

ENGAGING
THE **WORLD**

2019 Global Engagement Report

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska[®]





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NU IN THE WORLD

A Message from the President

It never ceases to amaze me that at the University of Nebraska, in the middle of the United States, you can visit a campus and be surrounded by the languages, cultures and incredible diversity of well over 100 countries around the world.

I think that speaks to our commitment to preparing our students to live and work in what is increasingly a global economy. And it shows me that young people today—whether from Nebraska, Japan or Rwanda—understand the value of interacting with, and learning from, people who are different from themselves.

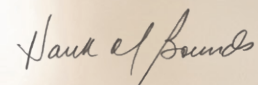
"Indeed, our strength comes from our diversity. I've seen time and again that personal growth comes from standing alongside someone who doesn't look or think like you."

That's why, at the University of Nebraska, we've made it a priority not just to bring the world to Nebraska, but to help our students develop a global mindset through

educational experiences abroad. Research and experience confirm: Studying abroad gives students new insights about the world around them, deepens their understanding of culture and history, and makes them more competitive in the global workforce.

More than 1,400 University of Nebraska students studied abroad during the last academic year—an improvement over time, but not as high as we'd like. We're focused on making certain every student is aware of education abroad opportunities and that we're providing support and resources to ensure they have a fulfilling experience.

As you'll see in this report, education abroad is a life-changing experience for our students. I'm proud of our progress in expanding these opportunities, and I hope you will be, too.



Hank Bounds

HANK BOUNDS
President, University of Nebraska



DEVELOPING A GLOBAL MINDSET

Through Education Abroad

There is a strong consensus across the University of Nebraska that strengthening high-impact global engagement and education abroad opportunities will improve the educational outcomes for students on all campuses.

Over the last two decades, researchers have found that students who study abroad are more engaged in their academic experience after returning to campus, have higher graduation rates and receive higher starting salaries at the start of their careers. Additionally, education abroad experiences impact students' understanding of global and regional issues and supports their development of intercultural and interpersonal communication skills within a global mindset framework—tools that are highly valued for job seekers in today's global economy.

Dozens of faculty and staff members across all four NU campuses work in support of our students to teach education abroad courses and programs, provide structure and lend support to students interested in studying abroad. With their help, hundreds of NU students enroll in foreign universities through student exchange programs

and affiliations every year. With careful preparation, international programs do not slow these students down from graduating on time, as they earn credits toward degree requirements.

Many graduates report that studying abroad was the most impactful experience they had during their time at the University. Unfortunately, despite efforts to bolster funding, many NU students are unable to study abroad due to limited finances.

NU has increased its funding for education abroad scholarships in order to provide the same benefits, opportunities and experiences to future students. In 2018-2019, NU is committing \$115,000 to education abroad scholarships, and we anticipate that more than 150 students will receive awards ranging from \$500 to \$1,000.



OPENING THE DOOR TO A CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

From Kearney to Vietnam



Ambassador Kritenbrink's official portrait from the U.S. Embassy & Consulate in Vietnam.



Ambassador Kritenbrink graduating from the University of Nebraska at Kearney.



Ambassador Kritenbrink was the featured speaker at UNK's May 2018 Commencement.

Growing up on a farm in Ashland, Nebraska, Daniel Kritenbrink never anticipated that he would later serve as U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam. As a farm boy, he developed a strong work ethic and spirit of perseverance—but gaining first-hand experience with global issues is what helped to launch his career in public service.

After graduating from Ashland-Greenwood High School, Kritenbrink chose to attend the University of Nebraska at Kearney (then Kearney State College), where he enrolled in the Honors Program led by Dr. Richard Jussel. It was at UNK, while participating in the James E. Smith Conference on World Affairs in 1988 and 1990, that he made the decision to join the foreign service and serve his country.

AN EDUCATION ABROAD BEGINS

Studying abroad opened the world to Kritenbrink. Among his many experiences, he benefitted from a short study tour to the Soviet Union in 1989, followed by a full academic year studying at Kansai Gaidai University in Japan in 1990-91. He credits Dr. Tom Magstadt, then chairman of the UNK political science department, for encouraging him to study in Japan and expand his perspective on the world.

“Dr. Magstadt had talked to me not long after UNK set up the new exchange program with Kansai Gaidai University,” Kritenbrink said. “I initially told him I wasn’t interested, but after he asked a second time, I realized what a tremendous opportunity it would be for me.”

The year of learning Japanese helped Kritenbrink develop keen insights into Asian cultures, as he realized the importance of speaking with others in their native languages, rather than relying solely on English. His travels to other parts of the world also helped him to hone his networking skills, communicate effectively and work collaboratively to solve problems and develop solutions.



Studying abroad also helped the future Ambassador to see Nebraska's role in the global context more clearly and understand the importance for Nebraskans to engage actively in the global economy. Kritenbrink later went on to study Mandarin Chinese, and his knowledge of the language was put to good use during his sixteen years helping U.S. citizens and companies build connections in Japan and China.

The most important moment in Kritenbrink's career came on July 27, 2017, when he was nominated as U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam. He was confirmed to the role in October of the same year.

REFLECTING ON HIS TIME ABROAD

As a speaker at UNK's May 2018 commencement, Ambassador Kritenbrink encouraged UNK graduates to start locally in thinking about their connections to the world and the contributions they can make: "Be confident, proud of who you are, believe in yourself and consider carefully what you can do to contribute to society."

In reflecting on his opportunity to study abroad, Ambassador Kritenbrink believes that he can't overemphasize the importance of studying a foreign language.

▶▶▶ **"Speaking another language can be a tool and an asset. It can also serve as the key to unlocking another culture and understanding how people think and talk about themselves. It has been fun to learn Japanese and Chinese. To be able to speak another language is exhilarating."**

From learning new languages and experiencing world cultures to working in economic development and public service for his country, U.S. Ambassador Daniel Kritenbrink's career—both academic and professional—shows the importance of education. And even more importantly, the many places you can go with an education abroad.



VIETNAM



EDUCATION ABROAD AT UNK

The University of Nebraska at Kearney's Education Abroad office is led by Ann Marie Park, Assistant Director of International Education in the Office of International Education (OIE). As an undergraduate, Park's experiences studying and living in Osaka and Sapporo, Japan sparked her interest in education abroad. After graduating from UNK with a bachelors degree in psychology and minors in international studies and Japanese, she returned to Tokyo, Japan for three years.

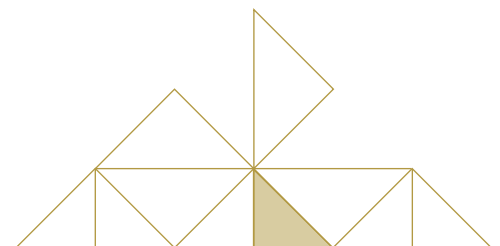
Back in Nebraska, Park began her career working in the Programs in English as a Second Language (P.I.E.S.L.) office at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Her position became a launching pad for post-graduate work at the School for International Training (S.I.T.). After earning an M.A. in international and intercultural management, she worked in Washington, D.C. for the Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency. Park's valuable conference coordination experience and passion for international living compelled her to study at the Goethe Institute in Berlin, Germany, before joining the Office of International Education at UNK in 2001.



ANN MARIE PARK
Assistant Director of
International Education

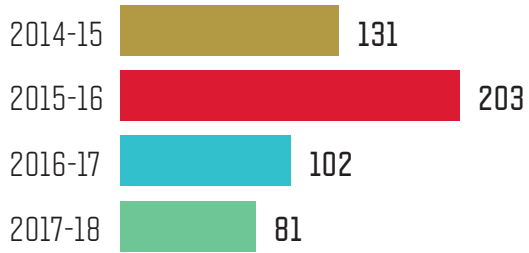
During her tenure at UNK, Park's duties have included teaching in the English Language Institute, coordinating the James E. Smith Midwest Conference on World Affairs and advising International Exchange Visitors, as well as managing the Education Abroad office. Her current focus is ensuring all UNK students, staff and faculty members are aware of, able to participate in and reap the benefits from multiple international opportunities.

Park—and OIE—hope the lives of each study abroad participant will be positively influenced, bringing about awareness, understanding, and respect for others through available and affordable programs.



UNK TRENDS AND ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

EDUCATION ABROAD BY YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNK only)



EDUCATION ABROAD PARTICIPATION BY TERM AND YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNK only)

TERM	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Full Academic Year	2	2	2	4
Fall Semester	7	13	9	3
Spring Semester	57	59	51	43
Spring Break	—	—	7	—
Summer	65	129	33	31
TOTAL	131	203	102	81

TOP DESTINATIONS FOR UNK EDUCATION ABROAD STUDENTS (2017-18)



WHERE WE STUDY



MICHAEL GADE

FROM: SCOTTSBLUFF, NE
STUDIED IN: JAPAN

I am a multimedia major with a double minor in Japanese and international studies. My interest in the Japanese language and culture led me to study abroad at Saitama University for a summer and again for a full year to obtain my minor.

UNK's strong ties with Japan contributed to my dream to become fluent in the Japanese language and eventually work abroad in Japan. Before graduating from UNK, I hope to study abroad again at Sapporo University in Japan, take the intermediate level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT 2) and search for career and graduate school opportunities in the country.

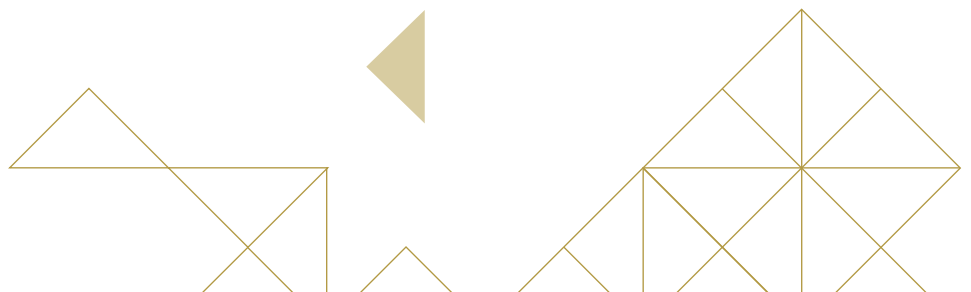


BAILEY COSLOR

FROM: ST. PAUL, NE
STUDIED IN: IRELAND

I decided to study abroad because I am an international studies minor and love traveling. I studied at the University of Galway in Ireland for three months and learned so much about Irish history, literature, culture and daily life. Thanks to the opportunity to study abroad, I was able to meet people I would have never connected with and made life-long friends.

In three very short months, I learned more than I ever thought possible. Studying abroad is a great way to get out of your comfort zone and gain valuable life skills in the process. It truly was the best experience of my life.





UNK PROGRAM PROFILE

Nebraska Semester Abroad in the Czech Republic

In 1992, UNK Office of International Education director Jerry Fox helped to establish the first joint program in the University of Nebraska system located in Leuven, Belgium. The first half of the program was spent at the Irish Institute, and the second half at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. This joint program was open to students from UNK, UNL, UNO and Wayne State College.

A year later, the second half of the program moved from Prague to Olomouc, Czech Republic, and in 1999, the entire program moved to Palacky University in Olomouc. Now, more than 20 years later, the Nebraska Semester Abroad program continues to flourish and change the lives of 25 students every spring semester. Nearly 525 NU students have participated in this program since its inception in 1992.

Dr. Doug Biggs was the program's director during the Spring 2018 semester. Dr. Biggs has been instrumental in the creation of the much-needed expansion of Nebraska Semester Abroad.

Due to increased student interest, Palacky University will be the site of UNK's newest semester program addition starting in fall 2019—open to students across Nebraska. The program will be identical to the spring program in many aspects but will shift the focus of study from the Holocaust (spring) to religion (fall). The multiple program-related experiential experiences will also be slightly altered in accordance with the shift.



▶▶▶ PAIGE KRISTENSEN

FROM: MINDEN, NE

STUDIED IN: CZECH REPUBLIC

My decision to study abroad as part of the Nebraska Semester Abroad program dramatically changed my life. There were twenty-four of us who were courageous enough to leave everything we knew in Kearney to learn how to live in a foreign city for twelve weeks. Through this experience, I've learned things about the world that can only be explained by experiencing them.

UNK FACULTY FEATURE



DR. DOUG BIGGS PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

An Ames, Iowa native, Dr. Doug Biggs earned his B.A. and M.A. in History from Iowa State, followed by a Ph.D. in Medieval English History from the University of Minnesota. As a young person, Dr. Biggs traveled abroad frequently, leading him to eventually study abroad at the University of Glasgow in the 1980s. He then traveled to Europe and the UK on an annual basis while doing research at the Public Record Office in London and giving papers at British universities.

As a faculty member at UNK, Dr. Biggs works to bring the experiences that influenced him as a young person to the students he teaches. He organized and led students abroad on a number of occasions before leading the Nebraska Semester Abroad program to the Czech Republic in spring 2018. In collaboration with his colleagues at Palacky University in Olomouc, Dr. Biggs has helped to develop UNK's newest semester program addition, which will take its first cohort of students to the Czech Republic in fall 2019.

Dr. Biggs believes that there are major benefits to students who engage in education abroad experiences:

"International travel is the best education possible. For the first time in students' lives, they are the minority. International travel teaches our students to become much more self-reliant and self-confident," he said. "These experiences greatly expand their world view and greatly changes who they are as people."

▶▶▶ **"These young people become global citizens as a result of their experiences and take their first steps into a world that is larger than themselves."**

EDUCATION

- ▶ **B.A. and M.A., History:**
Iowa State University (1982, 1985)
- ▶ **Ph.D., History:**
University of Minnesota (1996)



DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Sapporo University, Japan

Established in 1967, Sapporo University is a private higher education institution located in Sapporo, Hokkaido Island, Japan—the site of UNK’s first bilateral exchange.

UNK first established a partnership with Sapporo University in 1983 and started to exchange students the following year. Over the past 34 years, UNK and Sapporo University have exchanged nearly 100 students. In 1991, UNK created a Japanese minor tied to its partnership. To complete the minor, students must study abroad for one year at Sapporo University after earning at least ten credit hours of Japanese at UNK.

Andres Traslavina, director of Whole Foods Market’s global recruitment team, studied abroad at Sapporo University as a UNK undergraduate in 2001. Andres is responsible for attracting, sourcing and recruiting quality executives for the company. He believes that his time in Japan, through the partnership, was crucial to the success he’s found in his career:

▶▶▶ **"My study abroad experience in Japan has been the most impactful experience on my professional and personal growth. Living and being able to interact daily with people from the Japanese culture prepared me to become one of the best recruiters in retail by helping me to become more fluent in cross-cultural communication."**

ANDRES TRASLAVINA
Director, Whole Foods Market’s global recruitment team



EDUCATION ABROAD AT UNL

The University of Nebraska–Lincoln’s Education Abroad Office (EAO) fosters students’ personal, academic, and professional growth by offering a variety of study, internship, research and service-learning opportunities outside the United States. The EAO staff consists of seven members who provide specialized services and resources before, during and after experiences abroad. In addition to serving as student advisors and program coordinators, staff also act as liaisons to each UNL college to develop relationships with their faculty, staff and students. Each staff member specializes in a functional area such as marketing, data management, outreach and events and working with returning students.

Each year, EAO staff awards over \$500,000 in scholarships to UNL students going abroad. In November 2018, the office revamped its award amounts, introduced four new scholarships and implemented two need-based payment deferment plans in an effort to increase access for all UNL students. Staff members also partner with the Office of Fellowships to advise students during application to prestigious national scholarships, including the Gilman Scholarship. The 2017-18 academic year was a record for UNL with 34 students being awarded a Gilman.



UNL EDUCATION ABROAD STAFF

Top Row: Katelyn Kunzman (Education Abroad Coordinator), Marnie Nelson (Associate Director), Rebecca Lurhs Baskerville (Director), Allison Hinesley (Assistant Director)

Bottom Row: Tim Burge (Administrative Coordinator), Stephanie Benes (Education Abroad & Marketing Coordinator), Caitlin Naberhaus (Education Abroad & Data Coordinator)

EAO staff also:

- Facilitate the short-term non-degree study at UNL of international students supported through exchange agreements;
- Develop, communicate, and implement education abroad policies and procedures in collaboration with faculty in the Education Abroad Center Advisory Committee;
- Collaborate with the UNL Director of Global Safety & Security to manage risk and advise on student safety;
- And manage the International Travel Registry for Students and insurance enrollments for all non-credit international travel sponsored by the University.

UNL TRENDS AND ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

EDUCATION ABROAD BY YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNL only)



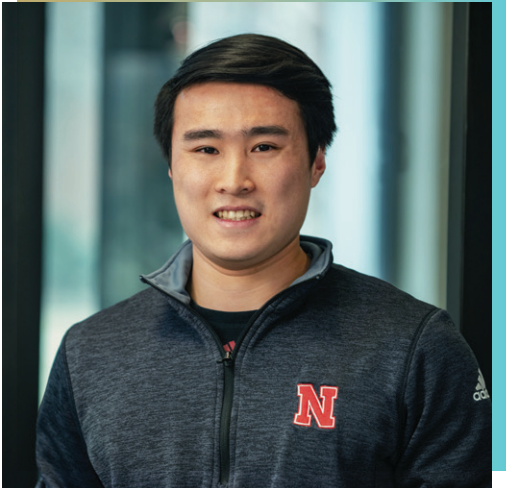
EDUCATION ABROAD PARTICIPATION BY TERM AND YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNL only)

TERM	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Full Academic Year	12	13	9	12
Fall Semester	54	57	42	61
Spring Semester	111	134	172	133
Short Term Programs	40	156	112	161
Summer	600	583	618	559
TOTAL	817	943	953	926

TOP DESTINATIONS FOR UNL EDUCATION ABROAD STUDENTS (2017-18)



WHERE WE STUDY



KEEGAN ADAMS

FROM: FIRTH, NE
STUDIED IN: CHINA

I chose to study in Shanghai because, as a Taiwanese American from a small town, I wanted to learn more about Chinese culture and experience living in a bigger city. As a global studies major, I wanted to learn about the world from a different perspective and immerse myself in Chinese culture to further improve my language skills.

My study abroad experience taught me how to be a more independent person and not be afraid to try new things. After being in Shanghai, I have a better understanding about Chinese culture—and about myself. This experience has not only inspired me to work in China in the future, but it has also encouraged me to reconnect with my native culture.

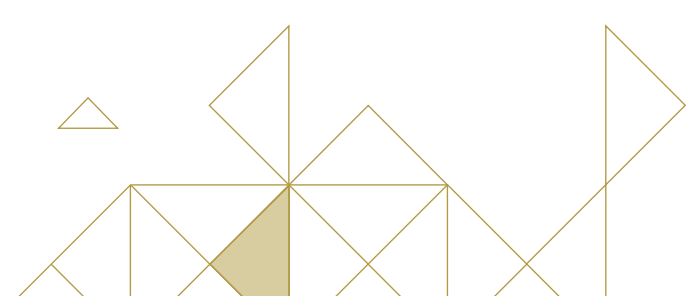


RACHAEL LUX

FROM: PONCA, NE
STUDIED IN: ZAMBIA

I was fortunate to spend an entire month in Zambia, located in Sub-Saharan Africa—and the program was the perfect fit for me. As a pre-optometry student majoring in nutrition, I was able to study vitamin A deficiency and its effects on children in Zambia. Studying abroad opened my eyes to the world outside of the United States.

I always knew I wanted to experience the world. More importantly, I have always been motivated to learn about others' history and culture. My study abroad program motivated me to actively seek out global news and politics. I know that someday I want to return to Sub-Saharan Africa to offer aid and education, and I'm incredibly grateful for the scholarships that made my dream possible.





UNL PROGRAM PROFILE

Spring Semester in Berlin

The Spring Semester in Berlin program recently celebrated its 20th year as UNL's intensive German language program. Formerly titled "Deutsch in Deutschland" under Germany's *DiD Deutsch-Institut*, the program moved to the Humboldt Institute in 2017, where students live with other international students studying German. UNL German professors have favored the Humboldt Institute for their attention to language teaching methods and immersive environment, and students have also shared their appreciation for its great learning environment.

One highlight of the program is the "German History and Culture" course, taught by the on-site resident director who is also UNL faculty. This course uses the city of Berlin as its classroom with students visiting historical monuments, museums and attractions. Semester participants also have the option to stay for the Summer Extended Program—an additional ten-week opportunity to continue building language skills for a total of almost six months in-country. Students with a high proficiency can complete a credit-bearing internship using and applying their language skills during the Summer Extended Program. For example, participants in 2018 interned at a nonprofit organization serving refugees, the Green Party in Berlin, and an engineering firm—all while using their German language skills.

UNL faculty members serve as the on-site resident director on a rotating basis. In recent years, faculty from the German section of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and the Department of History have led the program. UNL professors Christina Brantner and Priscilla Hayden-Roy serve as the long-term academic and administrative program directors. Both have served as the resident director multiple times.



UNL FACULTY FEATURE



DR. LARKIN POWELL

DIRECTOR OF GREAT PLAINS COOPERATIVE ECOSYSTEMS STUDY UNIT AND APPLIED ECOLOGY MISSION AREA LEADER

Dr. Larkin Powell is a conservation biologist who strives to help students become effective, informed and responsible managers of wildlife. He believes that education abroad positively impacts students as they prepare to join an increasingly interconnected world and workforce, helping them to gain a wider, more diverse perspective on their industry, as well as developing them as mature, compassionate leaders.

Having first studied abroad in Hungary in 1988 with the help of a scholarship, Dr. Powell knows first-hand how impactful overseas experiences can be for college students who may not otherwise have the ability to travel, as it was for him as a farm boy from rural Iowa.

Dr. Powell has been leading students on educational programs focused on wildlife conservation across Namibia for the last decade.

▶▶▶ **"The long-term relationships developed over the program's history are beneficial to all involved and have enriched the experience students have while traveling across the country."**

After completing a year-long sabbatical teaching and researching in the country, Dr. Powell's leadership of the program in years since has created opportunities for students to observe and learn from an array of conservation management techniques and gain personal insight into the decision-making and complexity facing landowners, farmers, and wildlife in the country.

Though Nebraska and Namibia may seem as different as can be, there are many parallels students identify and apply upon returning to the U.S.; connections that have even impacted the direction of Dr. Powell's own research, writing and teaching of the next generation of wildlife biologists.

EDUCATION

- ▶ **B.S.:** Graceland University (1990)
- ▶ **M.S., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology:** Iowa State University (1992)
- ▶ **Ph.D., Ecology:** University of Georgia (1998)



DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

University of Bath, United Kingdom

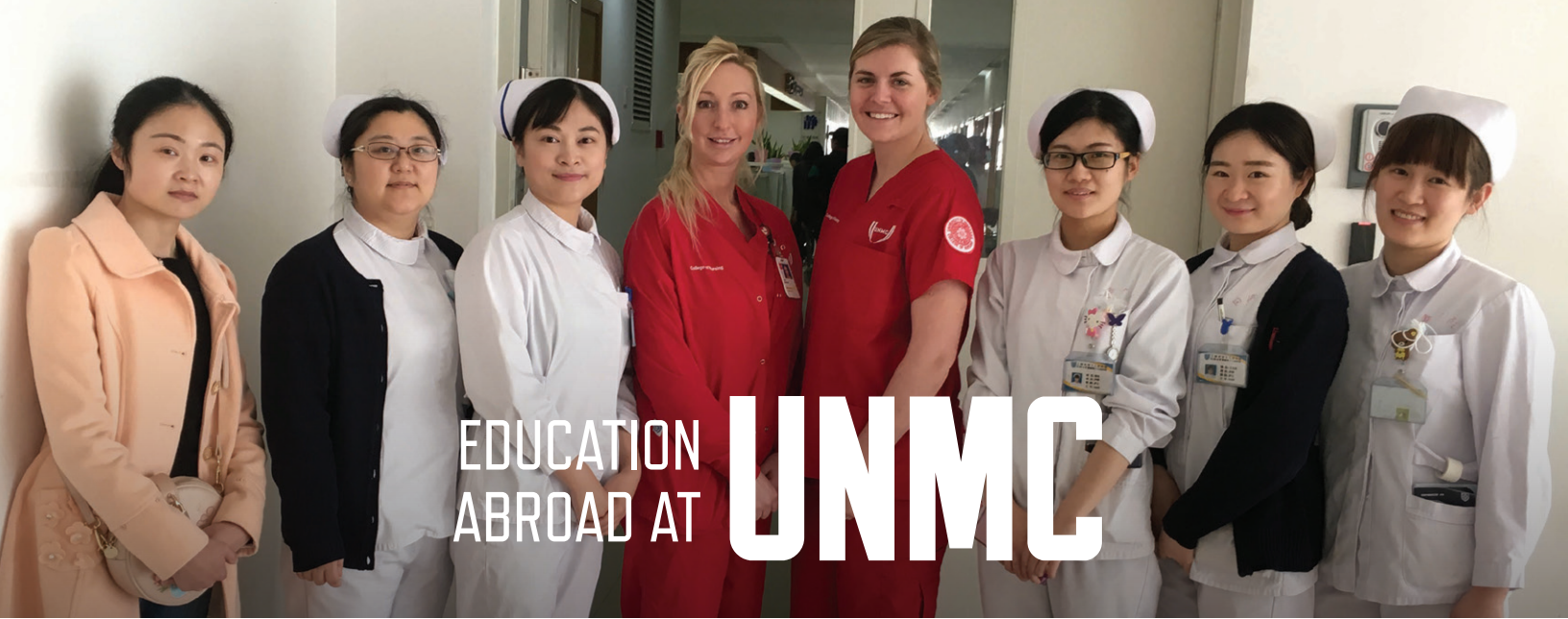
The University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the University of Bath, located in the United Kingdom, established a student exchange partnership agreement in 1998. After 20 years, the exchange remains active at both universities, with 18 students having participated from Bath and 24 students from UNL.

Bath students typically enroll in chemistry, mathematics and physics courses at UNL. While most undergraduate programs in the UK take three years to finish, Bath University’s “sandwich course” is a four-year program where students study abroad or work for a year, meaning that the majority of Bath exchange students are upper-level undergraduates who have specific course obligations to fulfill during their year abroad. Nebraska makes an attractive option as students are exposed to both advanced academic classes and labs at UNL during their typical academic year stay.

Similarly, the majority of UNL participants on the Bath exchange study engineering, math or physics. UNL students benefit strongly from Bath’s high-quality academics—primarily based in STEM fields—and nearby historic attractions.

According to the UK Guardian University Guide, Bath ranks as the sixth best UK university for 2019. The UK Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) also rates Bath as a “gold school”—a designation awarded to UK schools whose teaching is considered to be of the highest quality.

Founded in the 7th century, the city of Bath is known for its natural hot springs and Roman-built baths. Its 18th century Georgian architecture provides a picturesque backdrop, with attractions like Stonehenge just a short train ride away.



EDUCATION ABROAD AT UNMC

UNMC's global mission is to promote health through excellence in education, research, outreach and care by creating accountable and strategic partnerships. The International Health and Medical Education (IHME) office supports this mission by promoting opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to participate in global health education.

Program manager Sara Pirtle has served students at UNMC for 21 years and knows the impact that an education abroad can have on medical students:

“Global health experiences are powerful and transformational,” she said. “Students are often intrinsically aware of this, even if they have never traveled abroad. They actively seek opportunities and possibilities to expand their horizons beyond the U.S. borders.”

A life-long love of travel and languages attracted Pirtle to study abroad as an undergraduate student. Eventually, Pirtle's path led to UNMC, where her career in international education took off—ultimately leading to the more specific niche of global health education at UNMC. In her role, Pirtle has helped provide direction to UNMC's four-week Medical Spanish Courses offered in Latin America and organizes annual medical service trips abroad for UNMC students.

With the help of Pirtle and the IHME office, students are able to find guidance on making global health experiences part of their education at UNMC.



SARA PIRTLE
IHME Program Manager

“Through my own interests and experiences, and the resources of my office, I am able to share with them many different paths to experiencing global health as part of their education,” Pirtle said. “It's satisfying to witness the shaping of a student's personal and professional goals to include a global health focus, the result of unique experiences offered through UNMC.”

UNMC TRENDS AND ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

EDUCATION ABROAD BY YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNMC only)

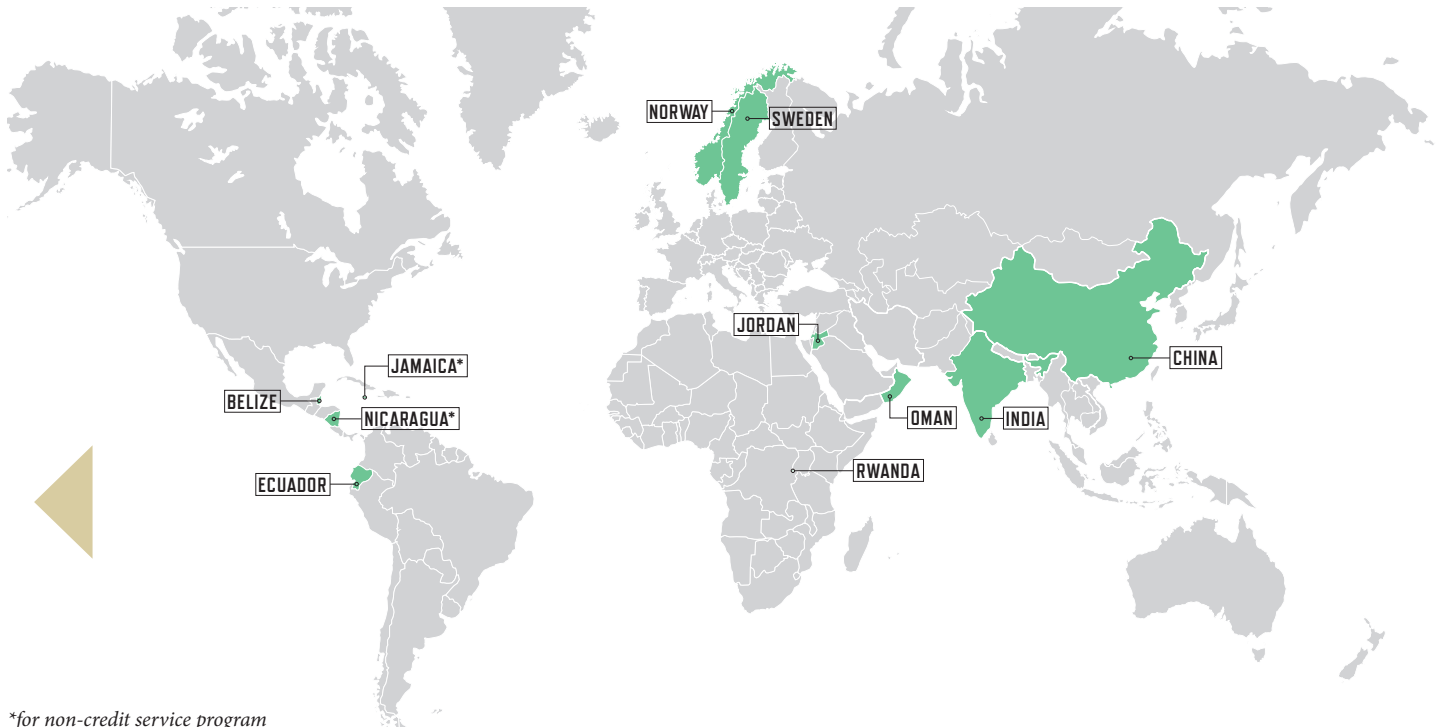


EDUCATION ABROAD PARTICIPATION BY TERM AND YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNMC only)

TERM	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Full Academic Year	1	—	1	—
One Month During Fall	10	9	6	6
One Month During Spring	43	37	50	33
Spring Break*	64*	63*	69*	56*
Summer	5	11	11	8
TOTAL (Without Spring Break Programs)	59	57	68	47
TOTAL (With Spring Break Programs)	123*	120*	137*	103*

* Note: Spring break programs at UNMC are organized by UNMC but not for academic credit. They are included here to recognize the substantial participation in Spanish language and experiential service programs organized by UNMC.

TOP DESTINATIONS FOR UNMC EDUCATION ABROAD STUDENTS (2017-18)



*for non-credit service program

WHERE WE STUDY



ALEX HANSEN

FROM: WEST POINT, NE

STUDIED IN: NICARAGUA, NEPAL AND ECUADOR

I grew up in rural Nebraska, always hungry to learn and see more about the larger world I knew was out there. Growing up with Latino friends sparked an interest in learning about languages, cultures, and people around the world. This led me to pursue medicine with an interest in global health.

Going abroad has both fed and further stimulated my curiosity for the wide and wonderful world we live in. At the same time, it has shown me the disparities that exist around the globe and inspired me to do my own part to help alleviate these through a career in ophthalmology. I was drawn to the specialty's remarkable ability to immediately and radically improve peoples' livelihoods through procedures such as cataract surgery.



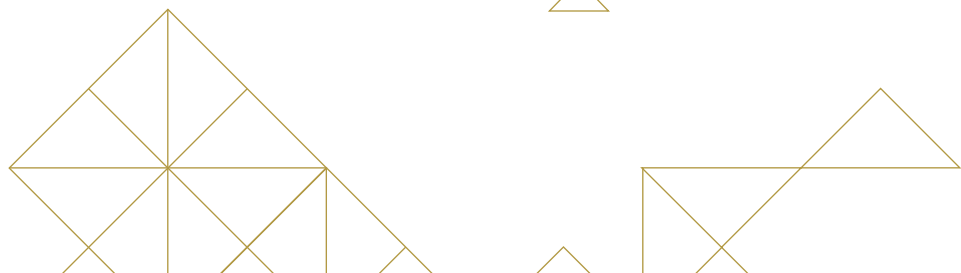
MARANDA THOMPSON

FROM: OMAHA, NE

STUDIED IN: JAMAICA

I chose to study abroad as a medical student because I am passionate about global health. The program I chose, a medical service program in Falmouth, Jamaica, provided an opportunity to offer my skills for a community in need. The students in the program had opportunities to provide health care to underserved communities around the area.

My study abroad experience has allowed me to learn how to navigate communication and cultural barriers in order to ensure every patient receives the best care. My time abroad also taught me that my duty to serve others extends beyond those in my immediate community. I have a responsibility to my global community as well.





UNMC PROGRAM PROFILE

Medical Spanish/Global Health Course in Latin America

In June of 2000, the University of Nebraska Medical Center took a bold step and offered its first Medical Spanish/Global Health course in Antigua, Guatemala.

The four-week course featured three weeks of intensive Spanish training, with individual instruction six hours per day, Monday-Friday, supplemented with one-hour lectures delivered in English on local health care topics. Homestays with local families, two week-end field trips, and a final week of medical volunteer work rounded out this unique offering.

Eleven students participated in the inaugural course in the summer of 2000 and another eight participated in the course the following July. The course grew in popularity quickly, attracting many students and residents from other medical institutions. Gradually, the program expanded and was offered four to six times each year. Over the past 19 years, 657 individuals (including 385 from UNMC) have participated in the course, representing 93 different institutions and three countries. Many fourth-year medical student participants include the course in their resumes and transcripts and report that it's a selling point in their residency interviews.

After nine years in Nicaragua, the course will be relocated to Xalapa, Mexico this coming summer in collaboration with Anáhuac University.



UNMC FACULTY FEATURE



DR. SHEILA A. RYAN

PROFESSOR, CHARLOTTE PECK LIENEMANN AND ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED CHAIR AND DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Dr. Sheila Ryan was working at the University of Rochester when she became involved in the American International Healthcare Alliance (AIHA). This NGO, based in Washington D.C., arranges and coordinates international hospital-to-hospital exchanges. Upon arriving at UNMC in the early 2000s, Dr. Ryan wanted nursing students to have access to in-depth, person-to-person international exchange experiences like the ones that had helped her develop a greater appreciation of the global dimensions, similarities and challenges of the nursing profession.

EDUCATION

- ▶ **B.S.N.:** University of Nebraska (1969)
- ▶ **M.S.N.:** University of California, San Francisco (1971)
- ▶ **Ph.D., Clinical Nursing Research:** University of Arizona (1981)

At UNMC, Dr. Ryan partnered with Dr. Jialin Zhang and other UNMC researchers who were expanding academic relationships in China. Initial cohorts of 4-6 B.S.N. nursing students per year gradually expanded to cohorts up to 30-40 nursing students who participate in annual exchanges in coursework and clinical experiences with seven universities in five countries: China, Jordan, Norway, Oman and Sweden.

▶▶▶ **"Nurses need to experience different cultures in order to learn about differences, including how to interact both verbally and non-verbally. This is often the first time they can experience being a minority group."**

As more nursing students participate in international opportunities, UNMC is encouraging more students to apply. With more applications per year than space available, Dr. Ryan believes this is a sign of increasing awareness of the global dimensions of multicultural health care. She also sees how international experiences help nursing students become more mature and thoughtful in their work.



UNMC has developed a number of strong partnerships that enable students to study abroad. One program is the Asia Pacific Rim Development Program (APRDP), through which UNMC has established education, research and clinical cooperation with 12 universities and entities in China. Since 2005, more than 170 UNMC students have participated in clinical rotations and observations in China at institutions that include Capital Medical University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Sichuan University and Tongji University.

UNMC faculty and coordinators, including Jialin Zhang, Keith Swarts, Hannah Tong and others, have carefully selected APRDP partners from among the top 20 medical universities in China. UNMC students typically participate in nursing, medical, pharmacy and physical therapy rotations for one month. They work with Chinese doctors, nurses and research staffs in treating patients, researching diseases and studying China's health care system.

UNMC provides strong support for students studying in China. UNMC staff assess the dormitories and clinical arrangements for students and monitor their work while in China. Students pay for their airfare and food while in China, while UNMC facilitates visas and logistical preparations. Many UNMC students who participate in APRDP are going abroad for the first time, so support is essential.

UNMC students benefit from the chance to study a variety of diseases and medical challenges, given that China has a large population. Learning about a different health care system through a global perspective also prepares students to deal with patients from a variety of cultural backgrounds and future clinical experiences.





EDUCATION ABROAD AT UNO

The University of Nebraska at Omaha's Education Abroad Office—a unit in International Programs—works with any and every UNO student that has an interest in going abroad; whether that be with a faculty-led course, a semester program, international internship or even a full year overseas. In addition to helping Mavericks go abroad, the office helps students coming from our exchange partners who want to spend a semester or year studying at UNO.

Students aren't the only members of UNO's community that benefit from the Education Abroad Office's presence on campus. Education Abroad supports faculty year-round on a variety of projects, most notably for those that want to setup a course that includes international travel. UNO's global partnerships also make it possible for faculty to take part in research and exchange, such as through the Erasmus+ program.

The Education Abroad Office is seeing a trend in the growing diversity of students, faculty and staff going abroad through UNO. Students in STEM fields, first-generation students, former refugees, single parents, military veterans, those with accessibility needs, traditional students, and non-traditional students are all taking steps to enrich their college career through study abroad. The Education Abroad Office's staff believes that the confidence, independence, cross-cultural competency, career skills, and new academic perspectives gained makes it one of the best returns on investment a student can pursue.



EMILY HASSENSTAB
Manager of Education Abroad
and Global Partnerships



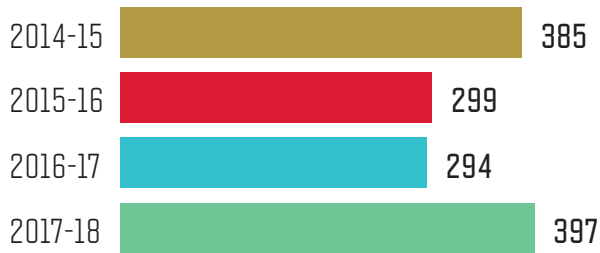
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Education Abroad Advisor



ANNIE SPIELMAN
Education Abroad
Program Assistant

UNO TRENDS AND ENROLLMENT PATTERNS

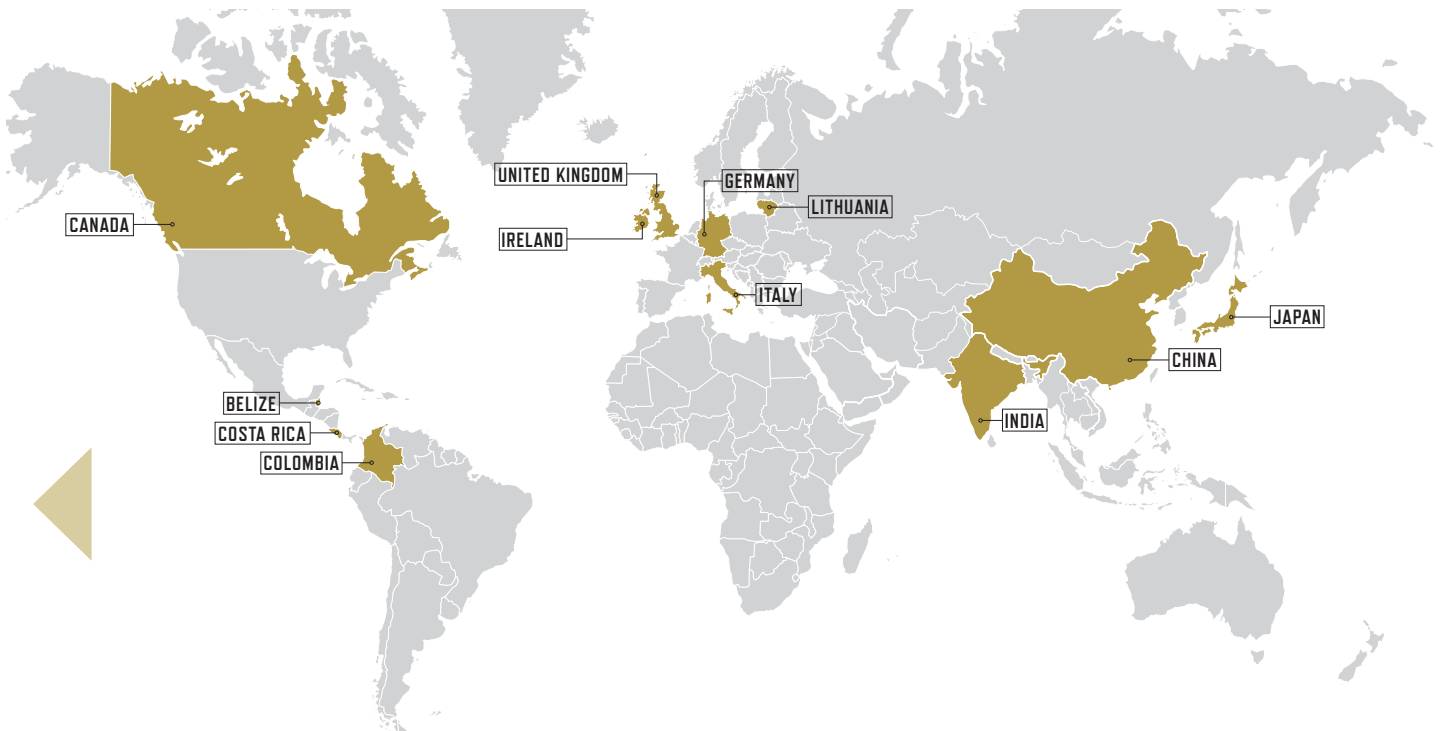
EDUCATION ABROAD BY YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNO only)



EDUCATION ABROAD PARTICIPATION BY TERM AND YEAR, 2014-2018 (UNO only)

TERM	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Full Academic Year	28	13	3	12
Fall Semester	32	35	27	24
Spring Semester	39	38	28	46
Short Term Programs	113	79	100	172
Summer	173	134	136	143
TOTAL	385	299	294	397

TOP DESTINATIONS FOR UNO EDUCATION ABROAD STUDENTS (2017-18)



WHERE WE STUDY



ELLIE SJOGREN

FROM: OMAHA, NE
STUDIED IN: POLAND

Throughout my childhood, I befriended people from around the world. Those interactions sparked an interest to travel the world and experience different cultures. As a prospective high school teacher, I have always been fascinated with Eastern European politics and history—and studying abroad will help me to make history come alive for my future students.

One of the greatest lessons that I learned from my time in Poland is a greater appreciation for culture, traditions, history and diversity. My time abroad also encouraged me to become more responsible, mature, open-minded, outgoing and conscientious of my actions. I thank the University and the Nene Field Foundation for the life-changing experience.



CALVIN VONG

FROM: OMAHA, NE
STUDIED IN: JAPAN AND HUNGARY

Studying abroad offered me the opportunity to grow as a person and to see the world in a different perspective. I learned to embrace change, learn more about myself and recognize that there is more to life than I previously thought. Being exposed to so many cultures abroad helped me gain a better understanding of how people in other countries think and act.

With one semester left at UNO, now is the time for me to decide how my life will go. After studying abroad, I feel refreshed and more determined than ever to achieve my goals. My soft skills have increased dramatically, and I am able to communicate with anyone, even with a language barrier.





UNO PROGRAM PROFILE

Criminal Justice Program in London

When Dr. William (Bill) Wakefield took his first group of UNO students to London to study the British criminal justice system in 1978, he did not anticipate that the program would be operating forty years later. Yet, over time, the criminal justice program in London has become the foundation of a strong series of UNO education abroad programs based in London that have taken more than 2,000 students to study in the United Kingdom.

Since 1981, the program has run as a semester-long on-campus course at UNO during the spring semester, followed by two weeks of meetings and experiential learning in the U.K. each May.

Dr. Wakefield believes it's essential for UNO students to study abroad as part of their university education, specifically to transmit the heritage of a global education and demonstrate how Nebraska fits in today's globalized economy and society. The American criminal justice system stems in large part from the British criminal justice system, which makes it important for Americans to understand the system's heritage and history.

In his time leading the program, Dr. Wakefield has observed that students learn many other things from traveling and studying abroad—including the ability to interact effectively with people from other cultures. Global engagement is essential, as it applies to areas of life beyond work and studies.



UNO FACULTY FEATURE



DR. SOFIA JAWED-WESSEL

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR,
SCHOOL OF HEALTH & KINESIOLOGY

Dr. Sofia Jawed-Wessel is a public health expert passionate about helping her students become effective public health practitioners. She has found that studying abroad helps her students develop real-life, practical skills that jumpstart their careers, and professional and personal development.

As a student, Dr. Jawed-Wessel did not take the opportunity to study abroad due to the perception that traveling abroad was expensive and intimidating. In hindsight—now that she has led two groups of students to Belize and has watched her students develop rapidly in just two short weeks abroad—she realizes she was wrong.

EDUCATION

- ▶ **B.S., Psychology and Biology:**
Indiana University (2005)
- ▶ **M.P.H., Public Health:**
Indiana University (2009)
- ▶ **Ph.D.:** Indiana University (2012)

▶▶▶ **"Education abroad is a high impact practice that helps my students broaden their world view, confront their biases and develop creativity as public health practitioners."**

Dr. Jawed-Wessel chooses locations for overseas study based on her learning goals. In the public health field, students need to learn to step out of their comfort zones in order to interact effectively with local communities. Often, this means students identify as many similarities as they find differences. Recognizing that other countries face similar challenges is eye-opening for many students.

In her faculty role, Dr. Jawed-Wessel hopes she can travel abroad with students every year. She works hard to provide a safe, supportive environment that challenges students at the same time. Careful financial planning helps keep costs low, while the learning environment is high-impact.



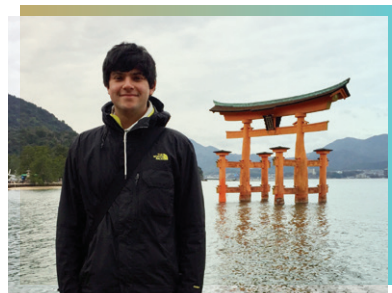
DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Shizuoka University

In 2019, UNO and Shizuoka University will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the two institutions' oldest active bilateral exchange program. Over the past four decades, the two universities have exchanged approximately 1,800 faculty, staff and students, making the partnership not only the longest standing, but also the most prolific at UNO.

A number of UNO students who have enrolled in Japanese language classes have the opportunity to study at Shizuoka University each year, where they gain powerful intercultural and linguistic experiences that shape their personal, academic and professional lives. Students traveling to and from Shizuoka have benefited from fully immersive language and cultural programming, in addition to a variety of scholarship support.

This year marks the 39th year that UNO will host Shizuoka University students for the annual Shizuoka Summer Tour, which offers many of the UNO students enrolled in Japanese language classes the invaluable opportunity to interact with Japanese language and culture in Omaha. The Tour is often an influential experience that leads to student interest in studying at Shizuoka University. Music and other group exchanges have helped to grow this active partnership. As a priority partnership, UNO is excited to continue to grow with Shizuoka University and positively impact the students, faculty and staff of both universities.





UNIVERSITY-WIDE EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAMS

Beginning in 2012, the University of Nebraska launched a process to support University-wide education abroad programs led by NU faculty. Since then, eleven programs have taken place in countries as diverse as Brazil, Colombia, India, Oman, Peru and Turkey. More than 150 students have participated in these credit-bearing education abroad programs.



Dr. Phani “Tej” Adidam, UNO professor of marketing and chairman of the UNO Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship, led programs to India in the summers of 2013 and 2014. Sixteen students (four from each NU campus) participated in this program each year. In India, students investigated critical, contemporary issues including agriculture and food security, water management and sustainability, early childhood education, urbanization, entrepreneurship, environment and natural resources, public health and medical research.



Dr. Ramazan Kilinc, UNO associate professor of political science and co-director of the UNO Islamic Studies program, led students to Turkey in the summers of 2014 and 2015. These programs focused on society, politics and the economy in modern Turkey. Taking place in Istanbul and Erzurum, the program enabled NU students to interact with Turkish students and faculty and visit Ataturk University, which was established in 1957 with the help of University of Nebraska faculty.

NU-wide education abroad programs have not only enabled students to learn about critical issues in important countries and regions of the world, they have also brought together NU students from multiple campuses to address common problems. In the process, the programs have helped to deepen students’ understanding of Nebraska and the world.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA FOUNDATION

In recent years, more than 1,400 University of Nebraska students have studied abroad each year for academic credit. While this number sounds high, it only represents approximately 20% of UNL undergraduates and approximately 12% of UNK and UNO undergraduates.

Limited financial resources are a common concern for the hundreds of NU students, both undergraduate and graduate, with an interest in participating in an in-depth global education experience abroad.

Many NU students have expressed that studying abroad was one of the highlights of the time at the University of Nebraska. In an effort to provide current and future students with the same opportunities for an education abroad, we encourage supporters to help us increase the amount of education abroad scholarships through donations to the NU Foundation.



HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

You have the power to transform lives through scholarships to study abroad. In fiscal year 2018, more than \$186 million was donated to the University of Nebraska through the NU Foundation, providing support for students, faculty, and campus programs and improvements. To find out more, call 800-432-3216 or visit nufoundation.org.



The University of Nebraska graduates **10,000+ STUDENTS** annually.



1,503 NU STUDENTS studied abroad in 2017-18.



NU students visited **84 COUNTRIES** during their study abroad programs.



With just over 4,500 student support funds created through private gifts, **VERY FEW** are designated for study abroad.

A GLOBAL MINDSET

A Letter from the Provost

In the early 2000's, I had the privilege of teaching in a multi-university program in Russia with a group of agriculture students from Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Montana, Texas, Florida and Russia. While the program was based in Moscow, the students were exposed to many topics that touched on every aspect of Russian life beyond agriculture. I witnessed first-hand as my students grew tremendously in their personal skills, understanding of the world, and ability to interact with others.

Since that experience, I have been fully committed to assisting University of Nebraska students seize opportunities to travel and study abroad.



▶▶▶ **"Many of my advisees have studied abroad, and I have observed how the experience helped them mature personally and grow in their professional development."**

As I hope you have learned from reading this report, faculty and staff across our campuses are supporting students as they develop a greater awareness of the world. Many international partnerships and programs have been running for decades, and thousands of NU students have benefitted from the time, commitment and insights of university faculty and staff who have supported those important global learning opportunities.

As a university, we are striving to increase opportunities for more students to study abroad and have committed financial resources for scholarships to assist students. Every student I have talked to who has studied abroad says the experience changed them in some way. We want to make sure that opportunity is available to all our students.

The University of Nebraska is increasingly a global institution. Thank you for your support!



SUSAN FRITZ, PH.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost,
University of Nebraska

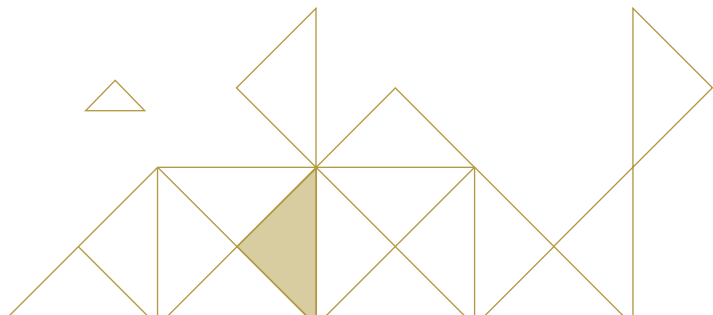




PHOTO CREDITS:

Dr. Phani Tej Adidam (UNO)
 Isabel Amador (UNO)
 Caitlin Allely (UNO)
 Asia Pacific Rim Development Program (UNMC)
 Connor Berg (UNO)
 Danielle Galvin (UNL)
 James Keating and Rachel Schmidt (UNK)
 Dr. Ramazan Kilinc (UNO)
 Lisa Klingelhofer (UNK)
 Jessica Larsen (UNL)
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 Madelyn Lopez (UNO)
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