

THE EXPLORER

Promoting connections across borders



Hello from the Office

Happy New Year, and welcome to the Spring Semester!

Last year ended on a challenging note for many universities as leaders navigated complex topics such as freedom of speech, supporting students' mental health, and future uncertainties. These reflect the challenges that you, our students, are experiencing every day. Our Office believes that intercultural competence CAN help prepare you to navigate such a world better, and this is what drives and gives us the fuel we need to continue to show up and create these exciting opportunities for you! We are thrilled to have you back with us, so please keep showing up, too. Together, we are stronger!

The coming months are filled with countless opportunities to grow, learn, and connect—both personally and academically. The Spring semester is always marked with a lot of traveling: many of our faculty-led studies abroad travel either during Spring Break or Summer, and this year is no different: Prof. Andrew Wilson is taking students to Japan under LIT 220, and Prof. Kevin Long is taking students to England under THE 213. We can't wait to report on these exciting adventures our Harper community will partake. This is also a busy month for students who are planning to travel in the Summer. Most of our Summer program application deadlines are in February or March. If you are exploring one of these opportunities, please get in touch with the Office as soon as possible. More information below.

This is also a vibrant semester for those who will stay on campus. We expect a semester full of visitors from abroad who will be coming to share about their countries and experiences. Prof. Jean-Paul Ibambe, a lawyer and journalist from Rwanda; Evan Kindle, staff and student support from the International College of Seville from Spain, and Adrian Carmona Miranda and Jairo Viales, administrator and professor from Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica. More information about their visit is available on the following pages and on our website.

We hope to see you soon, and we wish you a successful semester.

By Angelica Rackow

IN THIS ISSUE

**HELLO FROM THE
OFFICE**

**IMPORTANT DATES:
STUDY ABROAD AND
SCHOLARSHIPS**

LOOK FOR THIS

**HAPPENING
NEAR AND FAR**

**GETTING SOCIAL
WITH OIE**

OIE IN PICTURES

In an exciting collaboration, OIE, the German Club and Student Engagement hosted Harper's Oktoberfest. It was a day of celebration and education.



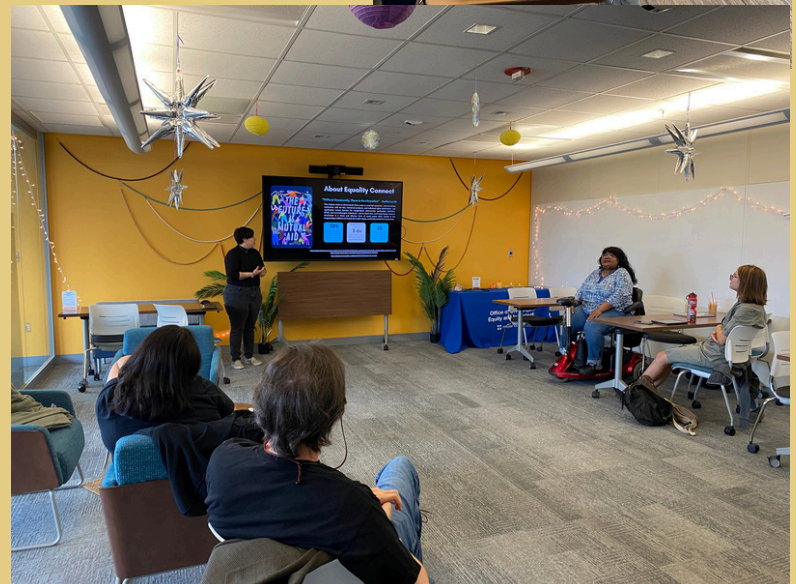
A sample of your many global allies on campus, prepping for Hullabaloo



This October we celebrated International Education Week, with events educating and celebrating our global community: Speed Language Exchange and Global Scholars Project Presentations



Dr. Proctor
(Harper's President)
helping us to
promote the
Acting/London
Study Abroad



Study Abroad Info Sessions

SIGN UP

Discover Deutschland: Study Abroad in Munich



INFO SESSION

FEBRUARY 4

AT 6PM IN L-323

There is no better way to learn
a language than living it



Learn more about this amazing program that will take students to a 4-week experience in Munich, Germany. The program leaders, Prof. Kim Jaeger, Advisor Anita Vaughn, and Advisor Ben Allen, will review the itinerary and answer questions from students interested in joining them this Summer.

Enjoy learning the German language and culture in this historic, charming, and culturally rich city in Bavaria. Bavaria is home to Oktoberfest, BMW, fairy-tale castles, and world-class museums. No prior knowledge of German is required!

Don't just learn Spanish. Live it!

One of our most successful programs through the ICISP consortium takes students for 4 weeks to Seville, Spain. Evan Kindle, Director of Communication and Student Outreach from the International College of Seville (and Harper Alumni), will visit the Harper campus in February, and he's looking forward to connecting with students and sharing details of his amazing school. Join us for a *cafecito* with Evan and learn more details about Seville and ICS. They offer programs for Summer and semester abroad.

INFO SESSION

FEBRUARY 20, AT 2PM IN D-139



Study Abroad Info Session

where to go and how to pay

Learn what study abroad options are available in 2025 and scholarships to help you fund them.

Jan 28 - in person, Z-123, 12pm to 1pm

Jan 29 - virtual, from 4:30pm to 5:30pm

More
info and
RSVP



Other Summer Programs



Austria



Canada



Costa Rica



France



Ghana



Ireland



Italy



South Korea



APPLICATIONS FOR
SUMMER CYCLE IS
OPEN

Scholarships

We understand that many students need to overcome financial challenges to partake in studying abroad and other global opportunities. OIE is committed to making studying abroad more accessible and affordable to students from all backgrounds with the unique qualities needed to succeed in our transformative programs. Below are some scholarships available. Note that they all have different due dates and criteria.

Benjamin A. Gilman



Benjamin A. Gilman
International Scholarship!

The Gilman and Gilman McCain are prestigious academic awards funded by the State Department. Awards range up to **\$5,000**. Applications are open now for Spring and Summer. Contact the Office if you plan to apply for this scholarship, as we can advise you through the process. More information is available [here](#).

Gilman Eligibility

- U.S. citizen or national
- Undergraduate student
- Federal Pell Grant recipient
- Community College Students are highly desirable



Applications open in mid-January and stay open for 4 weeks

FEA: Fund for Education Abroad



Fund for
Education Abroad

The Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) mission is to provide scholarships and ongoing support to underrepresented students in the U.S. study abroad population. FEA makes life-changing, international experiences accessible to all by supporting students of color, community college, and first-generation college students before, during, and after they participate in education abroad programs. Learn more [here](#). Awards up to **\$5,000**.



**NOW!
OPEN!**

Summer application is open

Deadline is February 5

Watch their Applicant Webinar [HERE](#)



Scholarships

Institutional Scholarships: Harper Foundation



These scholarships are available through the Harper College Foundation. By completing the donor general scholarship application, the foundation team determines the best scholarship and grant opportunities for you. Awards vary from **\$400 to \$1,200** and are available to **faculty-led and ICISP programs**.

To apply, complete the General Scholarship application. Deadlines are the same as the program's application deadlines. More information here.

Apply Now

ICISP: Founders' Study Abroad Scholarship

ICISP (Illinois Consortium for International Studies and Programs) Scholarships are available to ICISP-run or sponsored programs. Scholarships range from \$500 for summer to \$1,000 for semester programs. Students participating in an ICISP program are eligible to apply.

Applications for SUMMER 2025 is OPEN NOW

Application deadlines:

- February 10 for Summer programs
- May 10 for Fall programs

More information is available in the ICISP application.

CLS: Critical Language Scholarship - Opens late Fall

The Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program is an immersive summer opportunity for American college and university students to learn languages essential to America's engagement with the world. Destinations vary in different countries where languages are spoken.

Languages Offered:

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| • Arabic | • Indonesian | • Portuguese |
| • Azerbaijani | • Japanese | • Russian |
| • Chinese | • Korean | • Swahili |
| • Hindi | • Persian | • Turkish |
| | | • Urdu |



Global Opportunities on Campus

Meet our Visiting Scholar: Prof. Ibambe, from Rwanda

From April 7 to 11, Professor Jean-Paul Ibambe will be visiting the Harper Campus. He is a human rights lawyer who began his career as a journalist covering topics of hate speech, dissent, and has gone on to represent colleagues who have been detained for their reporting. He will be on campus the week of April 7. His visit coincides with a very relevant event: the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the Rwandan genocide. Stay tune for events Prof. Ibambe will be presenting and participating in during his visit. It will be an amazing opportunity to learn about the topics he researches, his experience as a journalist and attorney, in addition to learning from him about his country.



We are still working on Prof. Ibambe's schedule during his time with us, but here are two opportunities to listen and connect with him:

SPOTLIGHT SERIES:

Wednesday, April 9, at 3:30pm, in the Cultural Center

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CLUB MEETING

Thursday, April 10, at 3:30pm, in D195

**SAVE
THE DATE**

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Spring Semester:

Application Deadline: October

Orientation: November

Departure: January

Summer:

Application: February/March

Orientation: May

Departure: May/June/July

Global Opportunities on Campus

Work or Intern for the Department of State

This past Fall, Susan Falatko, Midwest Diplomat in Residence, visited Harper during International Education Week to share with students about her experience working for the Department of State. She has over 25 years of experience, having served in Mali, Cuba, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Switzerland, Rwanda, Mauritius, and Slovenia.

During her visit to our campus, she shared some exciting opportunities with students who are interested in possible careers serving our country. One really exciting thing she shared is that people often (and mistakenly) believe that these opportunities are limited to very specific field of work. The government often searches for professionals in many fields, such as human resources, management, administration, computer science, and health.

Ms. Falatko explained to us that there are 5 career paths to the State Department:

- Foreign Service Generalists
- Foreign Service Specialists
- Civil Service
- Fellowships and Internships
- Consular Fellows Program



The opportunities currently available:

- The [Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Summer Enrichment Program](#) is a six-week summer program designed to provide undergraduate students with a deeper appreciation of current issues and trends in international affairs, a greater understanding of career opportunities in international affairs, and the enhanced knowledge and skills to pursue such careers. This program encourages the application of members of minority groups historically underrepresented in the Foreign Service, women, and those with financial need. Students live at Howard University, attend classes, and participate in a variety of programs with foreign affairs professionals at Howard and at diverse locations around Washington, DC. The Program covers tuition, roundtrip travel to D.C., room and board, and provides a stipend. More information [here](#).

We also plan to schedule another Virtual presentation with Ms. Falatko. Would you be interested in joining? Contact the office so we can keep you informed.

From our bookshelf

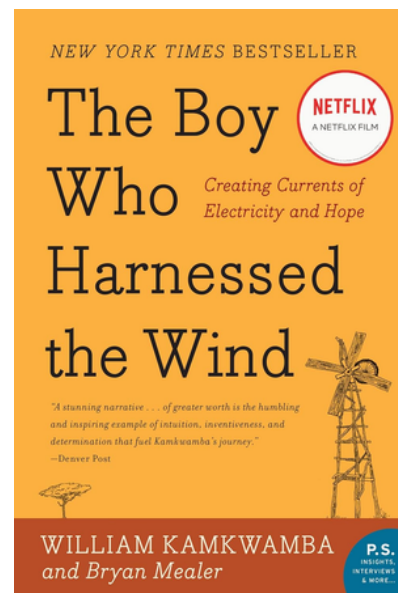


Books are an invaluable resource when it comes to learning about other countries and cultures. They offer a window into different perspectives, traditions, and histories, allowing readers to gain a deeper understanding of the world around them. Through books, we can explore the customs, values, and social dynamics that shape societies across the globe. In every newsletter, I'll highlight one or two books available in the Harper Library so that you can explore a little bit of the world from the comfort of your favorite reading nook.

THE BOY WHO HARNESSED THE WIND, by William Kamkwamba

William Kamkwamba was born in Malawi, a country where magic ruled and modern science was mystery. It was also a land withered by drought and hunger. But William had read about windmills, and he dreamed of building one that would bring to his small village a set of luxuries that only 2 percent of Malawians could enjoy: electricity and running water. His neighbors called him misala—crazy—but William refused to let go of his dreams. With a small pile of once-forgotten science textbooks; some scrap metal, tractor parts, and bicycle halves; and an armory of curiosity and determination, he embarked on a daring plan to forge an unlikely contraption and small miracle that would change the lives around him.

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind is a remarkable true story about human inventiveness and its power to overcome crippling adversity. It will inspire anyone who doubts the power of one individual's ability to change his community and better the lives of those around him. (from Amazon.com and available at the Harper Library)



International Students Club

Experience global perspectives right here at Harper College!

The International Students Club promotes friendship and understanding among students from the United States and around the world, and creates a cultural learning experience for its members through activities on and off campus.

The Club meets on Thursdays, at 3:30 pm, in D-195

[Join the email list to receive the schedule and location for the next meetings.](#)



LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH



847-925-6436



harper_oie



<https://www.youtube.com/@harpercollegeofficeofinter3741>

