



FALL 2021

# PASSEPARTOUT

*Office of International Education Newsletter*



*Passepartout* is an occasional newsletter of the Office of International Education (OIE) at Harper College. Named after Phileas Fogg's valet Jean Passepartout in Jules Verne's novel *Around the World in Eighty Days*, our newsletter is your passport to the world of international education at the college.

## Fun Facts



Mount Everest has gotten taller! Technically Everest has not grown but with the development of new technologies and moving plate tectonics, the measurement changes. The reading in 1856 had Everest reaching 29,002 ft above sea level, in 1955 they measured 29,029 ft, and the most recent measurement has Everest reaching 29,031.69 ft above sea level.

Source: NPR



New Zealanders have more pets per household than any other country. 68% of households have at least one pet.

Source: Petsecure

## Welcome, Nellie! The next Faculty Director of the Office of International Education.



In the Spring 2021 semester, Nellie Khalil was selected as the incoming Faculty Director of the Office of International Education. Nellie currently resides in the Biology department and is a strong advocate for international education. She has included study abroad in her courses, created a virtual exchange in collaboration with a field station in Costa Rica and another interdisciplinary program with partners based in Kenya, participated in the Global Region of Focus Faculty seminar, presented at international education conferences, and more.

Nellie has spent the summer working with the Office of International Education and will continue to be involved with its day-to-day operations for the coming year to ensure a smooth transition next fall.

To hear more about Nellie's interest and experience with international education, [click here](#).

The Office of International Education at Harper College believes that global education is central to the mission of the college because it enhances student engagement, builds skills in problem-solving, critical thinking, recognizing bias, and tolerating ambiguity, develops student agency, and promotes career readiness. We believe that developing global perspectives among our students is a responsibility that we all share as educators. It is not the exclusive domain of any single department or program. We embrace the responsibility to help our students develop an understanding of the world as a single interdependent system comprised of many interacting parts.

# WHAT'S NEW IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AT HARPER COLLEGE

## **Harper College, Oakton Community College, and Heartland Community College work together to create a new nursing study abroad program.**

As part of the Illinois Consortium of International Studies and Programs (ICISP), Harper College nursing faculty, Lisa Ayers, has been working with faculty from Oakton and Heartland to develop a two-week study abroad program to Tanzania. In this program, students will attend multiple cultural outings, participate in service-learning, take language classes, visit local medical centers, see local universities, while earning course credit.

It can be challenging for students in health career programs to fit in studying abroad, especially with fewer specialized programs than other areas. This program allows for increased participation of this demographic while giving our students the relevant international experience that will prepare them for their future careers. The program is set to run in late spring. Students from all ICISP colleges will have the opportunity to come together to share their passion for nursing and intercultural learning. A special thank you to Lisa Ayers who has dedicated her time and expertise to developing this program. We look forward to seeing this program grow.

## **Social Justice Leadership Certificate Program**

In collaboration with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, OIE coordinates the Social Justice Leadership Certificate program, a year-long, project-based curriculum focusing on social justice theory, the institutional structure and organizational decision-making practices of the college. The program is open to all staff and faculty and is aimed at building capacity among employees to participate in and lead DEI initiatives at the college.

The 2020-2021 cohort faced the unique challenge of being the first cohort to be done completely remote. Although this was challenging for both the participants and the facilitators the group was successful and created great projects that we look forward to seeing the impact of on the Harper College community in the coming months and years.

This summer, we welcomed Dr. Tamara Johnson, VP for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and launched our fourth and largest cohort of 11 members. We have already read *Our Time is Now* by Stacy Abrams as a shared book-read and discussion, and have planned a dynamic Social Justice Retreat for this fall.

## **Staying Connected Through Social Media**

Over the past year, the Office of International Education found new ways to stay connected with the Harper students, employees, and community members using social media, primarily Instagram. We are posting interactive content including "Trivia Tuesday" and travel-related "Would You Rather" polls, educational posts including international days of importance, fun facts, and holidays around the world, and continue to post about upcoming events.

Another area of focus in social media has been creating videos on YouTube. Through the *World Views* series, we have been able to share the stories of internationalization among the Harper community. If you would like to be featured on *World Views* please contact Sloan McHugh at [smchugh@harpercollege.edu](mailto:smchugh@harpercollege.edu).

All links to our social media accounts can be found at the end of the newsletter.

# WHAT'S NEW IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AT HARPER COLLEGE

## The World Comes to Harper Classrooms through Virtual Exchange

During the pandemic year, the Office of International Education has been actively seeking innovative opportunities for our students to engage with the world. While our students have not been able to explore the world through education abroad, the world has come to Harper classrooms through technology. This past semester alone, over 200 students have been engaged in global online learning through people-to-people dialog. They have interacted with peers in over 15 countries on 4 different continents through technology-enabled people-to-people dialog. Another 300 + students have benefited from synchronous and asynchronous educational materials provided through our partners in Costa Rica.

All aspects of the programs are intentionally integrated into the learning outcomes and curriculum of the courses. A selection of student comments suggests the depth of the impact these courses have had:

"[The program] exceeded my expectations and is providing me with a multicultural learning experience. I value this, especially as a college student in the pandemic, because the option to study abroad, travel with a class, or simply go on vacation are not options at the moment." (EDU Africa BIO student)

"One of my biggest takeaways . . . is how important it is to 'agree to disagree'. This mentality allows for the discussion of 'sensitive' topics such as politics, religion, and culture while respecting other peers and their opinions." (SOLIYA Connect: ENG 101 student)

"The project provided me with a solid foundation on not just how to work collaboratively with people of different backgrounds, it also taught me that we really are all the same regardless of where we come from and what language we may speak." (IREX Global Solutions: Business Club student)

"[These interactions] allow students to engage in a cross-cultural experience that is informative, transformative, and enlightening." (EDU Africa Geography student)

Check out the recording from our [Get TWISTTED! : Global Online Teaching Through People-to-People Dialog](#) presentation last spring.

The Office of International Education is available, and excited, to help more faculty integrate virtual experiences into their courses! There is no prior experience or international connections needed, we can help you through the whole process. If you are interested in this opportunity please fill out this [interest form](#), for any questions please email [internationaled@harpercollege.edu](mailto:internationaled@harpercollege.edu)

# WHAT'S NEW IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AT HARPER COLLEGE

## Impact Data of Global Region of Focus Initiative and Reboot of South Asia

As you may know, our most recent Global Region of Focus is Asia, with a focus on South Asia. In the spring of 2020, right before the pandemic sent us all home, 17 faculty from 13 different departments, including both transfer and career programs, participated in our faculty development GEC seminar. Although we have only had sporadic curriculum infusion thus far, we anticipate that in fall 2021 the participants will implement their projects. Seven of the GRF faculty cohort are included in a \$10,000 Midwest Institute for Intercultural /International Education (MIIE) 4-year grant. We look forward to working with them and tracking the impact of their projects. Unfortunately, we have also had to twice abandon the RFP process for the Faculty International Field Seminar to India, but have rebooted the GRF cycle and extended it to 2024.

This past year, Institutional Research provide us with impact data covering the first two iterations of our GRF. As the tables below show, the data demonstrate that students in courses taught by faculty who have been through our professional development programs (GEC and FIFS) demonstrate higher rates of completion and persistence.

Table 1. 3-Year Completion Rates

Completion Rates	All students	Global Region of Focus
Total number of students	48,539	3742
3-year completion rate	23%	34%

Table 2. Persistence Rates

	Fall to Spring persistence	Spring to Fall persistence	Fall to Fall persistence
All students	76%	64%	62%
Students enrolled in GRF courses	84%	70%	68%

For more information about the GRF and our *Roadmap to the World*, which is what we call our approach to campus internationalization, send us an email at [internationaled@harpercollege.edu](mailto:internationaled@harpercollege.edu)

## Global Scholar Distinction

The Distinction in International Perspectives has been renamed as the Global Scholars Distinction. The aim of the Distinction is that any student who has achieved this graduation honor will have demonstrated the capacity to consider intercultural and international perspectives across academic disciplines and the willingness to actively explore issues relating to global equity, justice, and peace. In the last year, the Office of International Education has been working with several faculty members and students to revise the Distinction in order to solicit more equitable and accessible student participation. The revision focuses on three areas of the program: experiential international education, a capstone project, and the logistics of the program. We have been coordinating our work with the Social Justice Studies Taskforce and hope to align both "distinctions" in their design.

It should be noted that OIE has promoted the concept of an interdisciplinary, transcriptive graduation *Endorsement in Transformational Learning* that would comprise different tracks in various areas of study (such as Social Justice, Global Studies, Environmental and Sustainability Studies, Gender Studies, etc.). With the advent of the new Social Justice Studies Coordinator position, it is the hope of the OIE that this role will not only lead to radical change in the climate and curricula of our campus but that it will also lead to even greater transformation by paving the way for more opportunities for our students to pursue area studies from a variety of perspectives.





# GLOBAL EDUCATION RESOURCES



**Are you looking for resources, seminars, or workshops in international education? Check out the Professional Development list on our [webpage](#) for the most up-to-date list of upcoming opportunities.**

## **Global Teaching Certificate GEC**

In the near future, we hope to offer a series of interdisciplinary professional development workshops on global education curriculum infusion through the Academy. Faculty participating in 3 of the sessions would earn a Global Education Teaching micro-credential. If you are interested in this program either as an instructor or a participant, please let us know.

## **Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad**

### Short-Term Curriculum Development

A curriculum development team, composed of several faculty members or teachers or administrators, may spend four to six weeks in a foreign country or region acquiring resource materials for curriculum development in modern foreign language or area studies programs. Resource materials may include artifacts, documents, books, educational films, museum reproductions, recordings, and other instructional materials. The project shall provide a systemic use and dissemination of the acquired materials

## **Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Grant**

The Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program (FLTA) is sponsored by the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). As part of the Fulbright Foreign Students Program, the Fulbright FLTA Program is designed to develop Americans' knowledge of foreign cultures and languages by supporting teaching assistantships in over 30 languages at hundreds of U.S. institutions of higher education. The program offers educators from over 50 countries the opportunity to develop their professional skills and gain first-hand knowledge of the U.S., its culture, and its people. [Click here for more information](#)



## GRANTS



**The Office of International Education has been very productive this past year in the pursuit of a variety of grants. We have been awarded three grants and submitted two additional proposals. We are also working on an additional two grant proposals for submission this coming academic year.**

## **Awarded Grants**

### **Midwest Institute for Intercultural/International Education (MIIE) and the South Asia Center at the University of Washington**

OIE was awarded a 4-year \$10,000 grant to fund faculty curriculum infusion projects focusing on South Asia which coincides with our present Global Region of Focus.

In addition to the multi-year grant, two Harper faculty, Pearl Ratunil (English) and Malathy Chandrasekar (Economics), were among 12 faculty selected to receive a Curriculum Infusion grant from MIIE. Their curriculum infusion modules will also focus on South Asia.

### **Center for Global Studies at University of Illinois—Urbana Champaign**

For each of the past four years, OIE has received a \$2000 award to support international education programs through the Center's Title VIA National Resource Center funding. This pandemic year, CGS has allowed OIE an additional year in which to use the funds. This coming academic year, OIE will use the funds to support its GRF South Asia programs



# GRANTS



## **Awarded Grants (Continued)**

### **Institute of International Education (IIE) American Passport Project grant (\$3625)**

Harper College was one of 40 colleges and universities to be awarded the grant, which provides funding to help first-year, Pell-eligible students obtain a U.S. passport. Working with the Harper College Grants Office, the OIE will promote the application and nomination process during the first week of fall classes. Our goal is to assist 25 students in receiving a U.S. passport, an often unachievable access point to the world, before the winter break.

If you have a student you think would be a good fit for this grant please direct them to this [form](#).

## **Grant Proposals Submitted**

### **Center for Global Studies at University of Illinois—Urbana Champaign (\$3000 x 4)**

OIE has submitted a new proposal for funding during CGS 2022-2026 grant cycle.

### **100,000 Strong in the Americas 2021 Innovation Fund Grant Competition to Build Partnerships and Training Programs between the United States, Central America, and the Dominican Republic (\$25,000)**

With our Costa Rican partners, Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica (UNA), we have proposed a partnership with a focus on innovation in teaching and training and intercultural exchange. If funded, students will first interact virtually and then 6 students and two teachers will travel for a 10-14 day cultural and educational exchange at the partnering campus. The overarching goal of this project is to create a sustained collaborative, intercultural partnership that takes an experiential, virtual-learning approach to explore the interconnectedness of college and career readiness. We are building on our existing partnership with UNA to advance the success of our students by sharing academic practices, building technology skills, and strengthening our bilateral internationalization programs.

## **Grant Proposals In Progress**

### **Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence**

As we have in the past, we are applying to host a Fulbright SIR from South Asia for the 2022-2023 academic year. The primary purpose of the Scholar's visit will be to galvanize our internationalization efforts through the full range of their activities, presentations, and collaborations, and interactions with our faculty, staff, students, and community. Additional benefits will include establishing collaborative relationships with faculty at the Scholar's home institution; fostering opportunities for faculty and student exchanges with departments at the Scholar's institution; creating sustainable interdisciplinary education abroad programs to the Scholar's country or another country in South/Southeast Asia; strengthening our Asian course offerings, library holdings, and cultural programming; and enhancing international faculty development opportunities.

The OIE is seeking letters of support for the Fulbright SIR from individuals, departments, and community organizations. If interested, please email letters to [international@harpercollege.edu](mailto:international@harpercollege.edu)

### **Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad (GPA)**

OIE is working on a grant proposal to fund a six-week professional development seminar to Kenya and Uganda entitled "Sustainable Conservation in East Africa through a Social Justice Lens" for 12 educators and two Seminar leaders from post-secondary and secondary educational institutions in Illinois.

## OIE AND FRIENDS PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

### ***Show Me the Money! Making Bank with Assessment Data on Global Learning***

Nellie Khalil, Richard Johnson, and Sloan McHugh will be presenting at the IUPUI Assessment Institute, October 25, 2021

### ***Virtual Exchange: The New Normal of International Education***

Nellie Khalil, Richard Johnson, and Sloan McHugh presented on virtual exchange opportunities at Harper College's opening week information sessions, August 19, 2021

### ***Effective Strategic Planning for International Education Offices***

Workshop offered by Richard Johnson during CCID Summer Institute (virtutal), July 15, 2021

### ***Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program as an Engine of Campus Internationalization***

Presentation by Richard Johnson in the Fulbright Fundamentals Workshop for Illinois Consortium on International Studies and Programs (ICISP), June 3, 2021

### ***Get TWISTTED: Global Online Teaching Through People-to-People Dialog***

Workshop offered by OIE Leadership and faculty on virtual exchange opportunities for faculty at Harper College, May 4, 2021

You can find the recording of this workshop [here](#).

### ***Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence: Host Impact Panel- How can a S-I-R Exchange Contribute to Your Institution's Internationalization Efforts.***

Richard Johnson was featured on a panel discussion hosted by Institute for International Education and U.S. State Department, April 29, 2021

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CLUB

Everyone is welcome!

Join us to have great conversations with our international students!

Thursdays, 3:30 PM on [WebEx Kathleen Reynolds's Personal Room](#)

or in-person in D-195 (Limit 30 people).

[Sign up](#) required for in-person meeting.

Link to  
sign up

Link to  
WebEx

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OIE LEADERSHIP

Introduction to Partnerships with SENA 8/4/2020 CCID  
Using the Standards for Improvement and Advocacy of Education Abroad  
at Community Colleges 8/6/2020 Forum on Education Abroad  
Steven's Initiative Grant Workshop 8/11/2020 Aspen Institute  
Advocacy Webinar 8/12/2020 CCIS  
Building a Data Strategy to Advocate for International Education Programs  
8/18/2020 NAFSA  
Faculty-Led Virtual Exchanges 8/19/2020 CCIS  
Steven's Initiative Grant Workshop (Budget) 8/27/2020 Aspen Institute  
Beyond Covid-19: What's Next for International Higher Education 9/14/2020  
The Chronicle  
2020 Diversity Symposium 9/21/2020 Harper College  
More Essential Than Ever: The Case for International Education 9/22/2020  
IIE  
CLS Diversity and Inclusion Support 9/28/2020 CLS  
IREX Global Solutions Info Session 9/30/2020 Aspen Institute  
Building Educational Partners Across the Americas: New Pattern in  
International Mobility 10/5/2020 CCID  
Rapid Response Briefing: Proposed Rule to End Duration of Status for  
International Students and Exchange Visitors 10/7/2020  
The Growing Crisis of Refugees and Statelessness 10/7/2020 10/14/2020  
10/21/2020 Center for Latin American Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison  
IREX Global Solutions Information Session 10/15/2020 Aspen Institute  
NAFSA Conference 10/22-23/2020 NAFSA  
Peacebuilding Seminar 10/30-31/2020 11/6-7/2020 11/13-14/2020 Forage  
Center for Peacebuilding  
The Impact of the US Presidential Election on International Student  
Recruitment 12/9/2020 Keystone Academy  
The Power of Story Telling 1/13/2021 CCID  
100K Strong Innovation Fund Virtual Workshop: Strategies and Tips for  
Building Partnerships 1/27/2021 Exchange Partners  
CCID Annual Conference 2/17-19/2021 CCID  
Forum on Education Abroad Conference 3/1-5/2021 Forum on Education  
Abroad  
Inclusive Ireland Webinar Series: Student Experiences with Disabilities in  
Ireland 4/28/2021 CCID  
Centering Equity and Anti-Racism in Global Education Programs 5/7/2021  
ICISP  
National Conference on Race and Ethnicity (NCORE) 6/8-11/2021 NCORE  
Sustainability in Education Abroad 6/23/2021 Bound International CCID  
Summer Institute 7/14-15/2021 CCID  
Restarting Study Abroad with Disability Inclusion Post-COVID 7/28/2021  
Mobility International  
Via TRM Global Success Week Workshop 8/10-12/2021 Via TRM

## Keep in Touch with OIE

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Office of International Education  
Webpage

Worlding\_US blog

## Follow us on social media



**Pinterest**



If you would like to get involved  
with our programs and/or have  
suggestions for *Passepartout*,  
please contact  
international@harpercollege.edu

The Office of International Education strives to offer intentional and transformative campus and international programs that are accessible to all. These programs promote intercultural competence and engage in purposeful interactions through an equity lens. The Office reflects a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the transparency of its policies and practices