# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GET to Know Us</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from the Director</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Education and Training</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Intensive English Institute</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Shanghai Office</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Featured International Programs</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Online Summer Summer Programs</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GET to Know Us

We believe in the Power of I.
We are proven vehicles for recruiting high quality, diverse international students to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

We build connections.
GET, the IEI, and the SO each place an active role in strengthening key strategic international partnerships for the university.

We are innovative.
Our units rely on strategic planning, inventive programming and developing new methods of delivering content expertise.

We are collaborative.
Our units showcase campus units and support their goals.
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

GET’s mission is to provide a gateway to expertise at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign 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 the University of Illinois.

In short, we are connecting the University of 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 the University of 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...

• a University of 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 University of 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
Global Education and Training (GET)

OUR MISSION

We provide a gateway to expertise at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for partners around the world through high-quality training programs.

OUR STRUCTURE

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.

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

OUR UNITS

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.

Shanghai Office

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.

The Intensive English Institute

The Intensive English Institute (IEI) has helped thousands of international students and professionals improve their English language proficiency. IEI provides full-time and part-time curriculum options in its intensive English programs.
GET BY THE NUMBERS

CORE SERVICES

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 aligning with resources, needs, and interests of 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

SPONSORED PROJECTS AND GRANTS

We have received multiple grants to support our programming and are continually seeking ways to extend our global network through federally-funded grants. We measure success by the number of individuals we serve and their impact on the societies and industries in which they live and work.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Programs Offered</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>459</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>613</td>
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<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Intensive English Institute (IEI)

OUR MISSION
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. 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+ COURSES
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.

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)
IEI BY THE NUMBERS

- **39** countries represented by participants
- **50+** classes taught each year by the IEI
- **54** years of providing ESL and English language programs
- **500+** students have attended IEI programs in the last 4 years

IEI program participants hail from **39 different countries** in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America.

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

Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Egypt, France, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Panama, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen

85 students who transferred to U.S. university degree programs since 2017 after completing their IEI programs. Of these, **42 students** transferred to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
The Shanghai Office (SO)

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.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS

In 2020, our Shanghai Office colleagues were recognized by the American Universities' China Association (AUCA):

• Extraordinary Contribution University (卓越贡献大学)
• Best China Career Services Award (最佳中国地区职业发展服务奖)
• Extraordinary Contributor (卓越贡献奖), Karen Weng
• Outstanding Contributor (杰出贡献个人), Joanna Hu
SHANGHAI OFFICE 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

AY 2020-2021 HIGHLIGHTS

CAREER SERVICES

- Co-hosted 2021 Spring AUCA Career Fair (3 online sessions and 1 in-person session)
- Co-hosted Alumni Career Development online discussions with: The Ohio State University (OSU), Johns Hopkins University, University of Southern California & University of Virginia (2 online sessions in total)
- Co-hosted company visit to PricewaterhouseCoopers Shanghai Acceleration Center with OSU China Office

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

- Co-hosted alumni mixer with Stanford Club of Shanghai
- Initiated AUCA 2020 alumni engagement activity: Thanksgiving Shanghai Citywalk

SOCIAL MEDIA

- WeChat series (freshmen support) for prospective/new students and parents
- WeChat posts of internship/full-time job opportunities for graduates and alumni
Shanghai Office support for admissions, yield, and orientations

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES YIELD EVENTS
• 3 online webinars and 2 in-person events for 50+ participants in Beijing and Shanghai

ADMISSIONS SUPPORT
• Invited undergrad admissions to a panel discussion hosted by American Chamber of Commerce Shanghai
  • Other panelists from Amherst College, Northeastern University, Education USA, and U.S. News
• Connected undergrad admissions with Beanstalk International Bilingual School (BIBS) in Beijing
• Hosted webinars for BIBS students

ORIENTATIONS
• Invited Gies College of Business and UIUC Office of Undergraduate Admissions to AUCA College Fairs
• Supported 2 orientation events hosted by Chinese Student and Scholar Association
• Joined AUCA’s freshmen support webinars and gave presentation on the topic of "Campus Health and Safety"
Featured International Programs

Academic Bridge
During the COVID-19 pandemic, many international students were unable to embark upon or continue their studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. As a result, the Academic Bridge program was developed to provide international students at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a residential experience in their home country and access to educational facilities and services.

PROGRAM GOALS
- Provide a cohort and campus environment for students
- Strengthen international students’ affinity toward the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- University outreach

UNIVERSITY OUTREACH
The University strategically located partners abroad in China, Singapore, and Taiwan to host international Illinois students at their campuses. Host institutions provided academic amenities, accommodations, student support services, and meals to students.

SHANGHAI OFFICE INVOLVEMENT
- Met with Illinois Abroad and Global Exchange (IAGE) to identify possible university partners in China
- Provided international context for Chinese universities (e.g., campus size, reputation, regional location)
- Connected IAGE staff members with former GET program participant, Professor Jing at Beijing JiaoTong University (BJTU) - Weihai campus
- Initiated call with BJTU Weihai’s campus dean and provided introduction to IAGE
- Planned the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign orientation at BJTU Weihai with IAGE
- Hosted University orientation at BJTU Weihai

PROGRAM RESULTS
328 international students from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign participated in the Academic Bridge program during Fall 2020.
Global Education and Training (GET) welcomed a cohort of KAUST Gifted Student Program (KGSP) Foundation Year (FY) students to Illinois for a 4th consecutive year. UIUC was one of four host institutions selected in 2020-2021 to receive a group of students in the prestigious scholarship program.

Through the Foundation Year program at Illinois, high school graduates participating in the KGSP experience university life at UIUC, 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 and the IEI are proud to host the KGSP Foundation Year, in coordination with KAUST, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the Institute of International Education (IIE).

“Thanks to the strong partnerships between KAUST, IIE, and UIUC, together we succeeded in adapting the Foundation Year program during COVID-19 lockdowns.

The KGSP FY students sustained their learning and achieved academic success while participating fully online from Saudi Arabia. All students, instructors, advisors, and staff involved in this year’s KGSP FY program deserve praise for their perseverance and commitment.”

Dr. Matthew Rosenstein, GET Director
17 students in UIUC Foundation Year cohort for 2020-2021

65 total Foundation Year students for 2020-2021

250+ hours of 1:1 advising

350+ hours of 1:1 essay coaching

7 students from KGSP FY national cohort will attend UIUC in Fall 2021.

KGSP FY Illinois students accepted Fall 2021 admissions offers from:

- College of William and Mary
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Emory University
- Michigan State University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Irvine
- University of California, San Diego
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Colorado Boulder
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Texas at Austin
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- University of Wisconsin-Madison

Additional Programmatic Support

- Faculty & instructors in: Grainger College of Engineering, Computer Science, Mathematics, & Physics
- The Intensive English Institute
- Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning
- ATLAS - Teaching & Learning with Technology
- International Student and Scholar Services
- Office of Undergraduate Admissions
- Office of Inclusion and Intercultural Relations
- Dean of Students, Counseling Center, & McKinley Health Center
- Writers Workshop
- Tutor Doctor

Anna Kasten,
Designated Full-Time KGSP FY Program Coordinator

Anna Kasten
Designated Full-Time KGSP FY Program Coordinator
As essay coaches, Lisa Chason, Ph.D. and Rob Siedenburg work with the KGSP Foundation Year students as they prepare competitive college applications to top U.S. universities.

What have you learned about Saudi Arabia?

Lisa: I’ve enjoyed learning about Saudi culture - just the little glimpses I get from the students’ stories about driving in a car through the desert, large families full of friendly sibling rivalry, learning to cook with one’s mother and grandmother, wise sayings a father shares, love for the Arabic language. And also examples that transcend cultural differences.

Rob: These are very bright young people, with their eyes fixed on a bright future, dreaming creatively but practically of helping to meet Saudi Arabia’s Vision 2030—and working hard to be part of the solution, rather than the problem, in their rapidly developing nation.
Ready, Set, Undergrad was an online course coordinated by GET and the IEI in summer 2020.

Developed in partnership with GET, IEI, IIE, and KAUST

Piloted as KGSP Summer Enrichment Course for 23 students

Taught by IEI Senior instructor, Kristin Bouton

Course projects
Students engaged with the topics through a variety of digital activities, such as: writing emails, creating memes and/or short videos to post on social media or the class website, doing scavenger hunts on the website of the university they will be attending, and writing short reflections on selected topics for the class forum.

As a final project, students created a campus reference guide for themselves or other students in the form of a digital portfolio using Padlet.com, Piktochart.com or Thinglink.com.

Student feedback
“I honestly loved everything about it. It wasn’t stressful, and the environment was open and friendly. Kristin is very helpful and welcoming, and I will miss it. I also liked the fact that we were able to contribute through the breakout rooms and just being able to get involved.”
Online Undergraduate Summer School Programs

From June through August 2020, we hosted nearly 600 international students in various online programs, covering topics such as: telecommunications, optics, energy materials, mathematics, and more.

It was clear that the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign remains an attractive destination for international students, even in a virtual learning environment.

Our formula for success included key elements:

- Shift all lectures, discussions, and co-curricular activities online
- Work with international institutions with whom we have established partnerships
- Provide high-quality academic content in areas of strength at the University of Illinois
- Collaborate with talented faculty and teaching assistants
- Optimize our use of online instructional technologies and pedagogical best practices
- Showcase future opportunities for program participants to learn at the University of Illinois
- Engage alumni as guest speakers to help demonstrate the impacts of an education at the University of Illinois

GET 2020 SUMMER PROGRAMS

BY THE NUMBERS

- 316 participants
- 3 week program
- UIUC College of Electrical and Computer Engineering faculty
- Partner: Zhejiang University, School of Telecommunication & Engineering
Co-Curricular Sessions

We provide interactive resources to engage students in planning their graduate education in the U.S.

- Graduate student application and research: graduate applications & research skills; writing academic research reports
- Graduate student life: how to be a successful graduate student
- Career services: intercultural communication and personal branding

Co-Curricular Session Survey

- 137 participants completed the survey
- 26.28 percent planning on applying for graduate studies overseas after graduating from ZJU
- Participants were interested to learn about the topics including graduate studies, hot topics in the field, career options, etc.
- Participants had high-levels of satisfaction with the content and topics selected

Special Topics in Optics

- 164 participants
- 2 week program
- UIUC College of Electrical and Computer Engineering faculty
- Partner: Zhejiang University, School of Optical Science & Engineering

Electronic Materials for Computing and Energy Applications

- 76 Participants
- 2 week program
- UIUC School of Material Science & Engineering faculty
- Partner: Zhejiang University, School of Material Science & Engineering