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GET To Know Us

25+ Years of Experience Since 1993, we have hosted more than 400 delegations and 8,000+ participants at the University of Illinois.

Global Connections Our program participants hail from 21 different countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America.

Cross-Cutting Collaboration We build our programs through relationships with more than 60 public and private sector institutions worldwide.
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

GET’s mission is to provide a gateway to expertise at Illinois for partners around the world through high-quality training programs. There are many positive stories to share about how we fulfill that mission. Since 2015, we have hosted participants from over 20 countries. Hundreds of international students join our annual summer school programs. Fortune Global 500 companies send their C-suite and mid-level executives to train at Illinois.

In short, we are connecting Illinois to the world through exchanges of education, knowledge, and friendship.

GET is building on our past legacy and looking to the future. While sustaining strong connections with corporate and university partners in China, we have established new relationships in countries like Saudi Arabia, Colombia, and South Korea. We continue to deliver high-quality training to executives, while growing GET’s offerings to students at the graduate, undergraduate, and pre-college levels. And we have expanded our collaborations with colleagues at Illinois, working to support the interests in global education and training of colleges, schools, and departments across campus.

My colleagues and I remain open to new ideas and opportunities for cooperation that will enable us to share cutting edge expertise at Illinois with a diverse global audience.

Whether you are...

- an Illinois professor, seeking to reach practitioners in your field
- an international student, with the dream of studying abroad at a top U.S. university
- a member of the Illinois community, wanting to connect with our visitors
- an alum of a past GET program, hoping to help others benefit from an experience similar to your own

We welcome your inquiries and suggestions! And, as always, we are grateful for your continued support of GET.

Best wishes,

Dr. Matt Rosenstein
Director, Global Education and Training
At Global Education and Training, we provide a gateway to expertise at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign for partners around the world through high-quality training programs.

GET has three units that report to its director: Global Education and Training, the Intensive English Institute (IEI) and the Shanghai Office. GET and IEI are located at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, while the Shanghai Office is located in China.

The Intensive English Institute became part of the GET portfolio in July 2018. IEI provides full-time and part-time curriculum options in its Intensive English programs and collaborates with GET on many programs requiring English language training.

The Shanghai Office became part of the GET portfolio in January 2017. The Shanghai Office operates as a natural extension of the Illinois–China partnership, serving students, faculty, staff, and alumni through outreach, protocol, and career activities.
GET is a unit of Illinois International. Illinois International refers to the Office of the Vice Provost for International Affairs and Global Strategies, its functions, and its reporting units. We are dedicated to supporting campus internationalization through administrative, academic, and programmatic services and initiatives.
Global Education and Training provides valuable opportunities for individuals from all corners of the world to develop global competencies at Illinois and prepare current and future industry leaders to work in diverse, international contexts. We accomplish this through our core services of program development, program management, and outreach.

**PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

We build relationships with Illinois units and departments, international companies, educational institutions, and government agencies to develop academic training programs.

We create customized opportunities that align with the resources, needs, and interests of our participants.

We implement federally-funded programs in partnership with national organizations.

**PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

We advise and support participants throughout the entirety of our training programs. Each program has at least one full-time staff member providing management.

We respond to feedback and best practices across industries when managing our diverse portfolio of programs.
OUTREACH

We maintain collaborative links that facilitate participant mobility. We are responsive to the needs and interests of our partners.

We collaborate with national partners to both enhance and supplement academic programming with experiential, cultural visits.

We connect with local businesses, governments, and community organizations to provide “real-world” practical training experiences beyond the classroom.
GET’s Impact

GET program participants hail from 21 different countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America.

Argentina, Armenia, Bolivia, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Ecuador, India, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Peru, Romania, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine
GET BY THE NUMBERS

25+ Years of providing superior, custom-designed executive education programs

60+ Agreements with institutions worldwide to train delegations of global leaders

200 International students participate annually in our thematic, short-term programs

8,000 Executives, government officials, scientists, & industry leaders have successfully completed our programs

SPONSORED PROJECTS & GRANTS

EducationUSA Leadership Institute  In 2015 & 2017, we hosted EducationUSA Leadership Institutes on international student mobility for government officials and higher education administrators from over 17 countries. This program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with the support of IIE.

King Abdullah University of Science and Technology Gifted Student Program  From 2017 – 2020, GET has hosted an individual cohort of Saudi Arabian students from the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) Gifted Student Program (KGSP), for an academic Foundational Year.

There are six cohorts and approximately 80 KGSP Foundation Year students total in the United States. This program is sponsored by KAUST with the support of the Institute for International Education (IIE).
IEI’S IMPACT

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to provide a challenging and supportive educational environment where international language learners can gain proficiency in English for academic, professional, or other purposes.

Represented Countries: 35 total
Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, DR Congo, Egypt, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Lesotho, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Panama, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen

Orange countries:
Students from 10 countries transferred to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign to start degree programs after completing their programs at the IEI.
IEI BY THE NUMBERS

Since 1967, the Intensive English Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign has helped thousands of international students improve their English language proficiency.

50+ Classes taught each year in IEI’s regular and special programs, on skills such as reading/writing, listening/speaking, grammar, pronunciation, vocabulary, TOEFL preparation, and more.

66 Students who transferred to U.S. university degree programs since 2017 after completing their IEI programs. Of these, 32 students transferred to the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign.

500+ Total number of students attending the IEI in the last 4 years.

SELECTED PARTNER INSTITUTIONS & CORPORATIONS

Sponsors of IEI Students:

• Banco de Guatemala
• Bolashak Programme (Kazakhstan)
• CAEP Brazil
• Fulbright Program (multiple countries)
• Government of South Korea
• KAUST (Saudi Arabia)
• Konan University (Japan)
• LG Electronics (South Korea)
• Niigata University (Japan)
• Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM)
• Seiwa Corporation (Japan)
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Opened in December 2013, the University’s Shanghai Office operates as a natural extension of the Illinois–China partnership, serving students, faculty, staff, and alumni through outreach, protocol, and career activities.

OUR SERVICES

• Provide in-country logistical support for travel and meetings in China
• Establish career connections for Illinois alumni
• Identify opportunities to recruit students from China to Illinois programs
• Develop collaborations with academic and corporate partners
• Connect individuals with active Illinois alumni networks

Shanghai Office WeChat account followers have increased by 35 percent since July 2019.
SELECTED 2019-2020
CAMPUS SUPPORT INITIATIVES

1. Co-hosted 2 seasonal career fairs in 3 major cities in China (Beijing, Shanghai, & Shenzhen) and 5 virtual Career Webinars, attracting 300+ students and alumni.

2. Represented the University of Illinois as founding members of the American Universities in China Association (AUCA).

3. Provided logistical support and guidance for summer pre-arrival orientations for international students & scholars in 3 major cities in China (Beijing, Shanghai, & Shenzhen). Served 700+ incoming students & family members.

4. Supported student recruitment for academic colleges and departments at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

5. Initiated and co-hosted webinar with Standard Chartered Bank for 200+ Illinois students from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, Gies College of Business, and the Grainger College of Engineering.


ILLINOIS CAMPUS PARTNERSHIPS

Hosted, or facilitated, visits, meetings, and events in China, for example:

- Office of the Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
- Gies College of Business, Business Career Services
- College of Law
- College of Media
- School of Information Sciences
- Department of Mathematics, Actuarial Science
At Global Education and Training, we contribute to strengthening the University of Illinois’ strategic partnership with Zhejiang University.

ZJU, a comprehensive research university, with its main campus in the city of Hangzhou in Zhejiang Province, is considered one of China’s oldest and most prestigious institutions of higher education. Illinois has established multiple modes of cooperation with ZJU, from faculty research collaborations to student exchanges. Formal agreements supporting dual degree programs in multiple disciplines and a joint institute for engineering on ZJU’s international campus in Haining highlight the innovative institutional strategic partnership between the two universities.

In summer 2019, GET created a new summer school program, in partnership with ZJU and the University of Illinois School of Earth, Society, and Environment (SESE).
In addition to the knowledge and experience, it is very important that we have also gained friendship. The previous president of Zhejiang University, Zhu Kezhen, graduated from [Illinois]. We feel like home here. Although our schooling mode, management system, and cultures are different, we share the same ultimate goal to cultivate talents, innovate knowledge, and contribute to human development and progress.

Ma Chunbo, Associate Researcher, within the Division Chief of Supervision Office at Zhejiang University

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**GET & ZJU: BY THE NUMBERS**

3 types of training programs developed in strategic coordination with ZJU and hosted by GET from 2017–2019:
- higher education management programs for administrators
- summer school programs for international students
- customized pedagogy training workshops for university instructors with Cheelan Bo-Linn, Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning

40+ administrators and faculty leaders from the University of Illinois engage with ZJU students, executives, and administrators throughout the course of their programs.

60+ top administrators from ZJU have attended GET training programs on the Illinois campus since 2017. The majority are Deputy Deans, representing diverse departments, colleges, and offices from Zhejiang University.

150+ ZJU students participated in 3-week summer school programs.

“... In addition to the knowledge and experience, it is very important that we have also gained friendship. The previous president of Zhejiang University, Zhu Kezhen, graduated from [Illinois]. We feel like home here. Although our schooling mode, management system, and cultures are different, we share the same ultimate goal to cultivate talents, innovate knowledge, and contribute to human development and progress.”

Ma Chunbo, Associate Researcher, within the Division Chief of Supervision Office at Zhejiang University
At Global Education and Training and the Intensive English Institute (IEI), we are proud to host the KAUST Gifted Student Program (KGSP) Foundation Year, in coordination with King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the Institute of International Education (IIE).

Through the Foundation Year program at Illinois, high school graduates participating in the KGSP experience university life at Illinois, attend rigorous foundation courses in a challenging academic environment, and acquire the skills necessary to prepare competitive college applications and pursue a successful undergraduate education experience at a top U.S. university.
GET & KGSP: BY THE NUMBERS

11
KGSP students currently enrolled as full-time students at the University of Illinois.

42
KGSP Foundation Year program students hosted at the University of Illinois since 2017.

100
percent placement success rate – All KGSP students in the three Illinois foundation year cohorts have gone on to attend top U.S. colleges & universities.

“And now, as each one of us will cross a different path and start their own undergraduate journey, always look back and realize how far you have gone. It may seem impossible at the beginning, but it will end quickly with success, just as this foundation year ended.”

Manal, KGSP Foundation Year Program Student, 2019–2020

Additional Programmatic Support

• Faculty & instructors in: Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, & Physics
• Essay coaches from Writers Workshop
• Instructors & tutors from Tutor Doctor
• Professionals from Counseling Center and McKinley Health Center
**GLOBAL CONNECTIONS**

**MEET DOHA**

Doha Amer is a student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering within the Grainger College of Engineering. During the academic year 2018–2019, Doha was a member of the KAUST KGSP Foundation Year cohort at Illinois, hosted by GET.

**From Saudi Arabia to Urbana-Champaign: Welcome Home**

There is a sense of security and comfort in knowing which bus to take, where to go for lunch - and what to order-, where the peanut butter shelves at the supermarket are, and who to call for a SafeWalk after a late-night study session at the library.

It was quite unusual to feel this familiar on my first day of freshman year, especially as an international student seven thousand miles away from home. The truth is: although I am not a townie, freshman year is not my first year in Urbana-Champaign. Among 13 other Saudi Arabian students, I spent a structured gap year at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from August 2018 to May 2019.

This gap year program, also known as a Foundation Year Program, was one of six similar programs for KAUST (King Abdullah University for Science and Engineering) Gifted Student Program (KGSP) participants. The goal of these programs is to support students in submitting competitive college applications to gain admission to top U.S. universities and prepare them academically for undergraduate study through university-level coursework in science, math, and writing.
Foundation for Success

Throughout Foundation Year, I had bi-weekly check-in calls and surveys with my KGSP advisor. These check-in calls and surveys were my opportunity to reflect on my academic performance and my state of well-being. Most importantly, they trained me to ask the right questions about how I am doing. Throughout my first semester of college, I found myself still asking these questions:

- Which area do you feel is the most challenging for you right now?
- What is the best thing that has happened the past 2 weeks?
- Which area of well-being do you feel is strongest for you right now?

Asking and answering these questions have helped me take action when I needed to.

Little fish, big pond

What was special about my experience was that I was one of the few students who now attend the same school they spent their gap year at.

In a school of more than 40,000 students, it is easy to feel like the smallest fish in the ocean. In contrast, it is also likely that you’ll find people with similar mindsets and interests.

The gap year was the perfect time to connect with the Saudi Student Association and the existing KGSP community at Illinois. However, knowing that there are more than 1,800 student organizations, I had to get out of my comfort zone and try something new. I ended up trying fencing and joining a recycling club.
MEET CHEELAN BO-LINN

Cheelan Bo–Linn is the Senior Specialist in Education in the Center for Innovation in Teaching & Learning (CITL) at the University of Illinois in Urbana–Champaign and Instructor in the Department of Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership. In her position in CITL, Cheelan is responsible for the promotion of teaching excellence in campus–wide faculty consultations, programs and innovative initiatives. Areas for consultation have included course and curriculum design, learning outcomes and assessment, and active learning.

Cheelan has provided her expertise during multiple GET training programs. During GET’s higher education management programs from 2017–2019, Cheelan held workshops on teaching, learning, and pedagogy for higher education administrators from Zhejiang University. She has also collaborated with GET to provide workshops overseas to international educators.
“Opening the Classroom Door”

Teaching shouldn’t be a secret. I compare it to research. In research, you go up and say, “I have a problem. Help me try to figure out how to make sense of this.” We want CITL to be not a place where you go to the principal’s office, right? But to a place where you go, and it’s a community. You try out ideas, you learn new things. You elevate the importance and value of teaching. I call it “Open the Classroom Door.” You open it up for reflection, for sharing. You want it to be a very collaborative, safe place.

Can you talk about your experiences with GET? You previously worked with the Zhejiang University Higher Education Management program.

It was a fabulous opportunity. I mentioned it to [GET leadership], saying, “If you ever get a request, I’ll go.” The interesting story is Deyu Li, [professor and Director of the International Division at Beihang University in Beijing, China], who was the person they had been communicating with, was in my program four years ago [at Illinois]. He could tell me the things that he remembered, which he did not make up. He was absolutely right. You never know the impact, and you must be authentic and as accurate as possible. You’ve got to seize the moment.

On the importance of global education – both as a teacher and learner:

[There are] some key concepts or philosophies that are trying to get spread, regardless of the learning environment. This is basically about the best ways in which human beings learn. It’s translatable. What you’re trying to do in GET is define similarities, you know, common goals. What’s the best way for students to learn? It doesn’t matter about the educational system. You have to be cognizant of the culture. You cannot go in and say, “Here it is, and here is the best way to do it.”

I take the opportunity to look in the classroom. I look at, “What kind of support they have, what is the academic life in there?” I carry it back here [to Illinois].