

GLOBAL LEHIGH

2024-25 Annual Report



LEHIGH
UNIVERSITY

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Note: This year's report marks a transition from a calendar year to an academic year reporting cycle. Accordingly, it includes activities from both the first half of 2024 and the 2024–25 academic year.

Introduction



Cheryl Matherly

Cheryl Matherly

*Vice President and Vice Provost
for International Affairs*

At Lehigh, global engagement is not just an aspiration. It is central to who we are as a university. The Office of International Affairs (OIA) serves as a strategic engine for Lehigh's impact, a leader in international education, and a community built on the strengths of our students, faculty, and staff.

Last year, almost 1,000 international students were enrolled at Lehigh, affirming our role as a premier destination for talented students and scholars from around the world. Their presence reinforces a fundamental truth: Lehigh's global community is one of our greatest strengths. By strengthening recruitment, supporting student well-being, and offering globally recognized learning opportunities, we continue to position Lehigh as a destination of choice for the world's best students.

We also take pride in our leadership in international education. Lehigh is ranked among the top U.S. universities for study abroad, and our innovative programs—from the Iacocca International Internship Program to Lehigh Launch Chile—prepare students to succeed in a global society. Through initiatives like the Iacocca Institute and our LU/UN Partnership, we are building globally minded leaders who connect learning with action and lead with creativity, innovation, and purpose.

At the same time, we are expanding equitable access so that all students can participate in international learning. New initiatives like the Maida Education Abroad Grants ensure that financial need is not a barrier, while programs like Passport to Success help first-generation and high-need students take their first steps toward global opportunities. These efforts strengthen our commitment to ensuring that international experiences are not limited to a few, but accessible to every student, regardless of background.

This work is possible because of the extraordinary people who make up our global community: our students, faculty, staff, and partners around the world. Their accomplishments, from faculty leading groundbreaking research collaborations to students advocating for justice on the global stage, are the heartbeat of this report. By deepening international partnerships, advancing new research collaborations, and extending Lehigh's global expertise to support both our campus and our community, we are expanding the resources that drive discovery and dissemination of knowledge worldwide.

As you read these pages, I invite you to see how OIA is shaping the university, the community, and the world. It is a privilege to share these stories with you, and to celebrate the people who make them possible.

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.



Position Lehigh as a premier destination for the world's best students

In a year marked by high enrollment and renewed recognition of international students' contributions, Lehigh affirmed its role as a global university. Lehigh's strong international enrollment this year reaffirmed its global identity through a dynamic international community, graduates recognized for their global insight, and programs that help students from around the world feel supported and connected. Together, these milestones reflect Lehigh's enduring commitment to being a welcoming destination for the world's best students.

Lehigh Welcomes Large International Cohort

Lehigh's global community continues to thrive. The university welcomed **989 international students from 91 countries and 140 visiting scholars from 42 countries in 2023–24**. These numbers nearly return to pre-pandemic levels and underscore Lehigh's strength as a destination for top students and scholars worldwide.



These gains reflect both national and state-level trends. International student enrollment in the U.S. surpassed 1.1 million in 2023–24, the highest since records began in 1948, while Pennsylvania institutions hosted more than 50,000 international students, contributing \$2.2 billion to the state economy and supporting nearly 22,000 jobs. Lehigh's enrollment places it firmly within this resurgence, demonstrating its leadership in global higher education and its role in fostering international collaboration.

In 2024, Lehigh's international students generated an estimated **\$62.3 million in economic impact** and supported **690 local jobs**, according to NAFSA: Association of International Educators. This connection between global reach and local impact reflects Lehigh's identity as an **anchor institution**, one that advances education, innovation, and opportunity both on campus and beyond.

Cheryl Matherly wrote about this approach [in NAFSA's Trends & Insights](#), exploring how universities are redefining internationalization to benefit their local communities as well as the world.

By the Numbers AY 2025

Lehigh's international community totals **1,707** members, including:

615 graduate students

352 undergraduate students

258 Optional Practice Training (OPT) students

189 OPT Extension students

158 scholars

136 dependents (spouses/children)

92% of international undergraduate students employed or continuing education

74% of international graduate students employed or continuing education

Want to dig deeper? Explore our [Global Lehigh Data Reports](#) for



Supporting International Students

Lehigh has remained steadfast in its commitment to international students and scholars, who are essential to the vitality of the university community. The university has prioritized clear, consistent communication and provided timely guidance to help students navigate changes in immigration and visa policy.

At the heart of this work is the **Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS)**, which connects students with resources, advocates on their behalf, and ensures that international students feel welcomed and supported throughout their Lehigh experience.

Additionally, as part of the resources available to Lehigh's international community, the **International Center for Academic and Professional English (ICAPE)** offers programs that help multilingual students strengthen their English communication skills and succeed academically and professionally.

President Helble Highlights Importance of a Global Community

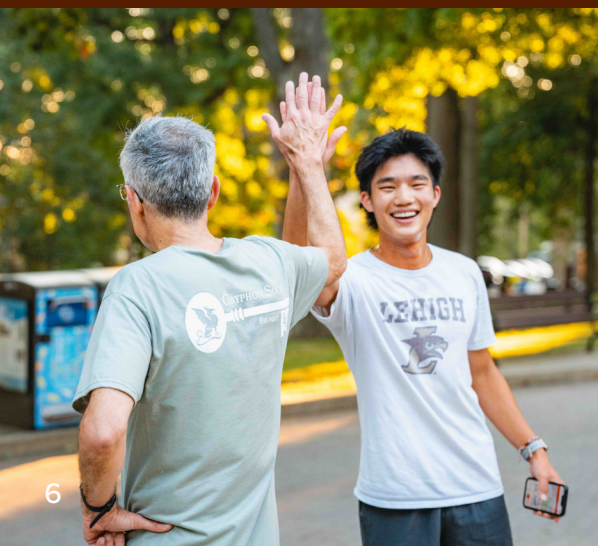


In his 2024-25 commencement address, President Joseph J. Helble '82 **underscored the vital role** international students play in shaping Lehigh's identity as a globally engaged academic community.

Nearly 30% of graduate students and 45% of Ph.D. recipients in the Class of 2025 were international, representing 39 countries. Helble praised this diversity as central to the university's mission, reminding graduates that "a university has brought you together from around the globe" at a time when the wider world is often divided.

"Global educational communities are, in my view, the very definition of an American research university, an American learning university. To our graduating students, regardless of your degree or program, I'd ask you to think about what you have learned from those around you, from that geographically diverse global coalition of learners and scholars."

President Joseph J. Helble '82



International Student Advisory Board

Launched in 2024, the [International Student Advisory Board](#) gives international students a voice in shaping their Lehigh experience. Comprised of undergraduate and graduate students from around the world, ISAB provides feedback and recommendations to the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) on programs, services, and support. The board fosters community, amplifies student perspectives, and helps ensure that international students feel valued and connected at Lehigh.



Lehigh's commitment to supporting international students takes many forms, including initiatives that strengthen both academic success and community connection.

Below are just a few more examples...

A Global Student's Path to Leadership



Akari Takahashi '24 began her Lehigh journey thousands of miles away in Japan, enrolling in the Virtual College Success Academy during the COVID-19 pandemic. Navigating time zone challenges and adapting to a new academic culture, she found support through the [International Center for Academic and Professional English \(ICAPE\)](#), which helps multilingual students strengthen communication skills and connect with campus resources. With that foundation, Akari embraced leadership opportunities, serving as president of Voices student magazine and mentoring peers. She credits ICAPE and the Lehigh community for helping her grow into a confident leader, experiences she now carries with her to medical school.

[Read more here.](#)

Guides, Mentors & Friends from Day One



From airport pickups to welcome events, International Orientation Leaders (iOLs) help new students feel at home from their very first day. These trained student leaders guide international students through arrival and orientation, offering practical support and cultural insight that ease the transition to life at Lehigh University. [Read more here.](#)

Family Friendship Program Eases Student Transitions



The Global Lehigh Family Friendship Program pairs international students with Lehigh faculty and staff, creating bonds that extend beyond campus. Through shared meals, outings, and holiday gatherings, students find a welcoming support network that helps them feel supported and connected as they adjust to life in the United States. [Read more here.](#)

Bazaar Brings Global Cultures to Campus

Each year, the International Bazaar is Lehigh's largest international celebration on campus. The 36th Bazaar brought global culture to campus this spring, transforming the Clayton University Center Front Lawn into a celebration of music, dance, food, and community. Hosted by OISS, it featured performances, interactive booths, and cuisine from more than 40 cultural organizations. [Read more here.](#)



OIA Hosts Renowned Global Education Leader

In April 2024, Lehigh hosted Dr. Allan Goodman, CEO of the Institute of International Education (IIE), for a statewide symposium on international student recruitment and employability. The discussion explored how international students can become part of regional workforce strategies—connecting talent to industry needs in the Lehigh Valley and across Pennsylvania—and underscored their potential to drive innovation and strengthen local economies. The event affirmed Lehigh's role in bringing educators, policymakers, and business leaders together to bridge international education with regional opportunity.

[Read more here.](#)



Allan Goodman (top images), CEO of the Institute of International Education (IIE), and Cheryl Matherly (bottom image), Vice President and Vice Provost for International Affairs at Lehigh, speaking at the symposium.



Prepare Lehigh community members to be global learners, citizens, and leaders

Lehigh equips its community to thrive in a globally interconnected world by embedding leadership development, intercultural learning, and experiential opportunities across programs. From innovative coaching practices to immersive study abroad programs, from hands-on summer internships to competitive fellowships, students gain the tools to navigate complex challenges with confidence and vision. These initiatives prepare Lehigh students not only to succeed in their careers, but also to lead as globally minded citizens committed to impact.

Coaching and Critical Intercultural Learning: A New Approach for Global Education



Lehigh University is advancing [a new model of global learning](#) that places coaching at the center of intercultural development. This approach views coaching as a reflective, evidence-based practice that helps students and professionals cultivate self-awareness, empathy, and the ability to navigate complexity across cultures. By integrating coaching into its global learning strategy, Lehigh seeks to empower individuals to engage more thoughtfully in creating a more equitable and sustainable world.

This vision is being shaped by the work of Angelina Rodríguez, Assistant Vice Provost for Global Learning, who developed a pedagogical coaching model that blends intercultural understanding with transformational learning and aligns with the university's broader strategic goals.

In April 2024, Lehigh brought this framework to a national audience by [hosting an AIEA Thematic Forum](#) titled "Coaching and Critical Intercultural Learning: Towards a New Approach for Global Education." The two-day event drew more than three dozen educators and international leaders to campus, highlighting coaching as a powerful tool for advancing intercultural learning and global education.

Forum participants examined coaching and leadership in global contexts, critical intercultural learning outcomes, and distinctions between global and intercultural learning. Guest speakers included Darla Deardorff (UNESCO Chair, Stellenbosch University), Christopher Glass (Boston College), Miriam Meima (Every Day Leader), Lesley Robinson (Ayana), and Dawn Whitehead (AAC&U).

By convening this national dialogue and piloting its own coaching programs, Lehigh is positioning coaching as a distinctive and enduring element of its approach to preparing students as global learners and leaders.

Global Teaching and Learning Fellows in Guanajuato

Lehigh's Global Teaching and Learning Fellowship (GTLF) continues to expand its impact, sending faculty to Guanajuato, Mexico for immersive seminars in 2024 and 2025. The interdisciplinary program invites educators to reflect on how they "show up" in unfamiliar contexts—balancing their own perspectives with those of students and local communities to create meaningful, place-based learning experiences.

Through workshops, site visits, and shared meals with local families, fellows explore intercultural learning, disciplinary approaches to teaching in context, and strategies for preparing students as global citizens. Developed by Angelina Rodríguez, the fellowship encourages participants to consider the next evolution of their teaching practice and to engage more thoughtfully with difference. Funded by the Farrington Fund, GTLF continues to build a network of faculty committed to advancing global learning across Lehigh's colleges.

Faculty participants in both the GTLF cohorts included:

2024 Fellows

Renée Bailey

Teaching Assistant Professor
for the Department of English

Hugo Ceron-Anaya

Associate Professor
of Sociology

Thomas Chen

Associate Professor of Chinese
in the Department of Modern
Languages and Literatures

Lilia Adriana Pérez Limón

Assistant Professor in the
Department of Modern
Languages and Literatures

Stephanie Prevost

Professor of Practice of Law,
College of Business

Brook Sawyer

Professor in the Teaching, Learning,
and Technology Program,
College of Education

2025 Fellows

Simone A. James Alexander

Professor of English and
Director of Africana Studies

Austin Duncan

Assistant Professor in the Department
of Community and Global Health

Samantha Maurer Fox

Assistant Professor of Anthropology in the
Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Ho'oulunonalani (Ho'o) Hee

Assistant Professor of Design-Product
and Affiliated Faculty in the Institute
for Indigenous Studies

Hsuan-Wei "Wayne" Lee

Assistant Professor at the College of Health
and Faculty Associate in the Department of
Mathematics

Stephanie Powell Watt

Professor and Robert D. Rodale Chair in Writing

Christina Chi Zhang

Assistant Professor of Architecture at the
Department of Art, Architecture & Design



Lee Iacocca Institute for Global Leadership

The Iacocca Institute has entered a new chapter as the newly-renamed Lee Iacocca Institute for Global Leadership, sharpening its focus on preparing the next generation of culturally agile, globally minded leaders. Established in 1988 to honor the vision of Lee Iacocca '45, the Institute is evolving into a year-round, dynamic hub for leadership development, thought leadership, and innovation.

Today, the Institute is advancing a more dynamic model of global leadership education—one that blends immersive experiences, digital platforms, and sustained engagement. Its mission is to make leadership development accessible to all Lehigh students while also offering advanced pathways for students to deepen their leadership skills and global competencies. Guided by feedback from alumni, students, and other stakeholders—including insights from a new student advisory board—the Institute is embedding leadership development across its programs and positioning itself as a space for critical conversations about the future of leadership.

Looking forward, the Institute is expanding its impact through innovative approaches to experiential learning, reimagining internships to reflect the realities of a changing workplace, and deepening its global reach through partnerships with universities, organizations, and businesses worldwide. By integrating career readiness, leadership training, and global collaboration, the Institute is positioning itself as a space where students, faculty, and partners can engage with the most pressing questions of leadership in the 21st century.

A Distinguished Network of Global Leaders

In 2024, the Lee Iacocca Institute for Global Leadership launched the Iacocca Institute Executive Fellows, a distinguished network of business leaders, educators, and multidisciplinary experts who bring real-world perspectives to the Institute's work.

Through regular engagement, the Fellows provide insights on global trends, share best practices, and spark cross-disciplinary dialogue that enriches the Institute's programs. Their expertise strengthens cultural competency and global awareness across the Iacocca community, equipping students and alumni to navigate complex challenges and lead effectively in a globalized world.

The Executive Fellows include:

Elisa Aeki Johnson

Founding Partner, PBJ People Consulting & Coaching LLC

Christopher Borick

Director of the Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion

Brett Bruen

President & CEO, Global Situation Room, Inc.

Kevin Cassidy

Partner & Co-founder, iC One Global

Kevin Clark

President & Federation Leader, Content Evolution LLC

Mark Cronin

Founder, Velocity R Aviation Foundation

Abhik Das

Partner, Three Hills

Tom Dowd

Founder & Career Consultant, Dowd Career Consulting

Fermín Ezquer-Matallana

CEO, Think Creative

Nur-E Rahman Freedman

Principal & Founder, Kerning Strategies

Michael Freeland

President, Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association

Lisa Getzler

Vice Provost for Entrepreneurship, Lehigh University

Ryan A. Grant

Founder & CEO, Vori Health

R. Kevin Grigsby

Senior Director, AAMC Member Organizational Development

Hande Gunduz

Research Assistant Professor in n² STAR Facility in Koç University

Roland J. Kushner

Professor of Business, Muhlenberg College

Alberto Mata

Partner and Head of Banking & Finance, CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo

Mickey Matthews

Global Chair, Governance Committee

Jill Murray

President, Lackawanna College

Leroy Nunery

President, Evolution Advisors LLC

Daniel Obst

President & CEO, AFS Intercultural Programs

Donald A. Outing

Vice President for Equity and Community, Lehigh University

Teresa Parejo-Navajas

Head of Sustainability, IBERIA

Bob Parker

Owner, The Pit Crew Challenge

Joe Perfetti

Finance Professor, University of Maryland

Bernhard Ries

Founding Partner, PBJ People Consulting & Coaching LLC

Lesley Robinson

Founder & CEO, Embolden Consulting

Jonathan Schanzer

Executive Director, Foundation for Defense of Democracies

Mark Speicher

Senior Vice President, Research, Learning, and Innovation, AACOM

Larry Starr

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Systems Science, Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine

Joseph Sweeney

CFO, JD Bravo Company Inc., and Founder, Decision Leadership Institute

Regina Tendayi

Director, Strategic Talent Partner, Bayada

Expanding Horizons with the Iacocca International Internship Program



Since its launch in 2011, the Iacocca International Internship Program (IIIP) has provided nearly 900 Lehigh students with high-quality summer internships in more than 60 countries. Each placement gives students the chance to gain hands-on professional experience while developing the intercultural agility and leadership skills that define the Institute's mission.

In 2025, IIIP [reached a new milestone](#) with more students interning in Asia than in any other region, reflecting the program's growing focus on dynamic, innovation-driven economies. Through support from the Freeman Foundation and a new partnership with the Global Career Center, Lehigh students secured internships in Singapore, Japan, and other countries across the region, working in sectors such as healthcare, marketing, and technology. Beyond professional training, these experiences fostered cultural fluency and global connections that will serve students throughout their careers.

Looking ahead, the Institute is committed to reimagining internships to reflect the realities of a changing workplace. New leadership and strategic partnerships are shaping opportunities that connect students to emerging fields, diverse pathways, and the competencies needed for career readiness in a global context. By expanding access and strengthening impact, the program continues to prepare Lehigh students to thrive as globally minded leaders.

Leadership Development in Action

Beyond internships, a wide range of Iacocca Institute programs and partnerships give students and participants opportunities to practice leadership, build entrepreneurial skills, and engage with peers from around the world. Below are just a few examples.

- More than 90 alumni from 47 countries [participated](#) in the Global Village on the Move program in November 2024, a seven-week experience culminating in a capstone week in Istanbul. Through virtual collaboration, on-site visits, and design simulations, they tackled real-world challenges and strengthened their leadership, innovation, and cross-cultural communication skills in a truly global setting.
- Each summer, globally minded high school students join the four-week Iacocca Global Entrepreneurship Intensive (IGEI). Now [in its 23rd year](#), the program hosted 45 learners this year and has welcomed more than 1,400 alumni from 66 countries since its inception. The program combines experiential learning and intercultural exchange, helping emerging leaders strengthen skills in entrepreneurship, leadership, and global citizenship.
- Twelve German students from the Transatlantic Ruhr Fellowship [visited Lehigh](#) in summer 2024, participating in leadership courses, entrepreneurship workshops, and seminars at the Institute and elsewhere on campus. Part of Lehigh's long-standing partnership with UA Ruhr, the program combines classroom learning with company visits and cultural experiences.
- The Institute and Lehigh's College of Business collaborated to offer a series of one-credit courses designed to build leadership skills for undergraduates. Current offerings include Becoming a Leader and Leadership in Practice, with a third course on global and community leadership also in development, complementing modules taught in other Iacocca programs.

Executive Fellows Dialogues Highlight Global Leadership in Action

The Iacocca Institute Executive Fellows participate in ongoing Executive Fellows Dialogues, which bring together leaders from diverse fields to exchange ideas on global leadership and innovation. One session included Mark Speicher, Senior Vice President of Research, Learning & Innovation at the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), [discussing global health care systems and patient safety](#). Another featured Larry Starr, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Systems Science at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, [exploring systemic thinking as a framework for addressing complex challenges](#).

Study Abroad at Lehigh

Interest in studying abroad has [rebounded strongly since the pandemic](#), with Lehigh now exceeding its pre-COVID record participation. This growth underscores the university's strong commitment to global engagement. It also mirrors national trends, where study abroad increased 48% in 2022–23, reflecting a strong recovery in international education.

#22	789	42%	56
Lehigh's national rank in study abroad participation*	Students who had an international experience in AY 2024	Students who had an international experience by graduation	Number of countries in which students studied abroad in AY 2024
Source: Institute of International Education's Open Doors 2024 Report			

OIA's Study Abroad team supports students throughout the process—from program design and advising to risk management and on-call assistance—ensuring safe, high-quality experiences.



Students exploring global opportunities at OIA's annual Go Abroad Fair in September 2024. The event connects students with program directors and staff representing study, intern, and research programs around the world.

Immersive Learning in Santiago



Lehigh Launch Chile offers first-year students a semester of immersive study in Santiago and surrounding regions, combining coursework in social science, Spanish, and natural science with cultural experiences like homestays, national celebrations, and community-based projects. Students earn 16 credits through integrated classes—such as Race and Ethnicity in Latin America—while exploring places like Valparaíso and Chiloé. Directed by sociology professor Hugo Cerón-Anaya, the program fosters academic growth, cultural competency, and global perspectives, while also opening research opportunities for faculty collaboration in Chile and beyond.

Hands-On Health Learning Abroad

When Lauryn Jones '25 studied abroad in London in 2024, she not only took a variety of courses and immersed herself in the city's culture, but also gained hands-on experience working at Centre 404, a charity for children and adults with learning disabilities. Her [service-based learning placement](#) was part of Lehigh's [long-standing partnership](#) with IES Abroad, and reflects the growing collaboration between the Office of International Affairs and Lehigh's [College of Health](#) to expand study abroad tracks for health students. Through these opportunities, students build cultural competency and professional skills in global settings while engaging with communities around the world.



"I have family members with autism spectrum disorder, so it's important to me, and it's been really cool to see how this organization works and just how impactful it is for these people and also their families."

Lauryn Jones '25, population health major at Lehigh's College of Health

Fellowship Advising

Lehigh's [Office of Fellowship Advising](#) (OFA) works with university students, faculty, staff, and alumni to prepare nationally competitive scholarship and fellowship applications. A total of \$2.3 million in awards have been given through OFA's efforts since 2016, and 106 Lehigh students, faculty, and alumni have won nationally-competitive scholarships since spring 2017.

\$2.3M Total in awards supported by OFA

98 Pell Grant recipients who won Gilman Scholarships (\$300k+)

196 Students, faculty, and alumni won nationally competitive scholarships since Spring 2017

3 Rhodes Scholarship finalists in last two years

37% Overall win rate

Richard Verma Named Lehigh's President's Distinguished Fellow



Richard Verma '90, former U.S. Ambassador to India and Deputy Secretary of State, served as Lehigh's inaugural President's Distinguished Fellow in spring 2025. Over his six-month appointment, Verma mentored students, led discussions on global challenges, and delivered public lectures on leadership in complex times, both on campus and in Washington, D.C. A Lehigh alum and former trustee, Verma emphasized the value of lifelong engagement with the university community while sharing insights from his distinguished career in diplomacy and public service. Bill Hunter, Director of Fellowship Advising and U.N. Programs, worked closely with Verma to help organize his time on campus as a Distinguished Fellow.

2024–25 Scholarship Recipients

The following students earned prestigious national and international scholarships in 2024–25 with support from OFA.

Gilman Scholars

- Denny Aguirre (Portugal)
- Afia Arhin (Ghana)
- Anisha Dasgupta (Ireland)
- Ivan Gatski (Hong Kong)
- Alejandro Guzman (Germany)
- Lynzie Hamilton (Japan/South Korea)
- Noah Kim (Ecuador)
- Stephanie Luong (Spain)
- Matthew Marlowe (Iceland)
- Liz Matthews (Indonesia)
- Ana Sofia Mendoza (United Kingdom)
- Peindo Niangane (Ghana)
- Sydney Ponce (Spain, Morocco)
- Isabella Rojas (Belgium)
- Allison Seitzinger (Netherlands)
- Gideon Sobek (Ireland)
- Diego Trejo-Beltran (China)
- Samantha Victor (Switzerland)
- Owen Vincent (Portugal)
- Zachary Weitzman (Ireland)
- Chloe Witt (Italy)

DAAD RISE Scholars

- Collett Akins (Germany)
- Sabine Dalais (Germany)
- Emily Farley (Germany)
- Ivan Gatski (Germany)
- Madeline Jones (Germany)
- Ben Radoslovich (Germany)

RUHR Fellows

- Nghi Bui (Germany)
- Ivan Gatski (Germany)
- Akanksha Gavade (Germany)
- Yulianna Melendez (Germany)
- Anh Quan Nguyen (Germany)

Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)

- Ryan Javier (China)

NSF REU Scholars

- Collett Akins (Northwestern)
- Jonathan Cuadra (University of Alabama)
- Madeleine Korver (Iowa State University)
- Agnes Walker (Advanced Air Mobility REU, University of Tennessee, Knoxville)

Amgen Scholar

- Matt O'Connell – UC Berkeley

Goldwater Scholar

- Saimonth Munoz (USA)

SURF Scholar

- Liz Matthews (Thomas Jefferson University)

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a black long-sleeved top with a colorful floral pattern and a long black skirt with ruffles, is dancing outdoors. She is holding a wooden fan in her right hand and has her left arm raised. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, there are trees and a few people sitting on a bench.

Ensure all students have access to international education experiences

At Lehigh University, global learning is not a privilege for a few. It's an opportunity available to all. Ensuring equitable access to international education is central to our mission, from expanding scholarships and mentorship programs to creating inclusive pathways that make global experiences possible for every student. Together, these efforts advance an inclusive vision of international education.

Maida Education Abroad Grants

Studying and interning abroad is transformative for many students, and Lehigh is committed to ensuring that all students have access to this opportunity.

To that end, Lehigh was excited to announce the establishment of the Maida Education Abroad Grants, an initiative to make global education opportunities more accessible to students with high financial need.

This \$2 million endowment from Sharon and James Maida '85 '17P '19P through the James and Sharon Maida Foundation, Inc., will enable more Lehigh students to study, intern, research, or engage in service abroad. The Maida gift also supports the Lee Iacocca Institute for Global Leadership by contributing to matching funds from the Iacocca Family Foundation, directly connecting the new grants with the university's leadership development mission.

The grants will create a seamless pathway for students. It starts with Lehigh's established Passport for Success program, which introduces first-generation, high-need, and underrepresented students to high-impact educational opportunities. Students who complete Passport to Success will then be eligible to apply for a Maida Education Abroad Grant.

"The Maida Grants will help us create a pivotal connection among our programs that will encourage students to engage in international learning experiences throughout their time at Lehigh," said Cheryl Matherly, Vice President & Vice Provost for International Affairs at Lehigh.

"It's important to Sharon and me that every student has the opportunity to learn about the world through international education. We were inspired to create this endowment after talking with Dr. Henry Odi about the Passport to Success program. And we structured it in such a way that the Iacocca Family Foundation will match the gift."

James Maida

Global education is a cornerstone of Lehigh's undergraduate experience. It prepares our students to lead in an interconnected world. The Maidas' generous endowment will help us honor our commitment to empower even more global scholars.

Lehigh President Joseph J. Helble



Sharon and James Maida '85 '17P '19P provided a \$2 million endowment through the James and Sharon Maida Foundation, Inc. to support these grants.



Tanyaradzwa Masunga '26G and Zelalem Ayalew '26 participating in the campus flag parade for International Education Week.

Passport to Success

Lehigh's Passport to Success program helps first-generation and high-need students take their first steps toward global opportunities—starting with securing a U.S. passport. The year-long mentorship program then connects students with study abroad, international internships, research, and leadership experiences. Since its launch in 2017-18, more than 650 students have participated, gaining the tools, resources, and confidence to pursue global learning throughout their time at Lehigh. [Learn more here.](#)



“Without the experiences I had at Lehigh University and the Office of International Affairs, I never would have even thought of doing something like this. They gave me the opportunities and the confidence to follow this path.”

Zena Meighan

*Zena Meighan '24 received her first passport through Lehigh's Passport to Success program. Today, she's **living in Kumamoto, Japan**, teaching English to elementary and middle school students.*

Collaborative Online International Learning



Lehigh's Rudy Shankar partnered with Uruguay's University of the Republic to create a COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) [course on sustainable energy](#), one of several COIL collaborations developed across Lehigh in recent years. COIL pairs courses from different coun-

tries, enabling students to work together on collaborative assignments, projects, and discussions. Supported by Lehigh's Virtual International Exchange (VIE) Community of Practice—run jointly by OIA and the LTS Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning—this initiative reflects Lehigh's growing emphasis on innovative, technology-enabled global learning that builds cross-cultural understanding and professional skills.

International Education Week

Each November, Lehigh joins the nationwide celebration of International Education Week (IEW), recognizing international education as central to the university's mission. The 2024 keynote speaker, Karin Fischer, senior writer for The Chronicle of Higher Education, discussed [how globalization and politics are reshaping higher education](#) while underscoring the enduring value of cross-cultural connection.

At Lehigh, IEW highlights the university's commitment to expanding scholarships, mentorship programs, and inclusive pathways that make global experiences accessible to all students. The week's events included a campus flag parade, Friendsgiving dinner, and the Together We Climb awards luncheon, which honored more than 30 faculty, staff, and organizations for supporting Lehigh's international community.





Expand resources that advance the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge

Discovery and innovation thrive when knowledge is shared across borders. Lehigh is expanding and deepening global partnerships to advance teaching and research, while also developing new resources and hubs that broaden opportunities for collaboration. By enlisting Lehigh's global expertise and building connections worldwide, we strengthen our role as a global university and enhance our ability to contribute locally, nationally, and internationally.

Strengthening Global Ties Through International Partnerships

Lehigh's global partnerships [continue to grow in scope and impact](#), connecting faculty, students, and staff with leading institutions worldwide. In 2024–25, Lehigh maintained active agreements with universities and organizations across Asia, Europe, Africa, and the Americas, advancing shared goals in research, teaching, and student mobility. Through the Global Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives office, Lehigh faculty and staff are leveraging internationalization grants, pursuing innovative collaborations, and creating transformative opportunities for students abroad—efforts that both strengthen partnerships and enrich the academic and cultural life of our campus.

Global Partnerships By the Numbers

- 41 Active global partnerships*
- 20+ Countries represented in Lehigh's partnership network
- 10 Partner universities hosted inbound/outbound exchanges in 2024–25
- 6 Faculty awarded Internationalization Grants in 2024–25 to support global teaching and research

For more information about Lehigh's global partnerships, read or download our [2024–25 Partnerships Activity Report](#).

** Includes global partnerships with either a signed memorandum of understanding or student exchange agreement in place*

Lehigh Launches New Global Engagement Directory

To make Lehigh's international activity more visible and accessible, OIA has introduced the [Global Engagement Directory](#). This interactive platform allows users to explore Lehigh's worldwide partnerships through a searchable map and country profiles, offering a clear view of how faculty, staff, and students are connected across disciplines and regions.

By gathering this information in one place, the directory not only showcases the breadth of Lehigh's global engagement, but also serves as a resource for building new collaborations and telling the university's international story more effectively.

“This tool enables us to tell our story, highlight our global connections, and reinforce our leadership in international engagement and innovation. The directory reflects Lehigh’s commitment to internationalization and positions the university at the forefront of global higher education innovation.”

Cheryl Matherly, Vice President and Vice Provost for International Affairs at Lehigh



Expanding Innovation and Exchange with TU Dortmund

Lehigh University and TU Dortmund have sustained one of Lehigh's **longest-running international partnerships** since 1998, rooted in shared regional strengths and a focus on innovation. In 2024, a Lehigh delegation visited Dortmund for sessions on entrepreneurship, economic development, and future collaboration with academic, government, and industry leaders.

The partnership also advanced joint research on entrepreneurial well-being, led by Willy Das (pictured, right) of the Lehigh@NasdaqCenter and Daniela Gimenez Jimenez (pictured, left), Junior Professor of Entrepreneurship at TU Dortmund and visiting research professor at Lehigh through a UA Ruhr grant. They **explored sustainable approaches** to supporting entrepreneurs' mental, physical, and emotional health—redefining success to include well-being alongside business outcomes.

LU/UN Partnership Celebrates 20th Anniversary

In August 2004, Lehigh became just the sixth university in the world to attain non-governmental organization (NGO) accreditation from the United Nations, and the Lehigh University/United Nations (LU/UN) Partnership was born. In 2024, LU/UN [celebrated its 20th anniversary](#) with a year-long offering of events, special guests, and U.N. visits.

The LU/UN Partnership provides opportunities for all Lehigh students, faculty, and staff to gain skills necessary to become successful global future makers by engaging with the U.N. via curricular and co-curricular initiatives. Here are just a few of the ways this unique partnership celebrated its 20th anniversary.



Visit the LU/UN Partnership [20th Anniversary page](#) for a visual timeline of the partnership's history, to download the anniversary brochure, and more!

Ukrainian Ambassador visits Lehigh

In the midst of one of the most important periods in the modern history of his country, Ukrainian Ambassador to the UN Sergiy Kyslytsya [visited Lehigh](#) on September 4, 2024. He discussed the Russia-Ukraine War, the nature of diplomacy, and the importance of global engagement. Addressing a packed auditorium, Sergiy Kyslytsya offered a candid assessment of the U.N.'s limitations in addressing the war and affirming the critical importance of continuing diplomatic engagement. While acknowledging frustrations with the system, he warned against abandoning it without a viable alternative.



Ukrainian Ambassador Sergiy Kyslytsya speaking to Lehigh officials during his campus visit.

2024-25 LU/UN Partnership Highlights

Students Reflect on Global Injustice



Thirty Lehigh students [attended](#) the UN's International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on March 25, 2025. They heard from global leaders, including the U.N. Secretary-General and a Nobel Laureate, and left inspired to raise their voices for meaningful change.

Presenting on Global Gender Issues



At the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women conference on March 21, 2025, 25 Lehigh students [presented](#) [research](#) and policy recommendations on gender equality. Their work addressed education gaps, social innovation, and global equity, highlighting Lehigh's role in advancing women's rights worldwide.

Dialogue with Global Leaders



On April 2, 2025, Lehigh students [engaged directly](#) with Catherine Russell, UNICEF's Executive Director, and British Ambassador James Kariuki near the UN. Discussions on UNICEF's funding challenges and U.N. Security Council reform gave attendees valuable insight into today's pressing global issues.

Greening Diplomacy in Action



Lehigh students [guided](#) the Permanent Missions of Germany and the Netherlands through the certification process for the Partnership for Sustainable U.N. Missions. The two delegations became the fifth and sixth certified, joining others in adopting eco-friendly practices aligned with the U.N.'s Greening the Blue agenda.

Empowering Rural Sustainable Change



Students [welcomed](#) Binod Anand, Secretary-General of the Confederation of NGOs of Rural India, for a keynote on sustainable rural development. Anand shared strategies for cooperative economics and innovation in agriculture, urging students to "win over yourself" and seek practical ways to drive global change.

Lehigh University has been granted special consultative status with the U.N.'s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), expanding its reach and influence on global policy. This designation allows additional representatives to attend and present at U.N. conferences—including the General Assembly for the first time—placing Lehigh alongside NGOs like Amnesty International and Greenpeace. Building on a 20-year U.N. partnership, this status gives students and faculty unprecedented opportunities to engage directly in international dialogue and decision-making.

Lehigh in India Virtual Hub

The first Indian student enrolled at Lehigh University in 1956. Today, India is the third-largest country of origin for Lehigh international undergraduate students, and the second-largest for graduate students.

With significant growth in student populations and faculty with degrees from Indian institutions, OIA has established a new virtual hub to strengthen Lehigh's [engagement to India](#), with an emphasis on Indian student recruitment, academic partnerships, and research collaborations.

Lehigh has launched new graduate pathway programs with [Vellore Institute of Technology \(VIT\)](#) and [SRM University](#) in India to strengthen pipelines for international students. These programs give students early exposure to research opportunities at Lehigh, preparing them to contribute to advanced projects in engineering, health, and other disciplines.

The initiative is already showing promising enrollment growth and is expanding Lehigh's connections with two of India's leading universities.



Lehigh hosted an March 2025 event for admitted students in Mumbai, which was attended by Cheryl Matherly, Vice President & Vice Provost for International Affairs; Manoj K. Malhotra, Dean of the College of Business; Parv Venkitasubramaniam, Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering; and Vinita Desai, Lehigh's in-country representative in India.

Connecting with Future Leaders in Mumbai

In June 2024, Lehigh [hosted](#) the inaugural Building Futures Workshop in Mumbai, designed to strengthen undergraduate recruitment and build the university's brand in India. The event brought together college counselors and rising high school seniors from across the country, introducing them to Lehigh's academic opportunities while engaging them in activities that developed entrepreneurial, innovative, and problem-solving skills. The workshop—organized by Lehigh's Office of Admissions with support from OIA—reinforced Lehigh's long-term commitment to expanding its visibility and partnerships in India.

Representatives Strengthens Lehigh and India Ties

For two years, Vinita Desai has served as Lehigh's in-country representative in India, promoting recruitment and partnerships nationwide. During her [first campus visit](#) in February 2025, she met with leaders across all five colleges and described Lehigh as a "very unique" and welcoming community for international students.



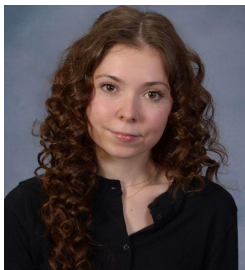
Visit the [Lehigh in India website](#) to explore student opportunities, alumni connections, institutional partnerships, and the latest news on Lehigh's engagement with India.

Faculty Recognized for Advancing Global Teaching, Research, and Exchange

From international awards to research grants and Fulbright scholarships, Lehigh faculty were honored in 2024-25 for their leadership in expanding global learning, building international partnerships, and addressing pressing challenges worldwide.

Faculty Fulbright Scholars

Five Lehigh faculty members received prestigious Fulbright awards for the 2025-26 academic year, advancing research, teaching, and cultural exchange around the world.



Cece Garvey '25

*Political Science,
Ethics minor*

Paraguay

English Teaching Assistant and researcher exploring author underrepresentation and indigenous language access.



Marissa Argen '25

*Biology, minors in
Spanish & Hispanic
Studies, Psychology*

Spain

English Teaching Assistant in Galicia, engaging with Spanish culture, history, and politics.



Armando Quiroz '27

*Ed.D.
(Educational
Leadership)*

Philippines

Researcher studying how school leaders support world language instruction across contexts.



Natasha Vermaak

*Associate Professor
of Mechanical
Engineering*

France

Researcher advancing resilient design in 3D-printed materials at LaMcube laboratory.



Dork Sahagian

*Professor of Earth
and Environmental
Sciences*

Armenia

Teacher and researcher, teaching environmental science and studying volcanology at the American University of Armenia.



Global Engagement and Internationalization Award Winner



Fathima Wakeel, Associate Professor of Community and Population Health

Fathima was honored for her leadership in the Mothers of Sierra Leone project, a Global Social Impact Fellowship initiative she co-leads with Michael Kramp, Professor of English.

Using documentary filmmaking and research to address maternal and child health, the project guides students in investigating maternal mortality, collaborating with Sierra Leonean communities, and highlighting innovative local healthcare solutions. This advances Lehigh's mission of global teaching, research, and service.

"What I really love about this project is using filmmaking as a tool not only to shed light on the maternal health crisis, but also to highlight the innovative solutions emerging in Sierra Leone to address the maternal mortality crisis," Fathima said.

The Global Engagement and Internationalization Award honors faculty who have made exemplary contributions to the internationalization of Lehigh University, while advancing the university's mission of excellent teaching, research and service.

Faculty Internationalization Grants Winners

Three Lehigh faculty members were awarded 2024-25 Faculty Internationalization Grants, which support projects that expand international research, teaching, and collaboration.

Dork Sahagian, Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences, received a \$5,000 grant to support a 3-week faculty visit to Armenia, building academic and research partnerships in environmental studies.

Edward Whitley, Professor of English, received a \$5,000 grant to collaborate with TU Dortmund University on digital humanities exhibits highlighting 19th-century New York literary culture.

Christina Chi Zhang, Assistant Professor of Art and Architecture, received a \$3,660 grant to participate in the Young Humanitarian Summit in Zürich, presenting an exhibition and engaging in global discussions on post-war healing and humanitarian responses.



Lehigh's Growing Role in Central Asia



Lehigh is **deepening its engagement** in Central Asia through new partnerships and expanded academic collaborations in Kazakhstan and beyond. In fall 2024, Vice President and Vice Provost for International Affairs Cheryl Matherly and Director of Global Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives Stacy Burger traveled to Almaty and Astana to meet with leaders from Satbayev University, Nazarbayev University, and Astana IT University, building connections that support joint research and student exchange.

Lehigh also played a central role in the inaugural meeting of the Kazakhstan-U.S. University Consortium (KUUC), a collaborative initiative sponsored by the Institute of International Education that links 36 U.S. institutions and 31 Kazakh universities. The consortium is designed to promote research collaboration, curriculum innovation, and academic mobility. In addition, Lehigh supports the Central Asian Researchers Network (CARN), a Creative Inquiry initiative hosted on LinkedIn that brings together scholars from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and the wider region. Collectively, these efforts highlight Lehigh's commitment to international partnerships, global learning, and sustainable impact.

Thai Scholarship Program Builds Global Ties



More than 30 Lehigh alumni attended a networking dinner held in Thailand in January 2025.

Since the early 2000s, Lehigh **has partnered with** the Royal Thai Government Scholarship Program, a prestigious initiative that funds top Thai students to pursue degrees abroad. Through this relationship, Lehigh has welcomed dozens of graduate scholars, particularly in engineering, science, and education, many of whom have gone on to influential roles in Thai government, academia, and research. The scholarship fully supports recipients with the expectation they return to Thailand to contribute to national development.

This longstanding success has fostered a strong alumni network in Thailand and strengthened Lehigh's reputation as a valued partner. In January 2025, Cheryl Matherly and Stephen DeWeerth, Dean of the P.C. Rossin College of Engineering and Applied Science, visited Thailand to meet with program officials and host a network dinner with more than 30 Lehigh alumni.

Alumni continue to promote the university to new generations of scholars, build bridges for international collaboration, and reinforce Lehigh's place as a destination of choice for Royal Thai scholars, advancing shared goals in science, research, and global engagement.

OIA and College of Health Partnership



Lehigh's Office of International Affairs and the College of Health continue to collaborate on initiatives that advance the college's mission to prepare leaders, address the growing needs of the health sector, and improve lives worldwide. The partnership focuses on global experiential learning, integrating international perspectives into the curriculum, and advancing research connections through Lehigh's ties to the United Nations and World Health Organization.

Angelina Rodríguez, Assistant Vice Provost for Global Learning, holds a joint teaching appointment with COH, where she develops courses on global learning and well-being while helping guide capstone projects. In addition, Krista Liguori, Teaching Assistant Professor of Community and Population Health, was appointed jointly by OIA and COH to expand global experiential education. She develops internships and courses in global health, strengthens connections with the UN and WHO, and represents Lehigh in international forums. These efforts deepen Lehigh's capacity to engage globally while enriching the student experience.

InspireHer Founder Talks Health Access



Sandra Boakye, a Lehigh PhD student in Population Health and founder of the nonprofit InspireHer in Ghana, delivered a [compelling global health talk](#) during International Education Week in November 2024. Boakye is an alumnus of the [Mandela Washington Fellowship](#) program hosted at Lehigh.

Drawing on her work combating menstrual inequity, she highlighted drone technology's transformative role in delivering medical supplies—vaccines, blood, and essentials—to remote communities in Ghana. Boakye emphasized how innovations like drones can overcome logistical barriers and significantly improve rural health outcomes, especially for women and girls.

"I think that it is important, especially as women, for us to empower ourselves academically and to be able to contribute to the communities, to be able to make the meaningful impact that we want. I want to encourage young leaders everywhere to invest in building themselves up while they're doing the work."

Sandra Boakye

International Advisory Council

OIA established Lehigh's International Advisory Council in 2024, bringing together global business leaders to provide strategic guidance and advocacy, enhancing Lehigh's global engagement initiatives. The council will advise key university leaders and bolster Lehigh's execution of its strategic vision, enhance the university's community and environment, and reinforce its commitment to excellence in learning, scholarship, and engagement.



Gilles Amadou Acogny, co-founder and CEO of Acosphere Ltd., a business consultancy that conducts 70% of its business in Africa.



Ramesh Ananthakrishnan '90G, founder of India-based DSM Soft, which provides geospatial, telematics, and GIS mapping services for various industries.



Marcela Miguel Berland, President & CEO of strategic communications and marketing firm Latin Insights, and a strategic advisor on crisis management and women's issues.



Wade Cruse '92, Managing Partner, Southeast Asia at the management consulting firm Bain & Company, where he is based in Singapore.



Demetrios Papacostas '77 '77G, former CEO of Greece-based Hellenic Aerospace Industry, among other international leadership roles.



J. Penney Frohling '85, founder of Ethos Partners, a London-based firm that specializes in corporate strategy and financial services.



Ashley Pritchard '09, leads a team at Meta Platforms combating hate speech on Facebook, and previously worked on human rights initiatives in Myanmar.



"The council brings together a distinguished group of leaders whose expertise and global perspectives will help guide Lehigh's international strategy. Their insights and connections will be invaluable as we continue to expand Lehigh's global engagement and impact."

Cheryl Matherly, Vice President and Vice Provost for International Affairs at Lehigh

Staff Accomplishments

Office of International Affairs

Cheryl Matherly,

Vice President and Vice Provost for International Affairs, led U.S. State Department workshops in Uzbekistan and Nepal, advising universities on building sustainable global partnerships and advancing internationalization in strategically important regions.

She also finished a three-year appointment as faculty for the New SIO Academy (Association of International Education Administrators).



Angelina Rodríguez,

Assistant Vice Provost for Global Learning, published *Coaching for SOWL: Self-Other-World Learning in Global Education* (Emerald Points, 2025) and the essay "Articulating Global Learning for Professional Applications" (IIE Networker, 2025).



She served as faculty for the Forum on Education Abroad's Beyond Polarization Residency, was an opening plenary panelist at the Forum's Annual Conference in Toronto, and earned Master Integral Coach certification through Integral Canada after completing more than 200 hours of professional training.

Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS)



S. Nichole Hunley,

Associate Director of OISS, served as NAFSA Region VIII Chair Elect (2024) and Chair (2025). She presented multiple national conference sessions, including "Comparative Approaches to Advising for Postcompletion and STEM OPT" and the Region 8 Update at the 2025 NAFSA National Conference in San Diego.



Patricia Goldman,

Assistant Director of International Student Engagement, served as NAFSA Region 8 Social Media Coordinator and co-presented "Beyond Going Viral: Growing Your Social Media Presence" at the 2024 Region 8 Conference in Lancaster, PA.



Annika Sethre-Hofstad,

Coordinator, received a Lehigh "Together We Climb" Award (2024) and earned VITA certification for Foreign Student Site (2024).



Linnan Tartaglia,

International Student Advisor, was selected to serve a three-year term on the Employee Relations Advisory Committee beginning July 2025, and received a Global Lehigh Incentive Grant with Colin McEvoy (Communications Manager) and Rebecca Lockard (Administrative Coordinator) for the "Sprout Your Global Journey" project.

Study Abroad



Katie Radande, Director of Study Abroad, presented “Microcredentials as the Link Between Postsecondary Education and Workforce” at the 13th Annual Global Internship Conference in Singapore (June 25–27, 2025). She also continued her three-year term on the IFSA Strategic Advisory Council.



Katy Rene, Assistant Director of Study Abroad, oversaw the implementation of Via TRM, a new application and travel management platform designed to improve operational efficiency and enhance the student experience. She also helped revitalize Lehigh’s research placement program in Galway, Ireland, in collaboration with Vincent Munley, Professor Emeritus of Economics in the College of Business.



Antonio L. Ellison II, Study Abroad Advisor, presented at the 2024 Global Inclusion Conference on diversifying the international education profession and developing the next generation of senior international officers. He also co-organized and moderated the March 2025 OIA/MLK Committee event at ArtsQuest in observance of International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, featuring Honorary British Consul Oliver St. Clair Franklin and a screening of his film *Slavery in the Age of Revolution*.

International Center for Academic and Professional English (ICAPE)

ICAPE was accepted as a host program for the SPARK college preparation program for Russian students.



Mark Ouellette, Director of ICAPE, and **Stacy Burger** received a Global Lehigh Incentive Grant for “A Graduate Student Mentorship Component to ICAPE’s English Communication and Research Internship Program.”



Teresa Cusumano, Language Specialist, published “Empowering Diverse Voices with Generative AI in a Multilingual Composition Classroom” in *TESOL Connections* (Fall 2025). She was also recognized as a CITL Senior Faculty Fellow, and awarded both a Lehigh Faculty Internationalization Grant and a Lehigh Ethics Committee Grant.



Ashley Murphy, Assistant Director of ICAPE, published *The Writing Process Reader* (Kendall Hunt Publishing Company, 2024), a textbook designed to guide multilingual students through the American academic writing process.



Mike O'Neill, Language Specialist, received an ACUE Instructional Excellence Grant and a CITL Faculty Fellowship.

Murphy and Bishop Pikinini (Iacocca Institute) also received a Global Lehigh Incentive Grant for the “A Mosaic of Us” project.



Maria Cristina Montufar, Language Specialist, was awarded a Senior CITL Faculty Course Development Grant for her Spring 2025 course WRT 005 and named Fall 2025 CITL Faculty Fellow.

Office of Fellowship Advising



Elena Reiss co-authored English Belongs to “Those Who Use It”: Cultivating Authentic Voices with Inclusive Writing Pedagogies and Linguistic Pluralism (University of Arkansas Press, 2025), was elected to the

U.N.’s Global NGO Executive Committee for a two-year term, and edited the 2024 Voices of the UNFolding Future journal.



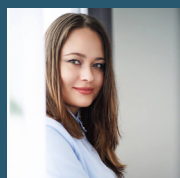
Bill Hunter earned the U.N.’s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Accreditation on behalf of Lehigh University. (See pages 21-22.)

Global Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives



Stacy Burger co-authored an article (“Standing on the Shoulders of Giants: Building a Legacy in International Education Partnerships”) in IIE Networker (2025), co-launched the IIE Community of Practice for Partnership Practitioners—the first formalized international professional network for partnership professionals—and presented at major conferences including AIEA (“The Human Element of Global Partnerships: Moving Beyond Data” and “Developing an Institutional Partnership Strategy”) and NAFSA (“Overcoming Adversity, Stakeholder Engagement Strategies for Global Partnership Success”).

Lee Iacocca Institute For Global Leadership



Anastassiya Perevezentseva, Assistant Director of the Iacocca International Internship Program, recently had an article on leadership and social movements (“Swimming Against the Populist Tide: Lessons from Central and Eastern Europe”), accepted for publication in the peer-reviewed journal *Frontiers in Political Science*. She also received two Future Makers Educational Innovation Grants for her project, Measuring Student Outcomes and Program Impact in the Iacocca International Internship Program.



Carrie Duncan, Program Director, was invited to present at University of Missouri, Honors College on the topic of divine justice. She and Anastassiya Perevezentseva were also invited to present at the AFS Youth Assembly on the topic of idealized design.

Departures: Amanda Connolly, former Director of the Office of International Students and Scholars, and Alex Kalangis, former Administrative Director of OIA, both departed from Lehigh in 2025 to pursue new opportunities.

Office of International Affairs

Lehigh University
32 Sayre Drive
Bethlehem, PA 18015
(610) 758-2981
invpia@lehigh.edu

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

global.lehigh.edu

