Office of International Affairs

ANNUAL REPORT
AY 2016-17

UMD: A Globally Connected University
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Academic Year 2016-17 saw the Office of International Affairs (OIA) at the University of Maryland (UMD) and its constituent units—Education Abroad (EA), International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), and the Office of China Affairs (OCA)—once again on the move—figuratively and literally. In January, our offices relocated to their new, permanent home in the renovated east wing of H.J. Patterson Hall. This facility, shared with UMD’s Language Science Center, Arabic and Persian Language Flagship Programs, and Latin American and Israel Studies Centers, provides UMD with a state of the art hub for international activities, located in the heart of the College Park campus. The move also epitomized the continuing momentum that OIA and its units generated in AY 2016-17 to further internationalize the University of Maryland, producing students who are cultivated, competitive, and contributive globally. This past year, more than 1,800 UMD students took advantage of opportunities developed and offered by EA to gain significant experiences around the world to help prepare them for an increasingly globalized society. ISSS helped a record number of degree-seeking international students to integrate into the life of the university and greater Washington, D.C., including a 16 percent increase in undergraduate international enrollment and seven percent increase in overall international enrollment. OIA sponsored student programs for students continued to grow. The Global Classrooms Initiative awarded seven additional course development grants so that UMD students will soon have up to 18 options to connect with peers around the world in digitally-based classrooms working on real world projects. The Global Fellows in Washington program partnership with Undergraduate Studies served its largest cohort to date, with 83 students representing nine colleges across 36 majors. The innovative Global Entrepreneurship Semester program expanded from its pilot year, sending students not only to Seoul, South Korea, but also Tel Aviv, Israel and Lund, Sweden to study, live, and intern at startup companies and other entities for a semester. Two more faculty teams won grants for joint research workshops with Tel Aviv University colleagues, and three other faculty were funded for travel to deepen UMD international partnerships. UMD students, faculty and academic leadership deepened their engagement with Universitas 21. OCA continued its tailored training programs for Chinese administrators, while also furthering its work building the campus China community, and serving those on campus and in the region who are, or wish to be, engaged with China. Overall, OIA facilitated the establishment of formal agreements for the university with 32 new partners in 23 countries, while also continuing to implement a new International Risk Management plan that, among other features, now automatically provides UMD personnel going outside the United States on university-related business with travel insurance, free of charge.
A NEW INTERNATIONAL EPICENTER FOR CAMPUS

In January, 2017, OIA, EA, and ISSS made their long-awaited return to the center of campus with the opening of their new permanent home in the renovated east wing of H.J. Patterson Hall. This $18.6 million renovation project has created four floors of technology-enabled seminar rooms, language immersion rooms, offices and conferences rooms.

At its center is the Global Crossroads, a stunning atrium-style event space framed by a floor-to-ceiling window screen that contains the urban plans of eight global metropoleis: Beijing, London, Rabat, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Sydney, Tel Aviv, and Washington, D.C. Designed for versatility, the Global Crossroads is furnished with moveable tables, chairs, couches and a theatrical seating area for everyday use by members of the campus community. Behind the theatrical seating is the Samovar Café Ramen bar; opposite is a nine-screen video wall, the largest on campus, linked to a full panoply of A/V sources, including webcasting. The flexibility of the Global Crossroads’ furnishings allows for a wide variety of configurations. Already it has hosted a range of events, from formal lectures such as the Maryland Global Leaders series, to receptions and social events featuring food and dancing.

Flanking the Global Crossroads on the first floor of H.J. Patterson are the offices of Education Abroad and International Student and Scholar Services. The second floor houses the Office of International Affairs and the Language Science Center (LSC), separated by two remarkable, full-tech teaching spaces. One is equipped with an accordion wall to accommodate large or small groups; the other with a “garage door” that allows linkage with or isolation from the LSC. Floor three has yet another full-tech seminar room for use by Global Classrooms and other virtual/distance courses (such as the Big Ten Digital Islamic Studies Curriculum), plus the offices of the Arabic and Persian Language Flagship programs; floor four houses the Latin American Studies Center, and the Joseph & Alma Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies.

Taken together, the renovated H.J. Patterson east wing creates an epicenter for international activities at UMD, where all members of the community can explore and celebrate global matters. The location in the heart of campus of this beautiful new facility powerfully states the centrality of internationalization to the identity and mission of UMD.
Clockwise from upper left: 1) Entrance to the Global Crossroads atrium area; 2) Education Abroad; 3) Global Crossroads atrium with Video Wall; 4) Global Crossroads atrium theatrical seating area and Samovar cafe; 5) International Student and Scholar Services
OVERVIEW

OIA’s burgeoning suite of programs designed to develop students who are cultivated, competitive, and contributive continued to expand in AY 2016-17. Seven UMD colleges offered Global Classrooms courses—giving students access to peers on four continents and in eight countries—and seven more courses are in development. The Global Entrepreneurship Semester added two new venues where students can gain a unique international work experience. The Global Fellows in Washington program, led by the Office of Undergraduate Studies, continued its remarkable growth. OIA also funded individual faculty and staff travel to deepen research and professional ties with international partners, supported additional workshops for UMD faculty teams to explore major new international research collaborations, and launched a new international travel insurance program for faculty and staff. UMD students, faculty and academic leadership further increased their Universitas 21 participation, with OIA backing.

OIA PROGRAMS

The Global Classrooms Initiative (GCI)

GCI gives UMD and partner institutions students the opportunity to work and learn together in the cross-cultural, virtual, and project-based environment they will experience in work life after graduation. In AY 2016-17 it offered courses in the Schools and Colleges of Architecture, Arts and Humanities, Behavioral and Social Sciences, Business, Education, Engineering, and Public Health. Ongoing projects such as the redevelopment of industrial districts in St. Petersburg, Russia (Urban Studies and Planning), were joined by work on the public health challenges of waste management in Bangladesh (Applied Environmental Health), and the preservation of indigenous languages and cultures in the Amazon (Anthropology). To date, GCI has supported eighteen Global Classrooms in fourteen departments, offered in collaboration with university partners in sixteen countries around the world. Over 350 UMD students and approximately the same number of peers from partner
Universities abroad have benefited from this unique international educational experience. Close to two hundred more UMD students are expected to participate in Global Classroom courses during the coming academic year.

In response to GCI’s success, OIA awarded seven new course development grants in AY 2016-17 that, in future years, will further extend the reach of the initiative through collaborations with partner institutions in Chile, China, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Iraq, and Russia (Chart 1). Teams of UMD and Chinese students in architecture and environmental engineering will assess and design solutions for reducing the CO2 footprint of Anne Arundel County public school buildings. UMD Public Health students, together with peers from the Veterinary Medicine School of Cairo University, will apply risk assessment approaches to food safety and security challenges faced by communities in the US and Egypt.

American and Iraqi students will collaborate on projects to repurpose urban public spaces in their respective regions.

Chart 1: Global Classroom Initiative, New Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sponsoring Unit</th>
<th>GC Course Title</th>
<th>Partner University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>Carbon Neutral Development Through Net Zero and Net Impact Building Design</td>
<td>Nankai University, China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Park Scholars: Science, Technology &amp; Society</td>
<td>Concepts, Frameworks and Research in Science and Technology Studies</td>
<td>University of Cuenca, Ecuador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Environmental Health</td>
<td>A Pilot Global Class on Risk Based Approach to Ensure Global Food Safety and Security</td>
<td>Cairo University, Egypt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>Bridging the Gap Studio: collaborative design thinking across cultures</td>
<td>Al Nahrain University, Iraq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Studies and Planning</td>
<td>A Joint Recipe for Entrepreneurial Districts: Industry Targeting, Performance Tracking and Policy Designing</td>
<td>Higher School of Economics - St. Petersburg, Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Development and Quantitative Methodology</td>
<td>Cross Cultural Approaches to Child Development and Poverty in the U.S. and Chile</td>
<td>Universidad del Desarrollo, Chile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global Entrepreneurship Semester (GES)

GES continued its growth in number of participants and destinations during AY 2016-17. Developed through a dynamic collaboration involving the Office of International Affairs, the Honors Entrepreneurship and Innovation Program, the UMD Career Center, and partner universities in South Korea, Israel, and Sweden, the GES combines on-campus preparation with abroad language and cultural training, academic courses, and part-time placement in local startup companies. The second GES cohort included students majoring in Accounting, Biology, Computer Science, Finance, Linguistics, Marketing, Mechanical Engineering, and Psychology, ready to explore the challenges of international entrepreneurship while studying and living abroad. Our students learned from and contributed to the success of start-ups like Orgamedi, in Seoul, creating 3D human organ models based on imaging data (CT, MRI, etc.) to allow surgeons better visualization of the affected area, or Wibbitz, in Tel Aviv, a technology start-up that provides companies with software to automatically create videos from text or online articles in seconds, or SAGA Diagnostics, in Lund, a company providing personalized cancer medicine and disease monitoring. In AY 2017-18, OIA plans to expand the GES to Mexico.

Global Fellows in Washington, D.C.

The “Global Fellows in Washington, D.C.” program (formerly “The Global Semester in Washington, D.C.”) organized by the Office of Undergraduate Studies in collaboration with OIA, served its largest cohort to date, with 83 students representing nine colleges across 36 majors. The program now offers four options for student to choose from for their mandatory fall semester preparatory seminar: Responses to Global Challenges; Science Diplomacy; Critical Regions and International Relations; and U.S. Diplomacy. The fall courses were taught by seven expert-practitioners, whose current employers included the Department of State, the Congressional Research Service, and the Department of Defense. The Fellows cohort included first generation college students, international students, and first generation American citizens fluent or proficient in Amharic, Arabic, Bahasa, Bengali, Farsi, French, German, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Urdu, and Vietnamese. Their personal backgrounds and professional preparation once again distinguished UMD Global Fellows among DC college interns, allowing them to have substantive, globally-oriented work experiences at placements at US government agencies (such as Congress, DoD, DoS, FTC, USDA, et al.), Embassies (Spain and Peru), think-tanks (including the Brookings Institute, Freedom House, the Woodrow Wilson Center) and an NGO (International Rescue Committee). Program alumni continue to win competitions for Boren, Fulbright, Hollings and Rangel and other scholarships, taking them around the globe, from Kazakhstan to Tanzania. Other have found employment at international organizations (World Bank, IMF, Pan American Health Organization), private consulting firms (Deloitte, Booze Allen Hamilton), US government (White House, USAID, DHS), and think tanks (Council on Foreign Relations). Many have gone on to graduate study at leading international programs (Oxford University, Harvard’s Kennedy School, Johns Hopkins’ SAIS).

Global Partnerships Travel Grants

OIA’s Global Partnerships Travel Grants program continued to pay dividends in deepening UMD’s collaborations with its international partners. During AY 2016-17, five faculty grantees traveled to institutions on three different continents. Their work established training programs in remote sensing data for graduate students monitoring
crop yields in East Africa; developed a pre-law partnership program in global justice centered around the international court in The Hague,; and created a project to study venture incubator management and entrepreneurship education in China. Past grantees produced multiple joint articles, conference papers, and funding applications, and established a new “Maryland-in” program that allows UMD students to spend a semester at the top Chinese language teaching institution in Beijing. The staff grantees from the Division of Research, the Division of Information Technology, and the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, traveled to U21 and other partner universities in Europe and Africa, learning about collection and dissemination of data university research, learning technology design, and the interinstitutional coordination of external grants. New Faculty Grants (Chart 2) will send UMD professors in AY 2017-18 to South Korea, New Zealand, and Guatemala to expand collaborations with UMD partner institutions in Global Health Education, Wellness Research and Language Science.

**Joint Research Workshops**

OIA organized yet another competition for its popular Joint Research Initiation Workshops with Tel Aviv University (TAU). UMD and TAU faculty, students, and research staff gathered in summer and fall 2017 to explore new research approaches applying innovative biotechnology applications in the study of viruses, and the public policy effects of the association between fertility decisions and social classification fertility rates in societies whose organization is “tight” compared to those where it is “loose.”

The UMD Division of Research (DoR) announced grants for four joint research workshops with Lund University in Sweden, on gender and care responsibilities; structural biology and biophysics; biological collapses; and satellite monitoring of forest change and crop extent. DoR also issued a call for proposals for joint research initiation workshops with the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Mexico (ITESM,”“Tec de Monterrey”) for Fall 2017.

**Universitas 21 (U21)**

In AY 2016-17 UMD further engaged with the U21 network. Some Highlights:

- UMD student and faculty participated in the Fall 2016 **U21 Undergraduate Research Conference** hosted by the Tecnologico de Monterrey: “A global perspective on ageing societies.” Three undergraduate students accompanied by one faculty attended this interdisciplinary conference in Monterrey, Mexico.

- In July 2016, four undergraduate students represented the University of Maryland in the 2016 **U21 Un-**
dergraduate Summer School, hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University, “Traditional Chinese Medicine and its Culture.”

- In October 2016, doctoral student Gabriele Betancourt-Martinez represented UMD in the 2016 U21 Three Minute Thesis Competition, with her project “Getting Our Science Right. The Importance of Laboratory Astrophysics in Understanding Astronomical Observations.”

- Dr. Stacy Kosko, assistant research professor of government and politics in the Center for International Development and Conflict Management, was selected to represent UMD at the 2017 U21 Early Career Researcher Workshop “Interculturality and Multiculturalism: the challenges for changing societies,” to be hosted by Pontificia Universidad de Católica de Chile in Santiago, Chile, in October 2017.

- In October 2016, Scott Roberts (Teaching and Learning Transformation Center) represented UMD in the U21 Educational Innovation Conference, “What is Teaching Excellence in a Contemporary Research-Intensive University?” at the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom.

- UMD’s Division of Research continued its involvement with the U21 Researcher Engagement Cluster activities and groups, such as the VPs for Research and Researcher Collaboration Group. UMD continues to build strong, strategic bilateral research and comprehensive partnerships with select U21 member institutions, including Lund University, University College Dublin, Auckland University, and University of New South Wales and welcomes the addition of two U21 members: University of Zurich (Switzerland) and Waseda University (Japan).

International Events On Campus

In Fall 2016 OIA partnered with the Teaching and Learning Transformation Center for a workshop to help faculty internationalize their courses. November saw another campus-wide set of events in celebration of International Education Week. OIA inaugurated the new Global Crossroads event space in H.J. Patterson Hall with a series of Spring Term events. In partnership with the Modern Greek Studies program in the College of Arts and Humanities, the Maryland Global Leaders series welcomed the Greek Ambassador to the U.S., H.E. Haris Lalacos, to UMD in April for a presentation and Q&A with the campus community on the causes and impacts of recent population movements in the eastern Mediterranean region. OIA also partnered once again with the Division of Research to bring to campus Dr. Andy Reiss, Assistant Director of Outreach for the U.S. senior Fulbright program, for the annual workshop for prospective UMD faculty and staff applicants to the Fulbright Scholars program. Participants in last year’s workshop won six awards, which will take them to Brazil, Burma, Colombia, Germany, Japan and Moldova. OIA and its units also brought together a coalition of campus units, including the Arabic and Persian Flagship Programs, the Language Science Center, the Latin American Studies Center, the University Counseling Center, and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to organize a Global Gathering, in support and celebration of UMD’s thousands of international students, faculty, and staff.
During AY 2016-17, OIA helped a dozen UMD units with the drafting and processing of 44 international agreements, involving 32 partners in 23 countries around the world. Among them:

- An agreement with Bandung Institute of Technology, UMD’s first formal collaboration in Indonesia;
- Agreements with Ho Chi Min City University of Technology, and the National Satellite Center of the Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology—both to facilitate UMD Geographical Sciences’ Vietnam climate monitoring project;
- Agreements to support projects by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Rwanda and Paraguay;
- Six agreements for student exchange involving new international partner universities.

**A New Tool to map UMD’s Global Connections**

To make it easier for stakeholders on and off campus to “see” where UMD has formal international partnerships, OIA created an interactive Google Fusion Table map for the globalmaryland.umd.edu web portal, which allows visitors to zoom in on specific sites around the globe. (see Map 1).

**Map 1: UMD Formal International Agreements**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

In AY 2016-17, OIA further strengthened its online presence, especially its social media outreach. Nearly 200,000 users visited OIA’s websites, logging over 1.1 million pageviews. OIA’s Twitter following rose to 564 followers, a 37% increase over the previous year.

In addition to producing Maryland International, its bi-annual print publication distributed to just under 4,000 subscribers on- and off-campus, OIA’s monthly eNewsletter, OIA News, continued to gain in popularity, with circulation expanding to over 700, and the open rate rising from 34.2% in May 2016 to to 48% in May 2017 (against the industry average open rate of 18.14% [according to the email service provider, Constant Contact]).
OIA ORGANIZATION CHART

Associate VP for International Affairs

Executive Assistant

Assoc. Director

Asst. Director

Director, Administrative Services

Business Manager

Administrative Assistant

Accounting Assistant

Asst. Director, Communications

Communications Assistant

Director, Intl. Student & Scholar Services

Director, China Affairs

Director, Education Abroad

Student

Federal Work Study Student

Staff Position
OVERVIEW

In AY 2016-17, Education Abroad (EA) once again provided an exciting suite of opportunities for students, adding new semester-long programs in Argentina and China, groundbreaking new short term programs, and a growing number of credit-bearing internships focused on improving the common good around the globe. The percentage of UMD undergraduates participating in study abroad held steady with recent years (Chart 1). While the total number of all UMD students abroad declined slightly (three percent), summer enrollment rose markedly since last year (21 percent: Chart 2). Enrollment in semester-long Maryland-in programs grew as well (Chart 3). Several UMD colleges have shown impressive growth in participation over the last few years, especially the School of Public Health with an increase of 36 percent. The number of students from the College of Computer, Mathematical and Natural Sciences, and from the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, also grew, by 18 percent and five percent, respectively (Charts 4 and 5).

EA PROGRAMS

New “Maryland-in” Programs

• Maryland in Beijing  With the support of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and the Department of Chinese, EA partnered with the Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU) to offer a new option for UMD students who want to have an immersive semester in China. The program debuted in the Spring Semester with six students participating.

• Maryland in Buenos Aires  EA also added a Latin America option to its suite of Maryland-In semester programs, choosing the region’s most visited city for the location. The program features home-stay housing, deeper cultural immersion, the opportunity to take classes at the University of Belgrano, along with courses taught by our local program partner on Latin American Human Rights, Neoliberalism
Chart 1: Undergraduate Participation in Study Abroad

Chart 2: Outgoing UMD Enrollment in Study Abroad (Undergraduate and Graduate)
Chart 3: Study Abroad Participation by Program Type
Note – “affiliate” refers to programs administered by providers outside of UMD with whom EA has formal billing and course transfer agreements. “Risk management credit” refers to university-sponsored, travel abroad programs for which EA tracks location and dates for emergency response and international insurance only.

Chart 4: Undergraduate Enrollment in Study Abroad By Academic College
and Social Movements, and Society and Culture. An innovative option is a three-credit intensive Spanish course offered in Winter term, which can be taken either as a stand-alone, or in preparation for a spring semester in Buenos Aires.

• **Freshmen Abroad: Destination Sydney**

  Leveraging a new exchange partnership with the University of Sydney in Australia, EA created a brand new option for incoming first-year students. The Freshmen Abroad: Destination Sydney program offers to incoming students the opportunity to complete their first semester of UMD courses while studying overseas. Studies show that a high impact experience such as a semester abroad at the start of an undergraduate’s career makes that student much more likely to pursue a wider range of educational opportunities than peers.

**Credit-bearing Internships**

Keen student interest in overseas programs that have a professional focus led EA to further expand its existing internship offerings, and also add new opportunities.

• **Maryland Social Entrepreneur Corps**

  The Maryland Social Entrepreneur Corps (MSEC) program is an ongoing collaboration between EA, the Robert H. Smith School of Business, the Smith Center for Social Value Creation, and the UMD Academy for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. In Fall 2016 21 students of the fifth MSEC cohort organized the MSEC Forum, which featured a poster session and group presentations that highlighted the locally-led, sustainable development projects that the students supported in communities in Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic and Ecuador. These projects ranged from the marketing via microconsignment of basic, daily-life-enhancing items, such as cooking stoves, to the organization of women’s health and hygiene workshops and financial literacy classes, to the expansion of a community banking program and cutting-edge youth entrepreneurship program. In 2017, 16 students enrolled in MSEC. Throughout Spring Semester, they were trained to conduct summer field work in programs in Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and Guatemala.

  AY 2016-17 also saw year MSEC leadership review and revise the program’s structure. One
of the most exciting changes makes participation in the Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship’s student-driven fall festival (SPARK) the final phase of the MSEC program. Presenting their MSEC field experiences at SPARK will help students fully integrate them into their UMD on-campus education.

- **Smith School Global Internship Program**  
  In Spring 2017, EA collaborated with the Smith School to expand opportunities for UMD business students to intern overseas in Sydney, the Czech Republic, Hong Kong, Singapore or Dublin. 27 students took a one-credit pre-internship course on campus during the semester and then traveled abroad for a six-credit summer internship that allowed them to work in another country and with people from different cultural backgrounds.

**Exchanges**  
More than 200 UMD students chose again to participate in an affordable, fully immersive semester-long exchange program (Chart 8). The most popular destinations included Milan, Italy (Bocconi University), Madrid Spain (Carlos III University), and Sydney, Australia (University of New South Wales), with 20, 19 and 11 UMD students attending, respectively. Universitas 21 institutions also continued to draw well (Chart 9). UMD welcomed an almost equal number of incoming exchange students, representing 68 partner institutions and 19 countries.

EA also added a number of new destinations for AY 2017-18, including the University of Sydney, the Mission Interuniversitaire de Coordination des Echanges Franco-Américains (MICEFA) connected to the University of Paris, Munich University of Applied Sciences, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, The Petroleum Institute (UAE), and Singapore Management University. EA deepened the integration of exchange opportunities within UMD’s colleges and departments to ensure wider and targeted participation. A collaboration with the Department of Computer Science, for example, has led 18 students to go on semester exchanges over the past two years, where historically there had been only one or two per year.

**Short-term Programs**  
While short term program enrollment decreased slightly in AY 2016-17, perhaps due to factors such as the continuing slow economy, catastrophic and terrorist events abroad, and the US election, Summer participation jumped by 24 percent and Spring Break numbers were up nine percent (Chart 10). The addition of a number of innovative new programs helped drive that growth, including:
• **Forensic Aviation Archaeology (ANTH)** which brought students to Austria to survey and investigate previously located aircraft crash sites from the Second World War. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)—which is charged with recovering the remains of the more than 70,000 men and women who went missing while serving their country—this year for the first time partnered with a university in this solemn task. While learning the techniques of field excavation and forensic science, program participants were able to see the real-world application of their work and directly experience its impact on the families of those lost. UMD students carried out this work alongside their peers from the University of Vienna.

• **Law, Public Health, and the Cuban Family (FMSC)** is one of four short-term programs to Cuba that EA now offers in light of the restoration of diplomatic ties between the United States and Cuba. Law, Public Health, and the Cuban Family offered participants the rare professional oppor-

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**Chart 7: Outgoing UMD Enrollment in Study Abroad (Graduate Only)**

![Chart showing enrollment trends from AY 2013-2014 to AY 2016-2017]
tunity to facilitate cross-disciplinary interaction and collaboration between Cuba and the U.S. in comparative law, health care, equality and poverty. Undergraduates interested in health care, medicine, public health, law, family, poverty, impacts of war, history, political science, international studies, Latin American studies and Spanish examined a myriad of cross-disciplinary issues. Graduate students had a novel opportunity to apply their advanced knowledge and skills in a Communist/Socialist country. Students worked from their foundations in American society and institutions to compare Cuba’s communist/socialist systems, and examine the impacts of the 50-year U.S. embargo.

- **Corporate Social Responsibility: A Strategy for Sustainable Development (AAPS)** which brought students to Ghana to learn about Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as an alternative strategy that recognizes the power of Multinational Corporations to bring about positive change in the Global South. Participants also learned Ghanaian perspectives through lectures by professors from local universities, daily exchanges with students, informed discussions with development experts, dialogues with representatives from non-governmental organizations, and personal narratives of local residents.

- **Sustainability & Infrastructure (ENCE)** which was one of several new programs that were developed in response to the UMD Sustainability Council’s call for more courses dealing with this topic. Participants used Athens, Greece, and its 2,500 years of built environments to investigate issues, such as green buildings, green roads, the implications of energy systems and conservation, sustainability metrics, recycling and waste reduction, and mobility and greenhouse gas emissions.

**Scholarships**
In AY 2016-17EA distributed $177,000 in scholarships to enable students with demonstrable need to study.
abroad, up slightly from $170,000 in the previous year. In addition, EA provided tuition waivers for exchange students in the amount of $211,000 in AY 2016-17. EA’s scholarship fund was enhanced by generous support from the Jonathan V. David Foundation, the Kendall Foundation, the Mather Foundation, the Ahn Family Foundation, the UMD Academy for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and the UMD Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship.

**New Program Development**

EA, in conjunction with faculty and their sponsoring academic units across campus, developed 30 new short-term programs involving 20 different academic departments (13 for Winter/Spring Break 2016, nine for Summer 2016, and eight for Winter/Spring Break 2017). Two highlights of the program were: a new program focusing on global climate change and sustainability that includes carbon offset projects; and the Maryland Language Science Center program in Guatemala, that took students and faculty to the western highlands of Guatemala to learn and conduct research on a Mayan language (Kaqchikel), and develop projects and partnerships as part of LSC’s newly-established Guatemala research field station. The experience sparked several promising research projects, including a collaboration to develop child language development assessments in Mayan languages.

Further, three new short-term programs came out of EA’s “**Laboratory for Innovation in International Education,**” focused on diversifying education abroad programs: “Global Service in the Dominican Republic” run by the Global Communities Living and Learning program; “Leading for LGBTQ+ Empowerment,” in Thailand, sponsored by the LGBT Equity Center; and “Special Topics in Africa and the Americas: Understanding Social Inequalities in Post-Apartheid South Africa,” from the African-American Studies department. They attracted a total of 31 students, many from populations currently underrepresented in study abroad.

**NEW BUSINESS MODEL**

This past year the Office of International Affairs introduced a new business model for EA programs and services, developed in coordination with campus stakeholders and the Office of the Provost. Implemented July 1, 2017, the new business model brings greater transparency to how Education Abroad applies fees to support development and maintenance of its programs. Under this model, students pay a single administrative fee for all services provided by the Education Abroad Office, ranging from curriculum integration and course credit to advising; enrollment management, course registration to transcript confirmation; financial aid, billing and overall student account management. Additional fees included in the former business model have been eliminated altogether, thereby reducing overall program fees while expanding access and affordability to more students.
COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

EA expanded its outreach activities by 20 percent in AY 2016-17, organizing a total of 338 individual events, including its annual study abroad fairs. EA extended its capacity to advise students at convenient campus locations through the newly launched Study Abroad 101 initiative. Study Abroad 101 sessions, designed to demystify the study abroad process, attracted more than 150 students and guided them towards next steps in the application process.

EA also expanded its capacity for peer-to-peer support, including a new student profile webpage that focuses on

Chart 8: Outgoing Exchange Enrollment

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<th>UG and Grad Enrollment</th>
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<td>AY 2013-2014</td>
<td>115</td>
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<tr>
<td>AY 2014-2015</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AY 2015-2016</td>
<td>231</td>
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<tr>
<td>AY 2016-2017</td>
<td>207</td>
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Note—data does not include UMD students enrolling via the GlobalE3 engineering consortium

Chart 9: Outgoing U21 Exchange Enrollment

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
<th>Number of U21 Exchange Programs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013-2014</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014-2015</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2016</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016-2017</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>73</td>
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sharing the individual experiences of returned students. These TerpsAbroad profiles share personal insights and advice as well as help to showcase the diversity of UMD students studying abroad. The #TerpsAbroad Twitter hashtag developed by EA is becoming increasingly popular, as well, allowing more real-time engagement with students while they are abroad and providing them an easy way to share through social media the types of experience they are having overseas. EA established a social media ambassador program to generate even more student-driven content.

**DIVERSITY IN EDUCATION ABROAD**

AY 2016-17 gender as well as race/ethnicity participation rates in UMD’s study abroad programs remained consistent with recent years (Charts 11 and 12). EA sought new ways to make study abroad opportunities accessible to all students. Outreach efforts were expanded to underrepresented student communities through continuous Satellite Advising with the Office of Multi-Ethnic Student Engagement (OMSE) and Multicultural Involvement and Community Advocacy (MICA). EA offered financial incentives to underrepresented students, both to raise their awareness of international opportunities before their arrival on campus and to encourage participation early on in their planned course of study.

- Five flight voucher awards ($8,000 in total) in collaboration with campus partners
- Information sessions and writing workshops to support of National Scholarship Office efforts to encourage applications to the Gilman scholarship program. The highest-ever number of UMD students applied for the Gilman scholarship, and UMD students were also awarded 15 Bright Futures scholarships for unpaid internships.

UMD EA is a leader in efforts to encourage access and inclusion to study abroad for students who identify as LGBTQ. LGBTQ students remain a relatively difficult identity to quantify, so it is not known to what extent they are underrepresented in study abroad. However, given the complexities of their identities and needs, and the lack of resources in the

![Chart10: Enrollment Faculty-Led Maryland Short-term Programs](chart.png)
Over the Rainbow” at UMD in April, and EA staff presented at several other conferences. EA has also developed one of only online resources available for the LGBTQ community interested in international education.

Further efforts to diversify education abroad included:
• “Diverse Terps Abroad: A Student Panel and
Discussion on How Diverse Identities Impact the Study Abroad Experience, supported by the Office of Diversity “Rise Above” grant, for underrepresented study abroad alumni.

- Online Diverse Identity Advising Guidelines and Resources, to guide students exploring how their identities may impact the study abroad experience.

**RISK MANAGEMENT**

OIA interviewed and hired a dedicated Director, International Risk Management, adding to the University’s comprehensive international risk management strategy. The Director is responsible for developing, implementing and managing policies and protocols related to health, safety and security for students, faculty and staff traveling to and in international locations. The Director monitors health and safety conditions for countries and regions where UMD students and programs were traveling; organizes and leads day-long risk management workshops that are now mandatory for all UMD program leaders; and oversees the new travel insurance program for the 1,500 students who went abroad on UMD programs, as well as the other 5,000 overseas trips that were made on behalf of university business.
OVERVIEW
AY 2016-17 represented another year of growth for International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS), both in the numbers of visitors they supported and the services they provided to them. A record 4772 international students enrolled in University of Maryland degree programs—up seven percent from the previous year—while an additional 1383 participated in practical training following their degree, and 34 attended the Maryland English Institute. ISSS also supported 1300 international faculty and scholars on campus. Altogether, these UMD international students and faculty represented 125 countries. ISSS continued to improve and expand the services it offers to international students, faculty, and staff, while also working with other campus stakeholders to craft new policies and to provide additional support in response to shifting directives from the US government.

UMD international student enrollments (Chart 1) hit another all-time high in AY 2016-17. International students accounted for 12 percent of UMD’s enrolled students. Growth in UMD international undergraduate student population (Chart 2) was particularly strong, rising 16 percent to a record 1218 students. Over the past five years, international undergraduate enrollment at UMD has surged 150 percent. Graduate international enrollment (Chart 3) also hit a new peak—3554—a five percent increase over AY 2015-16 numbers. The 1383 students who chose to take advantage of Optional Practical Training (OPT)—which allows F1 visa holders to remain in the US up to a year after their degree, in order to gain professional experience in their field of study—under ISSS supervision marked a further record, experiencing a remarkable 34 percent growth from a year ago.

SERVICES AND PROGRAMS
ISSS continued to provide visiting students, scholars and their sponsoring units with advice, information, and referrals on matters such as immigration status and regulations, cultural adjustment, employment, overseas travel and study, volunteering on campus and in the community, and international careers. Walk-in and scheduled appointments amounted to 6400 visits to ISSS during the past year. Among the enhancements in these services accomplished in 2016-17 were significant efficiencies in immigration documents issuance process, the H-1B employment request
process, and letter requests for students and scholars.

Fall 2016 marked the third semester that ISSS used the iTerp software app to process forms. iTerp helped ISSS issue over 1,700 I-20 forms, and an additional 90 DS2019 forms for exchange students during this term. Two graduate student assistants were added to ISSS, and assigned to answering applicant emails and processing immigration paperwork. As a result, whereas

**Chart 1: Total International Students Enrolled in Degree Programs**

![Chart 1](image-url)

**Chart 2: Total International Undergraduate Students Enrolled in Degree Programs**

![Chart 2](image-url)
TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF CITIZENSHIP

1. China
2. India
3. South Korea
4. Taiwan
5. Iran
6. Canada
7. Saudi Arabia
8. United Kingdom
9. Nigeria
10. Spain

TOP 5 SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

• Engineering (1,194)
• Business (997)
• Computer Math and Natural Sciences (848)
• Arts and Humanities (400)
• Behavioral and Social Science (379)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AT UMD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>International Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013/14</td>
<td>4,679</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>5,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>5,498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>6,189</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOP 5 SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

- Engineering (1,194)
- Business (997)
- Computer Math and Natural Sciences (848)
- Arts and Humanities (400)
- Behavioral and Social Science (379)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BREAKDOWN

- Graduate: 57%
- Undergraduate: 20%
- OPT: 22%
- non-Degree: <1%
in Fall 2015 the norm to process immigration documents was 21 days, this past year the average was reduced to 6 days for graduate students and 11 days for undergraduate students. In addition, ISSS made changes to forms in iTerp to make it easier for international applicants to upload required documentation. ISSS added a Letter Request option to its Scholar Services menu, enabling visiting faculty to log-in to iTerp to obtain any verification letters required for immigration purposes. The cover documentation for H1B files was also automated, increasing ISSS staff efficiency further in compiling applications for submission to Immigration.

As a result, ISSS has been able in the past year to establish iTerp as a one-stop-shop for international students and scholars on immigration matters. Academic departments and international visitors have expressed their appreciation for the automation in the application process. Specifically, they have cited the reduction in processing time and the increased transparency that iTerp has provided.

Another innovation introduced by ISSS this past year is a text-message Front Office Check-in system, which texts the waiting person when their appointment is ready. Among the conveniences of this new system is that it permits students and scholars waiting to meet with an ISSS advisor full use and enjoyment of the wonderful amenities provided by the University in its renovation of H. J. Patterson Hall, namely the Global Crossroads atrium and Samovar Café noodle bar. Parents of International students who visited during orientation were especially impressed by these facilities and complementary of the University.

Special programming for international students and scholars offered by ISSS in 2016-17 began once again with an extended pre-term orientation before each semester. The fall program was offered throughout the month of August, culminating with an intensive 5 day schedule the week prior to the start of classes. Across that one week ISSS helped more than 1,700 students incoming international students find their feet in the US and at UMD. A total of 47 separate sessions were organized for these programs, drawing an average of nearly 140 participants. Attendance at some sessions—such as Career Center Resources for Your Job Search, and Understanding U.S. Health Care—approached 250.

Chart 3: Total International Graduate Students Enrolled in Degree Programs
Each semester, ISSS again organized the **International Coffee Hour** every Wednesday, in cooperation with a number of campus partners. This campus tradition continues to be an anticipated mid-week social reprieve for the entire community, and a primary activity for integration of domestic and international students. An average of 70 students per week attended this past year. Beginning in fall semester 2017, the Coffee Hour will relocate from its long-time venue in Dorchester Hall, to take advantage of the beautiful new Global Crossroads atrium area in H J Patterson.

**UMD ESOL** (English for Speakers of Other Languages), a student-centered community that aims to bring students and community members from diverse cultures together through authentic language learning/teaching and cultural exchange, had another successful year. Approximately 300 English language learners met 8 to 10 times throughout each semester with native English-speaking Volunteer Mentors, to help the language learners perfect their English speaking skills.

ISSS continued to partner across campus and represent the interests of international students and scholars on several campus-wide initiatives and programs, including the Maryland English Institute (MEI), the Language Partner Program, the Graduate Student Association, the UMD Diversity Task Force, the Residency Classification Appeals Committee, and the Office of Faculty Affairs.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH**

Changes in Government guidance on the interpretation of Federal Immigration Regulations announced early in AY 2016-17 greatly restricted the flexibility that US colleges and universities have in their handling of international admissions. These changes required UMD to eliminate processes that offered provisional admission to international students whose English language proficiency was below stated standards, and to create a formal **English Bridge Program** in their stead. Over the course of the past 12 months ISSS worked with both the Undergraduate Admissions and Graduate Admissions to complete this conversion by the October 26, 2017 deadline, in order to maintain compliance with the University’s I-20 issuance.

A particular challenged faced by UMD’s visiting international students and scholars this past year was the unusual xenophobia of the fall 2016 US presidential election, and the new administration that arrived in
January, 2017. ISSS staff gave heavily of its time and energies in response, from advising the UMD administration, to traveling to regional airports to welcome back to the U.S. any foreign nationals from UMD that were stranded overseas as a result of the Executive Orders of early 2017. Getting all the individuals affected by the Executive Order back on campus to continue their studies and research engaged some ISSS staff for several weeks. At the same time, ISSS organized a campus town hall in coordination with other units, to explain the Executive Orders to students, faculty, staff and the community. Over 100 people attended this event, which featured Daniel Williamson, a partner at Fragomen LLP in Washington D.C., one of the country’s largest and most experienced Immigration law firms. ISSS was also one of the organizers of the Global Gathering held in the new Global Crossroads atrium in early March, in support and celebration of UMD’s international students, faculty, researchers, and staff. 200 members of the campus community stopped by during the course of this event.
ISSS ORGANIZATION CHART

Director

Manager, IT/Operations

Assoc. Director, Admissions

Program Management Specialist

Office Supervisor II

Coordinator, Admissions

Graduate Assistant

Graduate Assistant

Graduate Assistant

International Student Advisor

International Student Advisor

International Student Advisor

International Student Advisor

International Student Advisor

Senior International Student Advisor

International Student Advisor

International Student Advisor

International Student Advisor

Asst. Director, Faculty Advising

International Faculty Advisor

International Faculty Advisor

Graduate Assistant

6 Federal Work Study Students
OVERVIEW
AY 2016-17 marked further advances in the Office of China Affairs’ (OCA) agenda to empower UMD students, faculty, staff, and community to more effectively engage with China, and to create strategic initiatives that benefit the broader UMD community. OCA conducted 18 training programs for visiting Chinese groups, involving 339 professionals from educational, governmental, and non-governmental sectors. OCA also hosted 21 visiting delegations from Greater China and signed 14 new MOUs with Chinese partners. OCA continued to serve campus by coordinating existing China relationships between various academic units, and developing and facilitating new strategic China initiatives across disciplines and interest areas to benefit the broader UMD community. This included helping academic units with negotiation of agreements, translation and preparation of documents, and advice on a range of issues with regards to Chinese politics, economics, culture, etiquette and higher education. OCA also continued its development of new, exciting and innovative programs for student that will give them the understanding and experience to compete and contribute in the dynamic environment that is contemporary China. Finally, OCA provided policy advice on China to State and regional stakeholders, while promoting Chinese language and culture education throughout Maryland and Greater-Washington, D.C.

OCA PROGRAMS
Training Programs
AY 2016-17 saw strong growth in revenues from OCA training programs over AY 2015-16. While the number of OCA programs remained stable, tighter Chinese government restrictions on official travel meant that the number of trainees per program dropped. OCA focused its ongoing business development efforts in China on universities, visiting dozens of institutions. A key area of need that emerged from these visits is English-language pedagogy. In response to this need, OCA developed a new, long-term training program aimed at helping Chinese professors adapt their teaching methods and content to suit international students. This program will further the goals of Chinese universities to attract more international students and to encourage innovation in teaching methods, and those of UMD to offer more study-in-China options to students with interests in fields other than Chinese language and culture. Other topics popular with trainees this past year included food safety, ”PM2.5” air pol-
ution reduction, heavy metal soil and water pollution management, industrial upgrading, and innovation and entrepreneurship.

**Academic Programs**

OCA’s work in the support and development of China-focused campus academic programs continued to expand in AY 2016-17. OCA’s “1+2+1” student mobility program between UMD and the Beijing Municipal Education Commission welcomed to College Park its first cohort. Five more students from Beijing have been accepted for the coming academic year. OCA also connected professors at UMD with those at Nankai University—UMD’s Confucius Institute partner—to collaborate on a Global Classroom for the coming academic year, and OCA will co-sponsor the two professors involved in the development of the course.

In partnership with the College of Education, OCA submitted a **successful application to be an implementation partner for the “1 Million Strong” Mandarin language learning initiative** of the U.S. China Strong Foundation, a nonprofit organization that seeks to strengthen US-China relations by investing in a new generation of leaders who have the knowledge and skills to engage with China. **UMD was one of only two universities chosen nationwide**, highlighting our status as one of the leading universities in the US for the training of teachers of Chinese.

OCA also shared its expertise with the UMD community, offering individual advice, serving as judges for a business school competition, and speaking to Chinese majors about studying Chinese and career paths after graduation. A planned major international Charity and Philanthropy Forum, on which OCA worked closely with the China Charity Alliance to co-host in Beijing, did not come to fruition due to circumstances in China.

Chinese officials visit Maryland dairy farm to learn about US practices and standards.
SERVICES AND PROCESSES

In AY 2016–17, OCA continued to advise academic units across campus on their China programs and travel, and counseled the President’s Office on a number of strategic issues related to China.

It also moved to more fully connect and harness the deep but untapped reservoir of China-interested faculty and staff present on the College Park campus. Taking advantage of the campus move to the Google suite of products, OCA used Google Groups to create the UMD-China Forum, a university-wide virtual space to share events, news, travel plans, visiting delegations, and research, as well as raise awareness of the wide range of China related activities across campus. Over 130 members of the campus community have already signed on to this forum.

Among other information disseminated via the Forum is a primer on China’s science and technology policy that OCA developed to help UMD faculty and staff better understand the overall policy environment in which they are operating in China. The Forum also helped generate a strong turnout for the first campus China Affairs general meeting, sponsored by OCA in late January and featuring Congressional China Expert, Susan Lawrence.

As a further spur to this campus community building, OCA launched an innovative project using the experimental relational mapping application, Kumu. Over 50 campus members submitted to the UMD Kumu site information about where they have studied, taught, done research, or otherwise worked in China. The resulting map identifies nearly 180 UMD institutional connections in China, searchable by individual or institution. As this database of connections grows, the UMD-China Kumu map will become an increasingly powerful tool for campus members wishing to understand UMD’s relationships in China, and looking to network locally when working with specific Chinese institutions or in particular regions of China.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Beyond the borders of UMD, OCA continued its support for the China initiatives of Maryland’s state government in AY 2016–17. It once again led the Education Subcommittee of the Maryland-Anhui Sister State Committee, with OCA’s director traveling to Anhui and helping to organize a visit to Maryland by the Anhui Party Secretary, as well as meeting with numerous other delegations from Anhui. OCA also gave public presentations, to the Maryland-China Business Council on the Chinese economic outlook and opportunities in China for Maryland businesses, and to Montgomery College on U.S.-China relations. OCA also contributed to the work of the State-sponsored MPower initiative by collaborating with the UM Carey School of Law on training programs for Chinese legal professionals and judges.
During the upcoming academic year, OCA will continue expanding its programs. Among its highest priorities is organizing the inaugural Global Charity Forum, to be held in Beijing in partnership with the China Charity Alliance. OCA will also welcome the first students through the Beijing Municipal Education Commission visiting student program at UMD, and prepare the Global Professional Certification Program in China, which will ready UMD students to engage China both academically and professionally. OCA hopes to attract more long-term trainees, build a campus community at UMD of China-engaged faculty and staff, and create a UMD alumni network in China.