



International Programs Committee News

USCB's International Week

USCB celebrated its international students, faculty and programs in the week of November 18 – 22, 2019. The event included an opening talk by Chancellor Dr. Al Panu, various presentations by USCB faculty, an interactive student poster gallery, an international film festival, an interactive world map, an international game day, and an international dress day. The 2020 international week is scheduled for November 16 – 20, 2020.

USCB Expanding into the Far East

Besides USCB's existing student exchange agreements with Netherlands and India, Memoranda Of Understanding (MOUs) have been signed with Woosong University in South Korea, and with institutions of higher education in Poland and China, to conduct student-exchange programs. Negotiations are under way with other universities around the world.

Charles Calvert, Ph.D., dean of the Hilton Head Island Campus, home of USCB's Hospitality Management Program, returned from China in November 2018 after negotiating MOUs with Hebei Normal University, Hebei North University, and the Shijiazhuang College of Scientific and Technical Engineering, all in Hebei Province.

On the last day of July 2019, a delegation of six professors from Changzhi University in China arrived on USCB's Bluffton Campus to conclude negotiations and sign a memorandum of agreement to form an institutional partnership with USCB. The group included a vice president of the



Last year's International Week.

university, three department deans, a deputy dean and the university's director of human resources. Changzhi University has more than 12,000 full-time, undergraduate students spread over 20 provinces, nearly 700 faculty members and 145 teaching departments. It offers 36 undergraduate majors in nine disciplines.

By the time the 2019 spring semester ended in May, USCB had played host to 25 international students representing 14 countries on four continents. Canada topped the list with six students, India and Sweden each contributed four, Germany and the United Kingdom added two, and other countries sent one apiece. In a tribute to the university's global assembly of undergraduate scholars, the flags of their countries were proudly displayed in the Bluffton campus dining hall.

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World 101

Dr. Cindy Lahar, chair of Social Sciences, and Dr. Angela Simmons, vice chancellor for student development, have been accepted into AASCU's American Democracy Project's Global Civic Literacy, a one-year initiative in partnership with World101 world101.cfr.org from the Council on Foreign Relations designed to help students increase their knowledge of our global society and understand how global issues influence lives of everyday citizens.

Through this initiative, team members from each participating institution will work together in the development of campus curricular and co-curricular programming that utilize World101 to build global civic literacy. Individuals at the participating institutions will form a community of practice, working together to exchange ideas and develop effective strategies, as well as provide support across institutional roles with colleagues from across the country.



Global Studies 398 and French 201.

Global Studies 398 and French 201

From the last week of May to end of June 2019, USC B students traveled to three countries in Europe (France, UK, Germany) with Dr. Babet Villena-Alvarez for Global Studies 398 and French 201. USC B students had joint classes and attended joint cultural activities with engineering students from the Université de Paris-Institut Universitaire de Technologie. They were featured in that school's website, viewable through this link: <https://cva.parisnanterre.fr/l-international-au-gmp-882908.kjsp?RH=1490273805061&RF=1559052229224>

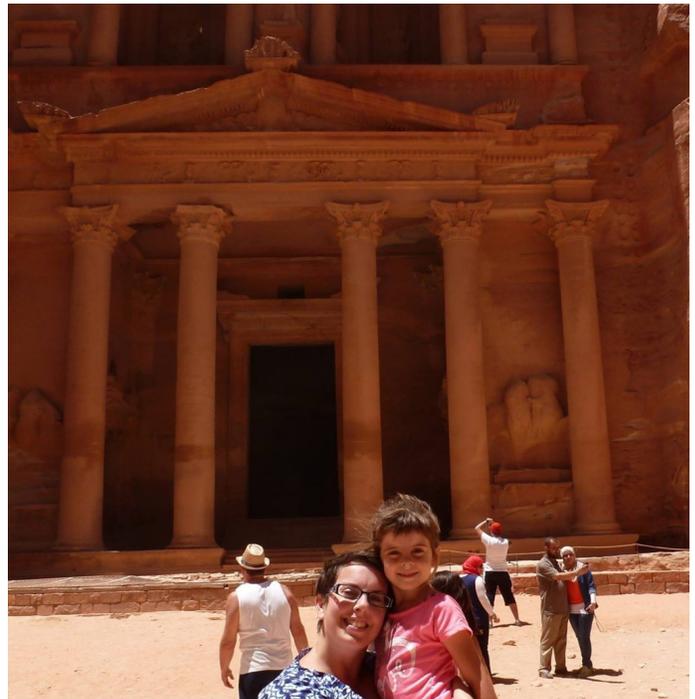
USCB Listed as Host Institution with Germany's DAAD

Dr. Xiaomei Zhang's (Computational Science) Aspire and USC B project "PeerCloud: Enhancing Mobile Edge/Cloud Computing with D2D Offloading" is now listed in Germany's DAAD, that country's counterpart to the U.S. Fulbright, as part of a network of mentors for German summer interns in 2021 and beyond funded by the German government. Our institution is one of only 3 offering a computational science/ computer engineering project offered in the USA, along with Carnegie Mellon and U of Toledo. Over 400 projects are listed worldwide.

USCB Fulbright News

USCB was named a top producer of Fulbright U.S. Scholars for the 2019-2020 academic year by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program.

Theodora Light (Class of '20) has been selected for a 2020-2021 Fulbright U.S. Student Award in Spain. The Fulbright Student Program is highly competitive and provides grants for individually-designed study/research projects or for English Teaching Assistant Programs in participating countries around the world. We are proud and appreciative to Theodora and to her outstanding USC B professors for bringing this prestigious honor to our campus community.



Kim Cavanagh in Jordan.

Kimberly Cavanagh, Ph.D., was selected to receive a 2019-2020 Fulbright Scholar Research Award to build upon the research she conducted in 2008 in the desert kingdom of Jordan. Dr. Cavanagh, associate professor of anthropology in the Department of Social Sciences, revisited the Red Sea port of Aqaba over the summer of 2014 to focus on her research project, "Re-mapping Aqaba: Exploring the Social and Economic Development of Aqaba, Jordan."

Her new research picked up at the point where her previous work left off, delving into planned large-scale urban tourism development in the city. Her findings will serve to paint a "longitudinal ethnographic portrait of the social and economic realities" that Aqaba residents experience as their city becomes increasingly transformed into a tourism destination. The University of Jordan-Aqaba served as her international host.



Last year's International Week.

In October 2019, Chancellor Al M. Panu was selected and awarded the competitive annual Fulbright U.S. International Education Administrators Seminar in Paris and Bordeaux, France.

Dr. Babet Villena-Alvarez gave the keynote speech for Fulbright Polska 60th anniversary celebration, "Why Polish Academia is attractive to American Students" on March 7, 2019, in Warsaw, Poland. <https://fulbright.edu.pl/study-abroad-2019/#1559059449256-e9647b27-898d>, <https://pl.usembassy.gov/60fulbright/>.

Stories from Abroad Event Series

On November 18, 2019, Drs. Bruce Marlowe and Elizabeth Serieux shared their experiences during their Study Abroad trip to Finland in October 2019. Drs. Marlowe and Serieux took



USCBA students in Finland.

23 USCBA students majoring in public health and education to Helsinki and Joensuu, Finland. Their study abroad trip included visits to the University of Helsinki, Karelia University of Applied Sciences at the University of Eastern Finland Joensuu Campus, the Helsinki Sports Academy, and several local K-12 schools. The program was designed to promote critical thinking about the relationship between educational policy and health promotion in both Finland and the United States; and the participating students had the opportunity to assess how the core values, concepts and functions of public health have been applied to educational and other settings in both countries.



USCBA students in Nepal.

On November 20, 2019, Dr. Chesanny Butler, Dr. Jana Wheeler and their students shared their experiences during their two-week Study Abroad trip to Nepal in May 2019. Drs. Chesanny Butler and Jana Wheeler took 13 USCBA nursing students to Katmandu, Pokhara and the Chitwan National Park Region of Nepal. They hiked into the Himalayas 26 miles by foot to bring much needed healthcare to local villages and orphanages in partnership with local NGO volunteers. Their two-week study abroad trip included many health check-up sessions and home visits.





ANNOUNCEMENTS



• **The International Programs Committee** will participate in National International Education Week November 16-20, 2020 (<https://iew.state.gov>) with a university-wide, week-long international fair. <https://www.facebook.com/USCBinternational>

• **The Off-Campus Internationalization Subcommittee** has prepared Study Abroad Program Proposal forms and information packets for USCB faculty on creating and conducting faculty-led, study-abroad programs.

• **The International Programs Committee** continues to participate in the USCB Welcome Week, Shark-a-palooza and other activities.

International Programs Committee (IPC) Members:

On-Campus Internationalization Subcommittee:

Volkan Sevim, Associate Professor of Mathematics (Chair)

Serkan Catma, Associate Professor of Economics

Angela Simmons, Vice Chancellor, Student Development

Gary Sutton, USCB Registrar

Kristen Vannoord, Assistant Director of Admissions

Carol Weir, Interim Senior Director of Communications

Nicki Grace, Accounting Student and Academic Affairs Intern

Mahogany Hickman, Video Media Specialist

Off-Campus Internationalization Subcommittee:

Kimberly Cavanagh, Associate Professor of Anthropology (Chair)

Cindy Lahar, Professor of Psychology

Alyssa Mayer, Assistant Professor of Public Health

Jena Chojnowski, Assistant Professor of Biology

Mary Moonen, USCB Bursar

Juanita Babet Villena-Alvarez, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

For questions or comments about this newsletter, please contact:

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