

Global Programs and Strategy Alliance

ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024





Driving a Global University

The Global Programs and Strategy (GPS) Alliance provides international education leadership to the Twin Cities campus and all the system campuses. As a 21st century research university, the University of Minnesota has global reach, and its world-class reputation is grounded in its global engagement.

The University of Minnesota demonstrates its status as a global university in multiple ways. It does so in terms of its core pillars of research, teaching and service; in terms of the community of faculty, students, and administrators it serves; in terms of its commitment to preparing students to be globally competent; and in terms of the grand global questions it relentlessly seeks to answer.

In all of these ways, the GPS Alliance works to help the University meet its global commitments. The GPS Alliance is a pioneer in the field of international education, with a decades-long history of pursuing comprehensive internationalization. The entire University benefits from this extensive and diverse infrastructure that enables the University of Minnesota to provide global leadership.

GPS Alliance Units

Led by the Vice Provost for International Affairs, the GPS Alliance includes a variety of units and initiatives that facilitate the University's global learning, teaching, research, and engagement.

CARLA: Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition

China Center and UMN China Office in Beijing

ICGC: Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change

IHSC: International Health, Safety, and Compliance

ISSS: International Student and Scholar Services

LAC: Learning Abroad Center

OCI: Office of Curriculum Internationalization

UMN Passport Office

Letter from the Vice Provost



Dear Friends,

In the summer of 2023, I began my tenure at the University of Minnesota as Vice Provost for International Affairs. I was pleased to inherit a comprehensive and impressive infrastructure for international education, although it was not surprising. Having served for decades as an international educator at various institutions around the United States, I was well acquainted with the University of Minnesota's iconic reputation in internationalization.

Notwithstanding, I regularly encountered surprises, be it in terms of the degree of support we provide faculty to internationalize the curriculum, or the extensive programming we provide to support international students, or even the level to which our faculty care about internationalization. I often said to myself that Meredith McQuaid, my predecessor, seemed to have thought of everything in her 12 years of leadership of the office.

That we are able to report on an incredibly successful year among the various units of the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance is therefore no accident. Highly competent and deeply committed, the staff provide excellent leadership in the various aspects of international education we pursue and help us to maintain our status as a compelling model to the rest of U.S. higher education of the transformative impact of internationalization on a university campus. The accomplishments described on the following pages are only a snapshot of what occurred last year.

As we prepare in the coming months to launch a strategic planning process focused on internationalization, it is my hope to articulate a more expansive vision for internationalization at the University and achieve even deeper engagement with all of the schools, colleges, and campuses. And, as we implement this vision, my deepest desire is to see us emerge as the most impressive example of what a *public* and *global* research university can become when it embraces comprehensive internationalization.

As you read these pages, I welcome feedback on our work. More importantly, however, I invite you to reach out and connect with us. We are here to help you advance internationalization in your respective spheres of influence.

Sincerely,

Harvey Charles, Ph.D.
Vice Provost for International Affairs

Supporting International Students

When international students choose to study at the University, they bring their unique perspectives and experiences to the classroom and campus. Many serve as graduate assistants, helping meet critical teaching and research needs. International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) is dedicated to serving the University’s international community, offering a comprehensive range of support, from orientation to graduation and beyond.



5,124

Total International Students
Fall 2023



140+

Home Countries
Fall 2023



9.5%

Share of All Students
Fall 2023

328

Sponsored and Exchange
Students

56

Fulbright Students

1,104

Graduates on OPT/AT
Training Programs



ISSS’s New Student Transition Team collaborated with 50+ campus partners to offer *31 welcome sessions and engagement events*, attended collectively by *2,740 new international students* in fall 2023.

Top 10

Home Locations

- China
- India
- South Korea
- Taiwan
- Vietnam
- Brazil
- Canada
- Iran
- Malaysia
- Saudi Arabia

25 Years of Leadership Development

ISSS celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Culture Corps leadership development program in November 2023. The Culture Corps program helps international students share their global perspectives with the campus. Students receive funding for projects that enrich cross-cultural understanding, whether it’s offering linguistic and cultural support in the language classroom, creating opportunities for international and domestic students to connect, or helping new international students adjust to campus life.

Since the program began in 1998, over \$1.7 million in funding has been awarded to support more than 2,600 students.

Curriculum Internationalization

An internationalized curriculum ensures all students are exposed to international, intercultural, and global learning experiences that prepare them to address complex local and global challenges in a multiracial, multilingual, and multicultural world. The Office of Curriculum Internationalization offers multiple pathways and offerings to assist faculty, staff, and departments in internationalizing teaching and learning.

Workshops	Offerings	Participants
Teaching in Globally Diverse Classes	14	274
Conversations Centering International and Multilingual Students ¹	14	178
Campus Community Focus: Addressing Xenophobia and Minoritization ²	1	132

Cohort Programs	Offerings	Participants
Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL)	3	28
Internationalizing Teaching and Learning	1	9
Fostering International and Multilingual Student Success	1	14

¹Partnership with Minnesota English Language Program (MELP)

²Partnership with ISSS, Office for Equity and Diversity, MELP

Certificate Program

2023-2024

The Teaching in Globally Diverse Classes (TiGDC) program develops and deepens knowledge, confidence, and skills to effectively engage all students and fully realize the learning potential of our globally diverse classrooms.

In 2023-24, *167 faculty and instructors were enrolled in the certificate program*—a 229% growth since 2022.

Starting in Fall 2024, participants will earn a UMN micro-credential in the form of a digital badge for completing the program requirements.



Internationalizing the Curriculum and Campus (ICC) Conference

After a four-year hiatus due to the pandemic, the 2024 ICC Conference returned on March 22. More than *200 faculty, staff, and students from all five system campuses* gathered at the conference to share and learn about the work driving global learning forward at the University. The conference included *23 presentations and 12 posters* over the course of the day with topics ranging from a workshop addressing xenophobia to a presentation on how language courses are utilizing TikTok.

Study, Intern, and Research Abroad

Learning abroad exposes students to a diverse range of people, cultures, ideas, and viewpoints, and helps them develop skills and knowledge to address the world's toughest challenges and compete in the global workforce. The Learning Abroad Center is the University's comprehensive resource for study, intern, community engagement, and research experiences worldwide, offering a full range of advising and support.



2,421
Total UMTC
Students Abroad*
2023-24



2,000+
Study Abroad Courses Approved
for UMTC Liberal Education
Requirements



180
Programs Offered
in 50 Countries



Alumni reminisce at the Minnesota Studies in International Development (MSID) reunion in June.

Top 10

Destinations

- Spain
- United Kingdom
- Italy
- France
- South Korea
- Germany
- Sweden
- Denmark
- Ireland
- Greece

Promoting mental health during study abroad

Laura Dupont-Jarrett, Ph.D., L.P., is a licensed psychologist and assistant director for education abroad mental health. UMN may be the only institution with a position like Dupont-Jarrett's, the result of a partnership between the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance, Learning Abroad Center, Carlson Global Institute, and Office for Student Affairs. She offers training and creates resources for staff and faculty who are leading education abroad programs to help them understand what mental health looks like for students today, how they can proactively support student wellness, and what to do if a student is distressed and in need of professional help.

*includes students on Learning Abroad Center and Carlson Global Institute programs

Additional Support for Global Learning

In addition to curriculum internationalization and student mobility, the GPS Alliance provides support for global learning in a variety of ways—from innovative programs that bring together U.S. and international students, to funding that helps develop the next generation of leaders.

Cross-cultural teams propose climate change solutions

The China Center’s China Bridge Challenge case competition invites student teams to explore the intricate complexities encountered by the U.S. and China and find solutions through innovative collaborations.

In 2024, *a total of 31 students on seven teams competed*—each team including at least one student from Greater China and one student from the U.S. Three teams presented in the final round. Their ideas addressed the theme of “Strategies for an Evolving U.S.-China Relationship: Resiliency in the Face of Climate Change” and included: an online course bringing together students in the U.S. and China around climate change topics, a sustainability volunteer program for students while studying abroad, and a plan to develop China’s seed certification program and reduce agricultural tariffs.



\$80,644

CARLA Graduate Assistantships
8 awards

\$19,200

China Center Scholarship
15 awards

\$499,200

Learning Abroad Center Scholarships
234 awards

Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change

2023–24

ICGC provides financial and academic support for graduate students who are committed to the interdisciplinary study of the Global South in the context of global change.

67

ICGC Scholars
from 25 departments and 20+ countries

\$436,000

Financial Support to Students
fellowships, assistantships, and travel grants

19

Master of Development Practice Students
68% are international

Hosting International Scholars

Every year, the University of Minnesota welcomes a wide range of international scholars, who come to the University to conduct research, teach a course, receive training, and more.



1,236

Total International Scholars
7/1/23-6/30/24



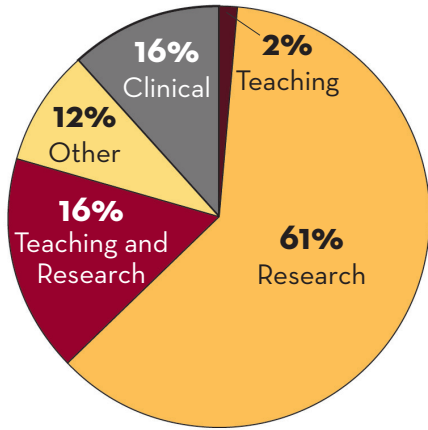
140+

Home Countries
2023-24



20-25

Permanent Residence Applications
for Tenure-Track Faculty Annually



Scholars by Purpose
7/1/23-6/30/24

Top 5

Countries

- India
- China
- Brazil (tie)
- South Korea (tie)
- Pakistan
- Germany

Fields

- Biological/Biomedical Sciences
- Engineering
- Health Sciences
- Physical Sciences
- Agriculture

Did you know?

About 50% of post-docs are international.



Visiting Scholars Initiative

The China Center awarded the 2024 Sping Lin and Ying-Ngoh T. Lin Visiting Scholars fellowship to Dr. Juanjuan Wu, a professor of retail merchandising in the College of Design. With the \$7,500 award, Dr. Wu will sponsor a professor from Shanghai University of Engineering Sciences for collaborative research in Chinese fashion.

The Visiting Scholars Initiative increases opportunities for University of Minnesota faculty and staff to host visiting scholars who will foster and grow connections with China.

Support for International Research

International Travel Grants for faculty and P&A staff support the internationalization of the University on all campuses.



101

Travel Grant Recipients
2023-24



5

Campuses Represented by
Travel Grant Recipients

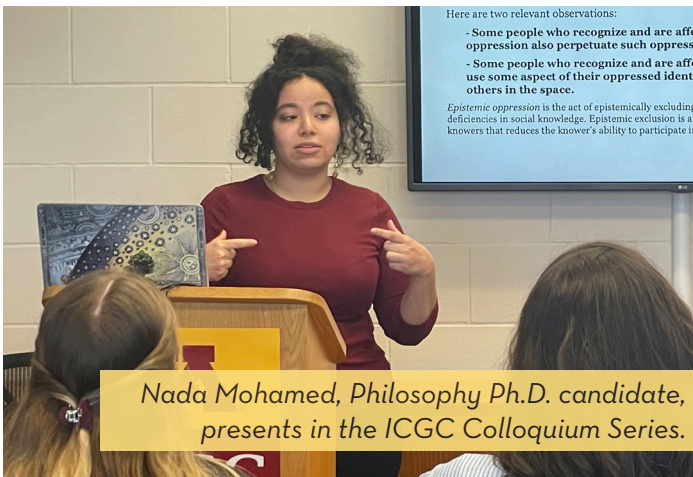
The Kathryn A. Martin Library at the University of Minnesota Duluth has one of the largest Sámi collections in the world, with thousands of books,



films, and other items related to the indigenous people of northern Europe and Russia. *A trip to Sápmi, supported by an international travel grant, is helping Director Matt Rosendahl expand the library's offerings.*

“There’s a lot to be learned from what’s happening in Sápmi that can be applied here in northern Minnesota – and, in fact, connected with work that’s also happening here,” he said, including work on climate change and cooperation with indigenous people.

The Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change hosts a variety of events that feature current research projects by ICGC Scholars, affiliated faculty, visiting scholars, and practitioners.



600

Attendees

47 ICGC and co-sponsored events

100

Attendees

11 events in the South Asia Seminar Series

Improving Language Teaching and Learning

The Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA) is a Title VI Language Resource Center devoted to improving language teaching and learning.

Professional Development for Language Teachers

9/1/23-9/1/24

	Offerings	Participants
Summer Institutes	14	274
CARLA Lunchtime Presentation Series	12	756
Presentations and Workshops by CARLA Initiative Leaders	15	671

The **12th International Language Teacher Education Conference** was held May 30 through June 1, 2024. It brought together a range of teacher educators to discuss and share research, theory, and situated practices and to initiate and sustain meaningful professional dialogue across languages, levels, and settings on the topic of language teacher education.

It was attended by 195 participants from 36 states plus Washington, D.C. and Guam, and from eight countries.

CARLA Website

8/15/23-8/14/24



266,815

Resource Downloads



733,383

Pageviews



Social Justice in the Language Classroom

The Social Justice in Language Education initiative was developed to address the important need for professional development and instructional materials anchored in social justice and critical pedagogies. This initiative supports the creation of a range of professional development activities and teaching resources, including templates for creating social justice curricular units, assessments, and lesson plans; curricular units in multiple languages; a social justice bibliography of scholarly and practical resources; and a searchable database of target language texts.

Building U.S.-China Bridges

The China Center fosters an understanding of Chinese culture, both on campus and among the wider community, by hosting leading experts for discussions on pressing U.S.-China issues.



454

Considering China Webinar Attendees



4,058

Views of Webinar Recordings



275

On-Campus Event Attendees

Considering China Webinars

2023-24

The State of Chinese Americans: Data & Discussion
Qin Gao and Cindy Tsai

Personal Information Protection and Data Cross-Border Transfer in China
Ian Yinan Wang

Relations with China in 2024: Challenges and Prospects
Susan A. Thornton

Qianlong, Master of Nets: Lunar New Year in the Qing Palace
Daniel Greenberg

Fragmented Authority: The Interplay of Domestic Politics in Shaping China's Foreign Policy
Andrew Mertha

Chinese Social Media in Times of Crises
Guobin Yang



Should the United States change its policies around Taiwan?

Apr 25, 2024

The China Center hosted a moderated discussion by the Foreign Policy Program at Brookings to analyze and articulate choices facing the U.S. administration and their implications. This public event was part of the Brookings Global China series and complements a written debate on the topic.



The Tao of Diplomacy: Rediscovering Harmony in U.S.-China Relations

Nov 7, 2023

Brian Wong became the first American to join Alibaba Group, a Chinese technology company that is now one of the most valuable corporations in the world, in 1999. In the 2023 Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture, Wong offered his insights into how Chinese management philosophy and cultural practices can enhance our understanding of the U.S.-China relationship.

2023-24 Award Recipients

The GPS Alliance administers several University-wide award competitions to honor the accomplishments and successes of its faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

Award for Global Engagement

In recognition of outstanding faculty and staff contributions to global education and international programs at the University or in their field or discipline

- Jennifer Powers; Professor, Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior, and Plant and Microbial Biology; College of Biological Sciences; Twin Cities
- June Nobbe, Assistant Vice Provost for Student Life, Office for Student Affairs, Twin Cities
- Tasoulla Hadjiyanni, Professor, Interior Design, College of Design, Twin Cities

Distinguished Leadership Award for Internationals

For alumni, former students, and friends of the University who have distinguished themselves in their post-university work as leaders in their professional careers

- Shwetlena Sabarwal; College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; Twin Cities – India
- Tommy Westerlund, College of Pharmacy, Twin Cities – Sweden

Innovative International Initiatives Award

Recognizes faculty and staff for their contributions to further the internationalization of the University of Minnesota

- Paul Glewwe; College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences; Twin Cities

Mestenhauser Student Award

Recognizes outstanding student contributions to international education and important work by students to internationalize the curriculum and campus

- Dongting Cai; Communication, Media and Rhetoric; Computer Science; Morris
- Vishal Jamkar, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, Twin Cities
- Washington Galvão, College of Education and Human Development, Twin Cities



As a refugee from Cyprus, Dr. Tasoulla Hadjiyanni advocates for built environments where everyone can thrive, using her platform to decolonize interior design education and bring the stories of refugee and immigrant communities to the foreground of design education, scholarship, practice, and policy.



Hailing from a caste-oppressed community in India, Vishal Jamkar has worked to raise awareness about caste, combat caste discrimination, and advocate for its recognition as a protected category at the University.

International Health, Safety, and Compliance

The International Health, Safety, and Compliance team is devoted to the health, safety, security, and well-being of the University community abroad and ensures that our international engagements follow University policies and procedures.



8,942

Total Number of Registered Travelers
2023-24

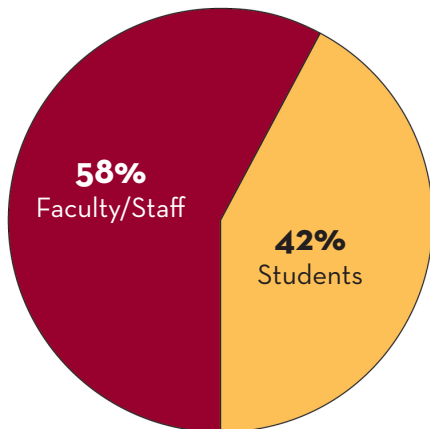


416

Health/Safety Incidents Abroad Resolved
2023-24

Enhanced Insurance and Support

In October 2023, the University switched to a new provider—On Call International—for international medical insurance and emergency support services for University-purpose travel outside the U.S. Two significant upgrades with the new coverage include blanket coverage for all faculty and staff traveling for University business, and the ability to purchase coverage for guests traveling on University business, as well as incoming international visitors.



Travelers by Type
2023-24

Top 10

Travel Destinations

- Canada
- United Kingdom
- Italy
- Germany
- China
- France
- India
- Netherlands
- Spain
- Japan



19 trainings offered on student mental health during study abroad



113 international agreements facilitated, including a research partnership with Kiel University

UMN Passport Office

The UMN Passport Office is an official passport acceptance center, approved by the U.S. Department of State, that serves both the public and the campus community.



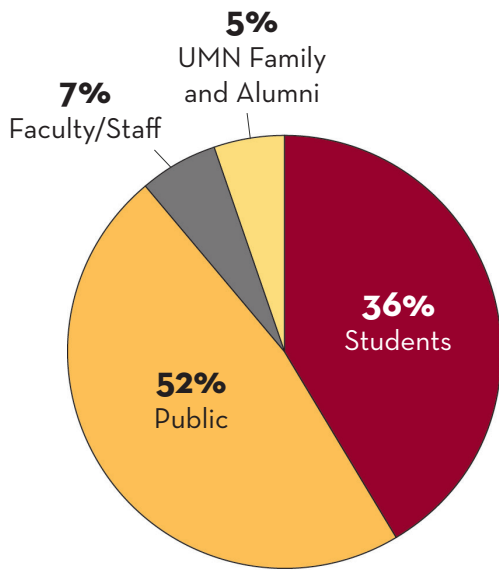
2,759
Total Transactions
6/23-5/24



3,770
Applications Accepted
6/23-5/24



5,618
Photos Taken
6/23-5/24



Did you know?

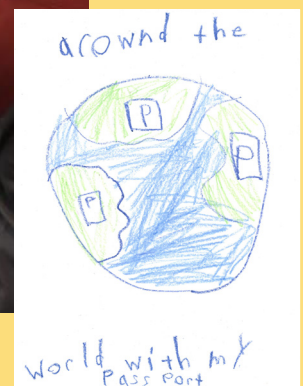


In 2023-24, the UMN Passport Office added new offerings—**notary services** and **headshot photos**.

The Passport Office takes visa photos for **65 different countries!**

Celebrating Five Years

In July 2024, the University of Minnesota Passport Office on the Twin Cities campus celebrated its fifth anniversary of serving both the University community and the public.



Highlights from the System

As a systemwide office, the GPS Alliance works closely with international programs colleagues across the campuses, and we're pleased to highlight some of their accomplishments from the past year.

Crookston

The Crookston campus is welcoming international students from partner institutions this fall:

- University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam
- Global Leadership University, Mongolia
- Shenzhen Technology University, China

Through a partnership with the Institut Polytechnique UniLaSalle, Crookston students visited France in May 2024 to learn about agricultural production and policies.

"This is one of the most rewarding aspects of my teaching at UMC and the most impactful experiential teaching on student learning," said Dr. Harouna Maiga, who leads the partnership.



Duluth

In 2023-24, the Duluth campus created or is finalizing degree-completion programs (2+2 model) with institutions abroad:

Vietnam

Vietnam National University and the Foreign Trade University with UMD Economics

Korea

SolBridge International School of Business with UMD's Business Analytics, Consumer Insight and Analytics, and Management Information Sciences

Woosong University with UMD's Communication Sciences and Disorders, Chemical Engineering, and Electrical Engineering (Photo: Fall 2024 students)



Morris

The Morris campus is welcoming international students from partner institutions this fall:

- International Research & Exchanges Board, Pakistan
- Kansai Gaidai University, Japan
- Shanghai University, China
- Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (SUFU), China



Morris created a new 2+2 degree program with Shanghai University of Finance and Economics.

Celebrating 150 Years of International Students

The first international students came to the University of Minnesota—from Canada and Denmark—in 1874. See a historical timeline, photo gallery, and alumni stories at:

global.umn.edu/150



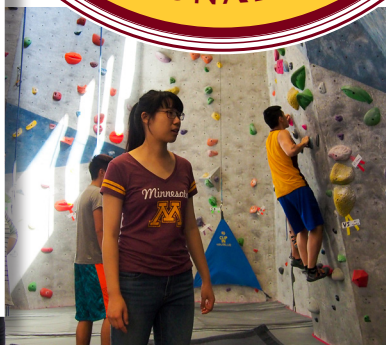
Students in 1932



Thanksgiving Dinner - 1990



Learning to use chopsticks - 1950



Rock climbing - 2016



Shopping for winter clothes - 1998

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