



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
INTERNATIONAL CENTER

**GLOBAL  
ENGAGEMENT  
REPORT  
2016**



# AT-A-GLANCE

## UFIC by the Numbers

**2,248** International Scholars

**6,750+** International Students from  
over **140** countries

**450+** cooperative and reciprocal  
agreements with academic institutions  
around the world

**2,150+** students studied abroad in  
**70+** international destinations

**1,500+** UF faculty and staff traveled  
to more than **140** international  
destinations on UF sponsored activities

## UF Global Rankings

**1<sup>st</sup>**

Top Producer of **Peace Corps**  
volunteers among Florida colleges

**2<sup>nd</sup>**

Top Producer of **Fulbright U.S. Scholars**  
among research institutions across the nation

**3<sup>rd</sup>**

Top Producer of **Peace Corps** volunteers  
among large schools for 7 consecutive years

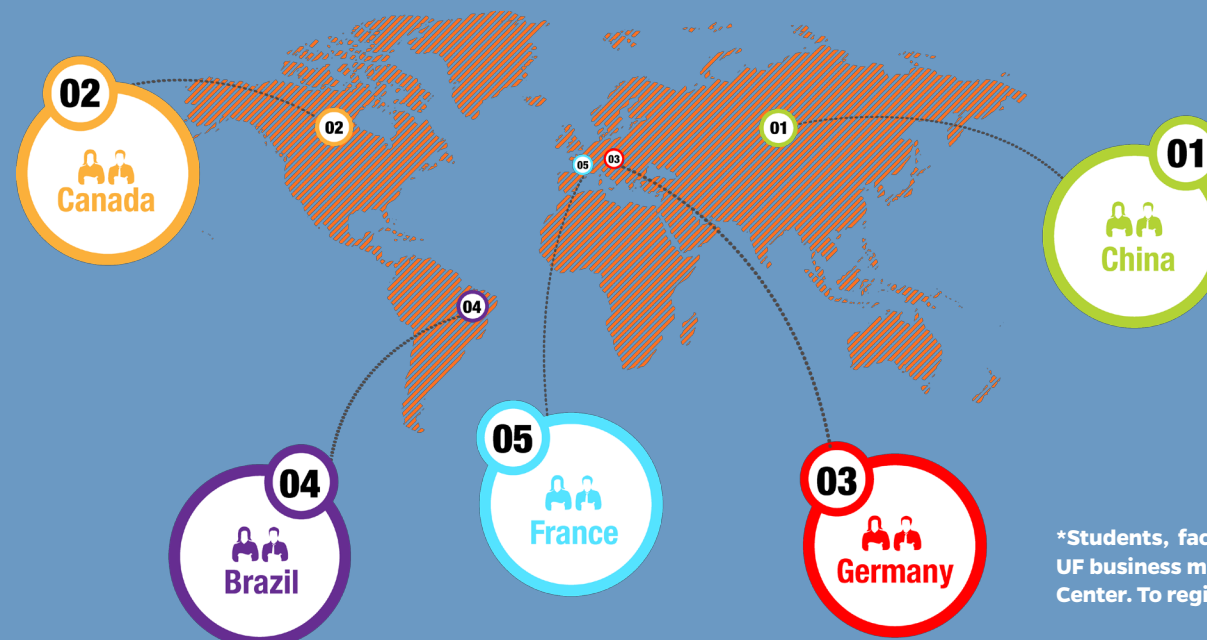
**17<sup>th</sup>**

in sending **Study Abroad** students by  
institution type across the nation

**23<sup>rd</sup>**

in **Hosting International Students**  
by institution type across the nation

## Top 5 UF Travel Destinations\*



\*Students, faculty and staff who travel internationally on UF business must register all trips with the UF International Center. To register online, please visit [www.ufic.ufl.edu](http://www.ufic.ufl.edu)





<b>At-a-Glance</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>UFIC Staff 2016</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Collaborations and Sponsorships</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>International Education Week Collaborations</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>International Student Services</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>International Student Spotlight</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Outstanding International Student Awards</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Study Abroad Services</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Study Abroad Spotlights</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Global Highlight: UF in Cuba</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Exchange Visitor Services</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Exchange Visitor Spotlight</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Exchange Student Services</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Exchange Student Services Spotlight</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Undergraduate Academic Programs</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Undergraduate Academic Programs Spotlights</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Office for Global Research Engagement</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>International Educator of the Year Awards</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Global Health Council</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>UFIC Associated Centers</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>College Highlight: College of Design, Construction and Planning</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Fulbright on Campus</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Fulbright Spotlights</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Peace Corps</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Global Gators in Action</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>2015 Global Culture Photo Contest Winners</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Global Highlight: UF Entrepreneurship in Haiti</b>	<b>35</b>



# WELCOME

Benvenuto 환영합니다 Soo dhowow Selamat datang Velkomme Talitali fiefia 歡迎光臨 Hoan nghènh स्वागत  
Maeva אבה לך Hoş geldiniz Καλώς Ορίσαστε ەباحرم powitanie  
Bienvenido Willkommen ようこそ akeyi Ααηηη ηαηηηηηη! أهس و أهأ Dobrodošli kuwakaribisha Bienvenue

## From the Dean

Enormous challenges face our globalized world, requiring unprecedented levels of human effort and initiative to confront them. The University of Florida is proud to be a global leader in training new generations in finding answers to tough questions, and to help improve lives across the globe. And the UF International Center (UFIC) is here to serve the entire UF community in this task.

UFIC staff administer the programs that make possible every one of the over 6,500 international students at UF, the over 2,200 UF students who studied abroad last year, hundreds of collaborative agreements with partner institutions across the world, and thousands of international trips for research, teaching and collaboration both by UF faculty and by international guests. The International Center works to help promote and support global learning, to help prepare our students to excel in the international marketplace for talent and knowledge, and to develop the skills to be good global citizens, stewarding earth's resources and improving the quality of human lives everywhere.

And UFIC collaborates with units and colleagues across the university to help encourage and support our faculty's international research engagements, pushing the frontiers of knowledge and creativity. UF aspires not only to be a top American university, but a global one. In this, as in our other efforts, UFIC's core mission is to promote and support the rich and diverse international activities of the staff, students and faculty of the University of Florida.

Let us know how we can help!

*Leonardo A. Villalón*



**Cuba Engagement Faculty Workshop - Sponsored by UFIC, Center for Latin American Studies, UF Cuba Program and the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences**



**Signing Ceremony with the City of Pangkalpinang, the Institute of Technology in Bandung, Indonesia, and the UF College of Design, Construction and Planning**



**Kansai Gaidai University (Japan) delegation with UFIC Dean, Leonardo Villalón, Dr. Susanne Hill (UFIC Executive Director) and Dr. Matthew F. Jacobs (Director of Undergraduate Academic Programs)**



# UFIC STAFF 2016

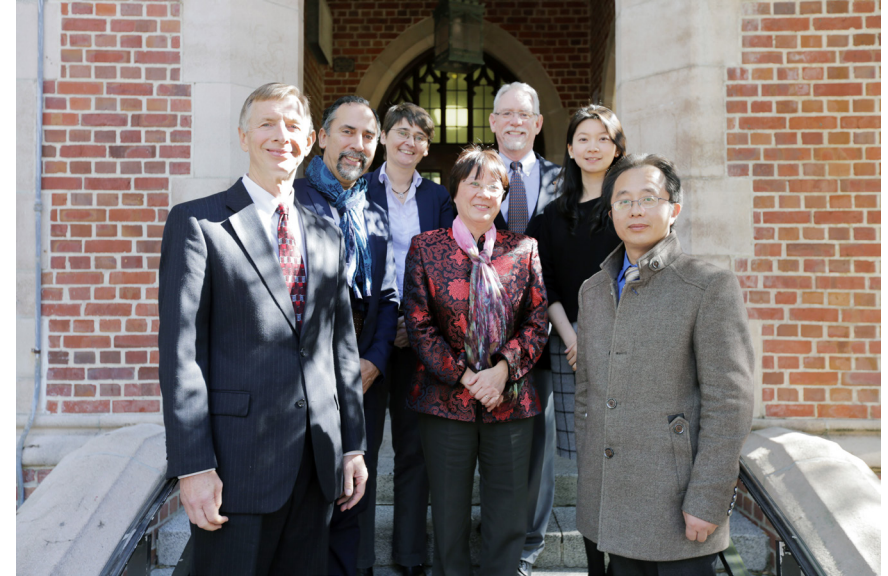




# COLLABORATIONS AND SPONSORSHIPS

The International Center was honored to support the following international events and activities on campus and in the Gainesville community:

- Global Health Competition and Global Health Symposium (Global Health Council)
- Sinoway International Education and Ireland Project (Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures)
- Public Lecture with Dr. Vishakha Desai (Department of Religion)
- Center for Global Islamic Studies (various events)
- Global Fellows Faculty Development Program
- 11th Gainesville Latino Film Festival 2015 (Latina Women's League)
- 65th Annual Conference Center for Latin American Studies (LAS)
- 2015 Gwendolen M. Carter Conference (Center for African Studies)
- Elusive Spirits: African Masquerades (Harn Museum of Art)
- Ewel Postdoc Fellowship
- Jewish-Muslim Relations: Boundaries and Transgressions Conference (Center for Jewish Studies and Center for Global Islamic Studies)
- Public Lecture with Mitko Panov (Center for Greek Studies)
- Public Lecture with Thomas B. Pepinsky (Center for Global Islamic Studies)
- Global History of Cold War Conference (Department of History)
- New Perspectives on Medieval Archeology Mini Conference (Department of History)
- UNESCO World Field Conference 2016 (School of Architecture, DCP)
- 2016 African Student Union Showcase (The UF Cultural Alliance)



Nanjing Normal University (China) delegation to the UF College of Education



UF faculty members with visitor from the Université Assane Seck of Ziguinchor, Senegal at the Annual Carter Conference - Center for African Studies



Keynote speaker Diane Davis - LAS 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



Rev. Gary Mason, Reconciliation in a Post Conflict Society - Bob Graham Center and Center for European Studies



Timothy McLendon, Lyrissa B. Lidsky and Reina Sacco in Havana, Cuba - UF Levin College of Law



Law and Policy in the Americas Conference at the University of Havana





Coffee Talk sponsored by the International Studies Club



College of Design, Construction and Planning IEW Reception



Global Health Challenges Songs (School of Music)



International Trivia Challenge



VISA Potluck



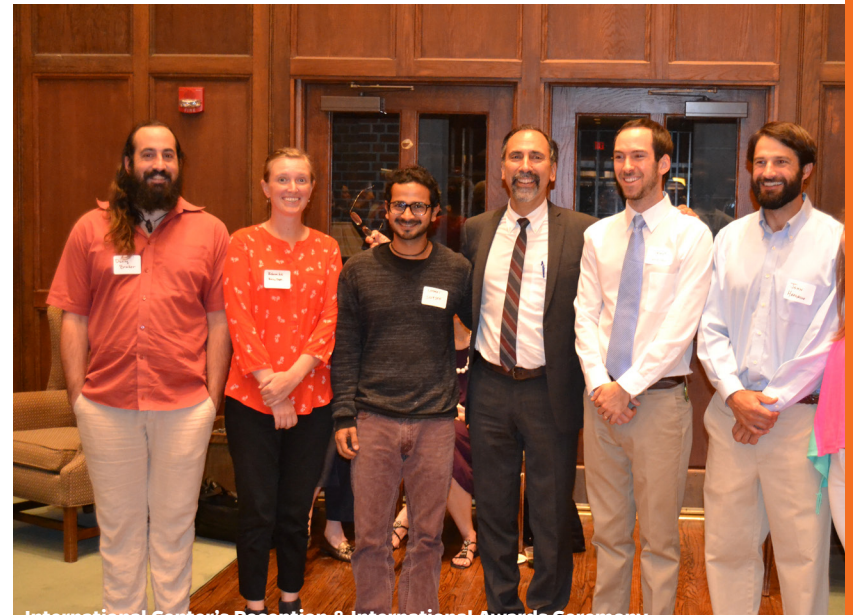
Peace Corps Documentary Screening



Benefits of Study Abroad: A Student Perspective Panel



English Language Institute Presentation



International Center's Reception & International Awards Ceremony



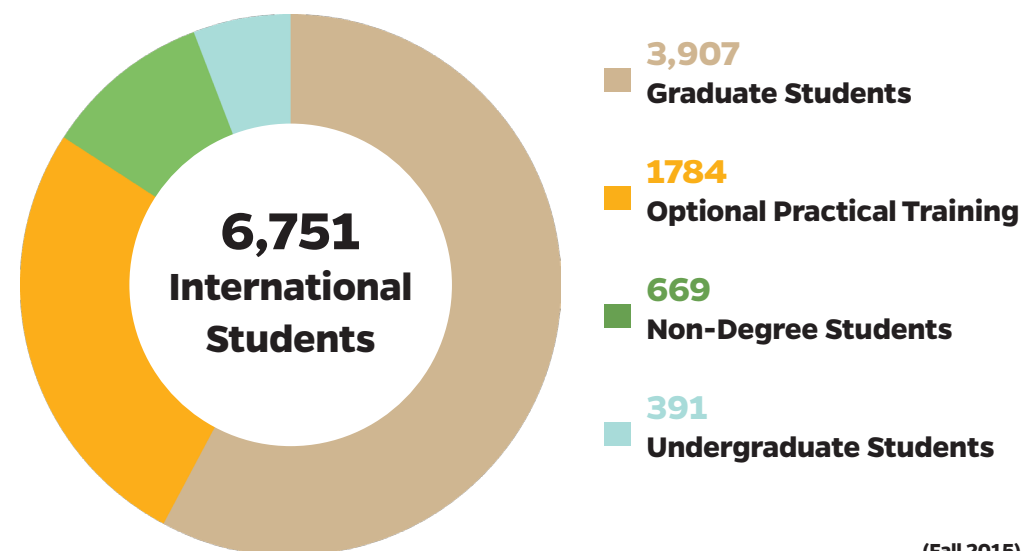
# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

UF is pleased to host over 6,500 international students. The UF International Center's (UFIC) International Student Services (ISS) creates a welcoming environment by providing support services and resources. International students play an important role in the advancement of UF's research competitiveness in many disciplines, as well as contributing diverse perspectives to the campus environment and enhancing UF's tradition of global learning.

The International Center is proud to welcome 1,500 new international students annually, on average.



## International Students by Academic Level



(Fall 2015)



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES



International students check in at the International Center



F1 Visa Workshop in collaboration with the Career Resource Center



The first International Graduate Student Advisory Board



Kipah Sikarang dance at the Indonesian Fair



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



**Paula Roetscher**  
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Paula Roetscher has left her mark on the map, and not just because she studied Geography. The recent University of Florida graduate was the 2016 winner of the John R. and Fawn T. Dunkle Geography Award. This monetary award is given every year to an undergraduate Geography student who excels academically, is highly involved in university activities, and shows strong potential for graduate studies.

Roetscher received the award for her work in making Gainesville the first “Welcoming City” in Florida. For the past year, Roetscher worked with Gainesville’s Interfaith Alliance for Immigrant Justice and city government representatives to help pass the resolution and to make Gainesville part of the Welcoming America network. She moved to Gainesville from Bosnia and Herzegovina four years ago. She is originally from Buttstädt, Germany. Apart from studying Geography, she also majored in Sustainability Studies with a minor in Arabic Language and Literature. The Arabic program was one of the main reasons she decided to come to UF. “[I learned] Standard Arabic and [had] the opportunity to learn the Levantine dialect and took a number of cultural classes,” she said.

Photo Credit: Department of Geography

Paula quickly integrated herself in the community and learned American customs. She became passionate about using her personal experiences to relate with immigrants and find ways to assist them. “Migration is a natural phenomenon and we should embrace multiculturalism and diversity as a source of strength,” Roetscher said.

Roetscher also organized a conference on immigration with UF Levin College of Law to improve immigrants’ living conditions and access to resources. Additionally, she spoke at churches and community organizations’ events to raise awareness about current immigration issues.

The recent graduate sees herself attending graduate school in the next few years. For now, she will continue her efforts working as executive director of Welcoming Gainesville, Inc., the newly created nonprofit organization dedicated to help local NGO’s, faith-based communities, and student organizations to join efforts in making Gainesville a more welcoming place for everyone. “We have come a long way to make this happen, and it is an initiative that will make the Gainesville community a role model for positive change,” said Roetscher.



At the Action Through Collaboration Conference



Paula Roetscher and Tyler James, winners of the Champions for Change Award (photo credit: Department of Geography)



With Dr. Leslie Thiele and students from the Sustainability Studies Program



# OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AWARDS

The Outstanding International Student Awards Ceremony was designed to recognize students who not only excel in academics, but also in a wide range of accomplishments and contributions. As our international community continues to grow, it is more important than ever to recognize the outstanding achievements of our international students and their contributions to the University of Florida.

## Alec Courtelis Award Recipients

E.M. Viktoria Hyddmark, Sweden  
Jingwen Liu, China  
Carla Cabrita, Portugal and South Africa

## Scarborough-Maud Fraser Award Recipient

Julia Roncoroni, Argentina

## COLLEGE AWARDS

### College of Agricultural & Life Sciences

Raquel Dias, Brazil  
Kelly Mayrink Balmant, Brazil  
Esteban Rios, Argentina  
Peng Liu, China  
Marcela Marquez Garcia, Chile

### Warrington College of Business Administration

Rodrigo Luna Queirolo, Peru  
Zhe Shen, China  
Valeria Volkova, Russia  
Gulver Karamemis, Turkey  
Catalina Angeli, Argentina

### College of Design, Construction & Planning

Cheng Zhu, China  
Fan Ling, China  
Song Jie, China  
Jae Hwa Lee, South Korea  
Kim Sujin, South Korea

### College of Education

Soowon Jo, South Korea  
Ren Liu, China  
Xiaodan Hu, China  
Uttam Gaulee, Nepal  
Carla Cabrita, Portugal

### College of Journalism and Communications

Shardul Madan, India  
Haochen Zhang, China  
Jieun Chung, South Korea  
Jasper Fessman, Germany  
Baobao Song, China

### College of Nursing

Tamara G. Macieira, Brazil  
Khulud Abudawood, Saudi Arabia  
Urszula Snigurska, Poland

### College of Health & Human Performance

Han-Kyul Kim, South Korea  
Seoung Hoon Park, South Korea  
Oghenekaro Omodior, Nigeria  
Mona Mirehie, Iran  
Gabrielle Darville, Bahamas

### College of Public Health and Health Professions

Jayakrishnan Nair, India  
Jingnan Zhang, China

### Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering

Immanuel Babu Henry Samuel, India  
Rohan Dhavalikar, India  
Oswaldo Reina Marmol, Venezuela  
Tianyi Pan, China  
Huilong Zhang, China  
Subhankar Mishra, India  
Fuyong Xing, China  
Adithya M Devraj, India  
Mingcong Song, China  
Ishwarya Thirunarayanan, India  
Tejaswini Bhirud, India  
Areej Albahar, Kuwait  
Yuzheng Wang, China  
Yuyu Long, China  
Dhruv Shah, India

### College of Veterinary Medicine

Minghao Gong, China  
Aristide Takoukam, Cameroon  
Shigeharu Tsuda, Japan  
Rodolfo Daetz, Chile  
Renata Velloso Ramos, Brazil

### College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Jihee Yang, South Korea  
Meenakshi Palaniappan, India

### College of Pharmacy

Yasmeen Abouelhassan, Egypt  
Lei Wang, China  
Chao Chen, China

### College of Medicine

Zirong Chen, China  
Tatiana Salazar, Costa Rica  
Joonseok Cho, South Korea  
Nicola Rutherford, United Kingdom  
Ramya Sivakumar, India

### College of the Arts

Abbey Chokera, Kenya  
Bridget Fairbank, Canada



College of Veterinary Medicine



Warrington College of Business Administration



College of Pharmacy



# STUDY ABROAD SERVICES

The UF International Center's (UFIC) Study Abroad Services (SAS) provides high-impact global learning experiences for students to develop global competencies within the context of their discipline in another country. Last year, 2,150 students studied abroad in over 70 different destinations. UF has offered study abroad programs for over 40 years.

UFIC is committed to increasing study abroad opportunities for all students through a variety of programs such as student exchange, faculty-led, and third-party provider programs. A noted favorite among UF students are UF Sponsored Faculty-led programs where students engage in course work, internships, service learning, and experiential learning abroad with UF faculty. Over the past academic year, UF students participated in more than 100 UF Sponsored Programs.

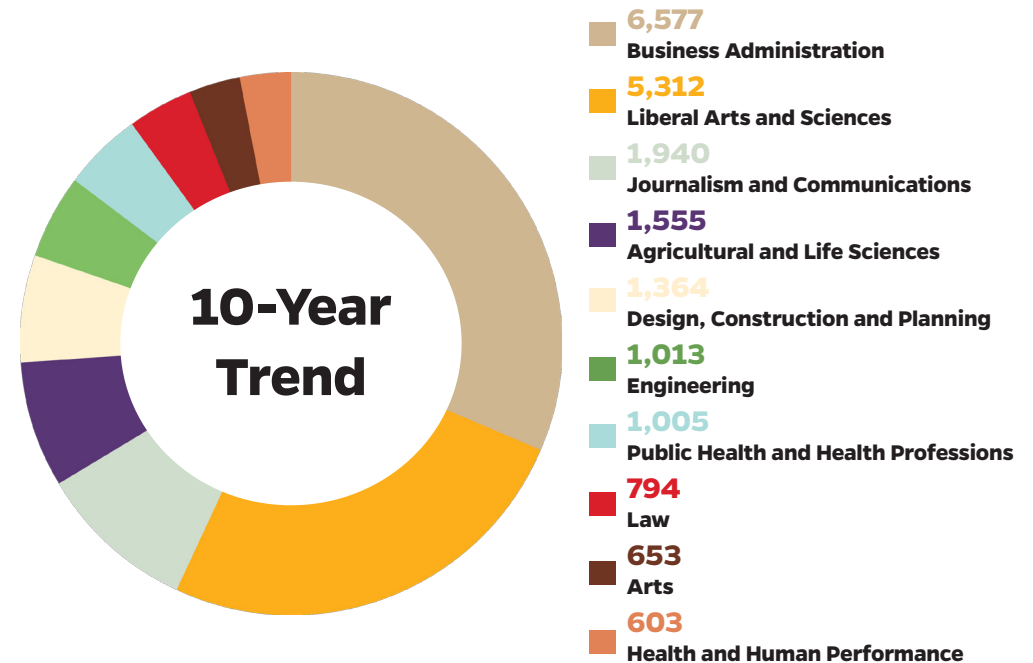
We are pleased to have launched the following new UF Sponsored Study Abroad programs in 2015-2016:

- UF in Bahia - Race, Inequality, and Power
- UF in Beijing - Internship (Chinese Commerce and Culture)
- UF in Berlin - Precision Engineering Measurement and Design
- UF in Cusco - Service Learning for Health Professions
- UF in Dublin - Business/Internship
- UF in Europe - Environmental Ethics and Sustainability Politics
- UF in Germany - The Rhine in European History
- UF in Hispaniola - Sustainability, Resiliency, and Social Justice
- UF in Madagascar - Biodiversity, Conservation, and Sustainable Development
- UF in Quintana Roo - Tropical Forest Ecology and Management



(Fall 2015 to Summer 2016)

## Top 10 UF Colleges for Study Abroad 2006-2016



Thanks to contributions from UFIC, the Quality Enhancement Plan's Learning without Borders, Dr. Pepper, UF Honors, and private donors, nearly 100 UF students were awarded scholarships to study abroad.



# STUDY ABROAD SERVICES



UF in Osnabrück - Understanding Engineering in Europe (College of Engineering)



Anadolu University Exchange Program (College of the Arts)



Fall 2015 Study Abroad Fair (UF Plaza of the Americas)



UF in New Zealand - Biodiversity and Conservation (Dept. of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation)



UF in Paris - African Americans in Paris (African American Studies)



UF in Dublin - Business/Internship (Warrington College of Business Administration)



# STUDY ABROAD SPOTLIGHTS

## STUDENT: Jordan Evans

### UF in London - Business/Internship

*"I will always cherish my time working with the Concordia Foundation. Concordia taught me many things. I [developed skills] that I can use in future occupations, and I learned what a real passion for your work is [all about]. Concordia is such a unique foundation, because it is in support of music, and the healing that music can bring. It was wonderful to be a part of a cause that is so important, and to work with all different networks of people. I loved going to work every morning because I knew I was a part of something bigger; that I was contributing to a cause that helped*



*so many people, from cancer patients to kids all the way in Nairobi, Kenya. It was just a bonus that I was able to listen to so many incredible performers. I am so very thankful to the Concordia family for taking me under their wing, and teaching me so much. I am proud to have worked with such amazing people on an even more remarkable cause. I cannot imagine my time in London without having been a part of the Concordia family."—Jordan Evans, Concordia Intern Fall 2015*

## PROGRAM: UF in Cuba Tropical Marine and Coastal Ecology



During Summer A 2015, Drs. Donald Behringer, Luke Flory, and Thomas Frazier led 11 students on their inaugural study abroad program to Cuba. UF in Cuba - Tropical Marine and Coastal Ecology focused on the tropical marine and coastal ecosystems of Cuba such as the pristine coral reefs and seagrass meadows. Students studied the function of coral reef communities and the mechanisms that drive their structure. They also studied the impact of human land-use activities on the ecological communities, as well as introductory Cuban history and culture.

On this intensive short-term program, students spent their time in a variety of field studies, lab studies, and classroom lectures/discussions. The group visited Havana, Isla de Juventud, Viñales Valley, the University of Havana Marine Science Center, and Las Terrazas.





**Student examining coral reef as part of a field exercise**



# EXCHANGE VISITOR SERVICES

Through the efforts of UF staff and faculty in establishing and maintaining international partnerships, the University of Florida benefits from the presence of 2,300 scholars, professors, researchers, post-docs and professionals who significantly contribute to UF's cutting-edge research in laboratories and teaching.

UFIC's Exchange Visitor Services (EVS) welcomes exchange visitors, supports them during their stay, and assists them with their employment and academic training needs. EVS also provides guidance and assistance to the host department at UF throughout the exchange visitor's stay. Additionally, EVS facilitates the visitor's exposure to American culture through events, outings, athletic activities and other cultural opportunities.



(July 2015 to June 2016)



At the Corn Maze



Exchange visitors' gathering (Spring 2016)





**Rotem Tamir**  
**Israel**

This year, UF hosted Israeli artist Rotem Tamir, a visiting Assistant Professor at the UF College of the Arts, School of Art + Art History. Ms. Tamir graduated with honors from Bezalel Academy for the Arts and Design in Jerusalem before coming to the U.S. in 2011 to complete her MFA in Sculpture at Virginia Commonwealth University. In 2013, Tamir received the Toby Devan Fellowship award for her exceptional thesis work. While living in Tel Aviv, Tamir exhibited her art work in numerous venues including Kav 16 Gallery, Artists House, and Fresh Paint Contemporary Art Fair. Since returning to the U.S., she has participated in the Seven Below Artist Residency Program in Vermont as well as the prestigious Sculpture Space in New York. Tamir has been a guest lecturer for Wooster College in Ohio, the Harn Museum of Art, and the UF College of Engineering.

Tamir recalls her childhood growing up with a scientific mother and a mechanic father. She identifies her artistic style as part explorer, part alchemist and part inventor. During Tamir’s creative process, she documents, collects, observes, plays and experiments. During her artistic journey, a new language of relationships develops between materials and new forms are developed. According to Tamir a gallery space is a shelter, not a place that protects, but rather a safe place that allows one to dream and imagine. She considers the viewer’s imagination as one of her materials and believes that without this secret component her work would not be truly finished.

On April 2016, Tamir participated in the installation ceremony for her work, *The Periplanómonos Whistles*, a tri-series of 12-foot-tall outdoor musical sculptures. This installation is permanently housed on the green lawn east of the UF Auditorium. The sculptures are built out of virgin bald cypress – an extinct wood that can withstand Florida’s unforgiving outdoor climate. Each piece is carved from a single trunk of a tree. Each whistle is painted to represent three extinct U.S. species of birds: the ivory-billed woodpecker, the passenger pigeon, and the Carolina parakeet. The sculptures are similar to oversized recorders, but without finger holes. The sculptures are meant to be interactive, as well as decorative and thought-provoking. During the installation ceremony, Dr. Kristen Stoner, Associate Professor of flute and the flute students, demonstrated the whistles musical capabilities with music specifically written for the occasion.



Periplanómonos Whistles Installation Ceremony (photo courtesy of Professor Rotem Tamir)



# EXCHANGE STUDENT SERVICES

Through collaborative agreements with universities around the world UF facilitates bi-directional student exchanges. These partnerships allowed 200+ Global Gators to study at international institutions this past year, and enabled UF to welcome the same number of students from partner institutions for one or two semesters. UFIC's Exchange Student Services serves our incoming exchange students and manages over 100 reciprocal exchange agreements with partner universities worldwide.

Many exchange students choose to live on campus in Weaver International House, where they share accommodations with UF degree-seeking students, providing opportunities to form friendships and to network via cultural exchange activities.

We are honored to host our exchange students, and look forward to more of them joining the Gator Nation!



Welcome events for exchange students hosted by UF Warrington College of Business Administration (photos courtesy of Heavener School of Business)



At the Farmer's market



College of Engineering welcome reception for exchange students



## Daniel Cervera Pereira Mexico



Daniel Cervera Pereira, from Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (UADY) in Mérida, Mexico exemplified the value that exchange students bring to UF. A business major at UADY, he attended business classes and was an active part of the Warrington College of Business Administration. Daniel also used his exchange opportunity to expand his own horizons, taking communications classes that were not available to him at UADY. Additionally, he volunteered at WUFT radio station where he operated the station's equipment and learned about the radio industry.

Daniel was actively involved with the Weaver Hall community. He made an effort to know everyone, and as a way of sharing his culture and to thank everyone at Weaver Hall, he spent three days preparing an amazing Mexican feast!

Daniel is now back in Mexico and will soon graduate with a degree in Business Administration.



Welcome Carnival sponsored by UF NaviGators



Exchange students experienced pizza dinner in town



# UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS



Museum Nights: Art Without Borders



International Scholars Program graduation medallion



Tabling at Plaza of the Americas

The Office of Undergraduate Academic Programs (UAP) operates at the intersection of students' on-campus academic studies and their aspirations for pursuing intercultural and international opportunities and careers, most significantly through the Learning without Borders initiative and its signature International Scholars Program. UFIC is also proud to host—and the UAP team to administer—the International Studies Program for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The centerpiece of that program is a dynamic interdisciplinary major that draws on coursework offered by nearly 40 UF academic units, and currently serves as the academic home for over 250 students.

## Highlights:

- **210 students across 10 colleges enrolled in the International Scholars Program, with five students successfully completing the program in Spring 2016.** *Students pursue international coursework, participate in a global experience or language learning, engage in campus life activities, submit a dynamic e-Portfolio, and earn a graduation medallion upon completion of the program.*
- **20 courses from 11 colleges taught in Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 incorporated international student learning outcomes and formed a key set of courses in the International Scholars Program.** *In partnership with colleges, academic units, and faculty, UF Learning without Borders supports the development of new international course offerings and the enhancement of existing ones.*
- **100 students joined the Peace Corps Preparatory Program.** *The University of Florida and Peace Corps entered into an exciting venture that enhances global learning and helps prepare students for international development fieldwork and potential Peace Corps service.*
- **29 students awarded a \$3,000 Learning Without Borders Study Abroad Scholarship.** *This scholarship was established in Spring 2015 to help increase study abroad participation among underrepresented students. Currently, all recipients must be Pell Grant eligible.*
- **Over 1,500 first-year students attended the 2015 Preview session “Internationalize your degree.”** *The session provides an overview of international resources and opportunities to gain a global perspective, including UF Learning without Borders programming, study abroad, language learning, campus life involvement, research, and more.*
- **18 globally-focused campus events organized and co-sponsored by UF Learning without Borders.** *In partnership with Student Affairs, academic units, and student organizations, UF Learning without Borders organizes and supports several globally-focused campus life events each year, including the UFIC Global Challenges and International Career Pathways Speaker Series.*
- **68 students graduated in Spring 2016 with a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. To date, this represents the largest cohort of students to complete the degree.** *Students must select a region of the world on which to focus (Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and Caribbean, or the Middle East) and develop language skills pertinent to their chosen area of study.*



Learning Without Borders Study Abroad Scholarships recipients



# UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS SPOTLIGHTS

UAP is pleased to highlight the following Spring 2016 graduates who successfully completed the UF International Scholars Program:



**Jaclyn Biedronski**

**Double Major in International Studies and Psychology**

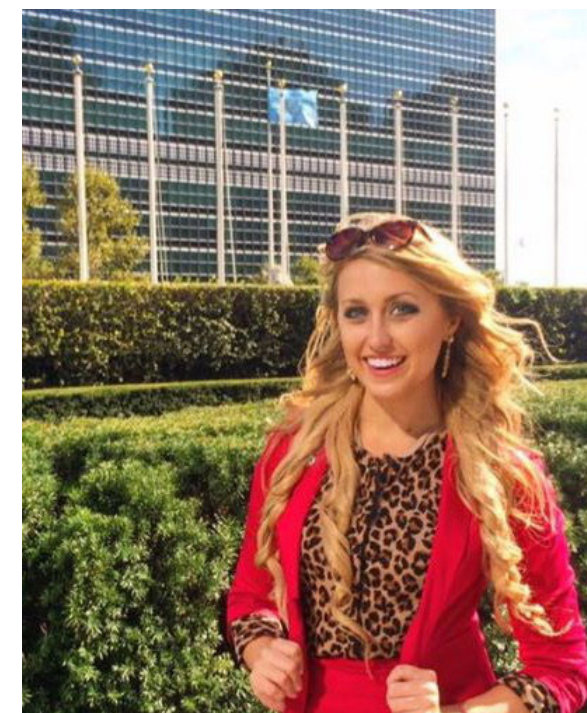
*“Gaining a global perspective, whether by studying abroad, learning a language, or joining a club on campus, is one of the most enriching, powerful, and inspirational journeys of knowledge and self-discovery one could ever embark on. . . . [My] global experiences, my time at UF, and the ISP have provided the tools I need to further pursue my passion. . . . I am currently a Peace Corps Invitee, set to depart to Mozambique in August of 2016. I was invited to serve as a high school English teacher, as well as implementing projects to promote girls education, empowerment, and equality as part of the Let Girls Learn initiative.”*



**Kabeel Dosani**

**Double Major in Psychology and Anthropology**

*“The International Scholars Program at the University of Florida further developed my sense of cultural competence and understanding of intercultural issues. Through the events I attended, I have been able to gain diverse experiences and knowledge of varied global issues. . . . Additionally, through the courses I have taken through this program I have gained an understanding of the culturally immersive ideals that are essential to [the discipline of] psychology. These concepts inspired my passion for multiculturalism and its importance in research.”*



**Ashley Inman**

**Double Major in Political Science and International Studies, Certificate in International Relations**

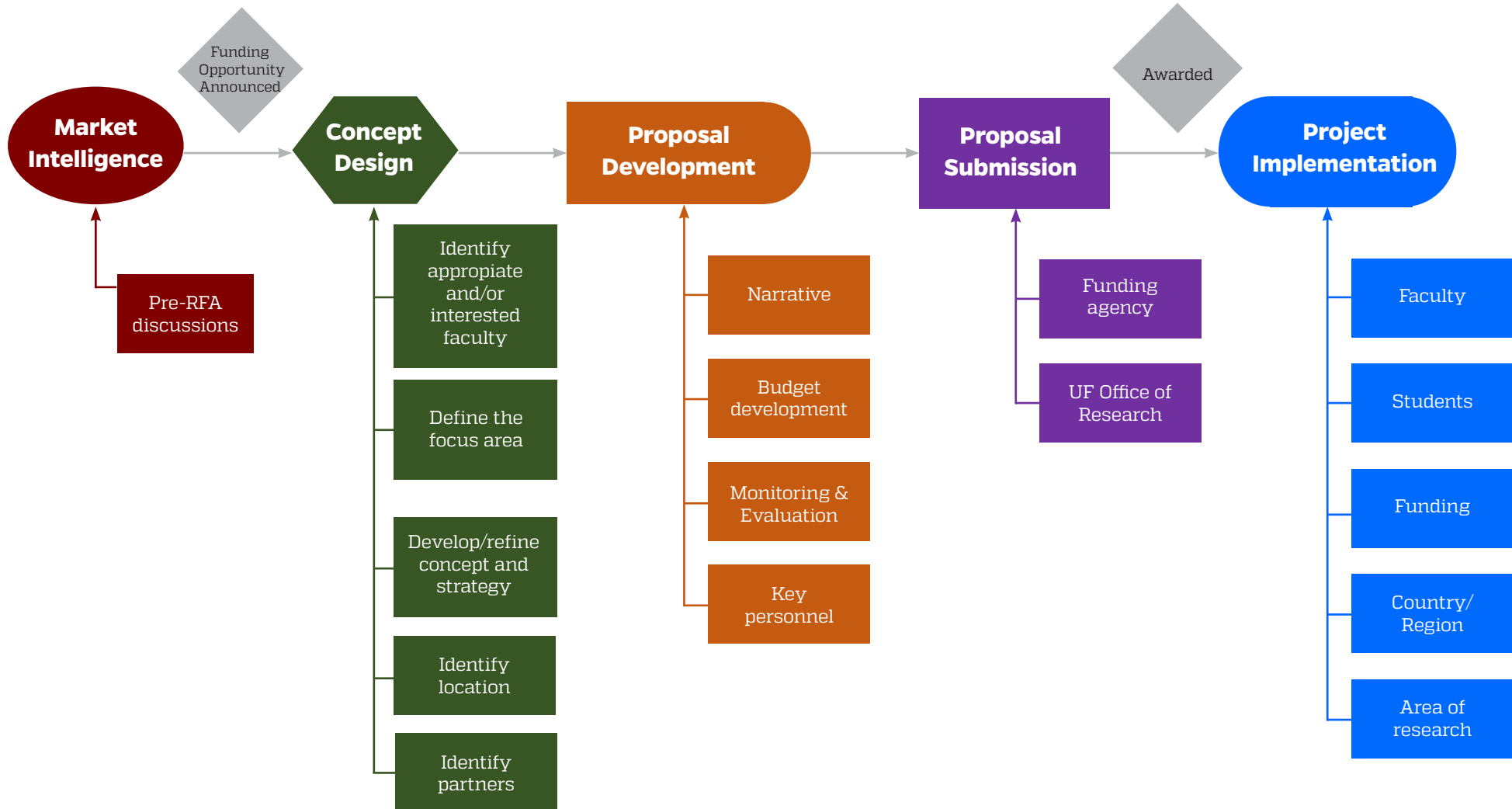
*“ISP at the University of Florida is in itself a learning experience, forcing its participants to not only learn about the world around them, but engage with it as well. In an increasingly-globalized world, this sense of cultural awareness and adaptability is vital on both a professional and personal scale. The path to becoming a global citizen is more about the journey than the destination, embracing change and taking risks outside of one’s comfort zone. Ultimately, as an International Scholar, I delved further into my journey to become a more global citizen, from the pages of my textbooks to the shores of other countries.”*



The Office for Global Research Engagement, formerly Program Development, facilitates the international engagement of faculty to increase UF's global presence. Simply stated, faculty are at the heart of what we do. International engagement, whether for the purposes of scholarship or specific research projects, can be difficult to navigate. The Office for Global Research Engagement (OGRE) provides support for faculty to engage in international research activities.

While faculty members bring their own disciplinary and geographic expertise and interests to the table, OGRE can help faculty expand their network by connecting them to people in new geographic areas, other disciplines, other institutions, and new people within their geographic area of interest. We can help develop a research idea or proposal and navigate the research offices on campus.

## Proposal Development Process and Where OGRE Can Provide Assistance







CNIC/CNH group and partners in Swaziland  
(Photo Credit: Dr. Sam Wisely,  
Wildlife Ecology and Conservation)



Nepal scoping trip  
(Photo Credit: Livestock Innovation Lab,  
Animal Sciences)

## Examples of How OGRE Works

### Market Intelligence

Knowing beforehand that a currently funded USAID-project (Modernizing Extension and Agricultural Services) was going to release a Request for Applications (RFA) focusing on gender and nutrition in agricultural extension services, OGRE mobilized a multi-disciplinary team of UF faculty and worked with other U.S. university partners to develop the proposal prior to the release of the RFA for Integrating Gender and Nutrition within Agricultural Extension Services (INGENAES). The RFA was awarded to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for \$7M from 2015-2018, of which the University of Florida received \$1.5M.

### Concept Design

In 2012, OGRE convened a group of faculty interested in developing a National Science Foundation (NSF) Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE) proposal for interdisciplinary research in Swaziland and South Africa. Based on NSF feedback, we planned for the release of the RFA in 2014, but knew that getting natural and social scientists to use the same vocabulary to work together would take time. Ultimately, the group did not apply for a PIRE but did submit two successful NSF proposals for a Catalyzing New International Collaborations and Dynamics of Coupled Natural and Human Systems programs.

### Proposal Development

In spring 2016, OGRE spearheaded the development of a new proposal to fund the development of an engineering study abroad program for underrepresented engineering students to learn about international engineering disciplines and engage in service learning in Brazil. Partnering with the Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering, Center for Latin American Studies, Tropical Conservation and Development, Instituto de Pesquisas Ecologicas, and Campus Brazil, UFIC submitted this study abroad capacity building proposal to the Partners of the Americas.

### Proposal Submission

Through close collaboration with the Office of Research, we help faculty navigate the submission process for international research proposals.

In 2015-2016, OGRE:  
Assisted

9

faculty with

8

proposal submissions worth an estimated

**\$26.2M**

### Project Implementation

*"Working with OGRE has provided unique opportunities to engage in interdisciplinary collaboration with international scholars and organizations, strengthening my ability to effectively apply my academic knowledge and experience to global issues in health, nutrition and rural development."*  
- Dr. Alyson Young (Anthropology)



## Global Fellows Program

The Global Fellows Program assists early career faculty in developing or advancing an international research agenda. The first cohort of Global Fellows, were recognized at the International Education Week Reception by Dean Leonardo Villalón and UF President Kent Fuchs. Fellows receive \$4,000 in seed funding, participate in a series of workshops, and have one-on-one consultations with the Office for Global Research Engagement to facilitate their international engagement.

The call for applications for the 2017 Global Fellows Program will be announced early in the fall semester.

The 2016 Global Fellows are:

- **Dr. Joseph Bisesi**, Environmental and Global Health, College of Public Health and Health Professions. Faculty Mentor: Alyson Young, Anthropology/Center for African Studies
- **Dr. Andrea Dutton**, Geological Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Ellen Martin, Geological Sciences, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Dr. S. Luke Flory**, Agronomy, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Bette Loiselle, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- **Dr. Walter Leite**, School of Human Development and Organizational Studies in Education, College of Education. Faculty Mentor: Susan Natasha Beretvas, Educational Psychology, University of Texas at Austin
- **Dr. Andrea Lucky**, Entomology & Nematology, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Emilio Bruna, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation/Center for Latin American Studies
- **Dr. Christine Miller**, Entomology & Nematology, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Emilio Bruna, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation/Center for Latin American Studies
- **Dr. Marit Ostebo**, Anthropology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Susan Gillespie, Anthropology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Dr. Eric Potsdam**, Linguistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Fiona Mc Laughlin, Linguistics/Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
- **Dr. Brian Reichow**, School of Special Education, School of Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies, College of Education. Faculty Mentor: Patricia Snyder, School of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies
- **Dr. Brett Scheffers**, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Scott Robinson, Florida Museum of Natural History
- **Dr. Emily Sessa**, Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Faculty Mentor: Douglas Soltis, Department of Biology/Florida Museum of Natural History



First cohort of UFIC Global Fellows



# INTERNATIONAL EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The International Educator of the Year Awards are made annually in recognition of the outstanding contributions of faculty and staff to the internationalization of the University of Florida. A university-wide committee appointed by the Dean of the UF International Center selects the winners for each of the awards. The award committee considers nominations in light of the international educational contributions of the faculty or staff member and the impact of those contributions on students, international partners, university stakeholders, and/or the nominee's discipline.



## **Dr. Stephen G. Perz - Senior Faculty Winner**

### **Professor of Sociology, Criminology and Law - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

Dr. Stephen Perz blends together scholarship, teaching and service into each professional activity, but it is his international scholarship and collaborations that anchor his remarkable success. Perz conducts research on demographic processes and environmental change; land use practices and land cover dynamics, and the socio-spatial processes of road building in the Amazon. He has received funding from prestigious organizations such as NASA, USAID, and NSF to support projects in the Amazon, where Bolivia, Brazil and Peru meet. Perz has helped UF lead a consortium of nine organizations to implement the MAP region (Madre de Dios, Acre, Pando) model of conservation and development by combining interdisciplinary environmental science with participatory planning for environmental governance. Through these projects and various others, Dr. Perz has funded travel and fellowships for numerous UF graduate students to work with partners on research and outreach, as well as facilitating conference presentations by foreign collaborators. Perz's UF-based intellectual imprint on doctoral students further strengthens the image of UF as an international leader in environmental and resource studies.

## **Dr. Muthusami Kumaran - Junior Faculty Winner**

### **Assistant Professor of Family, Youth & Community Sciences - College of Agricultural and Life Sciences**

Dr. Muthusami Kumaran teaches and researches in areas of nonprofit management, roles of NGOs in disaster management, community development, civic engagement, home and community-based elderly care services, and environmental justice and protection. Dr. Kumaran's dedication and passion for educational excellence far exceeds the classroom, providing platforms and opportunities for UF faculty and researchers to explore collaborative opportunities with their counterparts at major international universities. He facilitates meetings for students and faculty interested in various subjects and provides training workshops on organizational capacity building to a host of NGOs. Recognized for his international education endeavors, Kumaran received the 2015 UF/IFAS International Achievement Award, and was honored by the North American Colleges & Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) with the NACTA Educator Award in June 2015. Dr. Kumaran is currently serving his second term on the UF President's Council on Diversity as the Chair of UFIC's India Working Group, and as treasurer for the Board of the International Academic Association, in addition to service for countless other organizations of research and service. Kumaran shares his global knowledge with a vast audience.



The Kumaran Family accepted the award for Dr. Kumaran



# INTERNATIONAL EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS



**Jason Ward - Staff Winner**  
**Associate Director of International Programs, Heavener School of Business - Warrington College of Business Administration**

Jason Ward oversees international exchange partnerships with over 30 universities in Europe, Asia, South America, and Australia. In this role, he welcomes international students to UF and prepares some of the brightest students to study at

prestigious global business schools around the world. He advises students to study and intern in London, Dublin, Madrid, Paris, and Rome. Emphasizing the importance of international exchange opportunities, Ward created the bi-annual Global Gathering, which helps to bring together UF students and international students on exchange programs. Ward also launched the Global Gator Guide program this year through the Heavener School of Business as a program designed to welcome international exchange students to the college and provide them with a U.S. mentor to guide them through their unique journeys at UF. Thanks to his efforts, Heavener student participation in exchange programs has doubled and has helped to highlight the value of international exchange to students and faculty alike.

**College Winners:**

**Staff Category:**

*Julie Henderson, College of Education*  
*Pingchien Neo, Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering*

**Junior Faculty Category:**

*Dr. Abhinav Alaskshendra, College of Design, Construction and Planning*  
*Dr. Eleni Bozia, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
*Dr. Darlene A. Kertes, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
*Dr. Daniela Oliveira, Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering*  
*Dr. Wentong Zheng, Fredric G. Levin College of Law*

**Senior Faculty Category:**

*Professor Anna Calluori-Holcombe, College of the Arts*  
*Dr. Brian Gendreau, Warrington College of Business Administration*  
*Dr. Edward Anthony Evans, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences*  
*Dr. Gregory MacDonald, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences*  
*Dr. Hélène Blondeau, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
*Dr. Ruth Steiner, College of Design, Construction and Planning*  
*Dr. Sylvia Chan-Olmsted, College of Journalism and Communications*  
*Dr. Yong G. Peng, College of Medicine*  
*Dr. Vladimir Rakov, Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering*



Dr. Darlene A. Kertes



Professor Anna Calluori-Holcombe



Dr. Wentong Zheng



Julie Henderson





The Global Health Council (GHC) contributes to the improvement of the health and well-being of populations, communities, and individuals by supporting UF education, research, and service in collaboration with partners around the world.

### **Global Health Case Competition**

This competition promotes multidisciplinary collaborations as students from various degree programs and disciplines work in teams to develop innovative solutions to critical global health issues. The topic this year was “Sanitation and Population Growth in Lagos, Nigeria.” The teams meticulously addressed the situation of inadequate infrastructure to deliver clean water and sanitation services to the citizens of Lagos, particularly considering the massive population growth and density in that region.

The winning team was comprised of six students: Sarah Chavez (Health Outcomes and Policy PhD), Molly Nyren (Chemistry undergrad), Katarina Hamburg (Law), Douglas Obogo (Master of Public Health), Gabrielle Kate Alicante (Public Health undergrad), and Janice Wong (Engineering undergrad). The winning team represented UF at Emory’s 2016 International Global Health Case Competition. Their participation at this event helped increase UF’s visibility as a leader in the global health arena.

### **UF Global Health Symposium**

The second annual UF Innovations in Global Health Symposium was held in April 2016. This event fosters interdisciplinary dialogues and collaborations in global health issues. International leading experts and UF faculty were invited to speak on health trends and UF students also presented their individual research.

This year’s topic was “Innovations in Global Health - Megacities.” The theme carried throughout six different sessions including UF Capacity in Global Health, Drivers & Shifts in Global Disease Burden, Infectious Diseases & Urban Environment, Chronic Diseases & Urban Environment, Information & Technology as Agents of Change, among others.

Dr. Gérard Salem (University of Paris-Nanterre) and Dr. Martín Sepúlveda (IBM Fellow) were the keynote speakers. UF was honored to host the following guest speakers: Dr. Humberto Cavallin (University of Puerto Rico), Dr. Mohan Thanikachalam (Tufts University) and Christian Jocelyn (Trek Medics International).

The success of this event was due to the interdisciplinary diversity of the speakers and UF faculty and students represented.



Lecturer Gérard J. Salem - Global Health Symposium



# UFIC ASSOCIATED CENTERS



**Collaborative exchange with Masters of Sustainable Development Practice faculty, Sciences Po (Paris) and Université Cheikh Anta Diop (Dakar) on Development, Security and Climate Change in the Sahel**

## Center for African Studies

The Center for African Studies at the University of Florida is one of the largest and most diverse area studies centers on Africa in the United States. Our affiliated faculty and graduate students span all the colleges at UF, and they carry out an extraordinarily wide range of research on Africa, often involving highly interdisciplinary collaborations. Among many other activities this year, the Center held the 31st annual Gwendolyn Carter Conference in Spring 2016 which focused on "Crime and Punishment in Africa" and included participants from the United States, Africa, and Europe. The Center's interdisciplinary Working Groups also had an extremely active year. Working Groups on Islam in Africa, Health and Society, Natural Resource Management, Migration, and China and Africa all held workshops or seminars and brought speakers to the university from across the United States and overseas. Many of these events, along with our language courses (we offer six African languages), numerous outreach activities locally and region-wide, library collections, weekly baraza colloquia, and other activities receive support from our Title VI grant, and funding from UF's Office of Research, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Provost's Office, and other sources for which we are extremely grateful.

## Center for Global Islamic Studies

Devoted to enhancing the knowledge of Islam as a global religion through teaching, research, and public outreach, the Center launched its graduate certificate in Global Islam in fall 2015 and currently has four students enrolled. Through various departments, CGIS offers a range of undergraduate courses related to Islam and Muslim societies in the world. The Center's yearly conference, Islamic Bioethics and Spirituality in Contemporary Medicine was held in fall 2015. Additionally, two main public lectures were offered in spring 2016 presenting renowned scholars Jonathan Brown (Georgetown University) and Saba Mahmood (University of Berkeley). CGIS also co-sponsored a symposium on Countering Violent Extremism in Africa (in collaboration with the Islam in Africa Working Group and the Center for African Studies), and a one-day conference on Jewish-Muslim Relations (in collaboration with the Center for Jewish Studies) in spring 2016. Another important event in spring 2016 was the public meeting: Welcoming Diversity: A Community Action Forum against Islamophobia and Intolerance held at the Thomas Center in Gainesville.



**Dr. Hatem Bazian - Welcoming Diversity: A Community Action Forum Against Islamophobia and Intolerance**



**Colm Clarke - Northern Ireland: the Other Side**

## Center for European Studies

CES was awarded three new grants that will greatly expand European Studies on campus and conduct meaningful outreach programs to K-12 schools, the business community, Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) units, and local area veterans. For the second time we received a Getting to Know Europe grant from the European Union (EU) Delegation to the U.S. With this grant we will explore the EU's role in peace-keeping and conflict resolution and also environmental sustainability. As part of this project we invited two artists from Northern Ireland, Colm Clarke and Tonya McMullen, to participate in our kick-off series, "Northern Ireland: the Other Side." Colm and Tonya gave talks at the Harn Museum and conducted workshops with local public school children on campus and at the Hippodrome's Art Camp. In addition, we received a Project Go award from the Institute of International Education to conduct an intensive Turkish language and area studies program in Turkey for ROTC students. The grant provides full scholarships for ROTC students to study abroad in Turkey. CES will begin working with veterans on campus and from the Alachua County area thanks to a National Endowment for the Humanities program, "Dialogues on the Experience of War." This program addresses the experience of war and we are thrilled to be working with the Samuel Proctor Oral History program and the UF Center for Arts in Medicine. CES continues to serve as a hub for social science and humanities research with a focus on contemporary European issues. We understand, however, that European issues often have global implications, as our Migration Working Group made clear at a recent panel on the migration crisis, and we will seek to understand Europe's place in the larger world.

## Center for Latin American Studies



**Collaborative partnership with UF Levin College of Law and Universidad de la Habana**

The UF Latin American Studies program dates from 1930, the oldest in the nation, and has been a U.S. Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center since 1961. In 2015, the Center for Latin American Studies received a grant from the U.S. Embassy Panama to implement a new project, "Equal Justice for all in Panama: Supporting the Transition to the Accusatory System in Rural and Indigenous Communities." The project, based on a national campaign to inform Panamanian citizens about the new Accusatory Justice System (AJS), will focus on vulnerable indigenous populations in remote rural areas. Also, the Center funded a musical encounter exploring the interconnections of jazz and Brazilian music delivered with a distinctly hemispheric American accent. Jacaré

Brazil and UF Jazz Band performed a concert in Spring 2016 in collaboration with internationally renowned Brazilian musicians: Cesar Camargo Mariano (piano), and Renato Martins (percussion). The concert was directed by School of Music faculty Larry Crook, Ulisses Rocha, Welson Tremura, and Scott Wilson, "Jacaré à La Jazz" featured UF faculty and student musicians performing alongside international artists of the first rank. Currently, the Center's UF Cuba Program is working with the UF Levin College of Law and the Facultad de Derecho at Universidad de la Habana to initiate a new collaborative partnership to support faculty and student exchanges, joint research projects, publications, and a joint conference scheduled for summer 2016.



# UF COLLEGE OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND PLANNING



DCP at University of Indonesia

The UF College of Design, Construction and Planning's (DCP) programs and partnerships span the globe, utilizing traditional and innovative ways to access the world in support of professional education, research, and outreach. UFIC is pleased to collaborate with DCP and to support their constant efforts to make UF a global campus. The College's global engagements transcend physical space through its use of visionary technologies that carry its educational mission to even the most distant and remote regions. DCP's Master of Sustainable Design program allows students based throughout the world to study together through web-based instruction and field visits to Singapore and Groningen (Netherlands).

Historically, DCP boasts one of the highest percentages of its students "going abroad" among UF's colleges. Its design studios and field schools allow students to engage in collaborative, context-based learning in diverse geographies, including Brazil, the Czech Republic, China, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, the Netherlands, Singapore, and Sweden. Long-standing programs such as the School of Architecture's Vicenza program consistently ranks in the top ten most popular UF Study Abroad Programs for undergraduate students.

In 2015-2016 two joint studios were successfully held in Indonesia, one working alongside the University of Indonesia and Cardiff University to generate green infrastructure-related solutions to address megacity water challenges. The other studio enabled seven DCP landscape architecture students to work with the Institute of Technology Bandung. Additionally, eight School of Architecture students led by Professor Alfonso Perez-Mendez traveled to Havana, Cuba for a field studio to document areas developed in the post-WWII era, including the restricted "Las Escuelas de Arte."

"The studio model is unique to the design and planning disciplines," says Dr. Jocelyn Widmer (Department of Urban & Regional Planning). "DCP's global studios help students to venture outside of the conceptual world to grapple with real problems while engaging with real people. The solutions students generate in the iterative process of these global studios are grounded in context and culture, and often inform the decision-making process of clients and stakeholders."

From the vast student engagement opportunities to the robust research agenda, DCP is an active contributor to global dialogue that engages all of the College's disciplines:

- In August 2015, the Department of Urban and Regional Planning co-sponsored and had eight of its faculty as presenters in the International Conference on Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development in India.
- In October 2015, faculty from the Schools of Architecture, Construction Management and Landscape Architecture and Planning participated in a joint international stakeholder workshop on Novel Approaches of Employing Green Infrastructure to Enhance Urban Sustainability at the University of Indonesia.
- In March 2016, Professors Martha Kohen and Nancy Clark (School of Architecture) co-organized a two week international workshop entitled UNESCO World Field Laboratory: Sea Level Rise and the Future of Coastal Urban Settlements.

As Dean Christopher Silver notes, "The international mix of DCP's student cohorts, the opportunities provided for students to further their academic and professional education with our many global partners and global initiatives, and how DCP has embedded global into its core 'DNA', represents the special environment we are proud to be known for." There are new global initiatives for DCP on the horizon!



Dean Silver (5th from left) with Urban Development Union's leadership in Delhi, India



Students during Cuba Documentation Studio



Students sketching in Vicenza, Italy



# FULBRIGHT ON CAMPUS

This year, the University of Florida produced the second highest number of Fulbright U.S. Scholars, up from third the previous year. The UF Fulbright Lectures Committee sponsored multiple activities for students, scholars, faculty, and staff to learn about the Fulbright application process and to listen to the experiences of past Fulbright scholars and students. To continue our efforts of increasing awareness and supporting Fulbright programs on campus, March was designated as Fulbright Awareness Month.

## PECHAKUCHAxFulbright 20X20 Events

The Fulbright Committee, in collaboration with the Fulbright Association North Florida Chapter, hosted two PECHAKUCHA events in the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016. The events provided an opportunity for Fulbright visiting scholars and foreign graduate students to present their scholarly work, and offered opportunities to connect and network with Fulbright colleagues.

Big thanks to the following presenters and moderator:

Dr. Lilit Vardanyan (Armenia)  
Dr. Carlos De Angelo (Argentina)  
Ms. Mariana Garcia (Paraguay)  
Mr. Uttam Gaulee (Nepal)

Dr. Anna Calluori Holcombe (UF/ Turkey)  
Mr. Jason R. Picardo (India)  
Diana P. Rojas, MD, (Colombia)  
Carlos Maeztu, Coach & Moderator  
(Fulbright Assoc. North Florida Chapter)



**Betty Castor**

UF hosted Ms. Betty Castor in November 2015 for a “meet and greet” luncheon and presentation entitled: “Developing Future Leaders and Solving Global Challenges.” Castor spoke on Fulbright’s roles in bringing people together. Fulbright provides opportunities for foreign scholars to study and train in U.S. institutions and sends U.S. scholars around the world to learn and share their knowledge and expertise to solve local and global challenges.

Castor was appointed to serve on the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board by President Obama in 2011. In 2014, she was reappointed and now serves as Chair of the Board. Ms. Castor’s distinguished career in education includes serving as President of the University of South Florida.



Betty Castor (front row, fifth from left) with attendees to “Developing Future Leaders and Solving Global Challenges”





**Visiting Scholar  
DR. MARIKA VÄLI**

The Florida Child Protection Team (CPT) within UF Shands in Jacksonville is not only advancing child abuse research in Florida, but in Estonia as well, thanks to the current work of Fulbright visiting scholar Dr. Marika Väli.

The CPT is a medically driven Florida program designed to improve child protective investigations in local sheriffs' offices and the Department of Children and Family Services regarding complex cases of child abuse and neglect. Dr. Väli is studying and working with the CPT to improve child death investigations in Estonia due to external factors and child abuse, and ultimately reducing the number of child abuse cases.

Since 1998, Dr. Väli has been responsible for forensic medicine in Estonia. Dr. Väli graduated from the Medical Faculty of Tartu University in 1983 and defended her doctoral thesis in forensic medicine in 1989 at Moscow University. She has since published 43 articles in international journals. In 2012, she became the head of the Expert Commission of Medical Aid Quality of the Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs.

Dr. Väli's research will help to improve Estonian forensic medicine and inform legislators concerning forensic science amendments and the development of expert opinions.



**Fulbright U.S. Scholar  
DR. EDMUND KELLERMAN**

**Malaysia (2015-16), Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Bangi  
Master Lecturer, UF Dial Center for Written and Oral  
Communication, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**

Meeting his wife in Malaysia during his Peace Corps volunteer service (1977-79) sparked Dr. Kellerman's interest in intercultural marriages. Last year, the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program gave him the opportunity to not only collect several hundred responses to his study on intercultural marriages, but also to lecture to 1000+ students, participate in several University committees, run workshops in higher education research, study abroad orientations, and lecture to eight Embassy sponsored literary groups. He even played American blues guitar, country, and folk at a local club!

Dr. Kellerman had the honor of meeting the Defense Minister, among many other dignitaries, and traveled all over Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia, Hawaii, and Borneo. He also recruited four Malaysians to do their graduate work at UF including an engineering faculty member who applied for a Fulbright to study in UF's technology transfer program.

Dr. Kellerman teaches a variety of UF communication courses from freshman introductory classes to upper division Patterns of Intercultural Communication, Organizational Communication and Leadership, and Non-Profit Leadership.



**Visiting Student Spotlight  
MANDISA HAARHOFF**

Mandisa Haarhoff, from Port Elizabeth, South Africa, is a Fulbright doctoral student studying English Literature and writing on Black South African literature in the post-1994 context. Haarhoff was awarded a Fulbright scholarship and began her studies in the United States in August 2012. "As a Fulbright student, I am an ambassador of cultural exchange and education instead of war," Haarhoff stated.

While attending UF, Haarhoff has gained more than just an education. When she isn't writing, Haarhoff is performing. Since she was a young girl, she has always had a passion for the arts and began formal dance and acting training at 19. In 2013 she wrote *Agbedidi*, a short skit for a West African dance production at UF School of Dance. She has also directed the African Students Union Showcase, a gala for various aspects of African culture, and acted in *Tshepang* at the Actors Warehouse, for which she won Best Actress at the Florida Theatre Conference and Southeastern Theatre Conference.

"I have come to love the gorgeous Floridian landscape, the people, and the work I have been privileged to partake in, some of which is in the arts," she said. Upon graduation, Haarhoff hopes to act and dance professionally and ultimately teach drama and literature in South Africa, and engage in education and anti-rape culture activism. "Being a Fulbright student has been one of my most appreciated gifts and highest honor," she concluded.



# PEACE CORPS

## Volunteer Spotlight: Victoria Dokken

Victoria graduated Summa Cum Laude from UF with a degree in Political Science and Economics, a focus on international issues and a minor in Eastern European Studies. During her time at UF, she was an active member of Model United Nations and She's the First. Currently, Victoria serves as an International Community and Youth Development Advisor in Armenia, specializing in developing organizational and human capacity. Her job combines elements of youth services, nutritional education, and gender equality promotion. Victoria is currently the co-director of the Peace Corps' GLOW camp (Girls Leading Our World), organizing the week-long overnight camp to promote self-confidence, gender equity, leadership, and empowerment among young girls. Victoria is also the program manager for an Armenian-based initiative, Border 2 Border, which promotes healthy living through sustainable environmental practices and nutrition to youth in rural villages. Victoria visited UF in spring 2015 and presented on her experience in Armenia. We are grateful for Victoria's service and leadership!

Peace Corps @ UF promotes and strengthens Peace Corps (PC) recruitment through outreach to UF and Santa Fe College students, faculty and the Gainesville community at-large. This year, the Peace Corps program turned 55 years old! UF had much to celebrate as well, after once again being ranked third nationally on the 2016 list of Top Producer of Peace Corps volunteers. Additionally, UF produces more Peace Corps volunteers than any other school in Florida.

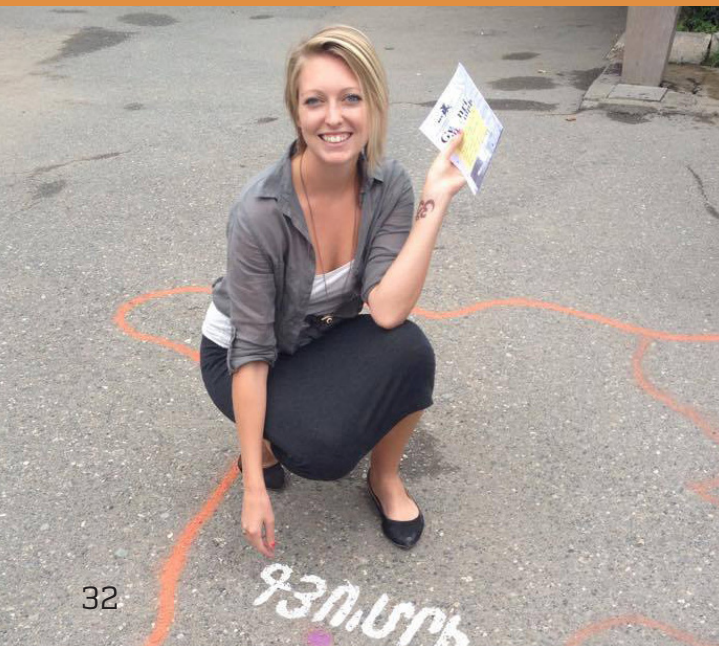


The Peace Corps car visited us! (Fall 2015)

### Year Highlights:

- Eleven campus ambassadors joined the Peace Corps @ UF team and made a huge impact in recruitment efforts.
- The PC Prep Program launched (in conjunction with the International Scholars Program) to assist undergrad students to build skills needed during PC service. One hundred students are currently participating and enrollment continues to grow.
- A Master's International program was created for graduate students pursuing a Masters of Public Health.

More than 1,300 UF alumni have served as Peace Corps Volunteers throughout the years. With a total of 58 UF graduates currently serving in various parts of the world, we expect to continue our strong performance and concerted effort to contribute volunteers in specialized skill areas such as Agriculture, Environment, Education, and French and Spanish language skills.



Christina Ertel, current PC Volunteer to Senegal



Girl Rising Screening during International Education Week

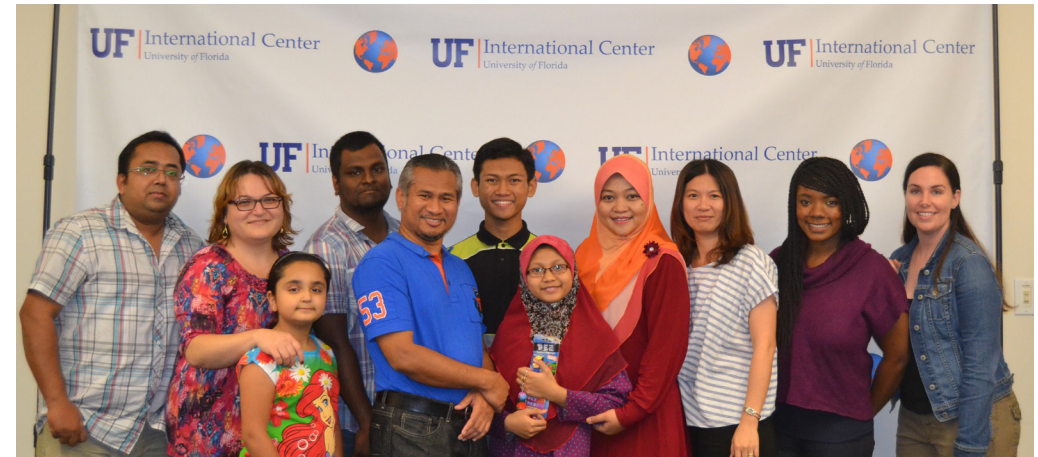


# GLOBAL GATORS IN ACTION



**Florida International Leadership Conference**

[www.faie.org/filc/](http://www.faie.org/filc/)



**International Student Speakers Bureau**

[www.ufic.ufl.edu](http://www.ufic.ufl.edu)



**NaviGators**

[www.ufnavigatorsinternational.com](http://www.ufnavigatorsinternational.com)



**Volunteers for International Student Affairs**

[www.ufvisa.org](http://www.ufvisa.org)



**Study Abroad Peer Advisors**

[www.ufic.ufl.edu/sas/SAPA.html](http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/sas/SAPA.html)



### Study Abroad and Service Learning Students



**1st Place: Passing Time in Sayulitas**  
by Miguel A. Cardona-Perez (Sayulitas, Mexico)

### International Students, Scholars and Employees



**1st Place: Above the Horizon, Beneath the Stars**  
by Chen Li (Grayson Highlands, Virginia, U.S.A)

### Faculty, Staff and Alumni



**1st Place: Timeless Serenity on the Banks of the Li Jiang**  
by Jadon J. Marianetti (Li River, Yangshuo, China)



**2nd Place: Spectating on Spectators**  
by Ali Serena Colclasure (Prague, Czech Republic)



**2nd Place: Pilgrim on the Road**  
by Qingyang Li (New York City, New York, U.S.A.)



**2nd Place: Superwoman**  
by Pascale Belony (Cap-Haitien, Haiti)



**3rd Place: Mashambani Mwa Mwani/In the Seaweed Fields**  
by Jordan MacKenzie (Paje, Zanzibar, Tanzania)



**3rd Place: Take a Stroll, on the Beach or in the Sky?**  
by Yun Yang (Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, U.S.A.)



**3rd Place: Desperation**  
by Renee Hoffinger (Istanbul, Turkey)





Master of International Business (MIB) and Master of Science in Management (MSM) students in Haiti (Photo Credit: MSM Facebook Page)



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## UF International Center Mission Statement

**The International Center motivates and leads the UF community to think and act globally in fulfilling the university's missions of learning, discovery, and engagement.**

Donations to the UF International Center would be greatly appreciated and are tax-deductible. To give online, <https://www.uff.ufl.edu/OnlineGiving/InternationalCenter.asp> or call 1 (352) 392-5323

