

think: international

A wide-angle photograph capturing a large, diverse group of young people of various ethnicities and ages. They are standing behind a long, grey concrete wall with white horizontal stripes. Many individuals are waving small, colorful paper kites (red, yellow, blue) into the air. The sky above is a vibrant, clear blue. The scene is set outdoors on a grassy hillside.

WE BRIDGE
CWRU
AND THE
WORLD



CENTER FOR
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Annual Report 2015

BELOW

2015 International Education Week

Kick-Off Event

Banner by Rachel Paiscik

bridging opportunities



#CWRUworldview





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ON THE COVER

First Year International Students let their dreams and concerns soar from the top of Tinkham Veale University Center during International Welcome Days.



“Case Western Reserve University is committed to promoting global understanding and responsibility. Since 2008, we have made significant progress in the comprehensive internationalization of our university community. We look forward to continuing to expand our study abroad programs, international partnerships, opportunities for faculty research, and services for our international students, among others.”

Barbara R. Snyder

PRESIDENT

"The most important lesson we've learned is that changing university culture only happens when the entire community is involved and committed to a vision."

Molly Watkins

Executive Director for International Affairs



DAVID FLESHLER

From the Vice Provost for International Affairs



Since the 2008 adoption of Forward Thinking, Case Western Reserve University's strategic plan, campus culture has undergone a steady, yet palpable change. Internationalization, a major focus of that plan, has become part of the every day reality at the university. The entire campus community—students, faculty, staff, alumni, and partners in Cleveland and around the world—have worked hard to internationalize our university, and in 2015, we received national recognition for our collective efforts.

The Institute of International Education (IIE), perhaps international higher education's most admired organization, presented our university with its highest honor—the Heiskell Award for Campus Internationalization. And for the first time, IIE's Open Doors report listed CWRU as one of the top schools in the nation for the percent of students who study abroad—at #20.

Faculty, staff, and students are driving this change. Across schools and departments, in research and teaching, internationalization has become part of our culture—part of our DNA—both on our physical campus in Cleveland and our virtual campus in every corner of the globe.

We are excited to share our research, education, and service efforts of the past year, as well as our featured alumni who have contributed to CWRU's global efforts. Thank you for your continued interest in our progress. I invite you to join us as we *Bridge CWRU and the World*.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Fleshler".

David Fleshler

Vice Provost

Who we are



Top (From left to right):

David Fleshler
Vice Provost for International Affairs

Kristin Whitbeck
Department Assistant

Camala Ross
Coordinator of Programming

Alec Jokubaitis
SEVIS Coordinator

Sharon Burke
Executive Assistant to the Vice Provost

Adolfo Franco
International Student Advisor

Caitlin King
Study Abroad Advisor

Rachel Paiscik
International Student Advisor

Bottom (From left to right):

Molly Watkins
Executive Director for International Affairs

Jody Bonhard
Coordinator of Communications

Autumn Beechler Stebing
Assistant Director of Education Abroad

Amy Guthrie
Study Abroad Information Specialist

Not pictured:

Marielena Maggio
Director of International Student Services

OUR MISSION

The Center for International Affairs provides leadership, expertise, and support to the Case Western Reserve University community, cultivating a dynamic international presence and inspiring a culture of global understanding and responsibility.

Center for International Affairs

Office of International Student Services

- Assists CWRU international students with immigration matters and other non-academic concerns
- Helps international students adjust to CWRU, Cleveland, and the US
- Promotes intercultural exchange and understanding

Office of Global Strategy

- Develops the strategies and direction for CWRU's global engagement initiatives
- Facilitates and builds relationships with global partners
- Documents and communicates international activity externally and across campus

Office of Education Abroad

- Advises students on study, research, and practical experiences abroad
- Supports faculty in developing study abroad programs
- Works to graduate students who are global citizens

2015 Highlights



CWRU celebrated the Asian Mid-Autumn holiday by hosting the first annual CWRU Asian Mid-Autumn Festival in September, drawing more than 1,000 people, including students, faculty, staff, and members of the community. Participants enjoyed a variety of authentic Asian foods, as well as student-led activities like origami and lantern making.



CWRU ranked among the nation's top 40 doctorate-granting universities for the percentage of undergraduates studying abroad, according to the "2015 Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange." In 2014-15, 44.8% of undergraduate students studied abroad with 30% participating in semester or academic year-long programs.



In April, the Faculty Senate unanimously voted to endorse Phase II of the Strategic Plan for Internationalization. Phase II builds on the significant accomplishments of the initial Plan for Internationalization and has a concentrated focus on graduate students, faculty, and research.

“There are a number of areas where we see commonality—medical sciences, engineering, and law—and our systems are different enough that we can really benefit from each other and, ultimately, benefit the world.”

Mark Chance, PhD

Vice Dean for Research (School of Medicine)

Case Western Reserve University and Tohoku University Formalize Research Collaboration and Student Exchange Programs

CWRU and Tohoku University, one of the leading research universities in Japan, formalized a research collaboration and an undergraduate student exchange program by signing two agreements in July. Tohoku University President Susumu Satomi and Kazuyuki Katayama, Japan's Detroit-based Consul General, attended a signing ceremony with President Barbara R. Snyder, other CWRU administrative and research leaders, faculty, and community members. The ceremony highlighted a two-day Data and Life Science Collaboration and Symposium on the CWRU campus.

Tohoku brought a group, comprised of 15 faculty and students, to Cleveland to exchange research and collaboration ideas with faculty and students from departments across the Case Western Reserve campus. The symposium, organized by the School of Medicine in collaboration with the Case School of Engineering, introduced researchers from both institutions, a prelude to shared research initiatives.

The CWRU-Tohoku agreements call for exchange of faculty, staff, and students; joint research projects; joint education and training programs; exchange of academic and research publications and

information; collaborative funding; and fund development. Each university will choose two undergraduate students per semester to participate in the exchange.



President Barbara R. Snyder, Consul General Kazuyuki Katayama, and Tohoku University President Susumu Satomi at the signing ceremony.

2015 Highlights

CWRU Wins Prestigious Andrew Heiskell Award for Internationalizing the Campus

Case Western Reserve University won the Andrew Heiskell Award for Innovation in International Education, honoring the university's innovative and successful programs in campus internationalization.

Created in 2001 by the Institute of International Education (IIE), the annual Heiskell Awards promote and honor the most outstanding initiatives being conducted in international higher education among its

1,400 member colleges and universities. IIE is especially interested in highlighting innovative initiatives that can be used as models to address a specific need, remove institutional barriers, and broaden the base of participation in international teaching and learning on campus. CWRU was one of two campuses selected to receive the 2015 award for campus internationalization.

"The Heiskell Award for Internationalizing the Campus, along with CWRU's ranking of #20 in the percentage of students studying abroad at research intensive universities, is further validation—from perhaps the most highly respected international higher education organization—of our success in changing the culture of the university and establishing ourselves as a leader in international higher education," said Molly Watkins, Executive Director for International Affairs.

William A. "Bud" Baeslack III, CWRU's Provost and Executive Vice President, accepted the award from IIE President and CEO Allan Goodman at IIE's Annual Best Practices in Internationalization Conference in California.



Provost Baeslack and Dr. Allan Goodman, President and CEO of the Institute of International Education, at the 2016 Best Practices Conference.

"CWRU has a long and proud history of international engagement. However, only since focusing on internationalization in the university's 2008 strategic plan have we specifically concentrated on strategic, campus-wide, and comprehensive internationalization."

William A. "Bud" Baeslack III

Provost and Executive Vice President

The School of Dental Medicine formalized an agreement with Future University's Faculty of Oral and Dental Medicine in New Cairo, Egypt.

CWRU faculty will review Future University's curriculum, provide faculty to co-teach courses, participate in annual joint conferences, conduct shared research, and cooperatively supervise postgraduate students.



In August, CWRU entered into an Affiliation Agreement with Brazil's Albert Einstein Hospital, one of the top hospitals in South America. The agreement outlines a plan for collaboration in education, research, and administration and includes opportunities for students of medicine, nursing, engineering, and the arts and sciences.

President Barbara R. Snyder, President Claudio Lottenberg (Albert Einstein Hospital), and Dean Pamela Davis (School of Medicine)



Study abroad students from six higher education institutions in Northeast Ohio met on the CWRU campus in September for the first annual Northeast Ohio Study Abroad Returnee Conference. The day-long conference, organized by CWRU, covered topics such as adding study abroad to resumes, dealing with the effects of reverse culture shock, and going abroad again.



2015 Numbers



Education Abroad

Rise in the percentage of undergraduate students studying abroad

2014-15
45%



2013-14
43%



2012-13
31%



2011-12
26%



2010-11
19%



44.8% of CWRU undergraduate students studied abroad

The average GPA of undergraduate study abroad students is **3.49**
(overall CWRU undergraduate GPA is 3.37)

The Center provided **\$30,000** in Faculty Seed Grants (total to date: \$160,000)

"So many study abroad experiences challenged me and thus changed the way I view myself, the world, and my place within the world.**"**

Heather O'Keeffe

Undergraduate Student, Case School of Engineering



Faculty directed **33** study abroad programs

CWRU collaborated with **88** study abroad partners

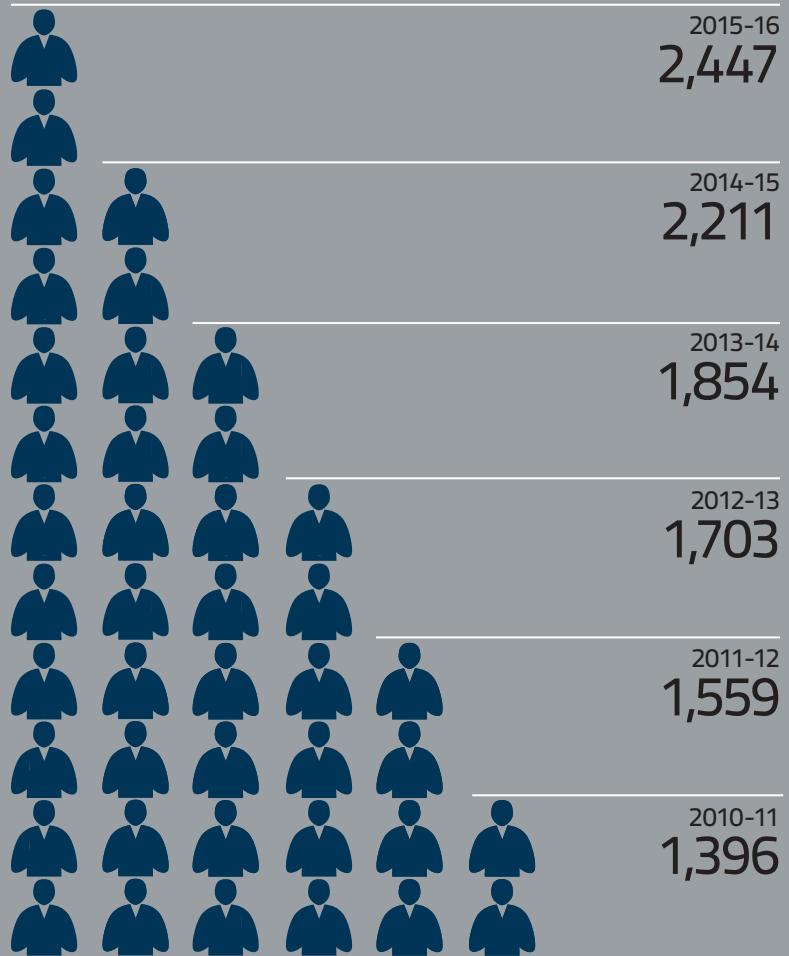
International students represent **86** countries

CWRU has more than **200** international agreements in more than **40** countries



International Students

Total number of international students at CWRU



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

Improving the World



Katherine Krynak, PhD (GRS '15 Biology), discovered a new species of frog, *Pristimantis mutabilis*, in Ecuador. The frog changes skin texture to mimic surroundings and is believed to be the first amphibian known to have shape-shifting capabilities. "The discovery indicates that we have much more to learn about our natural world, and it is critical that we preserve habitats worldwide to protect species, known and unknown alike," said Krynak.

Pristimantis mutabilis, photographed in Ecuador by Tim Krynak



CWRU and Taipei Medical University formed a three-year research and exchange collaboration focusing on cancer research, brain sciences, biomedical engineering, medical device and drug development, geriatrics, and long-term care. Faculty from both universities will collaborate on projects that offer opportunities for commercialization. The universities previously established a dual master's degree in biomedical engineering.

President Barbara R. Snyder and Taipei Medical University President Yun Yen at the signing ceremony



After visiting Oyacachi, Ecuador during a study abroad program, Iqra Baig (Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences) and Nikhil Goel (Case School of Engineering) completed a research proposal to develop an eco-tourism center and council of small enterprises in the Ecuadorian village. The eco-tourism center and council of small enterprises will be supported and run by the community to improve its local economy without damaging the environment or compromising local culture and traditions.

Iqra Baig, Nikhil Goel, and other CWRU study abroad program participants in Ecuador

"Even though problems between cultures still exist around the world, I am working with some friends here at CWRU to figure out the solutions—based in science."

Imre Treufeld

PhD Student, Case School of Engineering



Dr. Jonathan L. Haines, Chair of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and the Mary W. Sheldon Professor of Genomic Sciences, led a team of more than 100 geneticists in an international research effort to study age-related macular degeneration (AMD), the leading cause of vision loss among people over the age of 50. Collaborators from 11 countries and four continents worked together, under the leadership of Haines, using big data to analyze genes in order to find genetic variations responsible for AMD.

Photograph by Annie O'Neill

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

Creating Global Citizens



Douglas Lee, a junior studying chemistry and pre-health, spent spring semester studying at Hong Kong Polytechnic University where he also interned with Tink Labs, a cellphone startup. "I was exposed to a completely different world in the fast-paced startup environment," he said. "The experience helped me feel even more prepared to enter the modern, global workplace."

Douglas Lee interacting with Tink Labs customers during a local soccer game



The Mandel School for Applied Social Sciences offered the course, "Gender and Sexuality Justice: LGBT Life in Contemporary Dutch Culture," to explore the Dutch concept of 'tolerance' while looking at sexuality in Amsterdam. Taught during the 2015 spring semester with travel over spring break, the course allowed students to interact with academics, activists, and LGBT community volunteers in order to learn about best practices in the Netherlands, while being challenged to compare their experiences abroad with those from the United States.

CWRU students exploring Amsterdam during the spring break program



In 2015, the Weatherhead School of Management renewed an agreement with Tongji University's School of Economics and Management (SEM), continuing a dual degree program between the two universities. After completing coursework at both CWRU and Tongji, graduates receive a Master of Science in Management-Finance degree from Weatherhead and an MBA from Tongji-SEM. This unique program combines the expertise of both institutions to create highly skilled global graduates.

Tongji University's School of Economics and Management

"CWRU's emergence as one of the nation's most recognized universities for comprehensive internationalization is a true reflection of the dedication, commitment, and support of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members."

David Fleshler

Vice Provost for International Affairs



Haojuan (Jenny) Qian, a law student from Luoyang, China, excels academically while serving as an intern for the Cuyahoga County Prosecutors Office. In her first year she received a position in the appeals unit, leading to a coveted paid clerk position. Jenny credits her coursework at the School of Law for preparing her for the extensive writing necessary to work and succeed in criminal law in the United States.

Jenny Qian, left, and Sheila Fowler, CWRU law students and summer interns at the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Bridging Communities



Nursing students Basirat Rosenje and Emily Robson conducted their senior capstone project at Wuhan University Hope School of Nursing in Wuhan, China. Partnering with local nursing students, they created and implemented a comprehensive sex education program at a local primary school. "Our main goal was to educate sixth graders on developmental health and health risk," said Rosenje. "I'm hopeful that our success will lead to adoption of the program at other schools."

Emily Robson and Basirat Rosenje visiting the Great Wall during their time in China



Dr. Mark Hans, School of Dental Medicine professor and chair of the Department of Orthodontics, traveled to Greece in mid-November as a Fulbright Specialist Award recipient. While in Greece he worked with faculty at the University of Athens to establish the new Cleft Lip and Palate Center. His work, in collaboration with Greek colleagues, will improve the overall care of patients across Greece who seek treatment at the clinic.



Case Western Reserve University's Staff Advisory Council (SAC) committed to supporting international causes in Cleveland by donating proceeds from the 15th Annual Basket Raffle to US Together, a refugee resettlement agency. US Together offers employment, health, family, and English language support and services to refugees living in Northeast Ohio and across the country. SAC donated \$5,000 to support this local organization with global reach.

Representatives from the Staff Advisory Council presenting the donation to US Together

"CWRU is committed to service and students. In the aftermath of the earthquake in my home country of Nepal, the CWRU Nepali Student Organization held a successful fundraiser with campus-wide support to help victims."

Nirmala Lekhak

Graduate student, Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing
Co-Founder, Nepali Student Organization



Maggie Kuhl, an undergraduate medical anthropology major, volunteered with classmates in the impoverished township of Egoli while studying abroad in South Africa. The group raised more than \$1,000 and helped repair and expand the community center building in advance of the rainy season. "The center is a vital part of the Egoli community," said Maggie. "The reconstructed building now serves as a safe, dry space for all community gatherings throughout the year."

Maggie Kuhl, repairing the roof of the Egoli community center

Alumni Impacting the World...



The Japan Chapter of the CWRU Alumni Association hosted its 18th Annual Alumni Reception in Tokyo this November. Due to outstanding leadership and more than 200 involved local alumni, the Japan Chapter is recognized as one of the Alumni Association's most active chapter groups and excels in maintaining strong relationships with the Case Western Reserve community in Japan and Cleveland.



Joel Schwartz, recently retired Senior Vice President and General Manager of Global New Business Development at EMC Corporation, serves as Chair of the International Affairs Visiting Committee (IAVC). Mr. Schwartz (CIT '64 and GRS '66) has been a member of the IAVC since 2012. He will use his international expertise to lead the advisory board in advancing the international mission and vision of CWRU as set forth in the university's strategic plan.

Joel Schwartz with President Barbara R. Snyder at the CWRU International Affairs Visiting Committee Dinner



Laura Hurst (CAS '15) was awarded the Eva L. Pancoast Memorial Fellowship for female graduates to extend arts and sciences education via travel and foreign study. To build upon her major studies and further explore her passion, Laura began her fellowship in Germany as a farmhand on organic farms and is exploring opportunities globally in the field of Environmental Studies.

Continuing our Legacy



Driven by her Peace Corps service in Tanzania, Jackie Adams (CWR '02) founded and presides over a US-based nonprofit advocating against female genital cutting, a procedure with no health benefits that has affected more than 125 million girls and women alive today. Jackie currently lives in Cleveland and continues her efforts to empower girls and communities both here and around the world.
[\(www.jaxadams.org\)](http://www.jaxadams.org)

Jackie Adams, photograph by Greg Murray Photography





“When you are surrounded by such different and amazing groups of people and a dedicated student body, you embrace your education even more. CWRU changed me for the better. My story is just beginning.”

Carlos Gomez
Global MBA alumnus (MGT '16)



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