

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
INTERNATIONAL

THE WORLD UNDER ONE ROOF

This Annual Report for University of Alberta International, for the fiscal year of April 2017-March 2018, is structured surrounding the five goals defined in the UAlberta Institutional Strategic Plan, *For the Public Good*.

BUILD
EXPERIENCE
ENGAGE
EXCEL
SUSTAIN



ANNUAL REPORT 2017-18



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
INTERNATIONAL

Ranked among the world's top 100 universities and #40 in the world's "most international" universities, UAlberta is connected to the world, supporting the creation of a vibrant international learning and research environment. As we strive to achieve the aspirations set out in "For the Public Good," internationalization can play a powerful role in the creation and delivery of compelling learning and research experiences.

There are many facets to internationalization at the university and all members of the university community contribute to our international success. This report highlights the contributions that UAlberta International made in 2017-18 to advancing international engagement.

UAlberta has cultivated a dynamic and active network of partners, students, and alumni around the globe that help us advance our many international aspirations. On campus, UAlberta proudly fosters an inclusive multicultural community of students, staff, and faculty in an environment that is open to diversity of culture, ideas, and reflections.

Welcoming international students and scholars, the university community gains from the chance to engage with new perspectives and cultural sharing. In delivering opportunities for work and study abroad, students gain access to transformational international experiences that will shape future educational pursuits and careers.

Through global engagement on campus, UAlberta creates an international environment rich with opportunities – from developing foreign language skills, partaking in meaningful discussions on global issues, to earning a specialized international credential, volunteering with international refugee scholars, and beyond.

It is through support and delivery of a versatile range of platforms, opportunities, and collaborations that

UAlberta International strives to enhance the internationalization of the UAlberta experience for all members of the campus community.

In 2017-18, UAlberta International, together with partners on and off-campus, contributed to the support, facilitation, and delivery of services and opportunities aimed at enhancing international engagement, including:

- Recruitment and welcoming of new international students
- Programs and services to help international students to achieve their goals
- Liaising and connecting with international partners and building new partnerships
- Fostering community engagement and intercultural experiences
- Development and management of education abroad experiences

As we reflect on the year, we thank all of the stakeholders and partners on and off-campus who also contributed to enriching the international dimension of learning, teaching, and research at UAlberta.

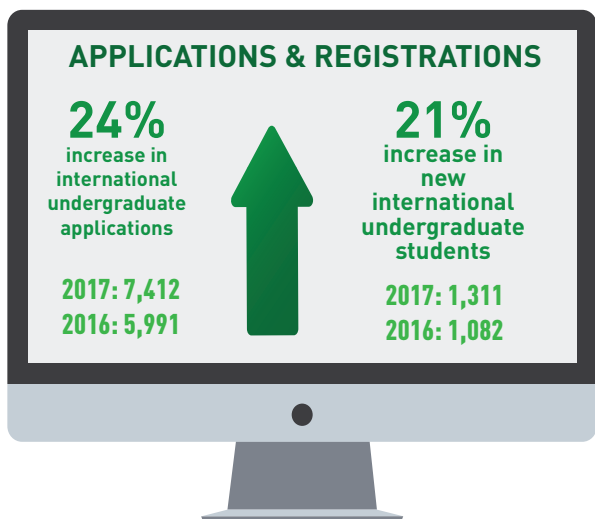
We look forward to continuing to work with you and invite new partners and collaborators to connect with us. We would be happy to work with you to achieve the international goals that you have established. Together, we can ensure the University continues to be a vibrant international learning and research environment.

BUILD

GOAL: Build a diverse, inclusive community of exceptional students, faculty and staff from Alberta, Canada, and the world.

In building a globally connected environment for the benefit of all, we contribute to a richer future for our students and researchers. Diversity on campus promotes global perspectives, cultural learning, and intercultural awareness that is becoming increasingly vital in today's global environment. UAlberta International contributed through efforts designed to enhance diversity of international students, connect international faculty members across borders, delivering services and programs for international students, and more.

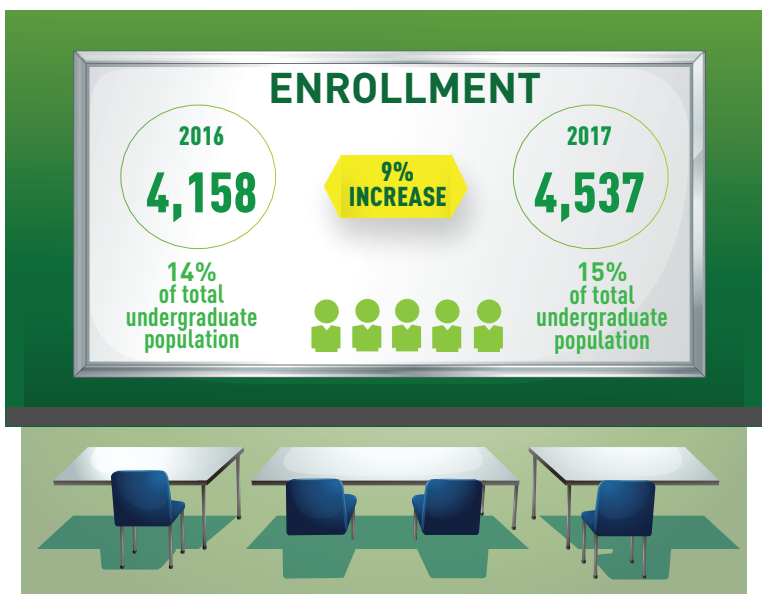
INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS AT UALBERTA



In Fall 2017, UAlberta achieved:

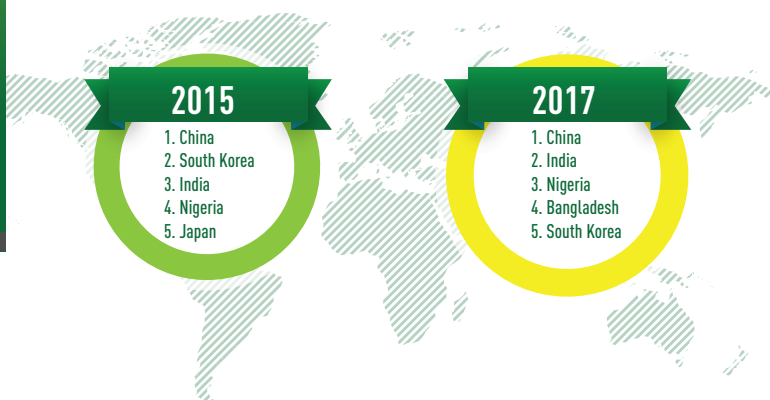
- a record number of new international undergraduate students
- a new total of 2,669 international graduate students, making up 35% of the total graduate student population

UAlberta welcomed a record number of Chinese students while increasing the worldwide diversity of its international student population.



INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT – BY CITIZENSHIP

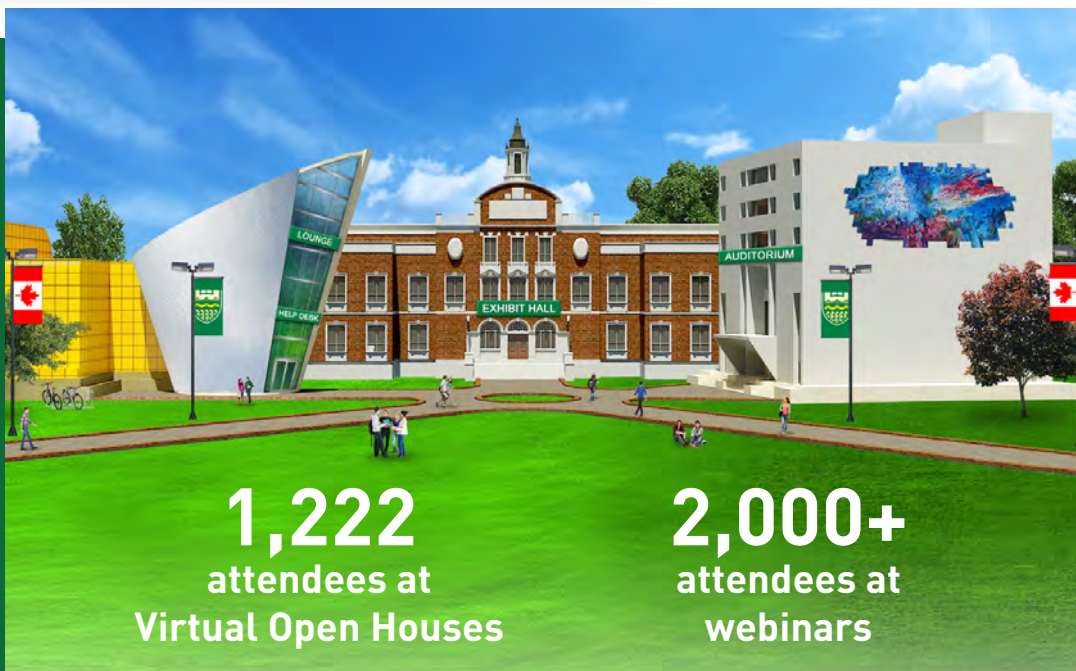
TOP 5 SOURCE COUNTRIES





The Visiting Student Certificate

Program provides short-term study options for cohorts of international university students, offering six, eight, ten or twelve months in English as a Second Language and regular academic courses, as well as a focus on Canadian cultural experiences. In 2017-18, the VSCP welcomed 95 students from 15 universities.



1,222
attendees at
Virtual Open Houses

2,000+
attendees at
webinars

UAlberta International expanded digital recruitment marketing, offering a series of Virtual Open Houses, including faculty-specific events. Over 2,000 international applicants participated in webinars preparing them for their arrival at the university, including topics such as obtaining a student visa.

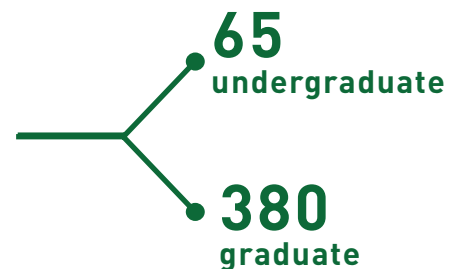
SPONSORED STUDENTS

The Sponsored Student Program, operated by UAlberta International, continued to identify and build relations with sponsoring agencies as well as deliver specialized services to sponsored students over the application period and through to graduation.

> international students who are funded by a sponsoring organization/agency to study at UAlberta



445
sponsored
students



What are UAlberta international students reporting?

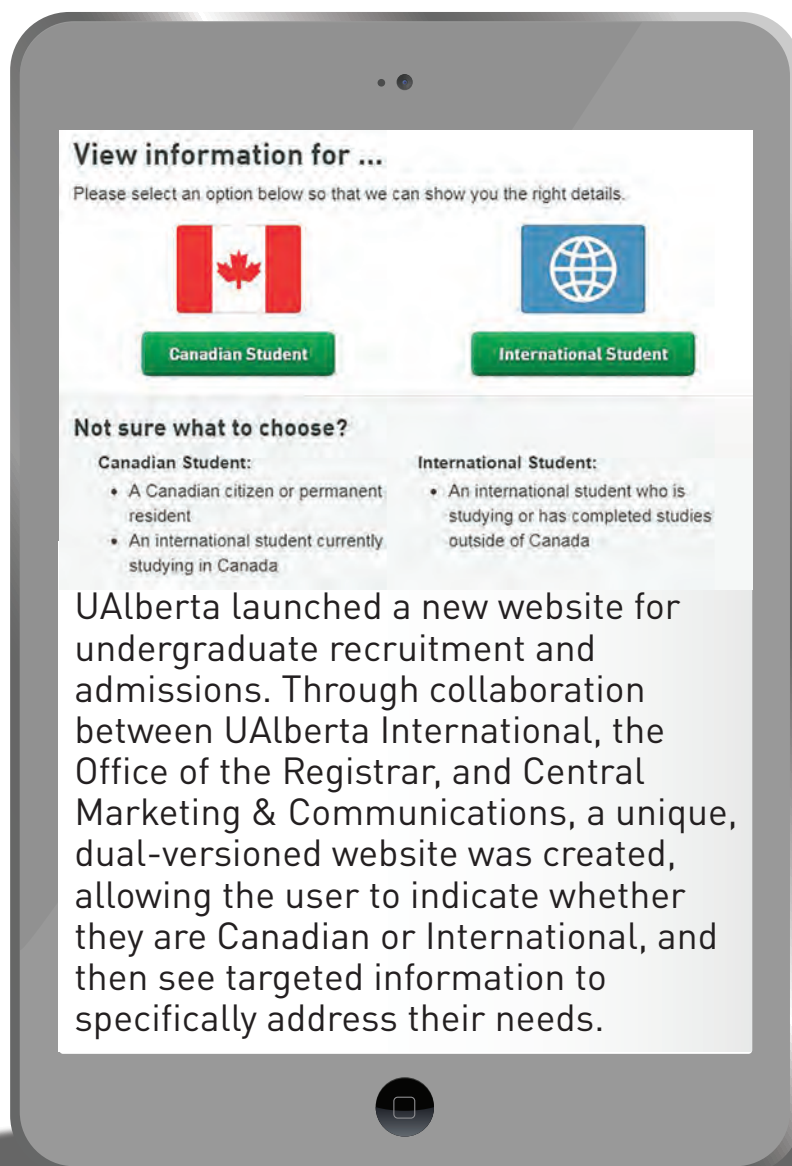
2017 Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) Survey Results

89% indicated that UAlberta websites were useful when deciding where to study – the highest rate among all U15 institutions surveyed.

UAlberta International recruiters made positive impacts on students decisions to attend. Among U15 peers, our recruiters ranked **2nd highest** for their impact on student study choices.



Through media outreach in 2017-18, UAlberta International garnered national and international media features about UAlberta in major outlets including the Globe & Mail, CBC, Maclean's, University Affairs, and Times Higher Education, as well as the local Alberta Primetime and Global.



SCHOLAR RESCUE



UAlberta receives international award in recognition of Scholar Rescue efforts by Julia Jones-Bourque

The University of Alberta was recognized in New York City in March 2018 with the prestigious Institute of International Education (IIE) Beacon Award in honour of efforts in providing a safe haven for international scholars facing threats in their home country.

IIE also presented Canada with an award for its leading role in the effort to save scholars from targeted persecution and conflict. At the event, IIE-SRF Chairman Mark A. Angelson presented the 2018 "Henry G. Jarecki Award" to Canada for the important role it has played as a safe haven country, to recognize its work rescuing scholars threatened by conflict in countries such as Yemen and Syria, or by political turmoil in Zimbabwe.

UAlberta has welcome four, and soon to be five, scholars through collaborative work with the IIE Scholar Rescue Fund. The purpose of this program is to provide a safe place for scholars who live in war zones to continue their academic careers in an environment free of political turmoil, war, and other security threats.

"The University of Alberta is honoured to receive the Beacon Award. We are proud to partner with IIE and with support from the Scholar Rescue Fund, we were able to help global scholars who suffer from the impacts of war, political oppression or discrimination," said University of Alberta President Dr. David H. Turpin. "We are strongly committed to working with universities across Canada to create new opportunities for these scholars and students to continue their personal and academic pursuits and to allow them, in safety and security, to share their ideas, scholarship, and discoveries to the benefit of all."

Britta Baron, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International), was present at the

UAlberta has welcome five, and soon to be six, scholars through collaborative work with the IIE Scholar Rescue Fund.

IIE-SRF Forum to accept the Beacon Award for UAlberta.

"It is upsetting to see the growing number of countries and regions where scholars and students are risking their lives, health and personal integrity as they are exposed to war, political unrest, societal oppression, and other threats," says Baron, who views scholar rescue as a key aspect of internationalization in higher education.

"One university can only do so much, but as a global academic community we can make a huge difference. IIE has taken the lead for decades to orchestrate many contributions from universities in many different countries.

It has been a great pleasure to work with the passionate team of experts at IIE in New York and be a part of a strong support network working to make a difference in the lives of hundreds of scholars. University of Alberta International is experienced in welcoming students and scholars from all over the world at our university. We put these skills to excellent use for the visitors who come to us to seek shelter from the dramatic circumstances in their home countries. Over time, solidarity grows into friendship.

We share the excitement of our visitors and their families with every single step that they take towards a safer, happier, more fulfilling, and healthier life."

EXPERIENCE

GOAL: Experience diverse and rewarding learning opportunities that inspire us, nurture our talents, expand our knowledge and skills, and enable our success.

We are successful when our students have the interest, competencies and opportunities to engage internationally or with diverse communities in Canada. Graduating students interested in and competent to work in intercultural contexts; mindful and knowledgeable about their role as global citizens, and confident in their skills to advance themselves socially and professionally is foundational to our service and program delivery. Advancing these goals requires strong collaboration on campus and with partners around the world.

UAlberta International works to ensure that students have opportunity to examine and enhance their global competencies, and leverage these competencies for a successful transition to the workplace and broader participation as engaged citizens. Our programs and services also focus on ensuring that international students are fully engaged in the academic and social life of the university and broader community.

In 2017-18, 16% of UAlberta students participated in an education abroad experience.

The number of students receiving credit for their abroad experience continued to increase, up nearly 10% from the previous year.

Participation in programs managed by UAlberta International increased by 17% over the previous year, with 282 student participants.

EDUCATION ABROAD



Finding myself in Berlin

By Selen Erkut

During the summer of 2017, I got the chance to discover myself in a city I'd never been to.

From the ages of 8 to 14, I lived in Turkey with my family, so going abroad wasn't something out of the ordinary for me (especially considering how many countries I was able to visit from Istanbul's global hub of an airport). Going abroad alone definitely was new, but I felt like it was time to immerse myself in a different culture again.

The opportunity came to me in the form of a giant mint green poster in our studio. "E3 CRITICAL DESIGN IN BERLIN" stood out in all-caps Helvetica, and it didn't take much more convincing to get me on board.

My flight took off from Edmonton on July 31st and sent me far, far away from the people I knew and the culture I understood. The course started two days after I landed.

Suddenly, I was immersed in Berlin.

At first, I was afraid to be living on my own for the first time, especially in a foreign city, but I soon found that I had a great support system around me. I spent three weeks learning about critical design AND critical grocery shopping.

I found my way around a foreign city with limited understanding of the language, managed to spend more than I should have, and made more friends than I expected. I also got myself into a bit of trouble on public transit, but mistakes are part of the journey.

I found myself growing as a person every day and learning new things from all of the people around me.

Berlin also helped me understand my cultural identity. Like I said, I lived in Turkey during my early teens, and it was my dad that moved us there in the first place so he could work in his home country and be closer to his family. I've never been sure if I count as Turkish, but I also know that I am not like a lot of my classmates from small towns in Alberta.

Berlin has the largest number of Turkish expats in Europe, so everywhere I went I found myself amongst people like me: people who were sort of Turkish, but not really sure if they'd call themselves



Turkish; people who spoke the same second language as me but also shared a certain disconnect from it; people who fell somewhere ambiguous.

I felt a deep appreciation for the bond that culture can create between people every time I bonded with random strangers.

Returning home was probably the hardest part of my trip abroad. I got used to grabbing groceries every day on my way home from the U-Bahn station and working late into the night in someone else's tiny dorm room.

Berlin was different enough from Edmonton that I could get away for a bit, but similar enough that I could still get donairs on a night out. It perfectly fused my Canadian and Turkish halves as well. I got to learn how to be a better adult, designer, and global citizen within the short span of 3 weeks.

I'd do it again in a heartbeat.



EXT 300 is a 3-credit online course that UAlberta students can take during their education abroad experience to explore intercultural communication, in order to enhance their intercultural learning. In 2017-18, UAlberta International delivered the course to 74 students.



UAlberta International collaborated with the UAlberta Career Centre to offer programming to enhance international student graduate employment outcomes. The I-Work! series of seven workshops welcomed 238 student participants, followed by the I-Work! Conference, which saw 116 student participants – 86 graduate students and 92 undergraduates.



In 2017-18, UAlberta International staff offered 32 workshops to UAlberta staff and students, with focus on enhancing intercultural communication and skills. Workshops reached 1,350 participants.



Canada Learning Initiative in China

CLIC

Canada Liaisons Internationales Chine

UAlberta International led the Canadian side of the Canada Learning Initiative in China (CLIC), which connects Canadian students at nine U15 universities to immersive, high quality, for-credit education abroad opportunities in China. In 2017-18, 227 students across Canada participated in CLIC, including 61 UAlberta students.



e3 french alps

UAlberta International launched the fourth e3 program for education abroad, this time in Grenoble, France – home of the French Alps. This is the first e3 to offer multiple levels of French language instruction that is reflective of the diverse levels of proficiency in our student population.

International House, a joint project between UAI and Residence Services, is home to 154 student residents (40% Canadian). UAlberta International develops and delivers programs focused on intercultural and global leadership competencies, as well as trains and mentors the student leadership team. In 2017-18, International House residents engaged in 147 events with a total attendance of 2,577.



162
graduates since
2013 launch

290
total enrollments
as of Spring 2018

Established in 2013, the Certificate in International Learning (CIL) provides an opportunity for all undergraduates to gain recognition for their international learning and enhance their intercultural competencies. The CIL is an embedded certificate granted by the Faculty of Arts. UAlberta International, in collaboration with the CIL Academic Advisor, is responsible for all the promotion and administration of the program. 51 UAlberta students received the CIL at the Spring 2017 and Fall 2017 convocation ceremonies.

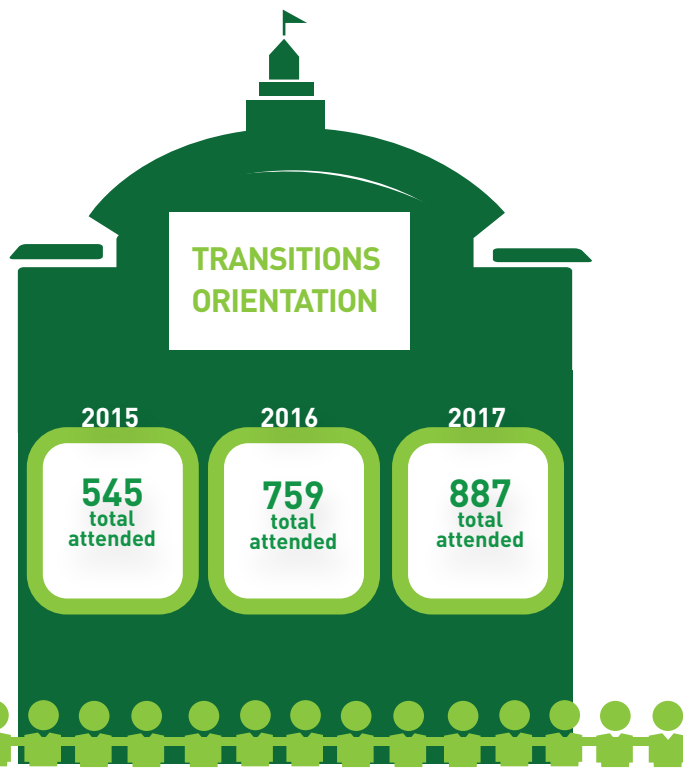


UAlberta International organized the "Welcoming Newcomers Project: Supporting Students Affected by Conflict" volunteer program, which supports the President's Award for Refugees and Displaced Persons by matching current UAlberta students, staff, and faculty with new refugee students. In 2017-18, 21 volunteers were recruited to support 5 students.

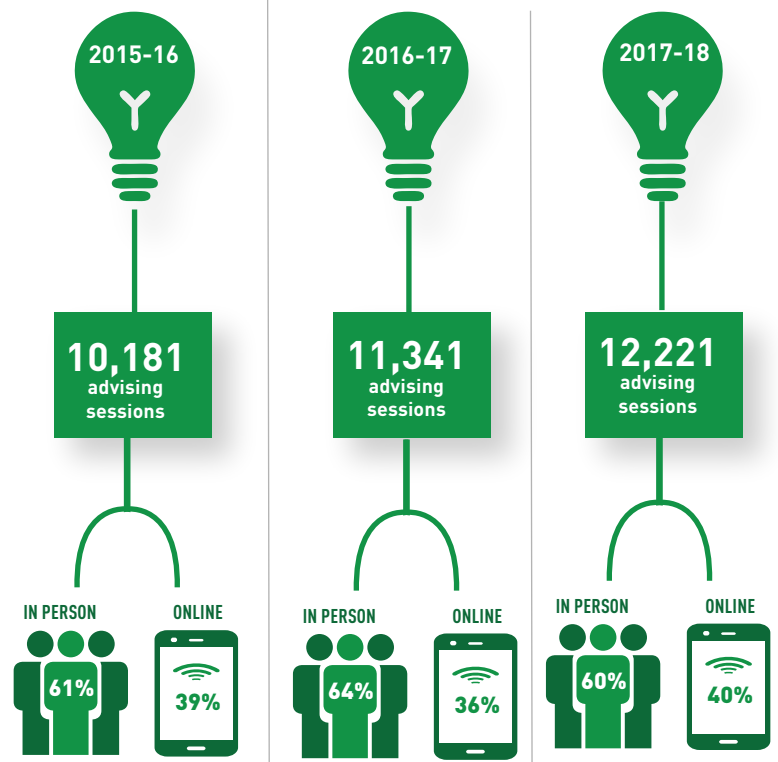
 **947**
UAlberta students visited the
Airport Welcome Booth



**CAMPUS
CHECK-IN**
1,059
new international
students served



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING



In an expansion of the UAlberta-run Airport Welcome Booth of previous years, Edmonton post-secondary students collaborated to host one, Edmonton-wide Airport Welcome Booth to greet all new international post-secondary students upon their arrival at the Edmonton International Airport.

UAlberta International's Campus Check-In Service for new international students served 53% all newly admitted international students in one to one peer conversation to cover settlement needs of newly arrived international students, including information on housing, health care, and other local resources.

UAlberta International continued to provide in-person and online advising to undergraduate and graduate international students, with a staff of experts that includes two certified Regulated Canadian Immigration Consultants (RCIC) and two Regulated International Student Immigration Advisors (RISIA).

The U of A Plus Program, which provides new international undergraduate students with an introduction to academic skills in the Canadian university environment, welcomed 91 participants - an increase of 32 over the previous year.

Airport booth a welcome sight for new international students

By Isabela Varela

Near the baggage carousels in the Edmonton International Airport's arrivals area is a bright, colourful booth emblazoned with the words "Welcome to your campus." Young volunteers wearing T-shirts with the same message stand at the ready, eager to greet new students arriving from all over the world to pursue a post-secondary education in Edmonton.

An initiative started by University of Alberta International in 1997, this is the first year that all of Edmonton's post-secondary institutions—MacEwan University, NAIT, NorQuest College, Concordia University of Edmonton, and King's University—have joined forces with UAlberta to welcome international students when they touch down at the airport.

Informing without Overwhelming

"For many international students this could be their first time in Canada, and for many it could be their first time travelling abroad," says welcome booth volunteer and recent UAlberta graduate Vita Wong. "I see this as an opportunity to improve the comfort level for students. If we give them as much information as we can early on, then we can get them comfortable."

To ensure they don't cross the line from helping incoming students to overloading them with information, volunteers focus on students' immediate needs—namely, where to find washrooms nearby, where to catch the Sky Shuttle bus that will take them from the airport to their respective campuses or residences for free (courtesy of the participating institutions), and where to find food when they get to their destinations.

For students with pressing questions about academic matters, the welcome booth also has pamphlets from all six schools detailing the services they offer to international students year-round.

It is estimated that over 1,000 incoming students will pass through the booth between Aug. 6 and Sept. 5. Most are UAlberta students, like Arian Velayati. Arriving from Iran via Amsterdam, where he had an eight-hour layover, Velayati is jet-lagged and relieved to be getting instructions from welcome booth volunteers on where and when to catch the Skyshuttle.



You feel like you're going to be okay.

The 27-year-old engineer will be pursuing a PhD in UAlberta's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering with a major in petroleum engineering. This is his first time in Canada, and he admits to feeling some anxiety as the date of his move approached.

Regular communication from the university and his department helped put him at ease. "Almost on a daily basis, I receive emails about where to go, who to talk to, and this is very good," he says. The welcome booth was a great bonus. "When you have this kind of protection, you feel better. You feel like you're going to be okay. It gives you a warm feeling."

The airport booth is one of three welcome services for new international students offered by University of Alberta International.

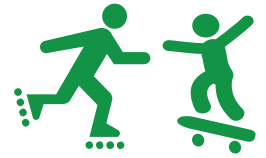
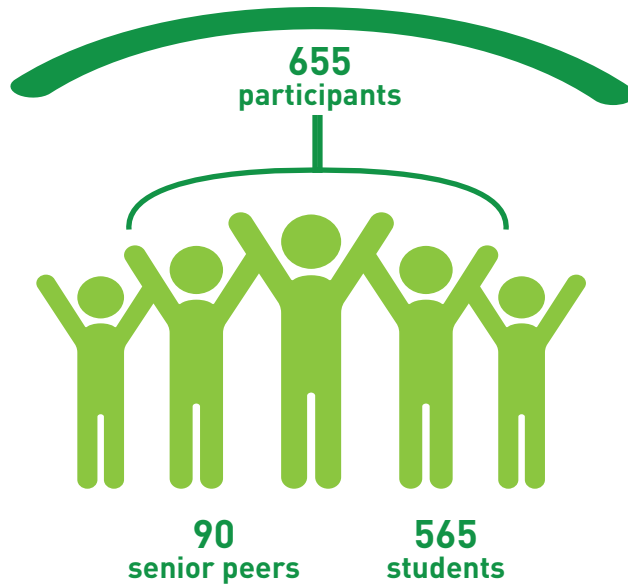
"Our international students often come from very far away," says Britta Baron, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (International) at UAlberta. "They are young, and they are embarking on a time full of promise and hope but also full of challenge and anxiety. We reach out to them as best we can to make them feel welcome and help them build a sense of comfort and safety here at the U of A and in Edmonton. The airport welcome is such a great initiative to show how we value the presence of international students here and how we want to set them up for success right from the get-go. Many other initiatives are on offer by the university at the central level, by faculties, student groups, and even by the City and community groups."

PEER PROGRAM

2017-2018

The Peer Program, operated by UAlberta International, matched 565 new international students (an increase of 60 over last year) with 90 senior peers who offered friendly advice and a personal connection.

Share the Cheer, which matches volunteer campus hosts with international students to share a holiday meal over the winter break, saw an increase of 30 host participants and 30 student participants over the previous year.



26 peer events

100% of participants reported that they made at least one new friend!



SHARE THE CHEER



91

+

200

hosts from the Senate, alumni, staff, faculty, & graduate students

international students



were connected to share a holiday meal over the 2017 Winter break



86% of UAlberta respondents of the 2017 Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE) international student survey are satisfied with the services and assistance from an International Student Advisor. This is 3 percentage points above the survey average and 3 percentage points above the U15 average.

EXCEL

GOAL: Excel as individuals, and together, sustain a culture that fosters and champions distinction and distinctiveness in teaching, learning, research, and service.

As one of the world's top 100 universities, UAlberta has built a strong reputation for excellence in teaching and learning, known for innovation across a wide range of disciplines as well as within the academic experience. In supporting the university's high standards of excellence, UAlberta International has sought out and developed programming and opportunities that will cultivate and enhance innovative approaches to internationalization.

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS



TOP AGREEMENT TYPES

1. General Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
2. Student exchange
3. Sponsored student

TOP COUNTRIES

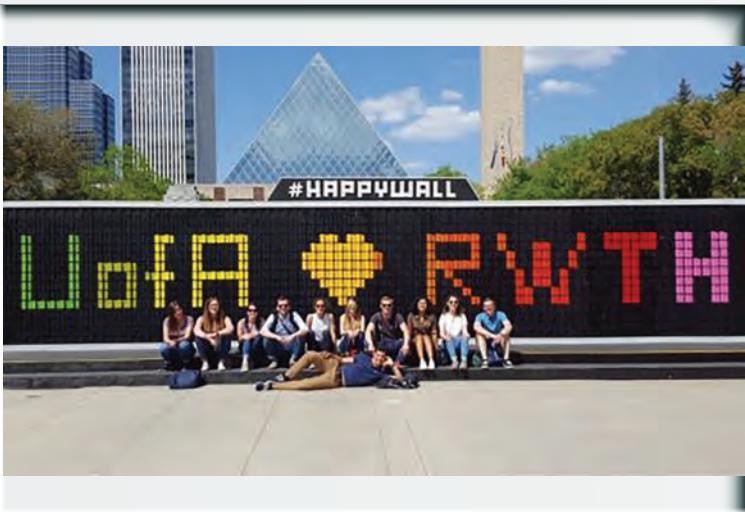
-  1. China
-  2. Japan
-  3. Germany

» UAlberta International played a leadership role in facilitating the establishment of a Joint Research Institute of Advanced Science and Technology with East China Normal University (ECNU), with funding from the Shanghai municipal and local district governments.

» A joint research workshop involving stakeholders at UAlberta in June 2017, following with a trip by the VP Research to ECNU in December 2017.

» UAlberta International furthered the relationship with Mexican Ministry of Energy (SENER) which, earlier in 2017, awarded approximately \$15 million to three joint hydrocarbons projects on which UAlberta was a lead.

» In collaboration with VP Research office, UAlberta International worked to develop a strategic partnership with RWTH Aachen, including hosting visits and planning for a research workshop.



UAlberta International offers faculties and departments support to coordinate and implement customized short term programs for targeted cohorts of international visitors.

In 2017-2018, three opportunities to collaborate were explored, with one artificial intelligence program running in July 2018 with contributions from the Department of Computing Science, and the potential to offer two more with the Faculties of Law and Science in 2019. In addition to faculty collaborations, UAlberta International offers a 3-week international summer program in July each year.



The GALD program, administered by UAlberta International, welcomed its 12th cohort of international senior administrators to campus in March 2018. In 2017-2018, 130 GALD participants attended more than 200 sessions, presented by more than 150 UAlberta faculty and staff.



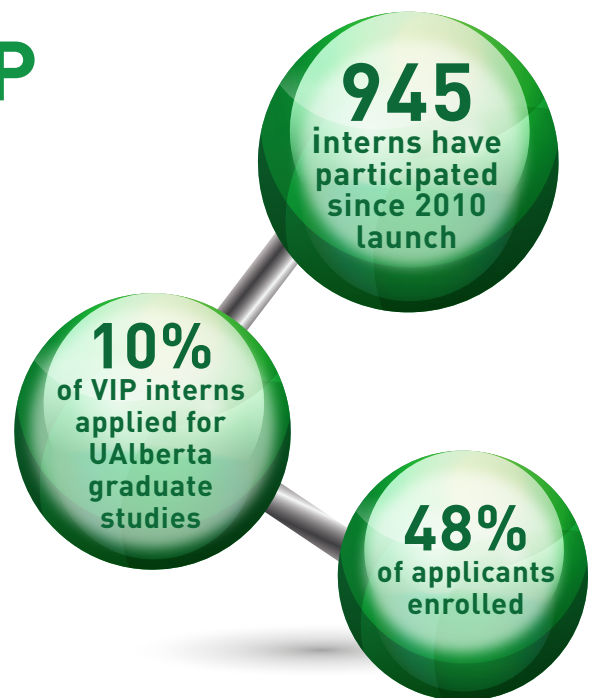
In September 2017, UAlberta International launched and delivered the first session of the professional short course "Mastering Diplomacy and Protocol," taught by protocol experts from Washington, D.C. Over 60 participants representing organizations from across the country attended the three-day course, which was held on UAlberta's North Campus.



UAlberta International played a leadership role in facilitating development of the UAlberta-Tsinghua University Joint Research Centre for Future Energy and Environment, established through an agreement signed in April 2017 during the Premier's mission to China.

A joint workshop involving stakeholders was held in October 2017.

VISITING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (VIP)



In addition to developing co-funded research internships, UAlberta International works with external partners to secure additional resources and provide a complete social and cultural program open to all visiting research students.

The UAlberta Research Experience (UARE) program has continued to connect top international undergraduate research interns with UAlberta faculty researchers for a 3-4 month internship experience. In 2017-18, 147 students completed internships, co-funded with UAlberta researchers.

Chinese partnerships bolster energy and environment research, economic diversification

by Bryan Alary

The University of Alberta is teaming up with research partners in China to develop low-carbon, sustainable energy solutions while tackling global environmental challenges.

Officials from the U of A and Tsinghua University were in Beijing on April 20 to sign an agreement to create the Joint Research Centre for Future Energy and Environment. It was one of several key agreements the U of A signed with Chinese partners as part of a wider Government of Alberta trade mission, led by Premier Rachel Notley, to strengthen ties with the province's second-largest trading partner.

"Strengthening these collaborations will open even more avenues of discovery and lead to new ideas, technologies and innovations that will benefit both countries and the world," Turpin added.

Larry Kostiuik, the U of A's associate vice-president of research, said the Joint Research Centre for Future Energy and Environment is the latest evolution in more than two decades of collaborations between the U of A and Tsinghua University—arguably China's best research institution and among the top in the world. In 2012, the U of A and Tsinghua created the Sino-Canadian Energy and Environment Research and Education Initiative, which has led to more than 30 partnerships in clean energy, environment, water, energy transport and policy.

Kostiuik said the new centre elevates relations with Tsinghua to a "completely new level." Researchers will collaborate on a range of problems related to energy, environment and climate change, renewable energy, advanced power systems, energy transport and more.

"This is a rare opportunity for a Canadian university to partner with Tsinghua University in such a significant way," said Kostiuik, who was in China for the signing. "We come from different places and backgrounds, but we're going to come together and leverage our different perspectives to solve common problems."

The centre will be based at Tsinghua in a state-of-the-art research facility. Once operational, the centre will be able to apply for grant funding through the Chinese Ministry of Education, which is establishing strategic international research centres across the country. This centre would be the only one created in partnership with a Canadian university.

Kostiuik will serve as the new centre's deputy director while retaining his position as director of U of A's Future

Energy Systems initiative, which brings together researchers across disciplines to improve and develop new low-carbon energy technologies, integrate them into today's infrastructure and understand the social and economic impacts of their adoption.

Kostiuik said the U of A-Tsinghua centre will be even broader in scope than Future Energy Systems, addressing environment and water issues not necessarily tied to energy.

"Tsinghua University is a world leader in clean, low-carbon and renewable energy research and technologies. We all look forward to getting to work with incredibly bright people on both sides."

Partnerships boost economic diversification, training

In addition to the joint research centre, the Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine signed a memorandum of understanding with Guanghua International Education Association to develop training for health professionals that will help China enhance and expand rehabilitation capacity.

TEC Edmonton signed an agreement with Tsinghua University's research innovation incubator, TusPark/TusStar, on a new joint incubator. TusPark/TusStar operates the largest university science park in the world, and the new partnership would expand its global reach, creating economic opportunities for Edmonton and Alberta.

"I am extremely proud to support the University of Alberta and TEC Edmonton in forming relationships with such innovative partners in China," said Premier Notley. "We look forward to seeing this partnership thrive, and to watching Alberta's expertise across a variety of areas, not only create opportunities for Albertans, but make a difference around the world."

ENGAGE

GOAL: Engage communities across our campuses, city and region, province, nation and the world to create reciprocal, mutually beneficial learning experiences, research projects, partnerships, and collaborations.

As UAlberta reaches out to the world, we create new opportunities for future pursuits in academia, career-building, and research. Fostering a campus culture that supports diversity and global citizenship creates pathways for students and researchers to connect with one another, both locally and across borders, to support global perspectives and innovative approaches. In 2017-18, UAlberta International continued to facilitate opportunities to cultivate unique and beneficial collaborations and experiences, both on campus and abroad.

INTERNATIONAL WEEK

2018 | *How the arts contribute to social and environmental justice*

WEEK



33rd
I-Week held
since 1986
launch

60+
workshops,
seminars, events
focused on global
issues

4,468
attendees from
campus & local
communities

International Week, UAlberta's largest annual extracurricular educational event, saw another successful year with a focus on how the arts can contribute to social and environmental justice.

International Week 2018 welcomed renowned "Artist" Daniel Arzola, eco-comedian Kristina Wong, documentarian Shalini Kantayya, and Tipi Confessions as featured keynotes, as well as the Alberta Council for Global Cooperation's 2018 Top 30 Under 30 celebration.



Arzola visit creates lasting ripples

By Tim Querengesser

It is February and Daniel Arzola, a renowned Venezuelan LGBTQ artist whose name is pronounced “Danielle,” is delivering his keynote speech at the University of Alberta. Basel Abou Hamrah, a member of an LGBTQ group for refugees in Edmonton, stands nearby with many others from his organization. What he hears Arzola say echoes his own life. “He inspired me and he inspired the group members, how he stands for LGBTQ rights in his country, and lots of us, we saw him as a mirror of ourselves,” Hamrah says.

Arzola’s story and his ‘I Am Not a Joke’ project connects powerfully with displaced LGBTQ peoples, especially those who have fled their home countries to escape persecution, as he did, only to find elements of it remain. This connection is why Arzola’s visit to Edmonton for International Week 2018, during which he visited elementary and junior high schools as well as conducted a workshop and gave a keynote address at the University of Alberta, has affected so many to this day.

Arzola’s own tale is of moving and, only later, of connecting. He grew up, in his own definition, queer in Venezuela, a country where he says those from the LGBTQ community are treated as punchlines or as objects of hate. The oppression intensified to the point that guns were pointed at his head on several occasions. So, at 24, after enduring years of such targeted aggression, Arzola fled to Chile, where he is today able to live and work.

He connects with people most viscerally through his art, which he describes as ‘artivism’ — a nonviolent action to assert his rights and create transformation. “It is taking an idea and adding it to the power of art,” Arzola says, from his home in Chile. “Art has the ability to transcend, however it is fragile — a single match can destroy the Mona Lisa, but it cannot destroy the idea of the Mona Lisa, because it exists in our mind. So, what if you create art in a format that cannot be destroyed and you add a social message?”

Arzola’s main artivism project, ‘I Am Not a Joke’, is a series of 50 posters that are blunt, colourful and raw. Each state the problem as Arzola sees it — “Respect is not a Crime/ It’s a Right” or “Nobody has the right to hurt you for being different” — and then hammers it



Nobody has the right to hurt you for being different.

home with a consistent message: “I Am Not a Joke.” The posters have been distributed worldwide and translated into 20 languages. They won Arzola the 2016 Human Rights Award of the International Queer and Migrant Film Festival in Amsterdam.

University of Alberta graduate Thomas Trombetta says as soon as he came out to friends and family he also came across Arzola’s work, and says he felt so moved by it that he eventually had it tattooed on his arm. The reverence only grew from there.

Back in 2016, as he worked with the Augustana Queers and Allies group to organize that year’s Pride Week events, he reached out to Arzola on a lark. “We wanted to bring activism through art and I figured there’s nobody better than Daniel, so I contacted him and told him what our plans were.” Trombetta doubted Arzola would even respond, but surprisingly, Arzola wrote back, and even better, wanted to participate.

From there came the first exhibit of Arzola’s work in Canada and an ongoing friendship between the two. But as they talked over WhatsApp, Trombetta slowly learned Arzola dreamed of visiting Canada. He approached the Global Education Program and together they realized Arzola was an ideal fit for 2018 International Week, as there was an open slot for a keynote speaker.

“It aligned perfectly. I don’t think I was instrumental – his work speaks for itself – but I proposed the idea and a group of people made it happen,” Trombetta says. And as he watched the events he says he saw queer and trans people of colour affected by Arzola’s art.

Read more at www.uab.ca/arzola

VISITING LECTURESHIP IN HUMAN RIGHTS

Leilani Farha, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Housing, delivered the Visiting Lectureship in Human Rights. 2018 marks the 20th year of this annual event which was inaugurated by Desmond Tutu in 1998.



WORLD'S CHALLENGE CHALLENGE

UAlberta International organized the UAlberta rounds of the World's Challenge Challenge (WCC) competition, which invites student teams of three to present their innovative solution to a major global issue.

23 teams entered the UAlberta competition, with nine teams competing in the UAlberta final round during International Week 2018. The winners then went on to an international competition hosted by Western University in London, Ontario.



HUMBOLDT FOUNDATION
LIAISON OFFICE IN CANADA

Serving as the Humboldt Foundation Liaison Office of Canada, UAlberta gave presentations at 7 universities across Canada to promote fellowship opportunities offered by the prestigious Humboldt Foundation of Germany.



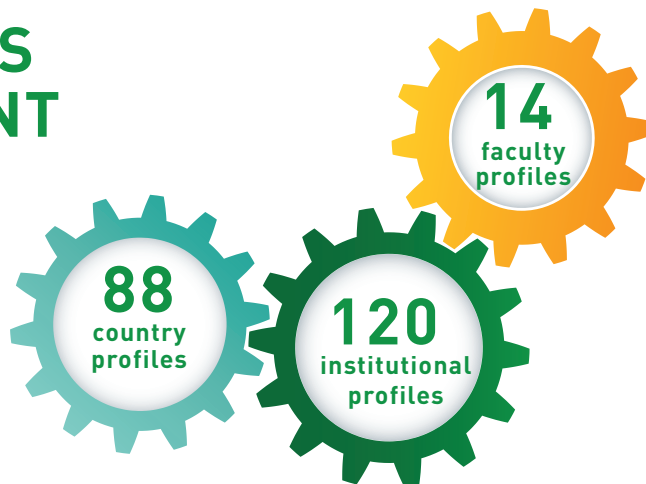
In Summer 2017, UAlberta co-hosted the Association of Public & Land-grant Universities (APLU) Commission on International Initiatives annual summer meeting jointly with the University of Calgary, bringing together representatives from more than 80 public research universities in North America to discuss vision and develop strategies for "Cross-Border Collaborations: Public Universities Addressing and Solving Global Challenges" in Kananaskis, Alberta. Coordination efforts on the UAlberta side were delivered by UAlberta International.



UAlberta International coordinated a presence for UAlberta at the 2017 Global Petroleum Show in Calgary, Alberta. Events included a discussion panel on "Dynamics of Energy Governance in North America to Address Global Challenges & Advance Economic Opportunities," followed by a mixer that allowed the chance for attendees to meet one another and explore opportunities for cross-sector collaboration with local and international players from the public and private sectors.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

UAlberta International continued to improve international activities data management by expanding and developing profiles for relations activities by region. This documentation of the university's international activities helps to facilitate strategy development and implementation of key institutional partnerships, including for research collaboration.



In 2017-18, UAlberta International provided coordination efforts to the following outgoing international missions undertaken by senior administrators:

In April 2017, Mr. Douglas Stollery, Chancellor, visited China and participated in a China-Alberta Energy and Climate Change roundtable, also attended by Premier Rachel Notley.

In May 2017, President David Turpin visited New York City, USA to participate in the Worldwide Universities' Network annual meeting, meet with alumni and key institutions, and take part in a public event hosted by the Canadian Consulate.

In December 2017, Dr. Walter Dixon, Interim Vice-President (Research) visited China to continue discussions with East China Normal University regarding the ECNU-UAlberta Joint Institute of Advanced Science and Technology.

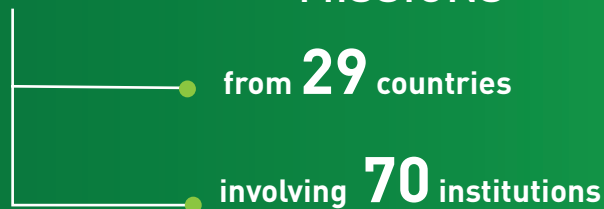
In December 2017, Dr. Stan Blade, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences, visited Mexico to meet with various partners and organizations to pursue relationship building and relationship opportunities.

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS & VISITS



70
INCOMING
VISITS

15
OUTGOING
MISSIONS



SUSTAIN

GOAL: Sustain our people, our work, and the environment by attracting and stewarding the resources we need to deliver excellence to the benefit of all Albertans.

In order to build and keep momentum for international engagement in the university community, UAlberta International worked to identify, attract, and nurture opportunities with regards to securing external funding, capacity-building, and other opportunities that enable the university to profile its expertise to a global audience. In 2017-18, continued work with partners led to the creation of new research projects with major funding impact, as well as deepening research connections to international facilities and joint activities. Funding applications and awards also created new opportunities for study abroad. In completing an external evaluation on our service delivery, programming, and organizational structure, UAlberta International remained dedicated to providing top quality support for the university's internationalization efforts.



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA INTERNATIONAL

UAlberta International participated in UAlberta's Quality Assurance Program by undergoing an External Review in July 2017.

Six external reviewers from the USA, China, Germany and Canada, along with two internal reviewers from UAlberta assessed UAlberta International's performance and institutional alignment.

Reviewers commented that UAI presents an outstanding breadth of initiatives, and has been strategic in capitalizing on new opportunities in internationalization. In addition, reviewers commended the high calibre of programs and staff; found UAI to be well-developed, sophisticated, and successful with regards to international student recruitment; and noted that UAI is highly respected by peer institutions as an example of best practice and a leader in the field

The summary report will be available on the UAlberta Quality Assurance homepage.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

In 2017-18, UAlberta International generated 25% of its operating revenue from external sources.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The UGo Travel Registry, administered by UAlberta International, records UAlberta staff, students, and faculty abroad in order to support outreach and assistance in the event of an international crisis or emergency. In 2017-18, 1,226 faculty, staff, and students registered in UGo.



UAlberta International worked to connect international funding opportunities with the university in ways that serve UAlberta's goals and focus areas.

Examples include:

- The UAlberta-Tsinghua Joint Research Centre, with \$600,000 in shared contributions.
- Work with the Mexican government to secure \$15 million in support for three hydrocarbon projects involving UAlberta.

The Global Academic Leadership Program (GALD), which trains future Chinese university leaders, has now trained over 700 alumni from more than 200 universities. The resulting relationships built with these universities have contributed to several faculty-run partner training programs and additional partnership activities.

QUEEN ELIZABETH *Scholars*

In 2017-18, UAlberta secured \$300,000 from the Queen Elizabeth Scholars Program (QES) to support UAlberta students undertaking internships abroad.

Universities Canada received 41 applications for funding and awarded funding for 20 projects.

This is the fourth QES competition - UAlberta has been successful in all four competitions.



The Canada Learning Initiative in China (CLIC), which connects Canadian students with fully-funded opportunities to study in China, provides sustainable external funding for education abroad activities. CLIC has provided funded opportunities to 100 UAlberta students since the program launch.

UAlberta International is offering its support to building international activities across all of UAlberta's campuses.

CONNECT WITH US



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