

GLOBAL LEHIGH

2023 Annual Report



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY



The Mountaintop Campus at Lehigh University

Contents

- 3 Introduction by Cheryl Matherly
- 4 The Four Pillars of Global Lehigh

Make it **NEW**

Innovate, take risks, and spark curiosity to become a leader in the discovery and sharing of new knowledge.

- 7 OIA and College of Health Forge Pathbreaking Partnership
- 8 Global Teaching Learning and Fellows
- 8-9 Faculty Internationalization Grants
- 10 Faculty Fulbright Winners Utilizing Technology for Collaborative Online Learning
- 11 COIL Exchange Supports Teaching Innovation

Make a **DIFFERENCE**

Break boundaries, think differently, and translate theory to practice to address society's most important challenges.

- 14-15 Global Learning
- 16-17 Innovation in Global Leadership Education
- 18-19 Providing International Access
- 19-20 Lehigh Launch Ecuador
 - 21 International Center for Academic and Professional English
- 21-22 Lehigh's International Students and Scholars
 - 22 International Education Week
 - 23 Fellowship Advising and Scholarship Opportunities
 - Passport to Success & Gilman Scholarships

Make it **TOGETHER**

Foster belonging, cultivate connections, and heighten Lehigh's global and regional impact to strengthen community.

- 25-26 Lehigh's Engagement in India
 - 28 Lehigh Collaboration with Latin American Countries
 - 29 Lehigh's International Partnerships in Germany
 - 30 Lehigh University/United Nations Partnership
 - 31 Revitalizing Bilateral Exchange Program
 - 32 OIA Staff Achievements

Introduction



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl Matherly".

Cheryl Matherly

***Vice President and Vice Provost
for International Affairs***

Lehigh University’s strategic plan, *Inspiring the Future Makers*, offers a vision for how the university can broaden its global perspective and impact, specifically challenging us to collaborate in order to find solutions that “drive societal change and advance experiential learning and real-world application.”

This annual report highlights the accomplishments of the students, staff, and faculty who are doing just that. In the Office of International Affairs, we believe that people need to be able to analyze complex global challenges, cultivate an open mind and readiness to engage difference, and take responsible local action within larger contexts – and that global engagement is the best way to get there.

That work today is as important as ever, as international student enrollment nationwide and participation in education abroad programs have returned to almost pre-pandemic levels. At Lehigh, over 1,000 international students from 82 countries enrolled at Lehigh during the 2023-24 academic year, including 578 graduate students and 425 graduates. More than 40% of Lehigh undergraduates have had some sort of education abroad experience, making us 27th in the nation for percentage of student participation.

Our work is also helping transform the very nature of the teaching, scholarship, and service in which Lehigh engages. This includes our close collaboration with the College of Health that seeks to build on networks in Latin America, leverage the UN/WHO partnership, and deepen global experiential learning opportunities. It includes our renewed partnership with the Technical University Dortmund which – in collaboration with the Baker Institute for Entrepreneurship Creativity & Innovation, Lehigh Ventures Lab, and Lehigh@NasdaqCenter – is strengthening our programs for entrepreneurship and venture creation. It includes the Iacocca Institute’s programs for global leadership, such as the Mandela Washington Fellows Institute which helps us build a network of emerging leaders in sub-Saharan Africa. And it includes new initiatives such as Lehigh Launch Ecuador, which is a model for immersive, integrated, experiential, intercultural learning for first year students.

I encourage you to [visit our website](#) and follow us on social media to learn more about the many ways we are helping prepare Lehigh graduates to be life-long learners ready to engage the world.

LEHIGH STRATEGIC PLAN



Lehigh University’s strategic plan, *Inspiring the Future Makers*, seeks to **broaden Lehigh’s global perspective and impact**. The plan states:

Our students, faculty, and staff come from around the world and our educational and research activities span the globe. A global lens is essential in all that we do. We seek to expand our reach and visibility through targeted efforts that leverage our existing strengths and relationships. As a trusted global partner to our local, national, and international programs, we will collaborate to discover solutions that drive societal change and advance experiential learning and real-world application.

Visit strategicplan.lehigh.edu to learn more about *Inspiring the Future Makers* or download the plan.

Global Lehigh

The Global Lehigh strategic plan will lead our initiatives designed to broaden the university's global perspective and impact, and find solutions that drive societal change and advance experiential learning and real-world application.

POSITION LEHIGH AS A PREMIER DESTINATION FOR THE WORLD'S BEST STUDENTS

- By leveraging our existing and ever-expanding global networks, we will strengthen our international student recruitment, further solidifying Lehigh's reputation as a leading destination in the United States for master's and doctoral education in all disciplines.
- Drawing on our deep knowledge of international student experiences, we will create cutting-edge campus resources that support international student well-being and academic success.
- We will offer all our students internationally-recognized, innovative international education experiences that foster critical thinking about the world's most pressing global issues.

PREPARE LEHIGH COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO BE GLOBAL LEARNERS, CITIZENS, AND LEADERS

- We will introduce incoming students to global learning early in their university experience. Additionally, we will strengthen international student orientations and continue to develop and improve existing programs, like Lehigh Launch and Prelusion.
- Our programmatic offerings will align with the principles of global citizenship and learning about self, other, and world. These programs – such as study abroad, Iacocca internships, Global Village, and our United Nations partnership – will facilitate critical reflection and draw connections between learning and action in the world.
- By working with faculty to engage with new teaching methodologies in their classes, we will further integrate global learning into Lehigh's curriculum.
- We will further the Iacocca Institute's reputation as a center of excellence for global leadership education.
- We will align global learning and global leadership with initiatives to prepare learners to use creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurial skills in their studies and pursuits.

ENSURE ALL STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION EXPERIENCES

- To increase participation among students traditionally underrepresented in education abroad, we will strengthen our outreach with internal and external partners to mentor students for high-impact learning experiences.
- We will expand scholarships to ensure all students have the resources necessary to participate in an international program at Lehigh.
- We will expand financial resources to provide emergency support for international students and scholars.

EXPAND RESOURCES THAT ADVANCE THE DISCOVERY AND DISSEMINATION OF NEW KNOWLEDGE

- We will develop the India Gateway Initiative to facilitate resources for new partnerships, research, and recruitment.
- In alignment with university strategic priorities, we will expand and deepen international partnerships to advance innovations in teaching and research.
- Enlisting Lehigh's global expertise, we will strengthen Lehigh Valley's economic development and ability to serve its growing international populations.

→ *Make it*
NEW

Lehigh University aims to foster innovation and curiosity by establishing strategic partnerships and empowering our faculty in global research and teaching endeavors





The Lehigh University College of Health

OIA and College of Health Forge Pathbreaking Partnership

OIA and Lehigh’s College of Health have broadened our collaboration to advance the college’s mission to make important contributions to the world of health, play a key role in helping meet the fast-growing employment needs of the health sector, and work to improve the lives of millions of people the world over.

This collaboration is focused on three areas including engagement in Latin America, global experiential learning in and out of the classroom, and research partnerships that specifically leverage our relationship with the UN and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Angelina Rodríguez, Assistant Vice Provost for Global Learning, was appointed teaching faculty in COH in Fall 2023. She taught “Coaching Towards Joy, Meaning, and Social Change” which focused on student identity and well-being and is advising a capstone project on Global Health Leadership in Mexico in Spring 2024.

Rodríguez is also chairing the college committee preparing recommendations for embedding global learning in the curriculum. Krista Ligouri (see sidebar) was hired with a joint OIA/COH appointment to advance opportunities for global experiential learning and opportunities through the UN.



Werner Obermeyer, the Director of the World Health Organization (WHO) office at the UN headquarters in New York City, [visited Lehigh](#) to speak with students from the university’s College of Health. They discussed global health topics, including issues like ebola, malaria, antimicrobial resistance, vaccine production, universal health care, and more.

KRISTA LIGOURI



OIA and COH announced a joint appointment of **Krista Ligouri**, Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of Community and Population Health, to provide an academic leader for global experiential education.

Ligouri is also responsible for developing internship and experiential learning global health opportunities for COH students, as well as offering courses related to those experiential opportunities and in the faculty members’ areas of expertise in global health. She also helps manage the development of the university’s partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), and serves as one of Lehigh’s representatives to the United Nations.

This new joint appointment has helped strengthen the ongoing partnership between OIA and COH, while also serving COH’s commitment to experiential learning opportunities.

Global Teaching and Learning Fellows

The Global Teaching and Learning Fellows (GTLF) seminar aims to help faculty members design pedagogically sound and innovative international education experiences. OIA partnered with the Lehigh University Art Galleries (LUAG) and its director, William Crow, in 2023 to offer the first cohort of GTLF fellows.

This year, OIA will partner with Lehigh's Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) on the program, utilizing an international education fund established to recognize former Lehigh President Gregory C. Farrington, which will allow for 50 faculty members to complete the GTLF seminar over the next five years.

The seven faculty members from the first GTLF cohort traveled to Rishikesh, India, in May 2023 for an immersive weeklong seminar on critical experiential pedagogy. Those faculty members are:

- **Nandini Deo**
Associate Professor of Political Science
- **Rochelle Frounfelker**
Assistant Professor of Community and Population Health
- **Almut Hupbach**
Professor of Psychology
- **Terry-Ann Jones**
Professor of Political Science and Director of the Africana Studies Program
- **Mary Anne Madeira**
Assistant Professor of International Relations
- **Ziad Munson**
Professor of Sociology and Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology
- **Xiaochuan Tong**
Teaching Assistant Professor

Faculty Internationalization Grants

Faculty Internationalization Grant support Lehigh faculty members seeking to engage or enhance international research and teaching projects. This can include developing shared research with colleagues at institutions overseas, designing a workshop or a course with faculty and students from foreign institutions, or planning an international conference. Six faculty members **were awarded** Faculty Internationalization Grants for 2023.



John Paul Balmonte, assistant professor of earth and environmental sciences, used his Faculty Internationalization Grant to support fieldwork at the International Arctic Research, as part of his continued collaboration with colleagues at the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) in Goa, India.

Balmonte traveled to Ny-Ålesund, a small town in Svalbard, Norway, where an old abandoned mining community was transformed into an international research center administered by the Norwegian government. Researchers from nearly a dozen countries study at Ny-Ålesund, and Balmonte's studies there focused on how carbon is stored in microalgae.

Balmonte also visited India to discuss potential collaborations with NCPOR, including a possible exchange of Lehigh students to both Ny-Ålesund and India. He wants to ensure his visit to the Arctic is not a single event, but rather a recurring educational opportunity for Lehigh students.

“Hopefully our work generates enough data for our preliminary proposal to do more long-term research, and hopefully we’ll submit a proposal to the National Science Foundation,” Balmonte said. “Through this partnership between NCPOR and Lehigh, we will continue to try to get Lehigh scientists up to the Arctic.”

Faculty Internationalization Grants (Cont.)

In addition to Balmonte, the other five professors to receive Faculty Internationalization Grants in 2023 included:

Ganesh Balasubramanian, associate professor of mechanical engineering and mechanics, to support research in India into advanced materials for sustainable energy storage and transport.

Alec Bodzin, professor of instructional technology and teacher education, to support research in Australia to develop immersive learning experiences in environmental and sustainability education.

Michael Kramp, professor of English, to support the ongoing project *Mothers of Sierra Leone*, which uses documentary film to encourage women in Sierra Leone to seek maternal healthcare.

Nitzan Lebovic, professor of history, to begin a collaboration with colleagues at Oxford University, Arava Institute, and New York University to develop a regional framework to address climate change in the Jordan River Valley.

Nik Nikolov, associate professor of architecture, as part of his research in Italy into using integrative building technologies as a response to climate change.

In addition to last year's recipients, five Lehigh professors **received Faculty Internationalization Grants** in December 2023 to support future projects. They include:

Michael Kramp and **Fathima Wakeel**, associate professor in the College of Health, to support the continuation of *Mothers of Sierra Leone*, a Global Social Impact Fellowship project.

Lyam Gabel and **Joseph Amodei**, faculty members in Lehigh's Theatre Department, to deliver a workshop in Ireland and conduct research for a new multimedia performance project that will focus on artists and the LGBTQIA+ community. The project will create opportunities for students to engage in the study of Irish theatre and public history.

Dhruv Seshadri, assistant professor in the Department of Bioengineering, to conduct focus groups and clinical trials in Palakkad, India and on wearable device and digital health technology.

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AND INTERNATIONALIZATION AWARD



In 2023, Lehigh's Faculty Committee on Global Affairs bestowed the first-ever Lehigh University Award for Global Engagement and Internationalization.

The award honors faculty who have made exemplary contributions to the internationalization of Lehigh, while also advancing the university's mission of excellent teaching, research, and service.

The inaugural award was presented to **Dinissa Duvanova**, Associate Professor of International Relations. Duvanova's research interests include international and comparative political economy, political economy of corruption, political institutions, regulatory politics, technology-enabled forms of political participation, and the politics of Eastern Europe, Russia, and Central Asia.

Faculty Fulbright Winners

Two Lehigh faculty members were named Fulbright winners: Nandini Deo and Hugo Ceron-Anaya.



Deo is an Associate Professor of Political Science, traveled to Mumbai, India, to share the findings from her research on the aftermath of the 2013 revisions to the Company Act, which created a new arena of corporate social responsibility.



Ceron-Anaya, Associate Professor of Sociology, studies both disenfranchised groups and those who wield power. Researching in Brazil under a Fulbright Specialist Fellowship, Ceron-Anaya worked to collaborate with colleagues to demonstrate the importance of viewing wealth as an inseparable side of poverty.

Utilizing Technology for Collaborative Online Learning



Graduate Assistant Bharath Kumar Sampath '23G in the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning's lab in the E.W. Fairchild-Martindale Library.

OIA and Lehigh's Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) collaborated on the establishment of the **Virtual International Exchange (VIE)** Community of Practice, which develops and supports pedagogical innovation for the classroom, for research, and for experiential programs at Lehigh University. The VIE Community of Practice offers teaching workshops, information sessions, and colleague mentoring for faculty and staff who are interested in using innovative technology to facilitate virtual international collaborations.

A key example of VIE is Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL), an international teaching and learning methodology in which two or more instructors in different countries virtually pair courses, including through collaborative assignments, group projects, and shared lectures and discussions.

The OIA helps provide access to international partners in the development of COILs, as well as assist Lehigh faculty members who are interested a COIL or other VIE collaborations in their teaching. A COIL module typically lasts three to eight weeks.

COIL EXCHANGE SUPPORTS TEACHING INNOVATION



In spring 2022, **Teresa Cusumano**, a language specialist at the International Center for Academic and Professional English (ICAPE), launched a COIL exchange, pairing ENGL 5 with a first-year composition course at Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) in Ecuador. The course included synchronous and asynchronous learning, virtual guest speakers and a virtual tour of the Lehigh University Art Galleries.

Cusumano says COIL can help both students and faculty increase their cultural awareness and competence. Faculty can also foster new partnerships and learn how to internationalize their curriculum, while students improve their digital literacy and learn how to work in virtual environments.

The following semester, Cusumano again taught a first-year composition course as a COIL with her partner at USFQ, María Cristina Montufar Delgado. Cusumano and Delgado chose the theme of gender and global citizenship, and the assignments included a multimodal culture profile and collage, a rhetorical analysis of a play and a 360-degree immersive essay using virtual reality software.

“With my ENGL COIL class, there was not one day that looked the same,” said Nayzeth Ybarra-Muniz ’26, a biochemistry major. “It was engaging and interactive, and I looked forward to each class and it would be one of the highlights of my day. I learned a lot about myself and connected more with my peers and professor.”

In addition to Cusumano, numerous Lehigh faculty members and staff have created and implemented COIL courses. Below are their names and the educational institutions with which they collaborated:

- **Armando Anzellini**
Assistant Professor of Anthropology
USFQ Ecuador
- **Jessica Harbaum**
Language Specialist at ICAPE
Forman Christian College in Pakistan
- **Bill Hunter**
Director of Fellowship Advising & UN Programs
Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- **Mike Lehman**
Professor of Practice, M.Eng. in Technical Entrepreneurship
Technische Universität (TU) Dortmund
- **Mark Ouellette**
Director of ICAPE
Miras University in Kazakhstan
- **Rudy Shankar**
Director of Energy Systems Engineering
University of the Republic-Uruguay
- **Luis Zuluaga**
Associate Professor & Co-Director, Financial Engineering Program
University of La Sabana Bogota Colombia



Faculty and students at the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning at Lehigh University.

Nandini Deo, Associate Professor of Political Science and a faculty Fulbright winner, speaking to students in her Introduction to Comparative Politics course.





• Create a new AI that filters the research options
improve one
• Training AI to only use reliable sources

• Data analysis & insights
→ • Expert systems & Virtual advisors
• Network & collaboration
platforms
• Impact assessment &
intelligence

③

→ *Make a*
DIFFERENCE

Lehigh University is committed to expanding global access for students and scholars through study abroad programs, scholarship offerings, and experiential learning opportunities



Global Learning

NEW ASSISTANT VICE PROVOST FOR GLOBAL LEARNING



In July 2023, Angelina Rodríguez was appointed to the position of Assistant Vice Provost (AVP) of Global Learning. Rodríguez came to Lehigh in spring 2020 to head the Global Citizenship Program after having served as Director of Experiential Learning at New York University Abu Dhabi and Dean for Latin

America at the School for International Training, among other leadership and faculty positions in the United States, Mexico, and Venezuela.

Within the AVP role, she is charged with creating and implementing a new pedagogical model across the division's many immersive learning offerings that will unify approaches and align with Lehigh's strategic plan priorities. Other projects include leading a newly reimagined undergrad global program, as well as the Global Teaching and Learning Fellows, a multi-year faculty seminar on global pedagogy.

Rodríguez is also a Teaching Associate Professor at Lehigh's College of Health (COH), and is liaising between the College and OIA to further embed global experiential learning into the curriculum at the college.

“This is an exciting time at OIA as we move into deepening our work with our many stakeholders. We have a solid and growing base of learning opportunities and partnerships that directly contribute to creating more thoughtful ways into a better future. I’m thrilled that we’re emphasizing the deeper aspects of self-awareness and engaging others who are different from us and thinking seriously about how to sustain the vital global work our students and other stakeholders are doing.”

Angelina Rodríguez

COACHING

Part of the work Rodríguez is leading includes an initiative to incorporate coaching perspectives and techniques into OIA pedagogy to support our diverse stakeholders which, in 2023, included:

- a for-credit undergrad course, “Coaching for Joy, Meaning and Social Good,” in the spring and fall semesters in 2023
- a publication, “Coaching in Support of International Students: Wellbeing at the Blurry Border of Cultural and Personal Wellness” in the *Forum* magazine of the European Association of International Educators
- three executive coaching engagements (two semester-long, for-credit) with Ventures Lab students and recent graduates, two of whom were international students
- a Mountaintop student research project consisting of Vanessa Singh, Oyu-Erdene Ankhbayar, and Mulenga Malama from Lehigh and Tenzin Chokey from Ashoka University in India
- Vanessa Singh (graduate student) and Oyu-Erdene Ankhbayar (undergraduate), both COH students, produced a study in the fall called, “Empowering Students Towards Success Through Coaching: Exploring Student Experiences At Lehigh,” based upon the Mountaintop group’s 75 survey responses and 11 qualitative interviews



WHAT IS GLOBAL LEARNING?

Global learning refers to learning that increases our capacity to appreciate the complex, overlapping global/local relationships in which we are positioned; to see difference and interconnectedness at once; and to think interdisciplinarily as we address the world's challenges and strive to make it a more equitable, sustainable place.

WHAT IS GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP?

Global citizenship is an orientation of care and concern for the world that includes other humans (with whom we may or may not have anything in common) as well as other beings and the planet. It implies a commitment to action, as well as to peace, social justice, and sustainability.

WHAT IS GLOBAL LEADERSHIP?

Global leadership is a mindset, skillset and way of being that is informed by an understanding of how systems work and interconnect; that is committed to working within complex contexts of difference; and that is dedicated to learning within changing circumstances as we aim to create a more just and sustainable world.

Dr. Angelina Rodríguez, Assistant Vice Provost of Global Learning (leftmost), with students at the Global Village Mexico program.

Innovation in Global Leadership Education

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR IACocca INSTITUTE



Scott Koerwer '90G was appointed executive director of Lehigh University's Iacocca Institute effective September 2023, following an international search.

Koerwer brings to Lehigh a career rich in experience in higher education and health care. He joined Lehigh from the Wright Center for Community Health and Graduate Medical Education, a not-for-profit organization focusing on the delivery of primary care and graduate medical education, where he served as executive vice president and chief administrative officer.

Koerwer will galvanize the development of the vision, mission, and strategic initiatives of the Iacocca Institute and position the Institute as a premier thought leader on global leadership development. Additionally, Koerwer will explore how the Institute's work aligns with emerging and established entrepreneurship and innovation initiatives across the University.

“The Iacocca Institute has a rich legacy and is poised for a bright future. I look forward to supporting its mission and vision through innovative programming with a global outlook and enriched community partnerships.”

Scott Koerwer, Executive Director

MANDELA WASHINGTON FELLOWSHIP

For a fifth year, Lehigh University was selected as an Institute Partner for the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders. The flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI), the Mandela program empowers young African leaders through academic coursework, leadership training, mentoring, networking, professional opportunities, and local community engagement.

This summer, the Iacocca Institute hosted 25 of Africa's bright, emerging business leaders for a six-week Leadership Institute, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. The participants undertook community service projects, assisted South Side Bethlehem businesses, helped Promise Neighborhoods of the Lehigh Valley with community needs, and visited with the Mayor of Allentown, among other things.

Junior Reina Toc, program manager at the Iacocca Institute, was the program director of the 2023 Mandela Washington Fellowship, and Bruce Whitehouse, associate director of sociology and anthropology at Lehigh, served as academic director.



In 2023, the Iacocca Institute hosted its signature program, Global Village (pictured), which teaches Lehigh students and young professionals entrepreneurship and leadership skills while preparing them to thrive in a global community. The Institute also hosted the Iacocca Global Entrepreneurship Intensive (IGEI), a program for U.S. and international high school students that combines experiential learning and intercultural connection.



Ensuring Access to Education Abroad

OIA is committed to providing Lehigh students access for international experiences and learning opportunities abroad. Whether for a few weeks or an entire semester or year, OIA firmly believes that by living and learning in a different culture, Lehigh students will broaden your understanding of the world and even gain a different perspective on their home country.

The Study Abroad office [supports all international outbound programs](#), with more than 300 programs in over 60 countries. The Iacocca International Internship Program provides [opportunities](#) for Lehigh students to work or do research overseas during the summer, enhancing their career readiness and intercultural competency.

Iacocca Internship Program by the Numbers

(Since created in 2011)

746
Iacocca Intern alumni

58
Countries interns have visited

46
2023 Iacocca interns

18
Countries 2023 interns visited

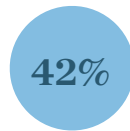
64
2024 Iacocca interns

18
Countries 2024 interns will visit

77%
Proportion of interns with no prior abroad experience

Study Abroad At a Glance

(Fall 2022-Summer 2023)



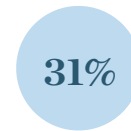
Study abroad



Student experiences in 40 countries



Programs



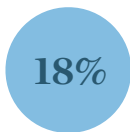
Experiences included hands-on work

Access to International Opportunities

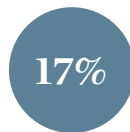
(Fall 2022-Summer 2023)

Both First-Gen students and Pell Grant recipient students were **OVERREPRESENTED** among students who went abroad compared to the overall Lehigh student population.

SHARE OF FIRST-GENERATION (FIRST-GEN) STUDENTS



Study abroad students identify as First-Gen

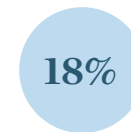


Overall Lehigh students identify as First-Gen

SHARE OF PELL GRANT RECIPIENTS



Study abroad participants receive Pell Grants



Overall Lehigh students receive Pell Grants

STUDENT PROFILES

Below are just a few examples of students who were afforded international experiences through OIA's study abroad program or the Iacocca International Internship Program.

RYAN JAVIER, '26
BS, Integrated Degree Engineering/Arts & Sciences



Ryan was selected for the prestigious Frederick Douglass Global Fellow award based upon his demonstrated commitment to advancing peace by building bridges among people with different viewpoints. "I want more students of color to feel heard and provide spaces where they can share their experiences comfortably."

He joined Passport to Success as a first-year student in 2022-23, joined Asian Cultural Society and Provide Advocacy and Care to All, and underwent a four-week comparative study of social justice leadership, for which he traveled to Cape Town, Dublin, and Washington, D.C.

BRIANNA BANFUL, '24
BA, Journalism



Banful lived and worked in Armenia through the Iacocca International Internship Program, spending eight weeks as a content writer with Nor Luyce, a nonprofit organization that aims to improve the lives of young girls. While there, she lived with a host mother in the former Soviet country, and was immersed in the culture while getting professional work experience.

"It really made me feel like an Armenian," Banful said. "I was waking up the same time that they do, I was eating what they ate. These are experiences, these are moments, that I will definitely carry with me for life."

JOHN WHITALL, '24
BS IDEAS, Mechanical Engineering/Environmental Impacts



Whitall spent several months in the city of Ushuaia in Argentina, where the engineering student studied the impacts of climate change on one of the most geographically extreme regions of the world, spending time in both Patagonia and neighboring Antarctica.

To help cover some of the costs of the trip, Whitall applied for and received a Gilman Scholarship. "I want to take the time to learn about the local culture and local ecosystems," Whitall said before departing. "Learn about the climate and how its change has affected those areas."

Lehigh Launch Ecuador

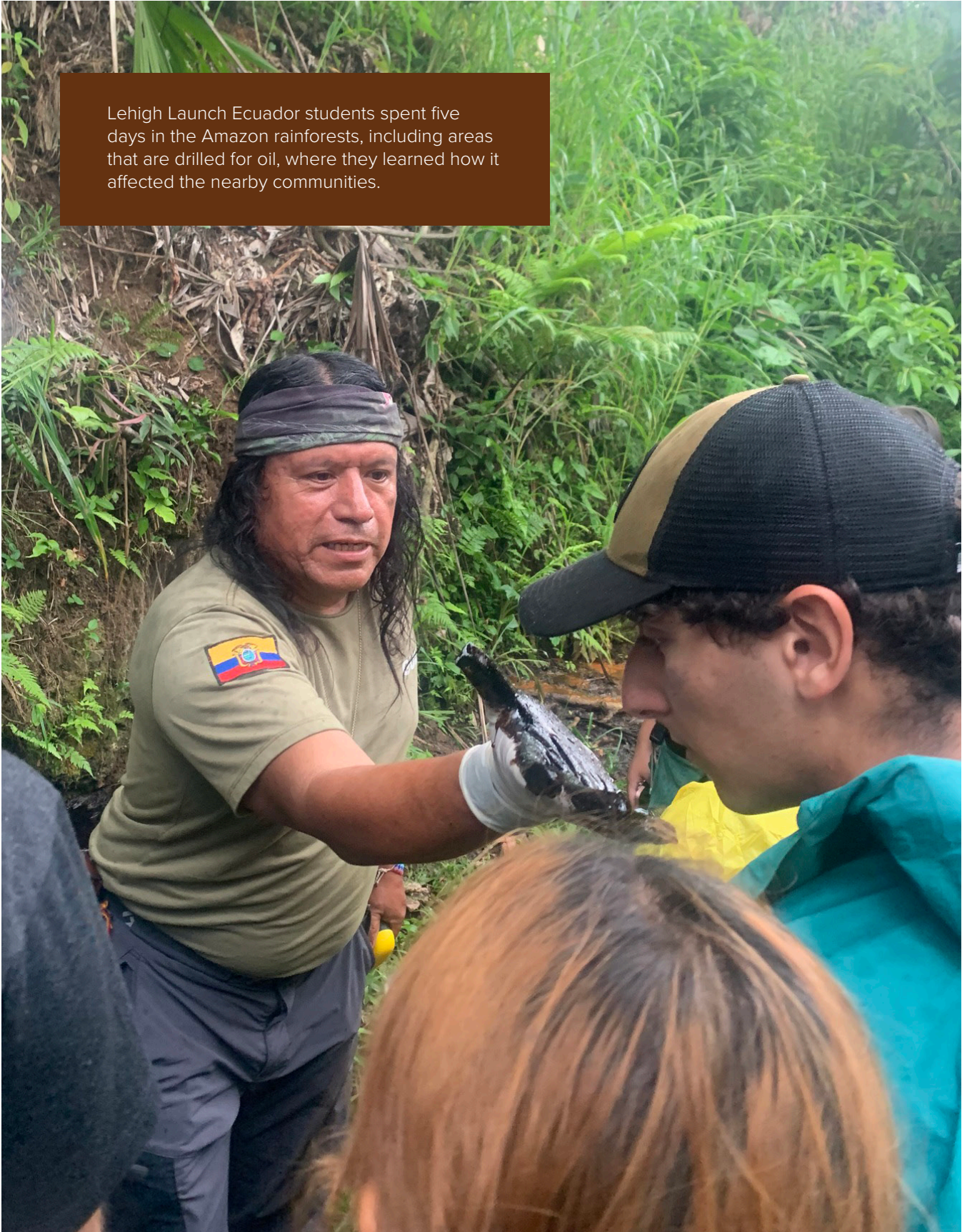
In 2023, Lehigh Launch – an experiential, integrative learning experience for first-year Lehigh students – was **offered in Ecuador** for a second consecutive year. Participating students were afforded the opportunity to swim in the Amazon, snorkeling with fish in the Galápagos, study the rainforests, and observe giant tortoises in the wild, among other amazing experiences.

"Lehigh Launch has helped me become more confident in what I want to study, but more importantly, it has helped me discover my 'why,' which I think is so special," said McKenna Littleton '27, one of a dozen Lehigh students who participated in this year's Lehigh Launch. "I also discovered that I am truly driven by people and a desire to learn from and experience different cultures." The program **will next move to Chile**, continuing Lehigh's **long tradition of engagement** with Latin American countries and scholars that dates back to the earliest years of the university.

Organized around a theme of adaptation, Lehigh Launch includes classes in social science, natural science, and a language course, all of which explore similar themes. Students also complete independent research programs in the Galápagos Islands related to waste management, sustainable farming, women and gender, and energy.

David Casagrande, associate professor of anthropology, was the faculty director for Lehigh Launch Ecuador, and Katy Rene, Assistant Director of Study Abroad, served as program manager.

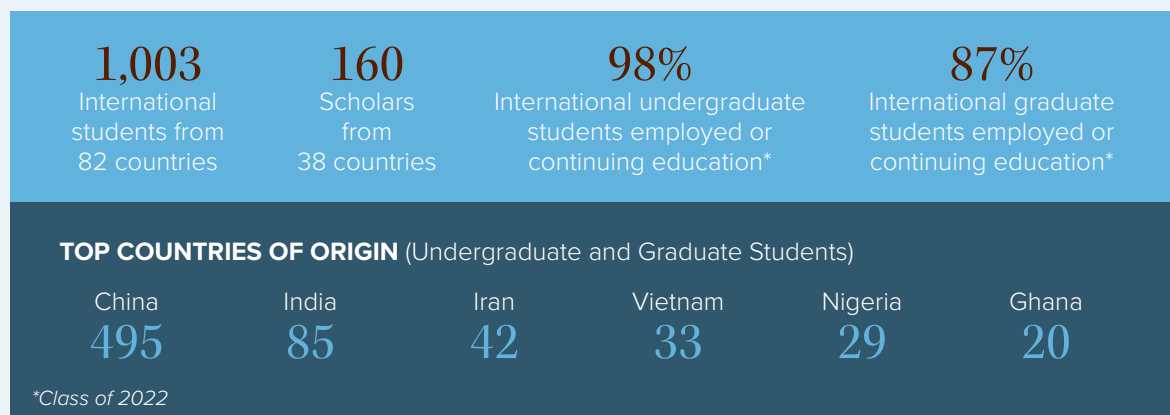
Lehigh Launch Ecuador students spent five days in the Amazon rainforests, including areas that are drilled for oil, where they learned how it affected the nearby communities.



Lehigh's International Students and Scholars

International student enrollment nationwide has returned to almost pre-pandemic levels, with more than 1 million enrolled in U.S. institutions, according to the Open Doors 2023 Report on International Educational Exchange.

That national trend has extended to Lehigh as well. Just over 1,000 international students from 82 countries enrolled at Lehigh during the 2023-24 academic year, up from 959 students the previous year, and only slightly below pre-COVID levels of 1,059 students in 2019. Lehigh's diverse international student and scholar community enrich the university's intellectual landscape and helps equip students to make a difference in their home countries.



International Center for Academic and Professional English

ICAPE's **team** of professional instructors offer non-credit and credit courses, workshops, tutoring, and testing services to help multilingual speakers of English improve their writing and communication skills as well as their academic and social integration. Below are just a few students who have benefitted from ICAPE programs:



Thein Mwae is an educator from Myanmar and a Lincoln Fellow and **successfully completed** ICAPE's StepUp Intensive English program. She is studying Educational Technology to help improve the Burmese education system.



Besa Masaiti is ICAPE's graduate assistant, and a **world chess master**. She participated in her first professional chess tournament at age 11, and helped create a tournament which is named after her in her home country of Botswana.



Henri Adiassa is a charismatic Lehigh sophomore and basketball player from Cameroon. After **successfully completing** ICAPE's StepUp program, Henri's basketball coach said he became more confident, mature, and responsible.

Initiatives for International Students

OIA and OISS regularly host programs, initiatives, and events to support international students throughout the year. One of the biggest is the International Bazaar (pictured), a **colorful, cultural event** featuring performances, fashion shows, and food samples that celebrate the diversity of our community.

Other annual initiatives include a free “Friendsgiving” dinner for international students, a student **Flag Parade** that runs throughout campus, and **programming and events** for international students who cannot return home during holiday or semester breaks.

Emergency support is also provided to international students through the International Student Assistance Fund, which is made possible through gifts from alumni and donors. This fund totaled about \$52,000 in 2023.

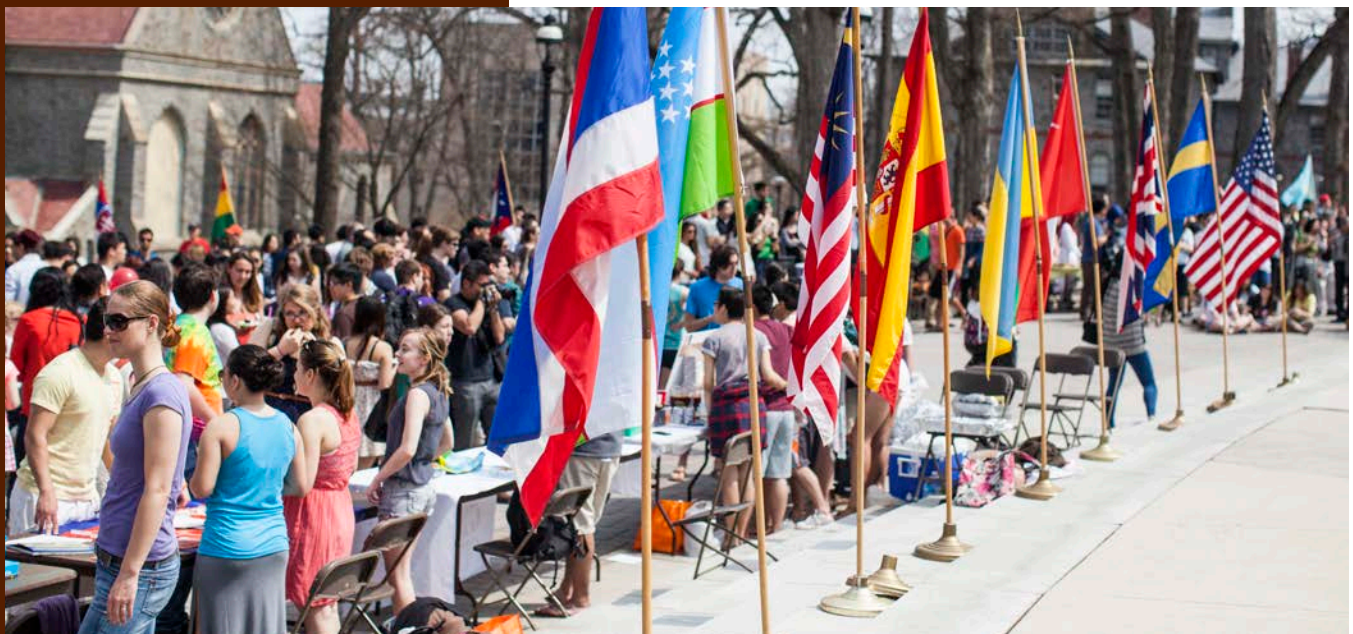
International Education Week

Lehigh University and OIA celebrated International Education Week on November 13-20, 2023. IEW is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State to recognize the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide.

The week **began with a keynote speech** from Amer Ahmed, Provost for Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) at the University of Vermont, about how global education can address inequity challenges.

Several other events and programs were held at Lehigh during IEW, including:

- An annual **flag parade**, in which students carried their nation’s flag throughout the Lehigh campus
- A **presentation** from recipients of Faculty Internationalization Grants (see page 8) and Doctoral Travel Grants for Global Opportunities
- The **Together We Climb luncheon** recognizing faculty and staff who have made a difference in the experiences of international students
- A **virtual discussion** with guest speakers about what First Lady Michelle Obama calls the “global kitchen table” concept
- A presentation about global health careers by Michael Reza Farzi, an official with the World Health Organization’s Health Emergencies Programme

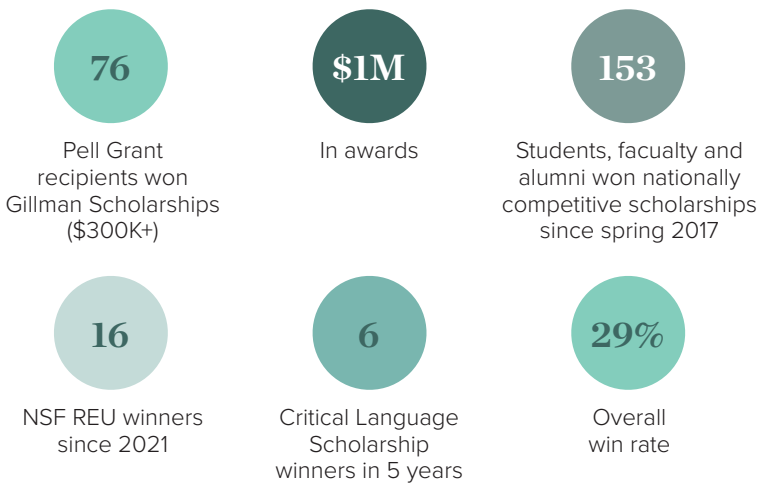


The International Bazaar is one of the biggest events hosted by OIA and OISS each year at Lehigh University.

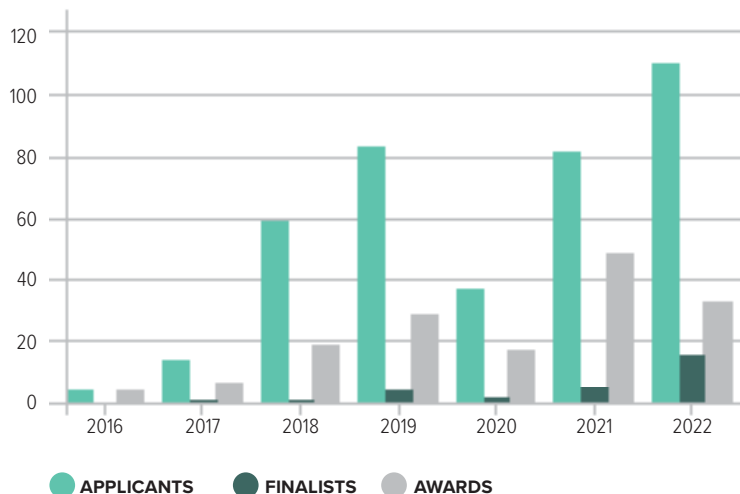
Fellowship Advising and Scholarship Opportunities

Throughout the university's history, Lehigh students, faculty, staff, and alumni have competed for and received nationally competitive scholarship and fellowship applications, with assistance and guidance from OIA's **Office of Fellowship Advising**. These scholarships and fellowships have allowed for transformative opportunities that have challenged the Lehigh community to think beyond their disciplines and envision themselves as scholars, researchers, linguists, innovators, and global changemakers, leading lives of great significance.

Highlights 2016-2023



Scholarship Application, Finalists and Award Trends



Data covers the period from fall 2022 to summer 2023.

Passport to Success

One of Lehigh's signature mentoring programs, Passport to Success **helps first-generation or low-income students** succeed in college and beyond by connecting them to high-impact learning opportunities like study abroad, international internships, global experiences in the United States, research opportunities, community engagement and service learning.

In its sixth year, this collaboration between OIA and the Office of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity provides ongoing programming throughout to educate and guide students on opportunities and high-impact learning experiences available beyond the classroom experience. A total of 510 students have participated in Passport to Success since the 2018-19 academic year.

Gilman Scholarships

These nationally competitive State Department-funded scholarships are **open to undergraduate students** receiving Federal Pell Grant Funding who want to apply for a credit-bearing study abroad program or internship. Since Spring 2018, 90 Lehigh students have won a combined \$352,000 in Gilman Scholarships.



→ *Make it*
TOGETHER

Lehigh University is dedicated to forging collaborative partnerships with institutions domestically and abroad to enhance global access and opportunities for Lehigh students



Lehigh's Engagement in India

Lehigh has had a history of engagement with India dating back to the mid-1980s, when the university began to see significant numbers of Indian international students and faculty with degrees from Indian institutions. In response to rising numbers of Indian international students across the United States, Lehigh has worked since 2017 to deepen its engagement to India, with an emphasis on Indian student recruitment, academic partnerships, and research collaborations.

Lehigh University continued its ongoing collaborations and strategic partnerships with several Indian higher education institutions in 2023, including:



ASHOKA UNIVERSITY

Ashoka University is a private research university renowned for its focus on liberal education, academic research, and hands-on experience with real-world challenges. In 2017, Lehigh and Ashoka established Lehigh's first institutional partnership in India, a successful collaboration that was **extended another five years** in 2023.

Lehigh and Ashoka established a faculty exchange agreement and articulation agreement. The arrangement gives Ashoka students the option to articulate into five master's programs, including English, physics, environment policy, data sciences, and the Masters of Engineering in Technical Entrepreneurship program.

The partnership has been very active, with students and faculty engaging in several areas and programs. Ashoka students have participated in a semester exchange at Lehigh, and have engaged such programs as the Hatchery at the Baker Institute for Entrepreneurship, Creativity & Innovation.



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL

O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU) has been ranked India's no. 1 private university for three consecutive years by QS World University Rankings 2023, and has been recognized among the Top 150 universities globally under the age of 50 years.

Lehigh's College of Education is developing a joint certificate/post-graduate diploma with JGU in Haryana. The new certificate will be a redeveloped program from COE's long-standing International School Counseling certificate.

Partnering to offer a school counseling program in India will benefit Lehigh in myriad ways. It will expand Lehigh's partnerships and share the university's expertise in international school counseling, while simultaneously creating a pipeline for JGU students to enter COE's master's programs.

Additionally, having school counselors educated by Lehigh will increase the university's exposure for undergraduate recruiting.



SRM INSTITUTE

Based in Chennai, **SRM Institute of Science & Technology** has a strong reputation in engineering and life sciences research and education, as well as extensive experience in successful partnering with international universities for academic research and collaboration.

Lehigh and SRM have partnered to establish an undergraduate experience and integrated BS/MS program in bioengineering. Through that arrangement, up to five students will be admitted to the M.S. program in bioengineering at Lehigh annually, and an equal number of students from SRM will be selected to perform experiential summer research at the Lehigh campus.

The first set of SRM students came to Lehigh for a semester-long experiential research program in Fall 2023. This marks only the beginning of a fruitful partnership that will allow both institutions to leverage opportunities to offer bioengineering courses on a reciprocal basis.

INTERNATIONAL ADVISOR



Vinita Desai was appointed Senior International Advisor in India, where she serves as Lehigh’s in-country representative. Based in Mumbai, she is involved in student engagement and recruitment for Lehigh’s undergraduate and graduate Indian programs.

Additionally, she supports OIA in identifying and fostering meaningful collaborations and partnerships with premium educational institutions in India. Desai has a Ph.D. in Education, and has worked both as an assistant professor as well as in private migration and education consulting firms in India.

“To continue our initiatives and engagement efforts, it’s crucial we have someone working on the ground for us in India,” said Cheryl Matherly. “Vinita brings deep experience with the Indian higher education market and will be a key player in supporting our recruiting and partnership strategies.”

PROVOST FACULTY FELLOW



Anand Ramamurthi, Professor and Chair of the Department of Bioengineering in the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science, **was selected for the Lehigh University Provost Faculty Fellows Program.**

The program provides an opportunity for faculty who desire to foster institutional changes at Lehigh through work on a specific project while gaining experience in higher education leadership.

Ramamurthi is a member of the Lehigh in India Steering Committee and an expert in platform technologies for in situ elastic tissue repair and in vitro tissue engineering. His research spans biomaterials, nanomedicine, and stem cell-based strategies for growing elastic tissue constructs on demand or enabling biomimetic tissue repair in vivo.

His lab is also involved in identifying novel mechanistic targets for multipronged downstream regenerative benefits to treatment of structurally degenerative disorders of the vasculature, lungs, and pelvic organs.





Pictured: Lehigh President Joseph Helble's Latin America visit included a lecture at USFQ in Ecuador (top left), a visit to the Galapagos Science Center on San Cristobal Island (top right), and a Panama Canal tour (bottom right). Others attending the trip included (middle photo, respectively) Katy Rene, Assistant Director of Study Abroad; Cheryl Matherly, Interim Vice President for Development & Alumni Relations.



Lehigh Collaboration with Latin American Countries

LEHIGH'S LONG HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT

In his **first overseas trip** since becoming Lehigh University's 15th president in August 2021, President Joseph J. Helble embarked on a week-long trip spanning four Latin American countries. The visit underscores Lehigh's long-standing commitment to engagement and collaboration with Latin American nations, one that **dates back to the earliest days** of the university's nearly 160-year history.

In fact, Lehigh's very first international students came from Brazil. Hildebrando Barjona de Miranda and Raymundo Floresta de Miranda came to Lehigh in 1868 – just three years after the university was founded – to study mechanical engineering and analytical chemistry. Many of Lehigh's international students originally came to Lehigh because of its well-known programs in engineering and mining technologies, which were in high demand in their home countries.

“Lehigh is a truly international campus, and global engagement is crucial for our graduates to thrive professionally and personally in today's international arena.”

Lehigh University President Joseph J. Helble

Ernesto Tisdell Lefevre, who spent 10 months as President of Panama in 1920, was a Lehigh graduate, earning his electrical engineering degree here in 1892. Two of his brothers – Edwin Lefevre, a renowned journalist and novelist, and Henry Francis Lefevre, a prominent consulting mining engineer – were also Lehigh alumni, as was Rafael Sanchez-Aballi, the Cuban ambassador to the United States.

Brazil, Guatemala, and Colombia remain among the top sending countries for Lehigh's international students at Lehigh, and many of the university's global partnerships and faculty research are based in Latin American countries. The engagement and collaboration between Lehigh and Latin America are as alive today as it was during the university's earliest years.

LEHIGH PRESIDENT'S LATIN AMERICAN TRIP

As part of his Latin American trip, President Helble was invited to speak at Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ) in Ecuador as part of its Chancellor's Lecture Series. The series has featured prestigious speakers from all around the world, including Nobel Laureates, former heads of state, business leaders and distinguished scholars.

Helble addressed the importance of interdisciplinary education and Lehigh's commitment to deliver the broadest education possible to students. His lecture addressed the importance of interdisciplinary education and Lehigh's commitment to deliver the broadest education possible to students.

The USFQ speech was the one of the capstones of Helble's trip, which also included stops in Colombia, Guatemala, and Panama. Helble visited alumni, students, and international colleagues during the visit, and also visited students participating in the Lehigh Launch Ecuador program (see page 19).

Lehigh's International Partnerships in Germany

LEHIGH ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH TU DRESDEN IN SAXONY, GERMANY

Lehigh University established a new partnership with Technische Universität Dresden in Saxony, Germany, that will provide opportunities for joint research and publications, as well as facilitate academic and student exchanges. The two universities signed a memorandum of understanding in May 2023, which will lead to research, academic, and cultural exchanges that help impact innovation and economic development in both regions.



LEHIGH, TU DORTMUND TAKE PARTNERSHIP TO NEXT LEVEL

Lehigh University and Technische Universität Dortmund, a technical university in the Ruhr region of Germany, have enjoyed an active and highly successful institutional partnership for the last 24 years. Now, they have **taken their collaborations to the next level**, having gathered in October 2023 to discuss how they can leverage their long-standing relationship to positively impact innovation and entrepreneurship in both the Lehigh Valley and the Ruhr region.



LEHIGH SYMPOSIUM WITH TU DORTMUND

Lehigh University and OIA officials **welcomed a delegation** from TU Dortmund to the Lehigh campus in October 2023 for a symposium called “Empowering Regional Impact Through Entrepreneurship: The Role for Universities.” The event highlighted practices at both Lehigh and TU Dortmund to expand the entrepreneurship ecosystem, and how the two entities could work together to grow innovation and entrepreneurship in each of its regions.

The Ruhr area was once a coal-mining region that was forced to diversify its economy once that production ceased, similar to how the Lehigh Valley economy changed after Bethlehem Steel shut down. Both regions thrived despite these industrial changes in part by focusing on innovation. Dortmund has established itself as a thriving hub of entrepreneurship and innovation, and Lehigh has long been committed to that same spirit, particularly through the work of its Baker Institute for Entrepreneurship, Creativity & Innovation.

During the symposium, representatives from both Lehigh and TU Dortmund participated in intensive roundtable discussions to identify shared challenges in both their communities, establishing short- and long-term goals for continued collaboration over the upcoming months. The event also included two roundtable discussions: one focused on innovation, and another about the connections between immigration and entrepreneurship.



Lehigh University/United Nations Partnership

Each year, more than 1,000 Lehigh students, faculty, and staff members attend United Nations conferences, high-level briefings, and private meetings with ambassadors and other UN officials in New York City and on campus. Additionally, about 200 students have participated in Lehigh University's United Nations Youth Representative Program since it was founded in 2008.

EU AMBASSADOR



Olof Skoog, European Union Ambassador to the UN, **spoke at Lehigh** in June 2023 as part of the partnership's Ambassadorial Speaker Series. A diverse audience of 50 globally-minded students engaged in a back-and-forth dialogue about Skoog's career, the challenges facing the EU regarding Ukraine, and diplomacy at the United Nations.

UKRAINE AMBASSADOR



Lehigh undergraduate and graduate students **had the opportunity** to speak with Vasyl Myroshnychenko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Australia. A Lehigh alumnus himself, Myroshnychenko discussed having previously participated in Lehigh's Global Village for Future Leaders for Business and Industry, one of the Iacocca Institute's signature programs.

STUDENT SPEAKERS



Several Lehigh students have had the opportunity to speak at the United Nations headquarters through the LU/UN Partnerships. Among them was Rhema Hooper '26, **who spoke** on behalf of the human rights of children in artisanal and small scale mining. Additionally, 20 Lehigh students **gave a presentation** at the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

UN YOUTH REPS



Through the partnership's **UN Youth Representative Program**, Lehigh matches UN-accredited non-governmental organizations with undergraduate and graduate students who serve as that NGO's voice at the United Nations. Some of those representatives were given the chance **to speak** on a global stage about such topics as international education, human rights, global health, and environmental issues.

EU MISSION



On May 1, 2023, the Delegation of the European Union Mission of the United Nations in New York **became the 4th mission** to be certified by Lehigh University's Partnership for Sustainable United Nations Missions. This is part of ongoing work by Lehigh student teams to integrate sustainable practices through the UN Environment Programme's Greening the Blue initiative, which is being done in partnership with the Lehigh Office of Sustainability.

Revitalizing Bilateral Exchange Program



The OIA has revitalized its bilateral exchange program, in which students come to Lehigh for studies from an institutional partner, and Lehigh students in turn are sent to study at the partner's campus. **Jodeen Joyner**, Senior Study Abroad Advisor at Lehigh, was named the Exchange Program Manager.

In this capacity, Joyner serves as the main point of contact when inbound exchange students apply to Lehigh through the program. Once they arrive, Joyner helps connect them with faculty advisors, plans activities throughout the semester, and maintains contact to make sure their needs are being met.

There has been 14 visiting students at Lehigh in the 2023-24 academic year either studying or doing research through this program, from the following university partners:

- Ashoka University
- Technische Universität (TU) Dortmund
- Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
- Technische Universität (TU) Dresden
- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB)
- Universidad San Francisco de Quito
- Nagoya Institute of Technology
- University of Galway
- Singapore University of Technology Design
- University of Groningen
- SRM Institute of Science and Technology



Participants in the bilateral exchange program visiting gate Asa Packer Mansion in Jim Thorpe, Pa.

OIA Staff Achievements

OIA staff are recognized as leaders in the field of international education. We are proud to report on the professional accomplishments of our staff.

INFLUENTIAL VOICE IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



Cheryl Matherly was selected as one of 50 Influential Voices in International Education in North America in 2023. The list, released by Professionals in International Education (PIE), sought to identify experienced leaders, policy makers, and disrupters who offer a valuable commentary on the international education ecosystem.

“Aiming to highlight the influence and impact of those influencing the sector, the digest lists 50 voices working across the continent who are providing valuable commentary, in the hope of inspiring a conversation about leadership and personal brand,” said PIE in a statement.

Matherly also co-edited the book *Internationalization and the Impacts of the Pandemic Worldwide*, with Alexander Wiseman and Max Crumley-Effinger; it was published by Emerald Press in July 2023. Additionally, she was selected as a specialist by the U.S. Consulate in Norway to conduct a series of workshops in August for Norwegian institutions interested in collaborating with U.S. higher education.

OFFICE OF FELLOWSHIP ADVISING (OFA) LU/UN PARTNERSHIP



Bill Hunter, Director of OFA and the LU/UN Partnership, and **Elena Reiss**, Assistant Director, presented “Solving the Sustainable Development Goals in 90-Minutes” at the United Nations International Day of Peace Conference

Hunter served as Partnership and External Relations Coordinator for the United Nations International Day of Women and Girls in Sciences Assembly

Reiss presented “Walk in my Shoes: Virtual Reality for Gender Advocacy” at the National Association of Fellowship Advisors Conference, and also served on the Critical Language Scholarship National Review Committee

Jennifer Marangos, Fellowship Advisor, served on the Gilman Scholarship National Review Committee

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Angelina Rodríguez, Assistant Vice Provost for Global Learning and Teaching Associate Professor at Lehigh’s College of Health, served as Creative Inquiry – Mountaintop Faculty Project Leader, Coaching for Global Wellbeing.



She created and hosted Lehigh’s third Global Citizenship Conference on Radical Listening in February 2023. It featured Tom Kaden and Michael Gingerich, the founders of Someone To Tell It To; musician and activist Sonny Singh; and Suzanne Watts Henderson, Ph.D. of Interfaith America.

Rodríguez also completed two certifications in integral coaching at the associate and professional levels, and became a partner at an executive coaching and consulting firm in Silicon Valley.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS AND STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Stacy Burger, Director of Global Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives, gave a presentation at the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) conference in Vancouver. The presentation was called “The Database Dilemma: Gaining Insights into How International Education Professionals Use Databases to Facilitate Global Learning & Partnerships.”



INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH (ICAPE)



Ashley Murphy, Assistant Director of ICAPE, released the book *The Writing Process Reader*, which was published by Kendall Hunt



Jessica Harbaum, Language Specialist, won a \$2,000 Course Hero award for the development and facilitation of her English COIL course



Harbaum and Teresa Cusumano, Language Specialist, were each awarded a \$1,000 Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL) grant for their Collaborative Online International Learning courses



Mike O'Neill, Language Specialist, was awarded a \$500 CITL grant for course development, to be presented at the TESOL International Conference in March 2024

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS (OISS)



Amanda Connolly, Director of OISS, was a member of the NAFSA Trainer Corp Trainer Development Team

Connolly presented in USCIS Hot Topics at the NAFSA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., and had her session accepted “Leveraging the DSO Role to Address Inequities in Employment Access” accepted at the Region X/XI Biregional conference in Montreal



S. Nichole Hunley, Associate Director, was inducted into the NAFSA Trainer Corps, and was a NAFSA Region VIII Regulatory Ombud for Scholar Issues

Hunley facilitated a Scholar Roundtable session at the NAFSA Region VIII conference in Roanoke, Va.



Patricia Goldman, Assistant Director of International Student Engagement, was the NAFSA Region VIII Social Media and Marketing Coordinator, and co-lead for the NAFSA Region VIII Mentorship program

Goldman presented “10 Years: Celebrating the Success of NAFSA’s Mentorship Program” at the NAFSA Region VIII conference in Roanoke, Va.



Linnan Tartaglia, International Student Advisor, completed NAFSA F-1 Advising for Beginners at the Region VIII Conference

STUDY ABROAD



Katie Radande, Director of Study Abroad, was appointed to serve a three-year term on the IFSA Strategic Advisory Council



Antonio L. Ellison II, Assistant Director for Study Abroad & Diversity Initiatives, presented “Hidden in Plain Sight: Adjusting our Lens to See Study Abroad Through the Diversity Workshop Abroad” at the IES Abroad Conference

Ellison was named a Ping Taylor Professional Fellow recipient at the Forum on Education Abroad conference, and also gave a presentation on the OIA Fellows at that same conference



Katy Rene, Assistant Director, completed the Forum on Education Abroad’s Professional Certification in Education Abroad



Jodeen Gemmel, Senior Advisor & Exchange Program Manager, was the Assistant Program Leader for a Vietnam study abroad program with the College of Business

Rene also presented at IES Abroad Conference, and joined a Forum on Education Abroad working group to update guidelines for undergraduate health-related experience abroad



Brian Wasserman, Study Abroad Advisor, was the Assistant Program Leader for the Lehigh in Munich study abroad program

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For the latest news about Lehigh University's international engagement, visit our website:

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