in opening these pathways of communication, ultimately saving lives.

The bite of the forest cobra, whose scientific name is Naja melanoleuca, can induce a severe neurotoxic envenomation that is potentially life-threatening.

Proost Comrie Weighs Future of Higher Education During Trip to Russia

St. Petersburg National Research University of Information Technologies, Mechanics and Optics, better known as ITMO, is making global education a priority through an International Council, of which Provost Andrew C. Comrie is a member.

Comrie visited Russia in 2017 to meet with council members from varied backgrounds to discuss the future vision for ITMO University. Members held work sessions prior to the council meeting on topics such as education, research, university management, and international activities.

According to "ITMO News," the International Council discussed anticipated changes in higher education, including individual learning trajectories, study modules, and flexibility – supporting a more personalized approach to academics and research. The council also examined the importance of interdisciplinary projects, where globally-focused researchers from diverse backgrounds unite to solve grand challenges.

The UA hosted the International Council in Tucson in the fall to round out the yearly collaboration between the leaders of international education.
Examining a cotton field supported by underground irrigation, a delegation from China experienced the vital nature of precision agriculture in the dry lands of Arizona.

The practice uses customized technology to ensure that soil and crops receive precise care. When the application is maximized, crops achieve optimal health, leading to increased sustainability and profitability. It is a concept University of Arizona researchers know well.

For two weeks in the summer of 2017, they presented their expertise as they guided scientists from China’s Ministry of Agriculture through farms, research centers, and equipment plants. The short-term seminar provided the delegation with a first-hand account of how crops grow efficiently in Arizona.

“The UA offers a unique perspective on precision agriculture because of our location in the Southwest where we grow crops 12 months out of the year,” said Donald C. Slack, Professor of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Watershed Management, and Arid Lands Resources Sciences and Faculty Fellow in the Office of Global Initiatives. “In Arizona we grow corn, wheat, and sorghum. We also grow crops like cotton, as well as a wide variety of vegetable and fruit crops, so we have more breadth and depth in what we can offer than many other locations.”

The Precision Agriculture seminar was born when Slack applied for and received a grant from the US Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service or USDA-FAS.

“We have a very close relationship with the USDA in that they provide funds and research opportunities for graduate students at the UA,” said Slack. “The UA also has very active agricultural research centers, including the Maricopa Agricultural Center which is co-located with the USDA Arid Land Agricultural Research Center. A big component of what they do there is precision agriculture applied to irrigated agricultural systems.”

The delegation from China spent several days at the Maricopa Agricultural Center learning about site-specific nutrient management, precision water application, and advances in agricultural machinery. Kevin F. Bronson, a research soil scientist with the USDA in Maricopa, guided the delegation through fields sustained by precision agriculture. A frequent leader of international tours, he gives field presentations and customized lectures with a particular takeaway in mind.

“I like to show international guests that our research on efficient crop production and irrigation use is important, and hopefully that encourages them,” said Bronson. “Maybe they will also gain insight about some of the technologies we use like buried-drip irrigation, which is very efficient. The losses are very low and the efficiency is very high. Perhaps they’ll be interested in trying it back in China.”

In addition to the site in Maricopa, the UA has connections to the USDA Southwest Watershed Research Center, which houses technology to conserve water and soil in arid lands. “This facility is located near the UA in Tucson, and I currently have two graduate students working with scientists there,” said Slack. “We also have a very active operation at the Yuma Agricultural Center.”

This UA-owned and operated center in Yuma is comprised of two sites: A valley farm contains crops such as cotton, small grains, lettuce, and broccoli, while a mesa farm is focused exclusively on citrus production.

Beyond the research centers in Arizona, Slack introduced the Chinese delegation to John Deere headquarters in Moline, Illinois and Kimberly Farm, a corn and soybean cultivator in Maxwell, Iowa.

China’s President Xi Jinping visited John Deere headquarters and Kimberly Farm himself in 2016 to learn about farming technologies amid an agricultural impasse in his country. With an expansive population and a respectively small percentage of arable land, China is seeking ways to increase agricultural productivity, while preventing desertification and pollution.

“I hope to return home with basic background knowledge of precision agriculture from the most developed country in the world,” said Anning Li, a delegation member from China’s Ministry of Agriculture.

“China is the most populated country in the world and this is the most developed country in the world,” said Li. “The system in the U.S. is very organized and we have acquired knowledge about how the USDA operates, which is also very useful.”
THE UA INITIATES A WAVE OF CHANGE TO TACKLE WATER SCARCITY

By: Jordyn Stinnett  
Office of Global Initiatives

Scarcity of clean water is a tremendous concern facing large cities and semi-arid regions of the Americas. Without a sustainable source of potable water, economic development and wellbeing of individuals is at risk. The University of Arizona recognizes this grand challenge and is taking action to address the technical issues of recycling industrial and municipal wastewater as clean, potable water.

Approximately 100 leading engineers and scientists from across the Americas gathered in Recife, Brazil from May 17 – 19, 2017, to develop a group of university and industrial partners to collaborate on water reuse technologies.

“The project is an important first step to creating Pan American networks collaborating on studying and implementing water reuse,” said Jim A. Field, assistant dean of graduate education, College of Engineering and full professor, Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering at the UA.

The workshop was born from the 100,000 Strong in the Americas Fund, a partnership between the U.S. Department of State, Partners of the Americas, and NAFSA: Association of International Educators. Led by Field, the UA was awarded the grant to develop a team of partners from North and South America to create innovative solutions for water reuse.

During the workshop in Recife, researchers gathered with support from Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, a prominent public university in Brazil. The experts discussed advanced water treatment technologies, specific water contaminants, and monitoring toxicity in water. A special session funded by the U.S. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences detailed the reuse of water from mining.

“An important outcome of the project was to start a Pan American higher education research and training cluster that would promote the mobility of students and professors working on water reuse,” said Field.

The partners agreed that training young professionals to develop water reuse solutions requires an approach with representatives from several countries. The latest workshop in Brazil was designed to unite partners who can generate global solutions for generations to come.

The meeting also represented the UA’s rich history with Brazil, a country that has served as a critical partner for more than 50 years.

UA JOINS LEADERS IN ISRAEL TO FOSTER INNOVATION

By: Tech Parks Arizona

Attracting Tech Companies
Tech Parks Arizona led a 2017 mission to Israel to support Global Advantage, a business development program designed to attract fast-growth technology companies to the Arizona-Sonora Region.

The delegation spent a week meeting with small to mid-size Israeli technology companies from the following sectors: advanced energy, cyber-security, digital healthcare, robotics, and arid lands agriculture.

Four of the companies expressed interest in joining the Global Advantage program. Tech Parks Arizona touted the prime location of Southern Arizona, citing its easy access to major American markets as well as northern and western Mexico.

A Trilateral Agreement
The Tech Parks Arizona delegation also joined representatives of the University of Arizona, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), and Israel’s Ben-Gurion University, who collectively signed an agreement.

Emphasis was placed on encouraging innovation, developing joint projects, cooperation between technology transfer organizations of the academic institutions, joint development of industrial relations, and development of links between the tech parks and high-tech initiatives at the universities.

The three institutions, which share a common focus on innovation, as well as similar climates, will now share expertise on how to overcome common challenges.
Robert Johnson and Eddie Ornelas are not afraid of a complex challenge. They are attending courses at the UA while simultaneously developing a web solution with the potential for major impact. The application, tentatively called the UA Travel Project, seeks to transform registration for official university travel.

"Traveling for the university has a lot of steps, and what we’re trying to do is create a smarter system designed with the users in mind," said Johnson. "We want the experience to be quick, easy, and backed by the institution."

Johnson and Ornelas are student developers for Tech.Global, a 100% Engagement experience that bridges software development with intercultural competence. Executive Director Ash Black guides the students as they create custom technology solutions, while developing skills that are applicable to the job market.

In 2017, Johnson and Ornelas – with support from Black – were accepted into the NSF I-Corps program through Tech Launch Arizona to test commercial viability of the UA Travel Project.

NSF I-Corps is a National Science Foundation program that trains participants in customer discovery and business strategy. Tech Launch Arizona is a designated NSF I-Corps site that works with campus partners to give scientists and technologists a crash course in business and intellectual property concepts.

"Getting your startup started and successful is really hard," said Ornelas. "You need to pin down your target demographics, and you need lots of business models."

The UA Travel Project was born two years ago when the team saw an opportunity to replace the current travel registry at the UA.

"It is partly a data entry system, a workflow management system, and also a risk management system," Black explained. "You take information about who’s traveling, where people are, and what’s going on in the world – and put it all together."

In addition to entrepreneurial guidance, I-Corps gave the Tech.Global team the opportunity to conduct interviews with potential customers. "What we are finding is that the experience of registering to travel can be difficult, and more importantly, it can be a risk that is hard to manage at a larger scale," said Johnson.

If an emergency were to arise, the travel application would efficiently locate UA students, faculty, and staff.

Laura Provencher, International Risk Analyst, Global Resiliency in the Office of Global Initiatives, leads UA International Emergency Support, which closely monitors global events and security-related trends. She explained that the current International Travel Registry gathers information to disseminate to travelers, either proactively with security-related information – or to confirm well-being and offer assistance following a security event.

"The system was adopted as a temporary solution to fill an immediate need, not as a permanent fix," she said.

Provencher reached out to international security colleagues at other campuses to explore the problem and identify cross-institutional needs. Equipped with their feedback and insights from UA users, Provencher and Black forged a partnership dedicated to solving the problem.

“Rather than limiting our approach to smaller and short-term fixes, the team is looking at this as an opportunity for a strategic solution – not only to a problem faced by the UA, but also institutions of higher education nationally and potentially internationally,” said Provencher.

The student developers are excited about the commercial potential of the UA Travel Project, but agree the NSF I-Corps experience was worthwhile regardless of the outcome.

“We’re taking academia into business and to the world,” said Johnson. “Even if it doesn’t work out, it spreads the word about Tech.Global, the UA, and Tech Launch Arizona – and that we’re doing great things.”
STUDENT FROM HONDURAS USES UA AS A SUMMER BASE TO CONFRONT GLOBAL CHALLENGES

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

Upon meeting Gabriel Vasquez, one gets an immediate sense he is on track to change the world. The undergraduate student from Honduras spent the summer of 2017 in Tucson as part of the UA Summer Program “A Learning Research Experience.”

Under the guidance of faculty mentors, the program offers academic, professional, and cultural experiences for students interested in STEM or social sciences.

Vasquez instantly clicked with his mentor, Peiwen “Perry” Li, an Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering professor.

“I told him about my background, and he placed me on a research project involving 3D printed tubes for enhanced heat exchangers,” said Vasquez. “3D printing is familiar to me, and now I can find new applications for it.”

Vasquez explored designs for internal flow heat exchangers, specifically ones that are 3D printed. “At a time when resources for energy generation are becoming less available, we cannot afford to waste energy. With 3D printing you are not limited by complex geometry and you waste far less material.”

3D printing is one of the pillars of a startup Vasquez founded with his classmates in Honduras. The venture called Craft3D employs technology to better the lives of Hondurans.

“We describe ourselves as an educational startup. We want to give people the ability to build their own technology projects so Honduras is known not only for coffee, but also as a country that exports technology.”

Vasquez takes the concept seriously. He traveled to Tucson with a prototype of a 3D-printed robotic arm. “This is meant to teach kids the principles of robotics and 3D printing. It was designed and made in Honduras.”

Developed and operated each year by the Study Arizona: Short-Term Programs team, “A Learning Research Experience” emphasizes objective experimentation and graduate school preparation.

“The students gain a comprehensive higher education experience by participating in research and academic activities, and they are also part of the UA community,” said Nadia Alvarez Mexia, who directs Study Arizona: Short-Term Programs. “These students are immersed in a new culture, both inside and outside the classroom.”

The students take part in workshops that sharpen their written and oral presentation skills, as well as a graduate school symposium where they learn best practices for continuing their education.

“I believe scientific research eliminates boundaries between countries, and I would like to become a science diplomat,” said Vasquez. “The summer program was a great experience for that goal.”
Approximately 4,000 international students attend the University of Arizona, and while this represents a sizeable community on campus, these students often face challenges adjusting to new academic and social experiences. Global Ambassadors, supported by International Student Services and UA Study Abroad, bridge cultural gaps to promote a welcoming environment for all students.

The Global Ambassadors Program, a 100% Engagement experience, is designed for undergraduate and graduate students who are passionate about cultural exchange and who want to share that enthusiasm with others.

Yamin, a graduate student from Indonesia, said he was inspired to join the program after seeing first-hand how it worked. “When I joined the UA as an international student, the Global Ambassadors helped me,” he said. “They were so friendly, and I wanted to help others in similar situations.”

Yamin now uses his personal experience to assist international students, while also honing his skills as an aspiring educator.

Francis Mbawini Abubgilla, a graduate student from Ghana working toward a master’s degree in Francophone Studies, signed up for the program as a pathway to discover diverse cultures.

“Learning about people and their cultures has always been my passion, and this is the primary reason I decided to participate in the Global Ambassadors Program,” he said.

Throughout the year, Global Ambassadors serve as advocates for UA Study Abroad and as liaisons during international student orientation. They also coordinate the Buddy Program, which brings together students for social activities. Ambassadors must also complete readings and a final project to round out the experience.

Yamin said he wholeheartedly recommends the program to other students.

“I am getting my master’s degree in Teaching and Teaching Education, and I hope to teach at the university level when I return to Indonesia.”

Francis Mbawini Abubgilla

Questions about international students? Joanne Lagasse-Long jglong@email.arizona.edu

Over the past 10 years, the UA has experienced a significant uptick in international students, with nearly 2,300 in 2007 to approximately 4,000 today. Beyond the immeasurable academic and cultural value international students bring to our community, the state-wide economic impact of these students is $686 million and across the U.S. it is $36.9 billion.

For every seven international students enrolled in the U.S., three jobs are created – supported by spending in higher education, accommodation, dining, retail, transportation, telecommunications, and health insurance.

These students are valued: They contribute to the diversity that makes Tucson a unique place.

3,948
Total number of international students at the UA as of Fall 2016

$186.4 Million
UA international student financial contribution to the Arizona economy

2,858
Total number of jobs supported in Arizona by UA international students

112
Total number of countries represented by UA international students
The winning photos and 250+ submissions to the annual UA Study Abroad Photo Contest represent the UA’s diverse programs, locations, and students. These images were the winners for 2017.

The grand-prize photo winner, Simran Heer, a junior studying business and computer science, took home a $700 flight voucher from CEA Study Abroad, which offers study-abroad programs to UA students. Her photo, “City of Skies” (A), features a dramatic blend of colors and cultures, as she posed in black clothing amid the backdrop of a bright blue corridor. Taken in Morocco, the photo tells the story of Jewish refugees who fled to the small city of Chefchaouen to escape persecution in Europe. According to Heer, the refugees painted the walls blue to symbolize the area’s significance as a safe haven and to remind others to live a spiritual life.

Li Zeng, an East Asian Studies sophomore, won the Cultural Snapshot prize. She poses in a kimono amid blossoming flowers during her time at Tokyo International University (B).

Gabrielle Martin, a senior studying political science and Spanish, earned the category prize in Landscape and Nature for “Over the Rainbow” (C), taken in Chile during the Arizona in Vina del Mar program.

Carlos Santoscoy, displaying Wildcat pride, was the winner of the School Spirit category for “U of A at Rainbow Mountain” (D). He studied in the Accelerated Public Health Program in Cusco, Summer 2016.

In her photo “Blessing in Varanasi” (E), Cassidy McGinnis, a senior studying public health, receives blessings from a spiritual leader before departing to her next Semester at Sea destination. Her photo earned the prize in the Learn Everywhere category (also on the cover of this issue).

Daniel Badillo, a senior studying architecture and Spanish, illustrates serenity in his photo “Reflection | A Japanese Garden at Kanazawa Palace” (F). Taken during the CAPLA Abroad program in Japan, Badillo’s photo was awarded Dean’s Choice by Alain-Philippe Durand, dean of the College of Humanities.

The grand-prize video winner, Christopher Vidano, produced a lively compilation of people, landmarks, and celebrations from the Arizona in Orvieto, Italy program.
Photo Contest Winners

Harmony DeFazio
defazio@email.arizona.edu

Create your own Study Abroad program:
Harmony DeFazio
defazio@email.arizona.edu
UA Honors Student Participates in Three Study Abroad Programs

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

One might consider Miranda Lopez the UA’s study abroad aficionado. In 2017, the senior honors student returned from her third study abroad program in Latin America.

“My grandparents both spoke Spanish and English, and I was never able to speak Spanish with them before they passed away,” said Lopez. “It was important for me to learn Spanish to reclaim that part of my heritage.”

Lopez took the first step by participating in the Arizona in Costa Rica program in the summer of 2014. “I loved Costa Rica, and wished I could have stayed longer to perfect my Spanish,” she said. “I eventually learned the best way to really refine Spanish is to spend three months abroad.”

Eager to learn more, Lopez signed up for the Arizona in Viña del Mar program in Chile. “Chilean dialect is tough! My fellow Mexican students didn’t know it either, so we were on the same page, but now Spanish is easier for me!”

Lopez returned to Arizona and quickly craved another international experience. This time, she decided to participate in service learning.

“I worked as a classroom assistant at a non-profit school through the IDEAS Guatemala program,” said Lopez. “Working with the kids was a life-changing experience. I don’t necessarily want to become a teacher, but I want to work at enacting meaningful change to address issues in poverty and education.”

Lopez said making a career decision will now be easier. “I gained perspective. I learned to appreciate things more. I also learned to push my boundaries. It’s good to travel – to put yourself in situations where you don’t know the language. I might not have agreed to this interview before study abroad. Now I’m not as afraid to take chances!”
RECONNECTING WITH HER ROOTS:
UA STUDENT PARTICIPATES IN STUDY ABROAD TRIP TO MOSCOW

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

For UA students, a study abroad experience can take many forms and represent diverse motivations.

With dozens of programs to choose from, students may expand their athletic ability in Australia, examine Latin American studies in Guatemala, or sharpen Arabic language skills in Jordan. But for political science student Melinda Arakelova, traveling to Russia embodied a lifelong journey to explore her family’s homeland.

“I was inspired to go to Moscow because I have family there, and I wanted to reconnect with my roots,” said Arakelova, who participated in the Arizona in Russia program in the summer of 2017.

As the daughter of Russian immigrants, Arakelova’s life was profoundly shaped by their experience traveling to the U.S. “My mother was very late into her pregnancy with me and almost not allowed on the plane,” Arakelova reflected. “My parents struggled immensely being in a foreign country, not speaking the language, having no money, being pregnant, and having a five-year-old to take care of.”

Arakelova said navigating the study abroad process was straightforward. She first met with a UA Study Abroad coordinator to help guide her through the steps.

“I first like to get a feel for a student to see if they are choosing a program that is appropriate for their needs – both academically and personally – that will ultimately further their career goals,” said Danny Vander Ploeg, who advised Arakelova. “For Melinda, traveling to Moscow to grasp the Russian language made good sense, both personally and professionally.”

Arakelova applied for the Gilman Scholarship, a grant that enables U.S. citizens to study abroad.

“The Gilman Scholarship Program has what is called a Critical Language Bonus, meaning additional funding is available for travel to countries where the State Department has established language needs, such as Russia,” Vander Ploeg explained.

Many students assume that study abroad is unaffordable, but that is rarely the case. There are programs that cost the same or less than a semester in Tucson. For Arakelova, researching funding opportunities was a small price to pay for the trip of a lifetime.

“About a month after my family landed in the United States, I was born. When my mom went into labor they got lost trying to find their way to a hospital. When they finally got to one, they were unable to communicate with the doctors,” said Arakelova.

“Soon after, they began saving for a car and when they purchased one, it was stolen. The hardships they faced to give my sister and I a good life is inspiring. My parents always wanted me to visit Russia to meet the family they left behind 20 years ago.”

Arakelova had the opportunity to not only perfect her Russian language skills, but also to learn about Russian history – something close to her heart.

“A few years ago, my family was torn apart by the death of my grandfather, who served in the Soviet military during WWII and spent a year and a half in a concentration camp in Germany.”

Studying in Moscow was a chance for Arakelova to enhance understanding of her family’s struggles in an authentic context, while also bolstering her academic and professional goals.

Vander Ploeg hopes all students who are intrigued by study abroad take the first step.

“I want to encourage students to come talk to us if they are at all interested; never assume it won’t work, because in most cases it does.”

The Arizona in Russia study abroad program is an outreach effort of the Department of Russian and Slavic Studies at the UA College of Humanities and the GRINT Center for Education and Culture in Moscow. More than 3,500 students from more than 100 institutions have used this program to immerse themselves in Russian language and culture. The program runs in the Fall, Spring, Summer, and for a full academic year.
More than a thousand students, faculty and staff filled the Student Union Grand Ballroom in September for the 2017 Study Abroad Fair. Dozens of colorful tables lined the hall, inviting students to explore an array of programs across 60 countries.

UA Study Abroad works with partners and faculty members to offer international programs ranging from one week to one year. Through a variety of programs, students have opportunities to study at partner universities, participate in research, and conduct field work abroad, gaining academic credits along the way. In 2017, UA Study Abroad took additional steps to encourage students to develop a greater sense of global responsibility.

“As the world becomes more connected, UA Study Abroad is beginning to place an increased emphasis on intercultural competence,” said Harmony DeFazio, director of UA Study Abroad and executive director of the UA Global Mobility Lab. “We want all UA students to be ready to succeed in a global context, before and after graduation.”

Based on research and input from faculty and experts in the field, UA Study Abroad recently identified intercultural competencies to measure upon a student’s return from abroad. According to a survey of UA students who studied abroad during the summer of 2017, 97-per-cent of respondents said they had an increased ability to work effectively and appropriately in diverse interactions.

DeFazio acknowledged that international travel inherently encourages growth in intercultural competence among most students, but believes the next generation of study abroad will include adding layers to programs before, during and after the journey.

“We’re striving to make each experience even more meaningful so students have a solid foundation to tackle problems that require a global response,” DeFazio added. “We plan to continue to work with faculty to encourage and measure intercultural competence among study abroad students.”

Students ask questions directly of study abroad alumni and program directors.
UA OFFERS NEW ARABIC DEGREE PROGRAM

By: Lori Harwood, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences

Students at the University of Arizona will now be able to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Arabic, a new degree that solidifies the University’s status as having one of the best Arabic programs in the country.

Offered by the School of Middle Eastern and North African Studies, or MENAS, the degree seeks to graduate students with proficiency in the Arabic language and knowledge of Arab cultures.

In addition to being the language of a civilization that has contributed to science, philosophy and literature, Arabic also is identified as both a “strategic” and a “super critical” language for the U.S.

Employment opportunities for students proficient in Arabic are diverse, and they include positions in academia, government, international business, law, development and tourism.

“We are excited to be able to offer a new B.A. in Arabic,” said Benjamin Fortna, director of MENAS, which is housed in the UA’s College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. “This new major will draw on the strengths of our widely recognized Arabic program and will attract even more students to learn this rich language, which is so important for the world today.”

MENAS offers an undergraduate minor in the language and a Bachelor of Arts in Middle Eastern and North African studies. The school also has more than 50 students participating in its Arabic Flagship Program, which is federally funded by the National Security Education Program.

SURGE OF APPLICATIONS AT UA PASSPORTS

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

UA Passports agents accepted nearly 2,200 applications during the first three months of 2017, an unprecedented number for the timeframe.

“During the past 10 years, applications in our office have increased more than 222 percent,” said Dana Bleau, Executive Director of UA Passports and UA International Faculty & Scholars.

The increase mirrored a nationwide trend confirmed by the U.S. Department of State. “There are roughly 8,000 passport acceptance facilities in the country and we’re all seeing this increase. The best advice is to plan ahead and apply early,” Bleau added.

UA Passports hosted two “Passport Days” in 2017, allowing community members to apply for passports on a Saturday. “With the increase in applications, we’ve also added a second acceptance agent at our facility,” said Bleau. “We now have two full-time employees accepting applications.”
Outside the classroom, a select group of undergraduate students are guided by a commitment to solve problems in order to benefit their communities. They develop programs to empower women, create projects to promote healthier cities, and use teamwork to overcome challenges.

While united by the common thread of positive social change, they live in two different places – some in Sonora, Mexico and the others in Arizona.

In 2017, the Office of Global Initiatives bridged that gap by connecting students from Tecnológico de Monterrey in Hermosillo (ITESM-Sonora Norte) with those from the UA's Blue Chip Leadership Experience, a 100% Engagement program that encourages leadership outside the classroom.

“The UA has a strong, longstanding relationship with ITESM, and so we traveled to Hermosillo to meet with our partners to discuss internship opportunities,” said Harmony DeFazio, Director of UA Study Abroad and Executive Director of the UA Global Mobility Lab. “We ended up meeting a wonderful group of students who were eager for international experiences, so we invited them to collaborate with our students at the UA.”

The ITESM-Sonora Norte students were part of an initiative called Semana i, a non-credit program required for graduation.

“Semana i translates to incredible week. It gives all ITESM students, faculty, and staff – regardless of income – the opportunity to participate in national or international mobility for one week each year,” said Nadia Alvarez Mexia, who directs Study Arizona: Short-Term Programs, an initiative that provides academic and research opportunities for international students. She added, “This is a great way to ensure intercultural competence, and it fits well within the framework of the UA’s 100% Engagement program.”

ITESM students visited Tucson to tour the campus and have an exploratory meeting with students from the UA Blue Chip Leadership Experience.

“The students from both Hermosillo and Tucson shared an appreciation for social entrepreneurship – both having worked on projects in their respective communities,” said Alvarez Mexia. “It was really inspiring to see the connection they had with one another.”

The students brainstormed and decided to collectively work on a project called “Little Wings,” a curriculum that seeks to empower young children in a rural community outside Hermosillo who are at risk of not finishing school.

“We want to encourage children that they can do anything they put their minds to,” said Natasha Rochin, a student at ITESM-Sonora Norte. “Maybe we take them to a playground and then explain afterward that an architect or an engineer designed it, and they can one day attend college to do the same thing.”

Based on the interaction between the students, DeFazio and Alvarez Mexia saw the opportunity to develop a new international education model.
“Many U.S. students are opting for shorter, more group-oriented programs – so we’ve been working to create programs that include opportunities for meaningful cultural exchange in shorter time frames,” said DeFazio. “This is a prime example of how this can work: We’re seeing students from the U.S. and Mexico working together toward a common goal.”

In order to provide deeper cultural immersion, DeFazio and Alvarez Mexia arranged to send the Blue Chip Leadership students to meet their peers in Sonora during spring break of 2018 to implement the curriculum. The students were able to collaborate remotely in the meantime.

“This is something new and exciting for the Office of Global Initiatives. It’s the first time we’ve developed a reciprocal model that allows students to learn from one another in their respective countries while working on a common project,” said Alvarez Mexia. “It’s also the first time the Study Arizona: Short-Term Programs team has developed a project with UA Study Abroad. Having both units under the umbrella of the Office of Global Initiatives has allowed us to coordinate efficiently on an inbound-outbound mobility model.”

DeFazio sees potential in the model to provide study abroad access to more students and institutional partners.

“This program model provides opportunities for students who may not be able to study abroad for longer periods of time, but it still provides deep cultural immersion because of the teamwork component,” she said. “It also doesn’t rely on reciprocity in terms of pure number balance, which gives the UA and its partner institutions flexibility.”

Alvarez Mexia hopes the pilot program becomes a permanent fixture, alongside traditional exchanges and UA faculty-led study abroad programs.

“Right now, this seminar is open to all Blue Chip Leadership students at the UA and all ITESM-Sonora Norte students, but we would like to expand it,” she said. “The model can be easily adapted for other universities and for specific disciplines and research areas.”

Partners at the UA also see the program model as a way to bilaterally address issues of concern to the Arizona-Sonora region.

“The Blue Chip Leadership and ITESM Semana i programs both value creating solutions to the challenges faced by our shared communities, as well as working with community members from a collaborative and empowering approach,” said Devon Thomas, Senior Coordinator for Leadership Programs at the UA. “I look forward to this student-led experience as an exciting opportunity for UA and ITESM students to work together and learn from each other to create positive change.”
Trekking through the Amazon rainforest late at night, University of Arizona students equipped with flashlights gain a rare glimpse of insects, amphibians, and snakes, quenching their curiosity about an array of rare species.

Tucked away in the eastern corner of Ecuador, the Huaorani Reserve is one of the most biologically diverse in the world. It is also home to the Shiripuno Field Station, the remote base for a select group of UA students each December.

“Going to the Amazon rainforest has always been a distant goal of mine and even the possibility of acceptance into this program was reason enough to apply,” said Alaina Michaels, a junior Organismal Biology major at the UA.

Lasting roughly two weeks, the Rainforest Biodiversity in Ecuador program is a relatively new model for the Office of Global Initiatives, which houses UA Study Abroad. The intensive program begins the day after Christmas and ends before the spring semester starts, giving students a crash course in biodiversity while earning academic credit.

“This area has the highest richness in biodiversity of any studied region, but at the same time it is confronted with oil exploration. That is really what makes this class interesting: the conflicting interests,” said Hans-Werner Herrmann, who leads the UA expedition to the Ecuadorian rainforest each winter.

Hermann, a research associate and adjunct professor in the School of Natural Resources and the Environment, immerses students in nature while navigating wild terrain from dawn to midnight with the help of the native Huaorani tribe. The guides provide an up-close view of the jungle as students observe abundant wildlife – from macaws to jaguars – with the backdrop of sparsely-populated outposts.

“The experience in rainforest diversity is extremely important, but at least as important is seeing the people in the area and understanding their lives and challenges,” said Herrmann. “It is crucial to see the way others live, their perspectives, and their needs. We have to find a way together to protect the rainforest.”

According to Herrmann, a typical day might involve waking up at six, taking numerous hikes between meals and presentations, and sometimes surveying the rainforest until midnight or later. Students might even find themselves fishing for piranha or wading through water with nets to see the diverse aquatic life below.

“Although we spent a very short time in Ecuador, the experiences and skills I gained surpass everything I have done in my undergraduate career. Not only was I immersed in field work and techniques, all relevant for my future career, but I was also able to conduct my own small research project during my time at the station,” said Michaels.

Based on positive feedback from students in the winter break program, UA Study Abroad recognized an opportunity to provide more short-term explorations. Starting in 2018, students can use their spring break to explore historic sites such as Naples, Rome, Florence, and Venice during the Explore Italy program – or study research techniques and methodology during the Conservation Biology: Field Studies in Vietnam program.

Students can already take a short-term exploration to Egypt for two weeks at the start of the summer semester, visiting the Pyramids of Giza, the Catacombs in
Alexandria, and King Tutankhamun’s tomb. The Arizona in Egypt program is a hands-on experience, allowing students to engage in archeology fieldwork and intensive museum research.

Director of UA Study Abroad Harmony DeFazio sees the short-term explorations as a preview of a field, quickly giving students a practical idea of what they want to pursue in a career. “These programs can also act as a springboard for a longer-term study abroad experience where a student can more thoroughly immerse themselves in a culture and field of study,” she said.

Michaels agreed that her experience in Ecuador could lead to a longer trip overseas later in her academic career. “I would love to study abroad again. Dr. Herrmann, the professor who leads the Ecuador program, also leads a summer program in Namibia for six weeks. If possible, I would love to participate in this program as well,” she said.

Herrmann packs a big punch into his programs, so as he puts it, “students never get bored.” Aside from the daily treks and observations, students are required to participate in a presentation, discuss a scientific paper, keep a field notebook, and conduct a research project.

DeFazio mentioned that experiential programs such as this are a key priority for UA Study Abroad. “As we work toward aligning ourselves with 100% Engagement, we are developing several programs that are hands-on in nature. We are focusing on research, fieldwork, clinical observation, internships, and service learning opportunities,” she said.

Michaels appreciated the “roll-up-your-sleeves” approach to learning, saying “if you have any interest in science, fieldwork, or the outdoors, participate in this program. Students on the program came from different backgrounds and everyone took something away that was relevant to their life and their education. I think anybody who is even considering this program will absolutely value the experience for the rest of their life.”

While the winter program in Ecuador is rooted in biodiversity, Herrmann explained that students don’t have to be science majors to benefit from the experience. “This program is appropriate for any student at the UA who is not afraid to come out of their comfort zone. It is so important to have these experiences, to understand others’ perspectives, and then figure out where we stand.”

“Our role at UA Study Abroad is to help facilitate the development and implementation of programs based on the expertise and passion of UA Faculty,” said DeFazio. “These faculty members are deeply committed; they truly believe in these programs and put in a lot of work. Ultimately, UA Study Abroad connects students to faculty who do these programs in a global context.”

Short-Term Explorations:
- Rainforest Biodiversity in Ecuador
- Explore Italy
- Arizona in Ancient Egypt
- Conservation Biology: Field Studies in Vietnam

Images this page: Students of Dr. Hans-Werner Hermann participate in the "Rainforest Biodiversity in Ecuador" Short-Term Exploration. Multiple excursions in the area, guided by local tribesmen, were used to observe plants, birds, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, and many other unique features of this amazing ecosystem.

To develop a Short-Term Exploration:
Harmony DeFazio
defazioh@email.arizona.edu

UA Study Abroad Expands Options to Include
Short-Term Explorations
Rather than build its own brick-and-mortar branch campuses, the University of Arizona is embarking on a plan to open more than 25 “microcampuses” at international partner universities over the next three years, creating a network that it hopes will be capable of educating more than 25,000 students around the globe. Arizona’s plan is for each of the microcampuses to offer at least one, and in most cases several, dual-degree programs in which degrees are conferred by both Arizona and a partner university. Each microcampus will be housed at the partner university, which agrees to provide classrooms and a UA-branded space.

“The idea of a microcampus, it’s in part in response to the failures of traditional models of international education, a lot of which have focused on mobility and others on international branch campuses,” said Brent White, Arizona’s vice provost for international education and a professor of law.

“This is essentially a dual degree offered on the campus of a partner university, and so it incorporates elements of a dual-degree program, elements of what a campus would be, and elements of what a research center might be at a global location,” White added.

Arizona’s first microcampus, at Ocean University of China, in Qingdao, is two years into offering a dual undergraduate degree program in law. (Arizona started a bachelor of arts degree in law on its main campus in Tucson in 2014.)

A second UA microcampus location, at the American University of Phnom Penh, in Cambodia, opened in 2017, offering dual-degree programs in business administration, civil engineering and law.
A colorful view of the vibrant city of Cholula, in Puebla (Mexico) which is near Universidad Popular Autónoma

The university also announced its next 11 planned microcampuses, where it hopes to begin offering dual-degree programs with its partner universities in 2018. Those partner universities are:

- De La Salle University, in the Philippines
- Harbin Institute of Technology, in China
- Lebanese International University
- Princess Sumaya University for Technology, in Jordan
- Shanghai University of Political Science and Law, in China
- Soochow University, in Taiwan
- Telkom University, in Indonesia
- Tzu Chi University of Science and Technology, in Taiwan
- Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla, in Mexico
- University of Sharjah, in the United Arab Emirates
- Vietnam National University

The announced microcampuses are predominantly located in Asia and the Middle East, but White said the university will aim to develop microcampuses in other parts of the world, including Africa and Latin America, going forward. White said that for each of the newly announced locations, Arizona has identified degree programs it is likely to offer. The microcampuses are pending approval by Arizona’s accrediting agency, the Higher Learning Commission, as well as any needed local regulatory approvals. Arizona’s first two microcampus locations at Ocean University of China and at AUUP already are approved by HLC as “additional locations.”

Dual-degree programs are a common model in international higher education, but Arizona’s approach is unusual in seeking to leverage these programs to create branded hubs. “This is not a one-off,” said White. “This is not somewhere in the world where we offer a dual-degree program, but the idea is to have a network of microcampuses, and that’s important because we want to enable global mobility for our students.”

For more information, visit: https://microcampus.arizona.edu
UA EXPANDS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AT GLOBAL PARTNER DAY

By Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

For the third year, the UA expanded strategic international relationships at Global Partner Day, hosted by the Office of Global Initiatives in partnership with the Office of International Education.

Representatives from universities spanning from Australia to Brazil connected with UA faculty and staff in Tucson during a series of networking events, interactive lectures, and campus tours – creating new pathways to collaboration.

“Global Partner Day is an important event because it’s a chance to showcase the University of Arizona to our international partners and for our international partners to have a chance to network with each other and see areas of the university they haven’t seen before,” said Suzanne Panferov Reese, interim vice president of the Office of Global Initiatives. “It’s also crucial for us to learn about what’s going on in the world of initiatives in international education.”

Thirteen partners from nine countries agreed that the UA’s first-class research platform, innovative programs, and renowned campus provide great opportunities for the strongest students from their institutions. UA students also stand to gain advanced intercultural competence skills by connecting with international peers, providing a solid footing for today’s global marketplace.

Building on the idea of preparing students to thrive in an increasingly international workforce, Remy Arteaga, director of the UA’s McGuire Center for Entrepreneurship, provided the keynote address for Global Partner Day at the Environment and Natural Resources 2 Building. Discussing global entrepreneurship education, Arteaga highlighted potential growth areas around the world for start-ups, but also cautioned that development must be approached mindfully.

“Entrepreneurship is all over the world, and we want students to understand the opportunities, but they must also recognize cultural differences,” he said.

GLOBAL PARTNER DAY

Gary Rhoades, Remy Arteaga, Suzanne Panferov Reese, and Ash Scheder Black. Photo: Christine Scheer

ENGAGEMENT

UA INTERNATIONAL FACULTY AND SCHOLARS EXPERIENCE THE REAL ARIZONA

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

Winding through the Catalina Mountains on a cloudless day, international visitors to the UA encountered the real, wild Arizona. Organized by International Faculty and Scholars, or IFS, the trip exposed participants to the desert in its most natural form.

Aside from assisting international faculty and scholars with immigration services and permanent residency applications, IFS hosts regular events to promote cultural exchange. In the spring of 2017, the organizing committee hosted an event showcasing desert wildlife with a tour of the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area.

Monica Costa, a native of Portugal researching molecular biology, noted how vastly different the landscape was from her home country. “I live in a northern coastal city with a lot of rain. Everything is cramped there. Here in Tucson, everything is spread out, which is really nice,” she said.

For many of the visiting faculty and scholars, this was their first time at Sabino Canyon. The group took the tram to the top, smiling and snapping photos along the way before stopping to relax and eat alongside a creek.

Katrin Shamshiri of Iran is a technical expert in critical languages and Farsi instructor at the UA. Having lived in Tucson for more than a year, she had advice for her fellow faculty members and scholars. “I love Tucson, and I would highly recommend coming to the UA to friends and colleagues. I would just tell them to remember lots of sunscreen!”

Global Reach, Fall 2017

global.arizona.edu
UNAM – TUCSON MARKS SECOND ANNIVERSARY AT THE UA

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

The National Autonomous University of Mexico Center for Mexican Studies, known as UNAM – Tucson, marked its second anniversary at the UA in 2017 with a photo exhibit featuring research advances from the largest university system in Latin America.

“Being here in Tucson, we are finding not only colleagues, but also friends,” said Claudio A. Estrada, Director of UNAM – Tucson. “The quality of the human beings in this community is really amazing.”

UNAM – Tucson was established in 2015 with multiple goals: to develop joint programs of study, encourage joint research projects, strengthen student mobility, promote Mexican culture, and support migrant programs.

“These programs are essential to the mission of the Office of Global Initiatives – to enhance intercultural understanding at the UA,” said Suzanne Panferov Reese, interim vice president of the Office of Global Initiatives. “UNAM – Tucson is a great example of how we can achieve strong and sustainable international partnerships.”

In terms of joint programs of study, five are in development between UNAM and the UA, including a dual degree in environmental engineering. Collaborative efforts driven by UNAM – Tucson also helped initiate a 2017 agreement between Israel’s Ben-Gurion University, Tech Parks Arizona, and UNAM’s high-tech initiative.

“Relationships such as the UA – UNAM partnership not only engender cultural appreciation. They also open doors to academic and research pathways that transcend countries,” said Panferov Reese.

Joaquin Ruiz, dean of the College of Science, also noted the significance of the UA’s partnership with UNAM.

“UNAM now is full of students from Colombia, Brazil, and Chile because that’s the place to go the same way here that people look at Harvard and Yale and Stanford,” he said. “Having a partnership with such a distinguished institution is something that will allow us to learn how we can be a better part of our community. We are in beautiful Arizona, 90 kilometers from the border. Where Mexico goes, we go. Period. And where we go, a lot of Mexico goes.”

Looking toward 2018, UNAM – Tucson hopes to help establish dual degree programs in science and music, continue to promote Mexican culture, and strengthen activities in Spanish language teaching.

“I see a future between the two universities more intense in academic relations and cultural exchange,” said Estrada. “But above all, I see a human enrichment among the students and university professors who participate in this effort.”

Left to right: Joaquin Ruiz, Manuel Suarez, Ricardo Pineda, Claudio A. Estrada, and Suzanne Panferov Reese. Photo: Christine Scheer
From unprecedented space exploration initiatives to a deeper understanding of how viruses spread, University of Arizona researchers often find themselves at the forefront of exciting and eye-opening discoveries. Here are 10 UA-related stories generating global headlines.

By: University Communications

1. **Bound for Bennu!**
   OSIRIS-REx Launch Was ‘Perfect’
   OSIRIS-REx was the first U.S. mission to carry samples from an asteroid back to Earth and the largest sample returned from space since the Apollo era. The UA led the mission science team and provided the OSIRIS-REx Camera Suite instrument. *(The New York Times, CNN, The Washington Post, BBC, The New Yorker, The Week)*

2. **Newly Discovered Planet Has Three Suns**
   UA graduate student Kevin Wagner identified the first planet ever found in a wide orbit inside a triple-star system. The planet, known as HD 131399Ab, “is one of the few exoplanets that have been directly imaged, and it’s the first one in such an interesting dynamical configuration,” said study author and UA researcher Dániel Apai. *(The Washington Post, National Geographic, Wired)*

3. **UA’s Mall Memorial Makes ‘Quiet Statement’**
   The USS Arizona Mall Memorial, with its overt and subtle elements, spoke to UA tradition, design and the continuing effort to preserve the memory of 1,177 sailors and Marines killed on the USS Arizona battleship during the 1941 bombing of Pearl Harbor. *(CBS Evening News, USA Today, The Arizona Republic)*
Noodles Supplant Cigarettes as Prison Currency of Choice

Ramen noodles are supplanting the once-popular cigarettes as a form of currency among state prisoners, but not in response to bans on tobacco products within prison systems. Instead, study author Michael Gibson-Light, a doctoral candidate in the UA School of Sociology, found that inmates are trying to figure out ways to better feed themselves as certain prison services are defunded. (*The Christian Science Monitor, Time, The Washington Post*)

Findings Show How AIDS Spread Across North America

A technique that allows researchers to analyze genetic material from serum samples of HIV patients, taken before AIDS was known, provided a glimpse of unprecedented detail into the beginnings of the AIDS epidemic in North America. Michael Worobey, head of the UA’s Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, led the research. (*NPR, The New York Times, Buzzfeed*)

Birth Year Can Predict Odds in a Flu Pandemic

We are not blank slates with regard to how susceptible we are to emerging strains of flu virus, researchers from the UA and UCLA discovered. The findings could provide information that might be relevant for the development of a universal flu vaccine. Michael Worobey served as a co-author of the study. (*CNN, The Atlantic, The Guardian*)

UA Law School Opens Admissions to GRE Test Takers

At the UA’s James E. Rogers College of Law, students now have an alternative to the LSAT. Applicants can take the Graduate Record Exam, or GRE, instead of the LSAT, making the UA the first law school in the country to offer this option. (*The Wall Street Journal, NPR, Inside Higher Ed*)

Cracked, Frozen and Tipped Over: New Clues From Pluto’s Past

Research by two UA planetary scientists revealed fascinating clues about Pluto, suggesting the small world at the fringes of our solar system is much more active than anyone ever imagined. (*The New York Times, The Washington Post, BBC*)

Runners’ Brains May Have More Connectivity, UA Research Shows

Researchers at the UA found that running is intellectually demanding and could affect thinking patterns in people who run — even when they are not running. (*The New York Times, New York Magazine, Runner’s World*)

The Wasp That Delivers ‘Instantaneous, Debilitating Pain’

"Ouch!" never sounded so authoritative. Out of the mouth of UA entomologist Justin Schmidt, it took on a whole new meaning. In his book, "The Sting of the Wild," Schmidt ranked different insect stings in order to determine the toxicity and pain of each bite. (*National Geographic, NPR Science Friday, The New York Times*)

Photos at bottom (from left to right): Ramen noodles; OSIRIS-Rex artistic rendering; HIV particles (yellow) infecting a T-cell, viewed under a scanning electron microscope (Photo credit: NIH/NIAID); tarantula wasp (photo courtesy WIRED magazine); and runner.
Mexican Research Prof Honored by the UA

Sergio M. Alcocer, a research professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico’s Institute of Engineering, received an honorary degree from the UA College of Science in 2017.

Alcocer is the founder and president of México Exponencial, a think tank for the development of public policy and strategies for embracing technologies in Mexico. He was instrumental in bringing the National Autonomous University of Mexico satellite office to the UA, a center known as UNAM – Tucson.

A History of Service
Alcocer served as undersecretary for North American Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from Mexico and as the undersecretary for Strategic Planning and Technology Development of the Ministry of Energy in the Mexican government. He also served as secretary general, coordinator for Innovation and Development, and director of the Institute of Engineering at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

International Leadership
Alcocer is an active member of several technical societies, including the American Concrete Institute, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, and the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering.

GLOBAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Each year, the Global Excellence Awards, presented by the Office of Global Initiatives and the Center for English as a Second Language, recognize three individuals who demonstrate a strong commitment to international education and service.

2017 Excellence in Global Education Award
- Jenny J. Lee
  Professor at the Center for the Study of Higher Education

Jenny J. Lee has long advocated for international students. For the past decade, her scholarship widely informed international student access to higher education and their experiences in the U.S. and comparatively abroad. Her current research focuses on international student travel within the African continent, which stemmed from her Fulbright experience in South Africa four years ago. Lee is a NAFSA Senior Fellow for Internationalization, Associate Editor for the Review of Higher Education and Co-editor of the book series, Studies in Global Higher Education.

2017 Excellence in Global Service Award
- Ricardo Pineda Albarran
  Consul of Mexico in Tucson

As an ambassador of Mexico’s Foreign Service, Ricardo Pineda Albarran serves the Mexican communities in Pima and Pinal Counties. Beyond supporting human rights and promoting tourism and investment, Pineda is a staunch advocate of the UA. He is known to celebrate the university’s people and programs, and is frequently seen on campus attending activities that promote an enhanced understanding of Mexican culture, politics and economics. Prior to his appointment in Tucson, Pineda established the first Consulate of Mexico in Boise, Idaho.

2017 Student Award for Global Excellence
- Jenna A. Altherr Flores
  Ph.D. Candidate, Second Language Acquisition & Teaching (SLAT)

As a Peace Corps Coverdell Fellow, a leader for Arizona TESOL and TESOL International, and a scholar dedicated to the literacy of refugee-background adults, Jenna A. Altherr Flores has a demonstrated commitment to global education. She has provided thousands of hours of service to underserved communities in Tucson, including work as an ESL and literacy instructor for the Refugee Education Program. In addition to teaching, Altherr Flores conducts trainings for community volunteers about how to teach language and literacy to adults.
UA Professor Receives Top Distinction from Government of Mexico

By: Jordyn Stinnett, Office of Global Initiatives

UA professor of history William Beezley joined the ranks of prominent artists, politicians and athletes to receive the Ohtli award, the highest recognition granted by the Mexican Government outside of Mexico.

Beezley has served as a professor in the UA’s Department of History since 1998, during which time he earned an international reputation for his investigations of Mexico’s history.

A recognized name in scholarly circuits, Beezley has written or edited dozens of publications, including the classic “Judas at the Jockey Club” and the fundamental anthologies “A Companion to Mexican History and Culture” and “The Oxford History of Mexico,” edited with Michael C. Meyer.

“My passion for Mexico resulted when I learned that Mexicans had initiated the world’s first social revolution in 1910,” said Beezley. “During the 1960s, everyone I knew believed social changes had to come to the United States – and I wanted to see what the Mexicans had attempted to do. I also wanted to know the people and their culture who lived next door.”

Beezley was drawn to themes of social change, but this wasn’t the primary reason he became a historian.

“That happened because I was not good enough at chemistry to become a botanist,” he said.

“One I became a historian, I wanted to investigate the lives of ordinary people and how they made their lives enjoyable.”

The Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs typically presents the Ohtli award to members of the Mexican-American community who promote Mexican culture, but they deemed Beezley’s contributions to the field so great, they bestowed upon him the honor.

“The Government of Mexico awarded Dr. Beezley the Ohtli prize as a recognition of his countless works about the history of Mexico, its people, its culture and its traditions, which have been instrumental in bringing a better understanding between our two countries,” said Ricardo Pineda Albarran, consul of Mexico in Tucson.

The Ohtli award recognizes individuals for devoting their professional lives to forging a new path for Mexican nationals abroad, hence the name Ohtli, a Nahuatl word meaning road or pathway.

Previous winners include Congressman Raul Grijalva, actress Eva Longoria, music producer Emilio Estefan and legendary baseball player Fernando Valenzuela.

“We are proud that History Professor Bill Beezley was selected to receive the prestigious Ohtli award,” said John Paul Jones III, dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

“Professor Beezley has dedicated his life to studying and illuminating Mexican history, as well as to mentoring a generation of historians who focus on the country. That the government of Mexico should recognize Professor Beezley’s work as promoting the well-being of Mexicans is an inspiring illustration of the impact of rigorous scholarship.”

Having appeared as a guest expert in more than 20 PBS episodes of “The Desert Speaks” and “In the Americas with David Yetman,” Beezley is also a familiar face in many American households. He is currently interviewing former Mexican presidents for a film series on the democratization of Mexico.

“I find delight in talking to Mexicans and Latin Americans of all social groups about their lives, interests, hopes and passions – on television or video really doesn’t matter, but listening to what individuals have to say does.”
First Recipients of New Grant Program Advance International Collaboration

By: Kristina Makansi - Office of Research, Discovery and Innovation

For Mary Voyatzis, the ruins of the Sanctuary of Zeus on Mount Lykaion in Greece hold stories of ancient people who traveled to the shrine from distant places. Now, a new grant will help Voyatzis, a professor in the School of Anthropology and the Department of Religious Studies and Classics, continue to study the mobility of these people using isotope geochemistry.

Voyatzis is among the first cohort of recipients of the International Research and Academic Program Development (IRPD) grants, a program co-sponsored by the office of Research, Discovery & Innovation and the Office of Global Initiatives. With the goal of empowering faculty while providing a global benefit, seven proposals were selected, each with a high probability for success, strong international partners, and a vision for future sustainability.

The grants are peer reviewed, open to all faculty, and span disciplines and subject matter.

"Supporting faculty who are preparing to submit transdisciplinary-investigator, globally oriented, innovative research proposals is crucial. The IRPD grants provide faculty with resources to establish collaborative frameworks, assemble transdisciplinary partnerships, and collect essential data required for competitive external funding," said Kimberly Andrews Espy, senior vice president for research.

Designed to leverage existing relationships, develop new partnerships, and capitalize on synergistic skill sets, IRPD will fund two tracks – the first to develop scalable and ongoing transdisciplinary international research collaborations and the second to develop new academic programs with international partner institutions.

"IRPD grants assist faculty in advancing existing international partnerships – coalescing research and academic partnerships into comprehensive programs that begin to address some of the world’s most pressing challenges. Given the timing of the first funding round, the 2017 winners are clustered in the research track," said Randy Burd, associate vice president of global research alliances. "In the next round, we look forward to receiving proposals that will build cross-cultural, cutting-edge academic programs for the future."

(continued in next column)
The other winning proposals were:

**Chris Gniady | Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science**
"CATS Patient Evaluation and Monitoring After Heart Surgery." The grant will further enable international collaboration on hardware and software tools to automatically monitor cardiac patients after surgery and will offer researchers access to a wider range of patient populations.

**John Kemeny | Professor, Department of Mining and Geological Engineering**
"Transnational and Transdisciplinary Research: Imaging in Mining Geomechanics." Kemeny’s team will be working with scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur to address problems of engineered structures in rock and soil.

**Henrietta Kralovec | Associate Professor, UA South**
"Digital Border Dialogues: Identity, Interculturality and Educational Empowerment." Kralovec’s work is designed to empower students through identity dialogues involving schools from the Finland-Russia and the U.S.-Mexico borders.

**Anna O’Leary | Associate Professor, Department of Mexican American Studies**
"Shared Populations: A Multi-Sited Research Collaboration with Mexico." The goal of the collaboration is to study how transnationalized families – those shared by both the U.S. and Mexico – are impacted by greater immigration enforcement, including an increase in policing and removal, in the U.S.

**Ramzi Touchan | Research Professor, Dendrochronology**
"U.S.-Russia Dendrohydrology of Complex River Systems." The grant is providing Touchan’s team with travel funds so they can meet with colleagues and present project goals to the National Science Foundation. His group will go to Russia to identify potential tree ring field sampling sites to study streamflow variability in Siberia’s Yenisei River within the context of climate change and water balance.

**Albert Welter | Professor, Department of East Asian Studies**
"The Hangzhou Region and the Chinese Creation of an East Asian Buddhism." The aim of Welter’s research is to develop a greater understanding of the historical rise of East Asian Buddhism.

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**Visiting Scholar 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 airfare 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 Office of Global Initiatives has made $5,000 available for this fiscal year to directly fund the VSG. The maximum award amount is $400 per award. The VSG requests can be submitted at any time. This grant is administered and funded by the Office of Global Initiatives.

**Spring 2017 Visiting Scholars Grant Awardee:**

Host Department: Arizona State Museum
Visiting Scholar: **Ms. Amparo Ruedo de Torres**
From: Chía, Cundinamarca, Colombia, South America

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For IRPD information:
Dale LaFleur
dlafleur@email.arizona.edu

IRPD Grant: A student group at the Mount Lykaion Greece site in 2010 with the ash altar of Zeus as the mountaintop in the background.
A University of Arizona professor on a Fulbright research and teaching fellowship to India was selected by the Fulbright Foundation to help facilitate orientation sessions for scholars interested in opportunities to conduct their research abroad.

Melissa A. Fitch, a University Distinguished Professor in Latin American Cultural Studies from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in the College of Humanities, was uniquely suited to assist scholars in both India and the United States.

Not only is Fitch a repeat Fulbright recipient, but her research deals with how — in a time characterized by global shifts in power as well as global flows of people, commerce and technology — we come to understand the cultural “other.”

"Popular culture — my area of research specialization — appears innocent or harmless, but it will often present unexamined assumptions about other cultures or peoples, something that can be at best problematic and at worst dangerous,” Fitch said. "These ideas usually reinforce the superiority of the more powerful country in the equation. In the past, this was the United States, but increasingly it encompasses the various countries of the emerging economies, including China and India."

Researching the circulation of cultural touchstones across the globe is what brought Fitch, first to Hong Kong on a Fulbright award in 2011-2012 and then to India as a Fulbright-Nehru Academic and Professional Excellence scholar.

"Specialists in Latin America have traditionally studied the region either unto itself, within specific countries or in relation to neighboring nations, or they have viewed the region exclusively in terms of the United States,” Fitch said. "I examine the global reach of Latin American and U.S. Latino popular culture within the world’s two most populous countries, China and India, as well as in light of globalization, transnationalism and the rise of social media.”

Fitch’s orientation work for the Fulbright Foundation had several components. First, she spoke to potential Indian scholars who wanted to come to the United States about how to apply and why.

Next, she assisted a group of already-selected Indian Fulbright scholars as part of a two-day orientation program, giving lectures on what they might experience in the United States. She also was on a panel evaluating Indian universities that were interested in hosting U.S. Fulbright scholars.

Lastly, Fitch was selected for a webinar directed to U.S. scholars interested in pursuing a Fulbright in India, giving advice on the application process and talking about her experience.

Although she has given multiple lectures on her research at colleges and universities around India, as well as in the countries of Bhutan and Singapore, Fitch said, "I'm convinced I have learned far more from my colleagues and students than I ever imparted. This is what the Fulbright experience is all about, the give-and-take educational process that is required for intercultural understanding. It is about questioning assumptions and digging deeper.”

"Professor Fitch’s research is representative of the groundbreaking interdisciplinary work that our faculty is taking on all over the world,” said Alain-Philippe Durand, dean of the College of Humanities.

"The College of Humanities is recognized as the expert and premier campus location for internationalization, study-abroad leadership and intercultural competence.”
By: UA Health Sciences

John Ehiri, professor and chair of the Department of Health Promotion Sciences at the University of Arizona Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health, received a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program grant to Nigeria.

Ehiri was at the University of Lagos College of Medicine in Nigeria through November 2017 as part of a research project to reduce HIV stigma among health personnel who provide services for prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV.

Nigeria is one of 21 priority countries in Africa that, along with India, account for 90 percent of pregnant women infected with HIV. It also is one of only four of the 21 priority countries with an HIV testing rate of less than 20 percent among pregnant women, and accounted for 26 percent of all new pediatric infections in the 21 priority countries in 2014.

“The benefits of intervention to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV are well-established,” said Ehiri. “It reduces transmission of HIV from mother to child during pregnancy, labor, delivery or breast-feeding from 45 percent to 2 percent.”

Ehiri worked to strengthen the UA College of Public Health’s global reach by building research and training collaboration with the University of Lagos College of Medicine.

“I hope that this relationship ultimately will result in exchange of faculty and students and joint research between the University of Lagos and the University of Arizona,” he said.

Ehiri’s research and teaching focused on social and behavioral aspects of disease prevention, and global maternal, child and adolescent health.

He has been principal investigator of university-wide grants to facilitate global health education and research and has helped establish primary health care programs in less-developed countries. He provides technical assistance on maternal and child health issues to national ministries of health, nongovernmental organizations, the United Nations and bilateral agencies.

With more than 20 years of experience in global health, Ehiri has authored or co-authored more than 100 peer-reviewed articles, in addition to a major textbook on global maternal and child health, and numerous book chapters.

Ehiri is one of more than 1,200 U.S. citizens who teach, conduct research and provide expertise abroad through the U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program: Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement, as well as record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields.
University of Arizona students and recent graduates expressed appreciation of their 2016-2017 Fulbright experiences during 2017 Fulbright Week at the UA.

From February 27th through March 3rd, the Office of Global Initiatives, The Graduate College, and the Honors College hosted a series of events acknowledging past Fulbright recipients; presenting workshops, information sessions, and open houses; and informing faculty and students about upcoming Fulbright options.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program offers research, study, and teaching opportunities in more than 140 countries for graduate students and recent graduates.

The program promotes cultural exchange through direct interaction in the classroom and beyond — giving the grantee an appreciation of other cultures, leading to greater global understanding and intellectual freedom.

Uncovering Answers About Indigenous Midwives in Mexico

Edward Anthony Polanco, a Ph.D. candidate with the Department of History, began his fascination with race, gender, class and forbidden knowledge as a child. That thirst for answers to often taboo questions led him to Mexico City as part of his Fulbright-Garcia Robles Scholarship. He was awarded the research grant to conduct archival investigations for his dissertation which examines 16th and 17th century Nahua people, specifically midwives who faced trials for practicing traditional healing rituals that violated Catholic norms. During the colonial period, Spanish priests regarded these indigenous midwives as demonic and sorcerous, and that sparked Polanco's interest about their true motivations.

"Through archival research, I found that these women were, in fact, ritual leaders that healed and cured their communities with specialized knowledge, but these women had little or no interest in the devil," said Polanco. "Spanish priests, ironically, where the metaphorical midwives of the devil, introducing and imposing Christian morality and practices to indigenous populations."

Polanco is using data from his Fulbright experience to complete his doctoral thesis titled, The Devil's Midwives: Gender, Religion, and Medicine in Central Mexico, 1575-1650, and plans to publish a book by the same name.

Research aside, Polanco said the highlight of his Fulbright experience was living in Mexico for ten months, participating in holidays and traditions with friends and their families.

"It was moving and life changing. There is no way to replicate these experiences in a book or a seminar."

A Teaching Experience Amid Natural Beauty in Portugal

Catherine Salgado, a UA graduate, lived in Portugal as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. She graduated from the UA with honors in May of 2016, earning a dual bachelor's degree in Spanish/Portuguese and Creative Writing. She discovered her passion for education after spending three months teaching English to high school students in Shanghai who were interested in attending college in the United States.

“When I returned to the UA to finish my senior year I looked for international teaching opportunities that provided experience within a higher education institution, and the Fulbright Portugal Program was a perfect fit.”

Salgado lived in Guarda, a picturesque region dotted with hilltop homes close
to the Spanish border. She worked alongside professors at the Polytechnic Institute of Guarda (IPG) teaching English, while also coordinating closely with the International Relations Office to organize events that encouraged global exchange.

Salgado pointed to the natural beauty of Portugal as one of the highlights of her international experience, explaining her fondness for Serra Estrela, the highest mountain range in Continental Portugal.

“As someone who is used to Arizona winters, I loved experiencing Portugal’s snowy mountaintops. Although Lisbon and the Algarve receive a lot of attention, and rightfully so, the Portuguese Northern Interior offers a unique landscape and energy.”

Salgado plans to use her Fulbright experience as a springboard for a Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics where she can conduct research on improving language-learning methodologies. Ultimately, she hopes to teach at the university level, encouraging students to discover the benefits of a global perspective regardless of their field of study.

She points to the UA Study Abroad Office as helping to spark her love of travel by facilitating trips to Alcalá de Henares, Spain in 2013 and Fortaleza, Brazil in 2014.

Salgado also credits her thesis advisor and former teacher, Melissa A. Fitch, for incorporating career planning into coursework, as well as the Office of Nationally Competitive Scholarships for helping her choose the right post-grad program and putting her in touch with a faculty advisor.

“My award as a Fulbright Scholar would not have been possible without the help of numerous faculty members and staff at the University of Arizona. I am forever grateful for my experience as a Wildcat. Bear Down!”
America Lutz-Ley: Helping Rural Communities Adapt to Global Change

America Lutz-Ley, a postdoctoral scholar at the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, was awarded the Fulbright-Garcia Robles Scholarship for Graduate Studies in the U.S. Originally from Mexico, Lutz-Ley studied how people in rural communities adapt to global change, encompassing both climate change and socio-economic globalization factors.

“I was inspired by the fact that the world is going through important environmental and socio-economic changes, and these changes disproportionately affect vulnerable populations, such as rural communities and small ranchers and farmers,” said Lutz-Ley.

“Ranching and farming are important sources of income, identity, and food security for rural families in both Arizona and Sonora, Mexico,” she added. “We need to understand the ways they are perceiving these changes and adapting to them in order to inform better policies and provide them with alternatives for adaptation of their livelihoods to face a warmer world and further economic globalization.”

Lutz-Ley took a triple-pronged approach to her research. First, she conducted a literature review of rural adaptation strategies in Mexico and the Southwestern U.S. Then she carried out a case-by-case study of climate change perceptions, knowledge, and strategies to adapt in households of three rural communities in an arid watershed of Northwestern Mexico. Finally, she analyzed how the interactions between people and institutions can facilitate or hinder adaptation.

“I want to inform policies for adaptation and development, particularly in Sonora, Mexico, and arid North America,” she added. “Mexico is known as a leader in international climate negotiations, but the people in local communities do not know what this is about, how these changes will impact their livelihoods, and what they can do in this regard. I would like to help in closing this gap.”

In addition to her unique research opportunity, Lutz-Ley said she owes the lens through which she sees the world to the Fulbright program. “One of the most human and humble experiences that I am grateful for is the realization that human beings share basic values of life, love, family, and self-improvement beyond nationalities, religion, and ethnicity,” she said. “These are difficult times for the world, but I cherish the feeling of belonging to the world, and being able to contribute something through my work.”

Yalda Samih Jawad: Creating a Non-Profit Framework for Afghanistan

Yalda Samih Jawad received a Fulbright Foreign Student Program scholarship to pursue a Master’s of Public Administration at the UA.

“Afghanistan is one of the developing countries where there is so much opportunity for growth in every sector and where millions of dollars is spent, but there is still lack of quality services, policies are not feasible and realistic, and there are so many areas that the government cannot efficiently work in,” said Jawad.

“In a situation like this, existence of non-profit organizations is important. I am a strong believer of mission, so this field is the best platform for me to help people by providing better services without being motivated or distracted by how much revenue I make.”

Jawad researched areas to help her be effective and efficient when she returns to Afghanistan. “I am particularly looking into women’s and children’s issues because these two groups are vulnerable populations that I really would like to focus on. They can offer so much to society, yet their power is not being utilized in most communities of Afghanistan.”

“Starting my own non-profit organization will empower me to support one of these vulnerable groups that can

Yalda Samih Jawad
play an important role in the development of Afghanistan,” she explained.

Jawad said the Fulbright experience was one of the richest of her life. “The Fulbright program gave me a chance to interact with people from all over the world through different seminars and interactive programs. It enabled me to make lifetime friendships with some people whom I wouldn’t normally meet.”

Leslie Toralba-Ubaub:
Researçhing an Alternative to Chemical Pesticides

Leslie Toralba-Ubaub, an associate professor at the University of Southeastern Philippines, received the Fulbright-Philippine Agriculture Advanced Research Award. She studied indigenous Entomopathogenic Nematodes or EPNs, a type of roundworm collected from pummelo orchards in the Southeastern Philippines.

Her goal was to identify the EPNs she collected from agricultural land in the Philippines using classic and molecular techniques, and then create a preliminary list to serve as the basis for future studies. “Ultimately, these EPN isolates will be used as biological control agents against insect pests on pummelo,” said Toralba-Ubaub.

She was inspired to conduct the research in order to find an alternative to synthetic chemicals for pest control. She noted that for a long time pummelo production in the Philippines was dependent on these chemicals because of efficiency, affordability, and ease of application.

“There is a need to explore biological control agents against insect pests, and one of the promising groups is the EPNs. They are cultured on a large scale in laboratories and are available from many commercial suppliers in North America and Europe,” said Toralba-Ubaub. “To date, there were only a few researchers in the Philippines who focused their research on EPNs and their potential in pest management.”

She said the opportunity to work with renowned entomologist S. Patricia Stock was the highlight of her Fulbright experience at the UA. “In the laboratory, I had the chance to learn new ideas and techniques, as well as work ethics unique to the lab and the people working there. It allowed me to exchange ideas with undergraduate, graduate students, and postdocs alike who are working with different research interests using one particular organism,” she said. “To be mentored by Dr. Stock was an experience of a lifetime. I am excited to go back to the Philippines and apply what I learned.”
If you have received an award for 2017-2018 and your name is not on this list, please contact Dale LaFleur, UA Fulbright Scholar Liaison at dلافleur@email.arizona.edu.

- **UA Fulbright Scholar Recipients 2017-2018:**
  - Betul Czerkawski .................................................. Ukraine Educational Technology
  - Mihai Ducea ......................................................... Romania Geosciences
  - Kevin Fitzsimmons .............................................. Burma Soil, Water, and Environmental Science
  - Craig Palmer ....................................................... Serbia Anesthesiology

- **UA Fulbright Specialist Recipients 2017-2018:**
  - Betul Czerkawski .............................................. Kosovo Educational Technology
  - Craig Palmer ....................................................... Serbia Anesthesiology

- **UA Fulbright Student Recipients 2017-2018:**
  - Sarah Bosch ....................................................... Malaysia Neuroscience & Cognitive Science
  - Lorene Dameff ................................................... Italy Interdisciplinary Studies
  - Amani Griffin Lewis .............................................. South Korea Elementary Education
  - Natash Ng ........................................................... Poland Molecular & Cellular Biology
  - Ashley Scott ....................................................... Brazil Public Health
  - Danielle Blalock .................................................. Chile History - Latin America
  - Cory Davis ........................................................... Germany History
  - Hannah Gaber Saletan ......................................... Cyprus Journalism
  - Amanda Hilton ..................................................... Italy Anthropology
  - Dylan Hutchinson ................................................ Poland Neurobiology
  - Casey Lynch ........................................................ Spain Geography
  - Ruth Oropeza ........................................................ Spain History

Interested in the U.S. Fulbright Student program? [Visit the website](https://www.honors.arizona.edu/office-nationally-competitive-scholarships)

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**Fulbright Students at the UA 2017-2018**

- **Acar, Mhtap**: Turkey Doctorate, Second Language Acquisition & Teaching
- **Al Ghezi, Ragheb**: Iraq Masters, Human Language Technology
- **Ali Adam**: Pakistan Masters, Water, Society & Policy
- **Allosh, Islam**: Egypt Masters, Middle East & North African Studies
- **Atouf, Noureddine**: Morocco Graduate, Middle East & N African Studies, Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA)
- **Baig, Ambareen**: Pakistan Masters, Educational Psychology
- **Bashir Furrukh**: Pakistan Doctorate, Hydrometeorology
- **Briseno Arellano, Angel Daniel**: Mexico Masters, Hydrology
- **Burhan, Elif**: Turkey Doctorate, Second Language Acquisition & Teaching
- **Byambadorji, Amarsanaa**: Mongolia Masters, Public Health
- **Carminati, Lucia**: Italy Masters, Near Eastern Studies
- **Chishimba, Elizabeth**: Zambia Masters, Agricultural & Resource Economics
- **Ciziriz, Nazin**: Turkey Graduate, Middle East & N African Studies Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA)
- **De Souza Neto, Mauricio Jose**: Brazil Graduate, Portuguese, Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA)
- **El Fiky, Mohammed**: Egypt Masters, Middle East & N African Studies
- **Fojas, Ivar-Nicholas**: Philippines Doctorate, Musical Arts
- **Formanek, Martin**: Czech Republic Doctorate, Physics
- **Gill, Amy Shamin**: Pakistan Masters, Natural Resources
- **Gonzalez, Pablo**: Chile Masters, Music
- **Hamzeh, Safa**: Lebanon Masters, Middle East & N African Studies
- **Issa, Elsayed Sabry Abdelaal**: Egypt Doctorate, Middle East & N African Studies
- **Juwwariyah, Siti (Juwa)**: Indonesia Doctorate, Second Language Acquisition & Teaching
- **Leon Ceden, Maredil**: Venezuela Masters, Second Language Acquisition & Teaching
- **Luzinga, Joy**: Congo Masters, Public Health
- **Madeira, Camila Leite**: Brazil Masters, Environmental Engineering
- **Makhani, Kiran Abdul Majed**: Pakistan Masters, Cellular & Molecular Medicine
- **Maqsood, Hadiqa**: Pakistan Doctorate, Agricultural & Biosystems Eng
- **Mehin Jafarabadi, Alyeh**: Iran Doctorate, Middle East & N African Studies
- **Mejia Mayorga, Jaime Fabrci**: Honduras Masters, English as a Second Language
- **Oh, Yeum Mok**: Korea Doctorate, Pharmaceutical Sciences
- **Radwan, Dalal**: Palestine Masters, Journalism
- **Rahmouniz, Kamila**: Tunisia Doctorate, Middle East & N African Studies
- **Rivas, Ricardo**: Chile Doctorate, Sociology
- **Sagre, Anamaria**: Colombia Doctorate, Second Language Acquisition & Teaching
- **Sardar, Kiran John**: Pakistan Masters, Public Health
- **Sari, Farida**: Indonesia Masters, Photonic Communications Eng
- **Sletova, Natalia**: Russia Masters, Russian Studies
- **Sobolevsk, Ganna**: Ukraine Doctorate, Educational Psychology
- **Sommer Farias, Bruna**: Brazil Doctorate, Second Language Acquisition & Teaching
- **Sukhishvili, Ana**: Georgia Masters, Finance
- **Vela Vargas, Ivan Mauricio**: Colombia Doctorate, Natural Resources
- **Voronkova, Valeria**: Russia Masters, Middle East & N African Studies
The Office of Global Initiatives draws on the expertise of multiple teams to help expand the UA’s global footprint and support international diversity on campus. We want to help you realize your GLOBAL REACH.

CONAHEC
The Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration or CONAHEC advises and connects institutions interested in establishing or strengthening academic collaborative programs within the North American region and beyond.
Web: https://www.conahec.org
Contact: Sean Manley-Casimir | smaneyc@email.arizona.edu

Global Partnerships
Our comprehensive global partnerships offer opportunities to collaborate on research, student & scholar exchange, dual degrees – as well as customizable, innovative program models.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/global-knowledge-network/partnerships | Contact: Dale LaFleur | dlfleur@email.arizona.edu

Global Resiliency
Global Resiliency works closely with travelers and partners across campus to bring awareness to travel risks and security best practices, facilitate the preparation of travelers, and provide international emergency support.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/global-resiliency
Contact: Laura Provencher | lproven@email.arizona.edu

International Faculty & Scholars
In 2017, we welcomed more than 1,600 visiting faculty and scholars to the UA – each of whom contributed greatly to the cultural, linguistic, and intellectual diversity of our community.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/ifs
Contact: Dana Bleau | uaisfs@email.arizona.edu

International Student Services
International Student Services (ISS) assists nearly 4,000 students on campus with orientation, immigration, and cultural adjustment. ISS offers resources on taxes, academic support, and leadership opportunities. The team also provides cultural and social programs to make the international student experience as positive and meaningful as possible.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/international-students
Contact: Joanne Lagasse-Long | inti-isps@email.arizona.edu

Mexico – U.S. Affairs
The UA established an office in Mexico City in 2007 in order to help encourage collaboration between the UA and businesses in Mexico. Housed on the campus of UNAM since 2015, this office continues to highlight and advance the importance of our partnerships throughout Mexico.
Contact: Jose Lever | jlever@email.arizona.edu

Strategic Initiatives
Global Initiatives works across the UA campus to coordinate relationships between international alumni, students, faculty, partners, researchers, and friends. We also undertake broad partnerships such as hosting the Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration, the Confucius Institute at UA, Fulbright Scholarship events, and other impactful global programs.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/global-knowledge-network
Contact: Suzanne Panferov Reese | panferov@email.arizona.edu

Study Arizona Short-Term Programs
Visit the UA for one to 10 weeks to focus on research, engineering, social sciences, and more. These programs offer students, scholars, and professionals the opportunity to experience their fields of study or work from new, unique perspectives. We offer our partners innovative and flexible program models that ensure academic, research, professional, and personal growth.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/short-term
Contact: Nadia Alvarez Mexia | nalmexia@email.arizona.edu

Tech.Global
This 100% Engagement experience empowers students who love technology and who want to explore the world. Participating students work up to 18 hours per week with various coding languages as they master application design and cybersecurity principles – directly supporting the UA’s global academic and research efforts.
Web: https://tech.global.arizona.edu/
Contact: Ash Scheder Black | ashblack@email.arizona.edu

UA Confucius Institute
The UA Confucius Institute or CIUA provides Chinese language, culture, and health resources to the campus and surrounding community. A collaboration of the UA and the Hanban, a Chinese public institution, the CIUA is proud to call Tucson home.
Web: confucius.arizona.edu
Contact: Zhao Chen | zchen@email.arizona.edu

UA Passports
Located on the UA campus, this office provides passport services to the Tucson community from 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. Peak months are February, March, and April. Planning ahead and getting your passport in the fall can save you time. 935 North Tyndall Avenue.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/passports

UA Study Abroad
Building on our faculty expertise and international partnerships, we offer study abroad programs in 60 countries – open to all UA students. We are always in search of partners to develop new programs, including international internship, research, and service learning opportunities.
Web: https://global.arizona.edu/study-abroad
Contact: Harmony DeFazio | studyabroad@email.arizona.edu

UNAM-Tucson, Center for Mexican Studies
An outreach office of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, UNAM-Tucson seeks to strengthen academic and research relationships with the UA. The center promotes mobility of students and scholars, Spanish and English language resources, cultural and artistic programs, and support for migrants.
Web: https://www.tucson.unam.mx
Contact: Claudio A. Estrada | cestrada@tucson.unam.mx

U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program
This program is the U.S. government’s flagship initiative for international educational exchange. The U.S. Fulbright Scholar Program offers teaching, research, or combination awards in more than 120 countries.
Web: Fulbright.arizona.edu
Contact: Dale LaFleur | dlfleur@email.arizona.edu

global.arizona.edu
## 2017 Institutional Partners

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 over the last year. For more information on partnership development with institutions abroad and to see the full list of partners, please go to this address: global.arizona.edu/global-knowledge-network/institutional-partner-database.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRY</th>
<th>PARTNER INSTITUTION</th>
<th>DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>UA FACULTY SPONSOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Universidad Nacional de Cordoba (UNCOR)</td>
<td>Hydrology and Atmospheric Sciences</td>
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<td>Africana Studies Program</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>College of Engineering</td>
<td>James Field</td>
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<td>Tech Parks Arizona</td>
<td>Bruce Wright</td>
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<td>College of Public Health</td>
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<td>Mexico</td>
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<td>University Secretary</td>
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</table>
The University of Arizona was proud to mark the 18th annual International Education Week with an increase in global student enrollment, as well as the highest international student retention rate ever recorded at the UA. From November 13 through the 17, 2017, the entire campus community celebrated the benefits of international education and cultural exchange. From an International Wildcat Pep Rally at Arizona Stadium to an International Student Talent Show at Main Gate Square, the UA honored global diversity with an array of events. A joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education, International Education Week is a national program coordinated at the UA by the Office of Global Initiatives. Visit (global.arizona.edu/IEW) for an overview of activities that were hosted campus-wide for this year’s celebration. We look forward to seeing you in November of 2018!