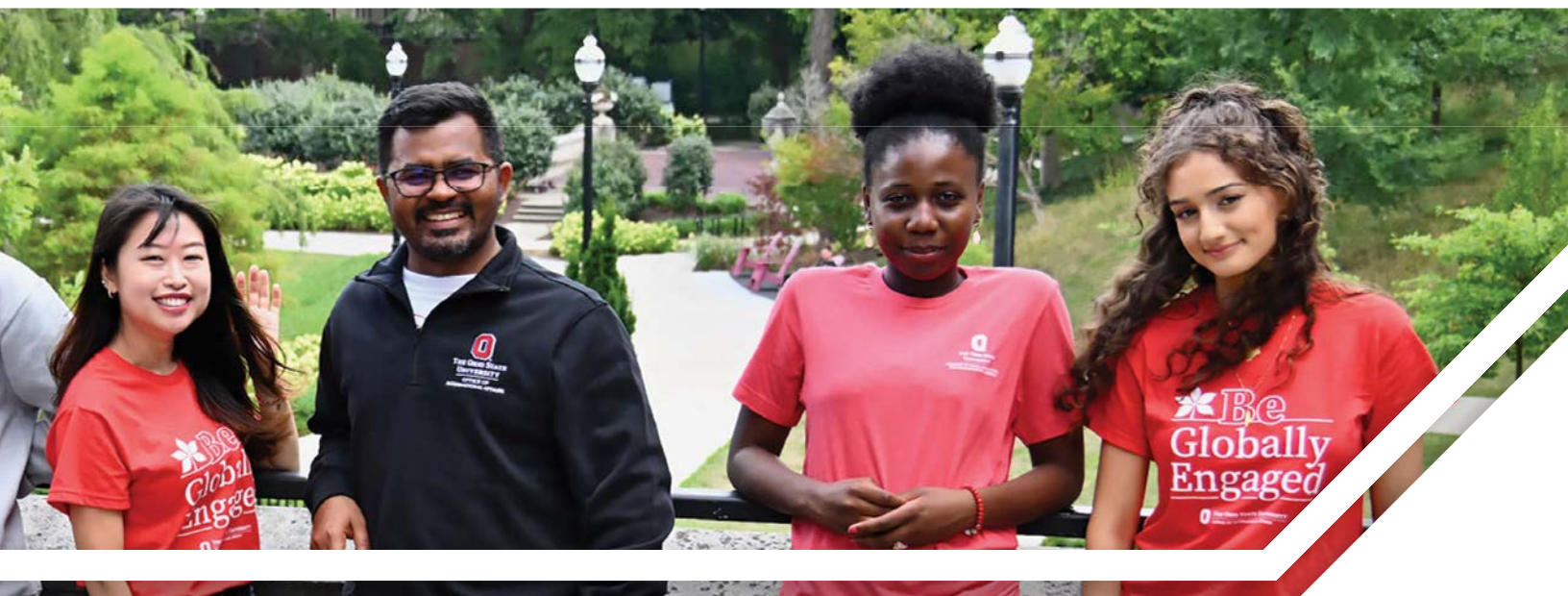
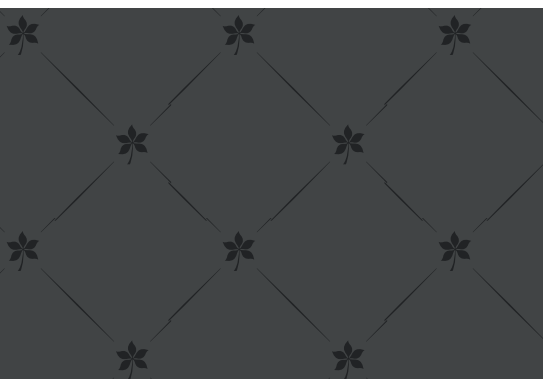


OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Annual Report
2023-2024





Message from the Vice Provost

Since joining The Ohio State University last November, I have had the distinct pleasure of discovering the features that make our university so extraordinary and witnessing firsthand the ways in which we are engaged locally as well as globally. The excellence of our faculty, our highly motivated and diverse student population and the expertise of our committed staff all contribute to expanding and enhancing Ohio State's local and international reach.

We are uniquely positioned as a world-class public land-grant research institution. We create new knowledge, drive innovation and find solutions to today's challenges. Ohio State researchers are making discoveries and creating new technologies that address critical issues from renewable energy to food security to economic well-being worldwide.

We actively engage with our surrounding communities, sharing our expertise and learning from one another. Whether it is working with K-12 schools to support language instruction, connecting with non-profit organizations to provide resources for immigrant communities or developing service-learning opportunities for students at home and abroad, Ohio State contributes greatly to improving the quality of life for the people of Ohio.

Our 15 colleges, the Graduate School and our four regional campuses across the state have significant reach and impact. From the more than 2,000 international students and scholars we welcome each year to the 172 active international partnerships with institutions of higher learning, industry and government that we collectively foster across six continents, we are making a difference on an international scale.

At the Office of International Affairs, we take pride in our connections and collaborations across our campuses and the important role we play in helping develop, support and advance Ohio State's international initiatives. We are dedicated to fostering international learning, strengthening and building new relationships with institutions abroad, creating a welcoming and supportive environment for international students and scholars, and engaging with our alumni across the globe.

In this inaugural issue of our annual report, we share with you the highlights of our many programs, activities and collaborations from the 2023-24 academic year.

To our colleagues across the university who have helped us along the way, we are grateful for your partnership and we look forward to all that we can accomplish together.

Kaya Şahin, PhD

Vice Provost for Global Strategies and International Affairs

Professor of History

Exploring the world

Undergraduate, graduate and professional students at Ohio State enjoy a myriad of ways to know and engage the world through enriching cross-cultural experiences at home and abroad. In partnership with the colleges, the Office of International Affairs facilitates study abroad programs to ensure that every Buckeye has an opportunity to expand their worldview, prepare for bright futures and become global citizens.

BY THE NUMBERS



960 students took part in programs led by more than **125** Ohio State faculty and affiliates.



1,767 students traveled worldwide to **65** countries, from Argentina to Vietnam.



214 programs across all colleges, campuses and units.



95% of students who study abroad report gaining career competencies.



The Office of International Affairs manages **nine** distinct global education scholarships to support study abroad. Awards ranged between **\$150** and **\$3,000** each.



112 scholarships awarded totaling **\$171,000**.



“It’s always exciting as an educator to watch the flurry of excitement and discussion when students connect a concept we discussed earlier in the course with an experience or question that emerged while they were abroad. In those moments of engaged learning and reflection, knowledge and skills are developed that will likely last a lifetime.”

— Julius Mayo, assistant director of academic initiatives and a co-resident director of the Multicultural Legacies and Cultures program since 2003



New program spotlight:

United Nations COP28 served as a classroom for climate education

In early December 2023, delegations from around the world gathered in Dubai for the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28). Among the 70,000 attendees were 10 undergraduate students and professors Nicholas Breyfogle and Bart Elmore from the Department of History.



“Going abroad to have a firsthand look at an international negotiation allowed me to learn more about the policymaking process. Meeting different people at the climate summit exposed me to potential professional pathways and sparked ideas for future research projects.”

— Cordelia Van der Veer, a third-year majoring in public policy analysis and political science, studied abroad on The Politics of Climate: the United Nations Climate Summit in 2023



Student spotlight: Ariana Winbush

“As a first-generation college student, studying abroad was never something that I saw in the cards for myself. However, after hearing about all of the programs Ohio State had to offer, I knew that I wanted to study abroad before I graduated. I will never forget at lunch at a cafe in Sol thinking to myself ‘I really did it.’ I made it a goal to study abroad and I worked extremely hard to make it happen, and it did. It was then I realized that I am capable of anything I set my mind to.”

— Ariana Winbush, a fourth-year majoring in English and Spanish with a minor in public policy, studied abroad on the Global May Spain program in 2023



Welcoming international students and scholars



"Being an international student athlete at Ohio State has been a blessing! Through my sport, I was able to accomplish my dream of studying abroad. This school has given me a family that I'd always feel a part of, and I can't be prouder to represent Ohio State on and off the fencing strip."

– Monserrat Viveros, BS '24, marketing, international student, Paraguay



"I will always cherish my time as an international student at Ohio State. From day one (which was during the height of the pandemic) until commencement, I felt welcomed and appreciated not despite being international, but because of it. I was able to learn, research and live the life of a Buckeye myself and am grateful to the entire Ohio State community for this experience."

– Michaela Dengg, PhD '24, education studies, international student, Germany



"Choosing a university as an international student required careful consideration. Two factors were paramount: academic excellence and a rich student culture. Ohio State emerged as the perfect fit, meeting all my criteria."

– Kshipra Mandlecha, a second-year international student from Nashik, India majoring in business administration



5,901 international students

3,238 undergraduate students, **2,656** graduate and professional students

1,609 international students joined the Buckeye family

125 countries represented



Top countries of origin for international students

1. China
2. India
3. South Korea
4. Taiwan
5. Canada



1,295 international scholars



89 countries represented by international scholars

Top countries of origin for international scholars

1. China
2. India
3. Brazil
4. South Korea
5. Italy



"If I were to choose just one word to describe my experience at The Ohio State University, that word would be 'welcoming.' The university embraced me in such a way that I felt at home, comfortable taking classes with undergraduate and graduate students and at ease speaking English without being judged for my non-native errors."

– Emanuel Galdino, a visiting international scholar from the University of São Paulo who was a researcher in the John Glenn College of Public Affairs



Engaging Communities

On Campus

Building cross-cultural connections

Through creative programming, the Global Engagement team brings international and domestic students together to promote cross-cultural connections. Planned social, cultural and educational activities throughout the year help students identify synergies with one another and form lasting relationships. Events like apple picking at a local farm, outings to Ohio State and professional athletic games and nights at annual Columbus celebrations, such as the Circleville Pumpkin Show and Wildlights at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, allowed students to connect with each other and learn about life in the United States and Ohio.



Spring break in Nashville bridges the gap, fosters learning

Every year, the Office of International Affairs and Office of Diversity and Inclusion partner to host a spring break cultural excursion for international and domestic students to learn about U.S. culture, engage in discussions and listen and share different points of view. This year, 40 students traveled to Nashville to explore the connections between Nashville’s entertainment industry and social justice, delved into the city’s history, connected with local industry professionals and participated in service projects at a local middle school.



“I made some great connections, not only through the networking of the different programs that were planned, but just with peers on the trip as well.”

– Dedra Robbins, a second-year student studying strategic communication



Taste of OSU

Where else can you find musakhan rolls, mango kulfi and zereshk polo ba morgh all on the same menu but at Taste of OSU, one of Ohio State’s signature events and long-time traditions. More than 40 international student organizations showcased their culinary talent and put their performance skills to the test at this year’s event that drew some 2,000 students to the Ohio Union on February 16.



“

Taste of OSU is an amazing event that showcases Ohio State’s diversity and allows students to expand their worldview all while having fun!”

– Shadiyah Feliciano, a fourth-year majoring in animal sciences and student chair of Taste of OSU

Creating community among students

Through the English Conversation Program, international and domestic students have the opportunity to expand their worldviews, improve their intercultural communication skills and make friends from different cultural backgrounds. The Language Improvement Track is student-to-student teaching and is for those who want to develop their English speaking and listening skills.



353 students participated



29 countries represented



“My favorite part of ECP were those small moments when you finally bond with the people in your group, and then you actually start enjoying the conversations, no matter how good or bad we are at English. ECP was valuable in that it made me feel like I can belong in the United States while being international and Serbian. ECP allows us to be multicultural in that way, and I love that.”

– Adrijana Miladinović, a third-year sociology PhD international student from Nis, Serbia

Thanksgiving Dinner

More than 60 volunteers served up a traditional Thanksgiving meal to 1,100 students, faculty and staff at the Ohio Union the day before the holiday. A long-standing tradition, Thanksgiving Dinner is one of the largest held on a college campus.

“For many of our international students and scholars who are so far from home, it is the first time they are experiencing the holiday. This event fosters a strong sense of belonging and nurtures kindness and gratitude for our Ohio State community.”

– Kaya Şahin, vice provost for global strategies and international affairs



Area Studies Centers

Area Studies Centers support academic and outreach initiatives that focus on a specific region of the world — East Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe and Eurasia and the Middle East — to increase awareness and understanding of its cultures, languages, history, economy, sociology and politics. The centers are interdisciplinary by nature and advance language learning as well as area and international studies to ensure a steady supply of graduates with expertise in critical languages, world areas and transnational trends. The Center for Latin American Studies, Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies and the East Asian Studies Center are Title VI National Resource Centers and received \$6.1 million in funding through the U.S. Department of Education for the 2022-26 cycle to support programming and Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships.



Center for African Studies reimaged

A new and purposeful Center for African Studies launched impactful academic and external engagement activities in 2023-24 after a five-year hiatus. Founded in 1988 as an academic center dedicated to disseminating knowledge about Africa, the center has adopted a multidisciplinary approach to foster collaboration in the academic and external engagement space to support and expand the African studies curriculum, promote interdisciplinary partnerships between Ohio State scholars and African universities, organize lectures, symposia and cultural events as well as build relationships with the African diaspora communities.

East Asia Day

More than 150 high school students from six local school districts gathered at Ohio State for a day of education, connection and fun with a focus on cross-cultural learning and engagement. Students were treated to a full day of activities organized by the East Asian Studies Center that included short talks by Ohio State professors and experts on topics ranging from languages to traditional Shinto beliefs in popular culture, as well as a ceremonial tea demonstration that included a traditional 15-step tea preparation and service.



Former Ghanaian President John Mahama visits Ohio State



Ahead of his 2024 re-election bid, John Mahama, the former president of Ghana, shared sweeping insights during his lecture at Ohio State about pan-African history, the rise and challenges of African democracy and his vision for a thriving Africa in the years to come. The Center for African Studies hosted Mahama as part of its public lecture series to advance knowledge and inspire dialogue about Africa inside and outside the classroom.

\$50,000 grant to strengthen engagement with refugees



Students at Ohio State will have new opportunities to learn more about refugee and immigrant populations and how they adjust to life in the United States through a partnership between the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) and Community Refugee Immigration Services (CRIS). A \$50,000 U.S. Department of State Innovation Incentive Grant awarded to Ohio State will fund the development of curriculum focused on refugee resettlement and the creation of peer-to-peer activities for CRIS families and Ohio State students.

“The grant allows us to pilot experiential learning activities that would bring community members and Ohio State students together, and to develop curriculum on forced migration and refugee resettlement that would be integrated in high-enrollment general education courses.”

– Leila Vieira, assistant director, Center for Latin American Studies

Latin America Day

Students from Rutherford B. Hayes and Westerville Central high schools gained firsthand experience on what it is like to be an undergraduate student at Ohio State with Latin American themes. Organized by the Center for Latin American Studies, students – many of whom were of Latin American heritage – took classes in anthropology, food science, Portuguese and Quechua. Students learned how Latin American plants and insects can be used in food coloring, the many connections between Portuguese and Spanish and how to use the suffix “manta” in Quechua.





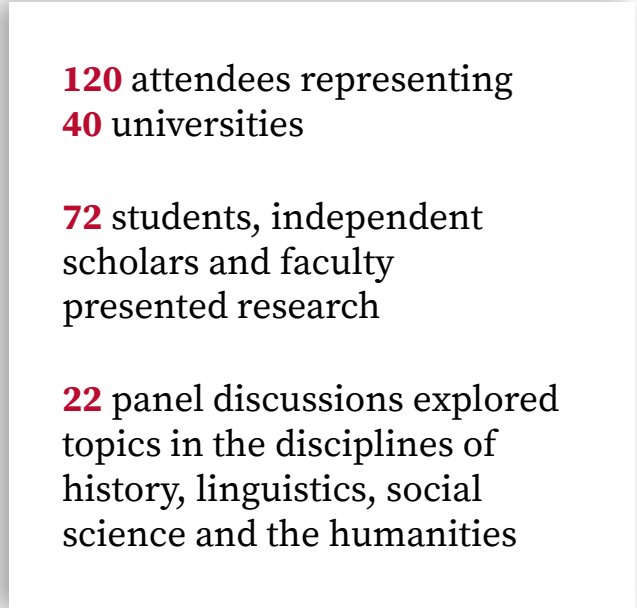
Regional

Midwest Slavery

The annual Midwest Slavery Conference is a place where scholars and the public can meet and discuss the history of slavery in the United States. The conference is held in the Midwest, and the theme is "Slavery and the Making of the Midwest." The conference is held in the Midwest, and the theme is "Slavery and the Making of the Midwest." The conference is held in the Midwest, and the theme is "Slavery and the Making of the Midwest."



The annual Midwest Slavic Conference held at Ohio State explored cold wars past and present and focused on regions including the Baltics, Balkans, Central Europe, Eurasia and Eastern Europe. The conference was hosted by the Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies in collaboration with the Midwest Slavic Association.



22 panel discussions explored topics in the disciplines of history, linguistics, social science and the humanities

The East Asian Studies Center received a \$100,000 grant from the Freeman Foundation, a private foundation whose mission is to strengthen the connections between the United States and countries of East Asia. This grant will support summer internships for about 15 students in East Asia, which will be arranged and overseen by the East Asian Studies Center.



The Middle East Studies Center launched a new grant to infuse more authentic cultural experiences into courses on the Middle East at Ohio State. Faculty can seek funding to create a new course or revise an existing one. Twenty-two students are immersed in the local culture of Istanbul in a course partially funded by this new grant. Turkish 3797 Virtual Istanbul takes students to Istanbul through 360-degree virtual reality headsets, while they collaborate with students at Istanbul Technical University.

The Scientific Congress on Challenges in Disease Management and Outcome brought together 175 participants and showcased 50 speakers, moderators and panelists in Mumbai. Organized by the India Gateway in collaboration with health partners in South Asia, this marked the fifth international conference of its kind, and strengthened the ongoing partnership between Ohio State and Nanavati Super Specialty Hospital. The conference focused on critical areas of healthcare including maternal care and neonatal infections, evolving strategies in HIV and tuberculosis treatments, advancements in tropical disease vaccines, and the complexities of oncology and public health.



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Undergraduate Olympiada of spoken Russia

Undergraduate students from colleges and universities across the state of Ohio showed off their language skills at the annual Olympiada of spoken Russian. The three rounds of competition included an oral interview, poem recital and topic presentation. Twenty-seven students participated from Bowling Green State University, College of Wooster, Ohio State and the University of Cincinnati. The Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies hosted the competition.

Advancing Research, Teaching, Learning and Creative Work

Research

Global One Health initiative

Founded in 2009, Global One Health initiative (GOHi) is the university's largest interdisciplinary example of institutional teamwork operating on a global scale. GOHi improves the health of communities and builds capacity among public health professionals around the world by promoting a One Health paradigm to address disease at the interface of humans, animals and the environment.



Global One Health Summer Institute



The annual One Health Summer Institute involves faculty from Ohio State along with regional partners delivering training, interactive workshops and applied learning opportunities to build One Health capacity around the world. This multidisciplinary approach focuses on preventative measures to stifle emerging infectious diseases. The summer institute attracts participants for virtual and in-person sessions from more than 50 countries and faculty instructors hail from the United States, Latin America, Africa, Europe, Asia and Oceania.

- 2,696 trainees attended
- 96 faculty members, moderators and coordinators involved
- 56 countries represented
- 29 courses offered



Higher education leadership program builds capacity for Ethiopian professionals



The Global One Health initiative partnered with Texas Tech University, Oklahoma State University, the U.S. Embassy in Addis Ababa and the Ethiopian Ministry of Education to build the capacity of higher education leaders through the Leadership, Management and Governance (LMG) program. During this two-year program supported by the U.S. Department of State's University Partnership Initiative, 52 higher education leaders participated, including 28 presidents and 22 vice presidents from 38 public universities.



Ohio State named a top producer of Fulbright U.S. students

For the fifth consecutive year, Ohio State has been named a top producer of the Fulbright U.S. Student Program and was tied for 13th in the nation. Fifteen students – nine undergraduate and six graduate – were awarded the prestigious Fulbright grant for the 2023-24 academic year.

Ohio State also had five Fulbright U.S. scholar and six Fulbright specialist recipients during the award cycle. In the last five years, Ohio State has produced 51 faculty and 75 student Fulbright awardees, and this year's graduate student and specialist awards were record numbers in these categories.

Dissertation research supported by Fulbright-Hays awards

Two doctoral candidates in the Department of Political Science received a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad grant to support their research projects in Colombia and Jordan. Only 90 fellowships are awarded nationwide.



Global One Health initiative received \$3.57 million in new and ongoing grant funding in FY24.



"It's always been kind of a dream of mine to serve as a Fulbright agent. I was able to go down there and share my experience and help inform some of their decision making and management actions. Taking science developed in Columbus, Wooster, Lima and Mansfield to inform decision-making not only across the 88 counties in Ohio but across the whole globe, that's really an inspiring role for Ohio State and people like me who are extension educators."

– Scott Hardy, extension educator, Fulbright U.S. Specialist, Chile

Research

Six faculty awarded Global Gateways Initiative grants

The inaugural Global Gateways Initiative grant program awarded \$152,000 to fund six faculty research projects in China, India and Brazil. The new grant program is designed to further Ohio State's international reach through the Global Gateways, multi-faceted centers that advance the university's global teaching, research and engagement in three distinct regions of the world. Award recipients are from the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and Nursing.



The Office of International Affairs distributed more than \$550,000 in grants and scholarships to support international teaching, learning and research.

International grants awarded to conduct research

The Office of international Affairs awarded close to \$100,000 in grants to seven faculty, 21 graduate students, and two undergraduate students to conduct international research and scholarship projects abroad and in the United States. Awards ranged between \$1,000 and \$4,000 and will be used during the 2024-25 academic year.

From Brazil to Uganda, Estonia to South Korea and everywhere in between, faculty and students will travel to 18 different countries to advance their research and expand their global engagement.

Recipients of this year's grants represent the colleges of Arts and Sciences, Education and Human Ecology, Engineering, Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, Medicine and Social Work.



Teaching and Learning



Area Studies Centers transform K-16 teaching worldwide

Each year, the Area Studies Centers extend the reach of Ohio State into the K-16 sphere, helping to ensure broader knowledge of world regions in classrooms nationwide. Through more than 25 teacher training programs offered in person and virtually, upwards of 1,500 public, private, community college and other educators are equipped to incorporate lesson plans, resources and current information about international issues, culture, the arts and more into their teaching practices.

Specialized master's programs prepare graduate students for global futures

The Area Studies Centers manage three master's programs in Latin American Studies, Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies and East Asian Studies.

These programs prepare students who desire to continue their undergraduate studies in international relations, globalization, languages and literatures, history and more, helping them to acquire a broader knowledge of their focus region and topics relating to it.

In the 2023-24 academic year, 14 students were enrolled across programs and four new graduates matriculated, ready to pursue careers in diplomacy, academics, languages and go on to pursue further studies.

"I knew absolutely nothing before and now feel like I have a good grasp of the basics. This will help me design new lessons but will also help me understand cultural backgrounds of my students."

– K-12 educator



"Until my month in Berlin, I was never much of a history buff, but there was something different when the history was practically written on the streets in front of me. On all of our tours throughout the city, we could see a row of cobblestones that marked where the Berlin Wall used to stand. It was so incredible to think that only a few decades ago, walking across this border would have been impossible."

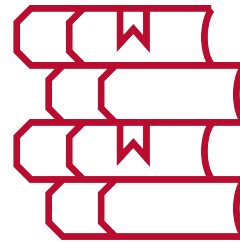
– Erin McLauchlan, a fourth-year majoring in English

Teaching and Learning

Area Studies Centers develop new language offerings

In today's highly interconnected world, bolstering international language proficiency is more crucial than ever. The Area Studies Centers continue to support advanced world language acquisition to ensure a steady supply of graduates with expertise in critical languages.

In academic year 2024-25, the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Cultures began offering first-year Ukrainian language courses and partnered with ScarletCanvas to create a series of self-paced introductory language and culture courses for Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian, Polish and Romanian.



\$1.25 million in FLAS fellowships awarded

The East Asian Studies Center, Center for Latin American Studies and Center for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies (FLAS) fellowship grants to 56 Ohio State students spanning 16 graduate programs and 22 undergraduate majors. Funding for FLAS fellowships comes from the U.S. Department of Education under Title VI of the Higher Education Act and is subsidized by generous matching funding from The Ohio State University Graduate School.

This year's FLAS fellowships support the development of area studies knowledge and language fluency in 13 languages.

Virtual international learning community

Ten Ohio State faculty and instructors participated in the Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) community where over the past year they have developed skills to design virtual global and intercultural student learning experiences.

The learning community is coordinated through a partnership between the Office of International Affairs and the Michael V. Drake Institute for Teaching and Learning. The cohort meets regularly throughout autumn semester and learns how to design an intercultural project with international partners, develop intercultural learning outcomes, find resources for online learning and identify valid methods to measure outcomes.



“Through these virtual opportunities students have access to intercultural interactions and learning in an equitable and accessible way, ensuring they are prepared to succeed in the global marketplace as internationally informed and engaged citizens.”

– Cindy Jiang, COIL Virtual Exchange Coordinator

Creative Work

International Photography Competition and Exhibition

Over 300 members of the campus community submitted more than 650 photographs taken in 90 countries to the Office of International Affairs annual international photography competition. The 2023 International Photography Exhibition showcases the 40 winning images taken in 20 countries by 35 Ohio State students, faculty, staff, visiting scholars and alumni across three categories: People, Places and Arts & Culture.



Clockwise from top: Field Trip to the Museum by Miles Feinknopf, Garden of Kings by Ariana Winbush, Udaipur Women by Ryan Staples, Cobalt by Jen Heaton.



Fostering International Partnerships



PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

172 active agreements in 52 countries

47 new agreements in 23 countries

27 new partners



International mini-conference focuses on inclusive education

Fueled by a Campus-in-Campus commitment for transnational collaboration that started in 2010, the College of Education and Human Ecology hosted an international mini-conference with University of Tsukuba, a long-time Japanese partner. The conference provided up-to-date research findings, examined educational implications and discussed the merits of inclusive education and literacy issues for students who are d/Deaf and hard of hearing, those with cognitive disabilities and those who are blind or with visual impairments.



Global Gateways

The Global Gateways enhance Ohio State’s global reach in China, India and Brazil. The Gateways serve as the university’s mini embassies to provide prospective and current student support, facilitate research and industry partnerships, collaborate to host in-region events and conferences and connect and engage with international alumni.

“I am looking to identify opportunities for long-lasting collaborations involving teaching and learning and/or scholarship in Brazil. Ohio State Lima and other regional campuses could become key partners for the Brazil Gateway. Regional campus faculty, for example, could develop productive research and creative collaborations with faculty in Latin America who are likewise heavily involved in undergraduate education. Students could likewise benefit from short-term or remote learning opportunities with students in Brazil and other countries in Latin America.”

– Fabio Leite, academic director of the Brazil Gateway and associate professor of psychology at Ohio State Lima



“The GAP program was a significant factor in my decision to pursue an MBA at Ohio State. My journey with Tata Play was not just about learning and challenges, it was a transformative experience that enriched me both professionally and personally.”

– Akshay Ganesh '24 MBA, international student, India

Ohio State partners with Tata

With support from the India Gateway, the Fisher College of Business has expanded an already comprehensive partnership with the Tata Group in India. The collaboration has produced a variety of mutually beneficial business and leadership programs, such as Fisher's Global Applied Projects course. This course is a 14-week multi-phased engagement that features remote collaboration with Tata Play and four students traveling to India during spring break.

One example is Fisher’s Global Applied Projects course comprised of a 14-week multi-phased engagement that features remote collaboration with Tata Play from campus and four students traveling to India during spring break. The course requires students to perform preliminary discovery work, define and dissect the problem, conduct primary research, explore potential recommendations, and submit their recommendations to Tata leadership.



“My recent visit to India helped me understand how the exchanges between Ohio State and India may be strengthened further and that new win-win avenues are sought. Opportunities exist for every college and intellectual domain, and particularly in the areas addressing climate change and the natural environment, agriculture and food processing, healthcare and medicine, technology, engineering and data analytics, as well as business opportunities for value creation.”

– Jay Anand, academic director of the India Gateway and William H. Davis Chair and Dean’s Distinguished Professor of Strategy, Fisher College of Business



“I look at the China Gateway as the mechanism or gate to channel the cooperation between academic interests that exist here at the university with those in China. It’s based on the premise of global citizenship and the whole notion that it helps us to get out of our world, even different areas of expertise. There can be a certain dome of thought where if you expand to other cultures, you get other new ideas. My role is to help facilitate all of those exchanges.”

– Roger Williams, academic director of the China Gateway and associate professor in the School of Environment and Natural Resources

TRONDBUSS program supports student research in Norway

For Grace Gutiérrez, studying abroad wasn't just an opportunity to experience a new country. It was a chance to conduct her own experiment with distinguished educators and her peers.

As an undergraduate researcher in plant ecology, Gutiérrez spent four months in 2023 in Trondheim, Norway as part of the TRONDBUSS program, a bilateral U.S.-Norway international education initiative between the Department of Molecular Genetics and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

"We looked at how warming and the presence of neighboring vegetation affect growth of plant seedlings," she said. "As a field ecologist, you really need to have your whole field season open for the growing of the plants and have time on the back end to be able to process your samples."

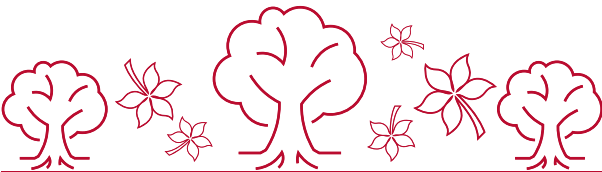
Since its inception in 2013, the TRONDBUSS program has provided experiences to 68 students from both the United States and Norway.



Climate forum explored agriculture and sustainability

The 2024 Brazil Gateway Forum on Climate Change featured a keynote speech from Rattan Lal, distinguished university professor in the School of Environment and Natural Resources, along with remarks from Daniel Abreu, a professor at the Federal University of Mato Grosso and Ana Rosa, the founder of Meli Bees, a non-profit focused on protecting the Amazon and fostering sustainability in Brazil to help both land and people flourish. "The meeting brought together different actors with different perspectives to build a better future," said Rosa.

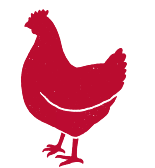
Jennifer Eaglin, associate professor in the Department of History and core faculty member of the Sustainability Institute, provided opening remarks. "As the world looks to solutions for our climate crisis," she said, "addressing the growing levels of carbon emissions is critical to any path forward." The forum was part of the Brazil Gateway's larger mission of helping Ohio State foster connections and opportunities for researchers, students, alumni and partners in the region, working out of a base of operations in São Paulo.



Addressing national food systems, animal and human health in Africa

What will African agriculture look like in 2050? A growing population means more need for food and pastoral livestock, but pressures on agricultural systems like land scarcity, limited technologies, more severe drought and ever-increasing animal disease prevalence are having an impact. Luckily, the veterinary sector in Ethiopia is working in coordination with the College of Veterinary Medicine, Global One Health initiative (GOHi), government and universities to address these concerns and reduce incidence of zoonotic disease that could impact livelihoods for African families.

In a coordinated, nationwide effort, Ohio State researchers from GOHi and the College of Veterinary Medicine have taken a lead role, leading a training conference that brought together dozens of partners across sectors in 2024.



"It was so impactful to see everyone's motivation, commitment and eagerness to improve and strengthen veterinary medical education in Ethiopia."

– Andrea L. Bessler, veterinary public health resident

From Ohio to India: Nathan Gajowski's engineering journey

Nathan Gajowski, PhD student, electrical and computer engineering, didn't know his Buckeye engineering journey would bring him to India to work on advanced semiconductor transport modeling at the Indian Institute of Technology. "My time working under Professor Muralidharan taught me about modeling these processes and gave me new tools and understanding of the physics behind the semiconductor devices I hope to experimentally demonstrate. Upon arriving in Mumbai, I was instantly immersed in culture completely new to me. I found it easy to make friends on IIT Bombay's campus, and I greatly enjoyed learning about India's rich culture and food. Everyone I met was passionate about their background, local traditions and cuisine."



Connecting with Global Alumni



Alumni Clubs

The Global Gateways worked closely with the international alumni clubs in China, India and Brazil to engage Buckeyes living abroad. Alumni network together, gather for game watch parties and provide advice and guidance to incoming international students.



Bringing together students with international alumni

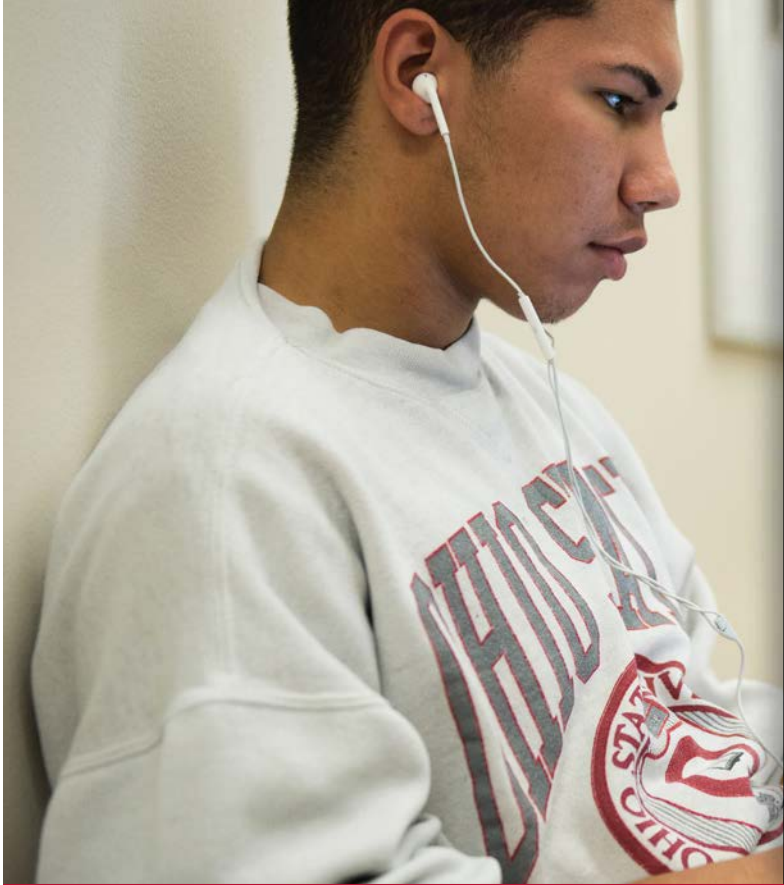


The Buckeyes Network Abroad program sent 15 students to London over spring break 2024 to network with Ohio State alumni, do career exploration-related activities and enjoy the myriad cultural, personal and educational benefits of a typical education abroad experience. The program was fully funded by the College of Arts and Sciences, which will offer this unique program again in 2025 with the hope to involve more students, alumni and locations in future years.



“Meeting alumni in London highlighted one thing in particular—you are a Buckeye for life. My biggest takeaway from the trip was that studying at Ohio State equips you with skills that transcend boundaries.

– Apostol Kule, a fourth-year majoring in biochemistry, studied abroad on the Buckeyes Network Abroad program in 2024



International Student Career Bootcamp

The Global Gateways International Student Career Bootcamp provided international students with tips for exploring job opportunities abroad. Three Ohio State alumni with backgrounds in business, finance and engineering from China, India and Brazil shared their career journey and provided insights.



Alumni spotlight: Joshua Melching



Joshua Melching, ‘13 Chinese language and literature and 16’ political science, has established a successful career working and living in China after his time at Ohio State. After a foray into supporting WeWork’s expansion in Shanghai, he has gone on to a role as client business director for JWDC, a design firm specializing in cultural and place identity in China. Melching’s cross-cultural interactions during his time at Ohio State shaped the path he went on to take after graduation.

“Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Hindi echoed the halls of my dorm, it was this international community that really opened my mind and my heart to the world beyond my rural Ohio upbringing. I remember during the first few weeks of school, the Chinese students on my floor invited me to a hot pot dinner in the lobby of Morrison. This has to be one of my favorite memories of my time at Ohio State—I was immersed in culture, surrounded by new friends and just embarking on a journey of learning Chinese, a language that would ultimately transform my life in ways I had yet imagined possible.”

Office of International Affairs

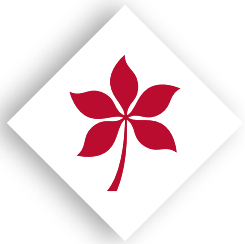
Overview

The Office of International Affairs provides leadership and international expertise to ensure a coordinated and dynamic strategy for university-wide global engagement. To further Ohio State’s international goals and to advance the university’s reputation world-wide, the Office of International Affairs facilitates international experiences for students and faculty, supports academic programs and research, coordinates international partnerships, administers grants and scholarships and contributes to enriching the Ohio State experience for the university’s international student and scholar population.

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