ANNUAL REPORT

2012/13
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*International scholar numbers for 2012/13 were updated to reflect corrected data (Oct. 15, 2013).
Letter from the director

The International Center is designated by MU to facilitate all things international. As we at the center reflect on the activities and results of this year’s work, it’s clear that Mizzou is a university with global reach and reputation.

But the charts, tables and numbers in our annual report tell only part of MU’s international story. This kind of report just can’t depict all the invested human energy, enterprise and intellect that make the numbers happen. The numbers in this report represent the work of people throughout campus who choose to pursue scholarship across borders. In the process, they help build a global future for MU — and for Missouri.

We at the International Center congratulate all involved in MU international initiatives, and we dedicate our efforts to their continued success.

Go Tigers!

James K. Scott
Director of the International Center
Associate Vice Provost for International Initiatives
About the International Center

The International Center facilitates all things international at the University of Missouri. We raise international awareness and foster dialogue on critical world issues.

**International initiatives.** The center works with faculty and staff from across campus to develop and maintain MU’s relationships with institutions around the world. We also facilitate on-campus internationalization through curriculum and faculty development projects.

**International student and scholar services.** Our staff provides comprehensive support services to MU’s international community — students, faculty, staff and their dependents come to MU from more than 100 countries. In doing so, the center also serves a critical compliance role for the university required by federal immigration regulations.

**Study abroad.** The center coordinates, develops and administers quality programs that enable MU students to study outside the United States. Nearly 1-in-4 MU students choose to enhance their academic experience — gaining an appreciation and understanding of other nations and cultures — through study abroad.

Finally, the International Center collaborates to build international connections on campus and in the community, offering a variety of opportunities to get involved with Missouri’s flagship global campus.
Collaboration: Around the world

The International Center encourages and develops collaborative projects between MU and its strategic global partners, building upon and extending the university’s relationships around world.

MU–Ghent University (Belgium)–University of the Western Cape (South Africa)

The International Center proposed and facilitated a trilateral academic leadership conference between MU, Ghent University and the University of the Western Cape, held in Cape Town, South Africa, in January 2013. The resulting signed agreement lays a foundation for future collaboration among the three partners in student mobility, training opportunities, library open access and research collaborations.

MU–Michigan State University–Tbilisi State University, Ilia State University and Georgian Technical University (Georgia)

In response to a request for proposals from the Millennium Challenge Corporation and government of Georgia, the International Center director convened a group of MU faculty and colleagues from Michigan State University. The resulting proposal was selected for $250,000 in funding for the project’s design phase. At stake: A multi-million dollar subcontract for MU to establish undergraduate degree programs in engineering with partner universities in Georgia.

MU–University of Western Cape (South Africa)

Working with Dr. Mary Leuci (MU Extension) and colleagues at the University of Western Cape, the International Center director served as co-principal investigator on a proposal submitted to the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. If funded, the project will provide $414,968 for young professionals from both Missouri and South Africa to participate in an exchange program focused on economic empowerment of women, youth and others in marginalized and disadvantaged communities.
**INTERNATIONAL CENTER CAMPUS COLLABORATORS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND STUDENT SERVICES**
- Graduate School
- Counseling Center
- MU Police Department
- Office of Admissions
- Office of Cashiers
- Office of Disability Services
- Office of Service Learning
- Office of Student Life
- Peace Corps Fellows Program
- Residential Life
- Student Health Center
- Student Organizations

**RESEARCH**
- Mizzou Advantage
- University of Missouri Assistance Program
- Grape and Wine Institute

**UM SYSTEM**
- Office of Risk Management
- South Africa Education Program

**ACADEMIC DIVISIONS**
- College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources*
- College of Arts and Science
- College of Education
- College of Engineering*
- Honors College
- MU Extension
- School of Human and Environmental Sciences
- School of Journalism*
- School of Law
- School of Medicine
- School of Nursing
- School of Public Health
- Trulaske College of Business*
- Truman School of Public Affairs

**COMMITTEES**
- Council on International Initiatives
- Study Abroad Advisory Council
- International Memoranda of Understanding Review Committee
- CAFNR Committee on International Programs

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**Collaboration: On campus**

It takes a village (well, an entire campus anyway) to support a globally-engaged university. The International Center partners with offices across campus in a variety of areas. Below are just a few examples:

- **Office of Admissions** — international student recruitment, international undergraduate admissions process and course equivalencies for study abroad
- **Office of Cashiers** — international sponsored and exchange student billing, financial aid and billing for study abroad, tax assistance for international students and scholars
- **Graduate School** — international graduate student admissions
- **Career Services** — workshops for international students, international career advice for students who study abroad
- **Residential Life** — housing for exchange and other international students, Exploring Study Abroad Freshmen Interest Group
- **Student Health Center** — medical screenings for new international students, vaccinations and international travel advice for study abroad participants
- **Student Organizations** — co-sponsor and help promote student programs and events
- **Office of Risk Management** — insurance for student and faculty travel abroad, international student health insurance, crisis management for study abroad
- **Academic divisions, departments and programs** — developing international agreements and projects, co-sponsoring events, international faculty and staff hiring

*Indicates an academic division with its own study abroad office.*
International students

Overall enrollment of international students for fall 2012 reached 2,490, a 13 percent growth from the previous year (2,198).

International sponsored student program

Sponsored students come to MU with financial support from an outside university, institution, government agency, organization or business. The International Center builds relationships with sponsoring agencies around the world to bring the best and brightest students to MU. In 2012/13, the center saw a 70 percent increase in the Iraqi sponsored student population from last year.

1“Other” includes students not currently enrolled, but continuing on post-completion optional practical training, as well as students in intensive English and other non-degree programs.  
2Approximate numbers of enrolled sponsored students.
International scholars

In 2012/13, MU hosted about 797 international scholars*, an increase of 4 percent* from the previous year. The International Center plays a key role in providing support and assistance to these scholars and the departments that hire them.

The center also partnered with several organizations and MU departments to host two scholars, Noela Jonathan and Ketevan Dolakize.

**Noela Jonathan** The International Center partnered with the MU Department of Corporate and Foundation Relations to host Noela, an International Research and Exchanges Board Fellow in fall 2012. Noela holds a master's degree in marketing from the University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, where she is a senior administrative officer in the Directorate of Public Service. While at MU, Noela gained experience that she will use in creating guidelines for the coordination and facilitation of corporate relations at the University of Dar es Salaam.

**Ketevan Dolakize** The International Center partnered with American Councils and the MU School of Journalism to host Ketevan through the Fulbright Junior Faculty Development Program. She holds a degree in international law and relations from Tbilisi State University, Georgia, and is a lecturer at the International Black Sea University, also in Georgia. While at MU, Ketevan pursued research in the School of Journalism so she can apply the techniques used there at her home university.

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*International scholar numbers for 2012/13 were updated to reflect corrected data (Oct. 15, 2013).
Study abroad

MU offers more than 300 programs in nearly 60 countries so students can find the best program to meet their academic and personal goals.

In addition to the students who study abroad in a given year, our advisers work closely with students who are still exploring their options and those who are returning from study abroad.

Different program types. Different priorities. A great study abroad experience.

**MID- & LONG-TERM PROGRAM ADVANTAGES**
- More cost effective
- Greater degree of language acquisition
- Deeper cultural immersion
- More areas of academic study
- Experience a different academic environment

**SHORT-TERM PROGRAM ADVANTAGES**
- Travel with MU professors and students
- Enroll in actual MU courses
- Higher level of structure and support
- Great for students in highly sequenced majors
- Participate during winter break or summer

**Top destinations for 2011/12**
- Ireland
- Italy
- UK
- Spain
- Multi-country
- Other

**Study abroad participation trend**

IN 2012/13, STUDY ABROAD ADVISERS WORKED WITH:
- STUDENTS CONSIDERING STUDY ABROAD
- TOTAL STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPANTS
- STUDENTS RETURNING FROM ABROAD

= 4,000+ STUDENTS
Scholarships for international education

The International Center helped make international education more accessible for MU study abroad participants and international students. In 2012/13, more than $416,750 in scholarships was awarded to students who came from or studied abroad in 42 different countries. While the different scholarships have varied eligibility requirements, all were awarded to students who demonstrated good academic standing and/or financial need.

Financial support for study abroad

International Center staff strive to keep study abroad affordable for MU students. Working closely with the Office of Financial Aid enables students to use their institutional and federal aid on most MU and affiliated programs. The center also works closely with students to identify additional scholarship opportunities:

- **Affiliated program scholarships** — The center negotiates with affiliated study abroad program providers, such as Arcadia University, IFSA-Butler, CIEE, IES Abroad and SAI, to offer scholarships and discounts designated specifically for MU participants on their programs. In 2012/13, the affiliated program scholarships awarded to MU students totaled $59,500.

- **International Center study abroad scholarships** — Students from across campus may also apply for scholarships administered directly by the center and awarded on both merit and financial need. In 2012/13, International Center study abroad scholarships totaled $57,250.

- **Support for Gilman Scholarship applicants** — Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program offers awards for undergraduate study abroad to students who are receiving federal Pell Grant funding. International Center staff work with students to help them develop competitive project proposals. In 2012/13, 14 MU students were awarded Gilman Scholarships totaling $50,000.

Curator’s Grant-in-Aid Scholarships for international students

In the early 1950s, the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri authorized the Curator’s Grant-in-Aid Scholarship specifically for international students. Administered by the International Center and funded by both the Graduate School and Office of Financial Aid, the GIA scholarship has helped thousands of international students who demonstrated good academic standing and financial need to successfully complete their programs of study. In 2012/13, 186 students received GIA scholarships totaling $250,057.50.
**Comprehensive orientations**

The International Center provided comprehensive orientations to about 800 new international students and more than 1,000 study abroad participants. While the two orientation programs cover different information, both meet the same need — to provide students with the information they need to have successful international education experiences.

**KEY COMPONENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL ORIENTATION**

- Cultural adjustment
- Academics
- Health and safety
- Money and banking
- Campus life
- Paperwork and important documents
- Immigration and visa information

**GOING DIGITAL**

**THE STUDY ABROAD GENERAL PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MAKE-UP ORIENTATION** WERE DELIVERED ENTIRELY ONLINE USING eLEARNING MODULES.
Experiential learning

The International Center promoted and supported unique learning opportunities for students outside the traditional classroom setting. More than 500 international students participated on cultural excursions coordinated by the center, which introduced students to the fabric of life in Missouri, including its history, culture and attractions. MU students also had the opportunity to participate on new and innovative study abroad programs that provide hands-on cross-cultural experiences. These included internship-based and service-learning programs in more than 20 different countries.
Outreach and engagement

In March 2013, the International Center helped plan and facilitated a public meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development at MU. Board members discussed the globalization of agriculture and food research. In conjunction with the meeting, the International Center sponsored a round-table discussion with outgoing BIFAD board member Dr. William DeLauder on the role of faculty development in advancing international research, teaching and engagement.

In April 2013, the International Center presented a workshop for faculty interested in pursuing Fulbright U.S. Scholar grants. The workshop covered new developments in the Fulbright program, finding the right opportunity, the application process and logistics such as MU leave options, salary stipends and taking family. In the past 15 years, 47 MU faculty have received this prestigious award.

The International Center also established the My Expat Life lecture series to facilitate conversations about global engagement and the expatriate experience. Speakers so far have included José Condé, a Missouri native now living and working as a winemaker in South Africa, and Bernie Burrola, co-director of the U.S.-Indonesia Joint Council for Higher Education Partnership and a former Peace Corps volunteer. For information about future events in the series, visit international.missouri.edu/expat.
Outreach and engagement

The International Center’s annual MU Study Abroad Fair gives students interested in studying abroad the chance to talk to advisers, program providers and study abroad returnees all in one place. Outside of the fair, staff members promoted study abroad programs through 71 campus presentations and 14 other campus events.

Through the American LIFE program, the International Center matches U.S. students and area community members with international students. This cross-cultural friendship program provides international students with a more intimate and authentic experience of American culture, while simultaneously fostering an increased multicultural competence for U.S. students. In 2012/13, the center facilitated more than 100 matches.

Campus workshops and presentations

- Paths to Work Visas and Permanent Residency
- Civility and the MU International Community (MizzouDiversity Summit)
- International Student Needs (Human Resource Services Training)
- Ins/Outs of I-9 and Immigration (Human Resource Services Training)
- An Introduction to Fulbright Scholar Grants
- MU International Programs and the International Center (MU Extension Council to Campus)
- Health, Safety and Security in Faculty-led Study Abroad Programs
Faculty development

Since its inception in 1998, the International Center has provided oversight and leadership for the award-winning Global Scholars Program, providing opportunities for MU faculty to develop international contacts and expertise through annual group seminars. In 2013, 11 faculty members representing five different academic divisions traveled to China on a seminar led by Dr. Wen Ouyang, co-director of the MU Confucius Institute. Over the course of 10 days, participants met with colleagues in their respective areas of interest at partner universities in Shanghai, Xibo (Shandong Province), Xi’an and Beijing.

Faculty selected for the 2013 program, by division:

College of Arts and Science
- Debbie Dougherty (Communications)
- Rebecca Meisenbach (Communications)
- Astrid Villamil (Communications)
- Martha Townsend (English)

College of Education
- Emily Crawford (Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis)
- Ze Wang (Educational School and Counseling Psychology)

College of Engineering
- Perngjin Pai (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)
- Douglas Smith (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering)

MU Libraries
- Sandra Schiefer (Ellis Library)
- Darell Schmick (Health Sciences Library)

Trulaske College of Business
- Gay Albright (Management)
Technology and communications

The International Center strives to communicate effectively with broad audiences through a variety of platforms, including our website and social media pages. Traffic to the International Center’s website (international.missouri.edu) and social media presence have continued to increase. Additionally, the website analytics provide interesting insight into how visitors utilize our website: While more individual visitors view pages in the international student and scholar services content area, visitors to the study abroad content area view more total pages.

In 2012/13, the International Center continued a strategic implementation of technology to increase the efficiency and accuracy of day-to-day operations. This included launching an online registration system for new international student check-in sessions and expanding the use of the StudioAbroad software, myStudyAbroad, for study abroad program searches and application processing.

Document request system

During 2012/13, the center launched a new online document request system for international students. This custom-built web application allows students to log in with their MU PawPrint to request common documents and services such as replacement immigration documents, letters of good standing and employment authorizations. On the adviser’s side, one-click document processing and a direct connection to MU’s student information system ensure requests are processed as accurately and efficiently as possible.

![Figure 1: 2012/13 visits by content area](image1)

![Figure 2: 2012/13 pageviews by content area](image2)

![Figure 3: Total visits to international.missouri.edu](image3)

![Figure 4: 2012/13 document requests, by month](image4)

### Document request system

- **Total requests submitted**: 4,085
- **Completed requests**: 3,781
- **Canceled**: 178
- **Average business days to complete a request**: 3.94

*Cumulative “daily total reach” (number of people who have seen any comment associated with the page).*

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**Page** | **Likes** | **Total reach**
--- | --- | ---
International Center | 710 | 40,397
Study abroad | 270 | 68,328
International student services | 764 | 37,390
Telling stories

The International Center provides many ways for students to tell stories of their international experiences. This past year, that included the creation of a new Insights section on our website to highlight news, blog posts and multimedia. The center also sponsors an annual Study Abroad Photo Contest, which had a record number of entries in 2012.

2012/13 study abroad bloggers

- **Jantsen**: Lancaster University; United Kingdom
- **Brittney**: CIEE Liberal Arts Program; Alicante, Spain
- **Laura**: Umbra Institute; Perugia, Italy
- **John**: CIEE Language and Culture Program; Amman, Jordan
- **Stephanie**: Universiteit Maastricht; Netherlands
- **Becky**: Studying the Genocide in Rwanda; Kigali, Rwanda
- **Emily**: Spanish Language and Peruvian Culture; Cusco, Peru
- **Jake**: Danish Institute for Study Abroad; Copenhagen, Denmark

ABOVE: 2012 Study Abroad Photo Contest best in show winner, “Becoming a Barista.”

LEFT: Si Chen talks about her experiences as an international student at MU in her profile on the Insights blog.

RIGHT: The 2012 Study Abroad Photo Contest featured Pecha Kucha presentations from three returnees. Miranda Metheny shared about her experiences in Norway.