

2013-2014 **ANNUAL REPORT**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES

ISSS 2013-2014 Annual Report

"A look back at the past 10 years of the University of Oregon would reveal how important our international students have been to the general growth, diversity, and enrichment of our university. Our international students, faculty and staff are a huge untapped resource for peer-to-peer learning opportunities, especially for domestic students. International students enrich our UO campus, foster rich cultural exchange in our community, and provide global recognition to the State of Oregon."

- Vice Provost for International Affairs, Dennis Galvan

MEETING CHALLENGES AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE



Abe Schafermeyer

Director International Student and Scholar Services

On behalf of the staff of International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) at the University of Oregon, I am very pleased to present our 2013-2014 Annual Report.

As you will see from the following pages, the UO continues to enjoy unprecedented growth in its international student enrollments, attracting nearly 3,000 students – a 16% increase from 2012-2013 – from over 90 countries. The UO also continues to bring to campus faculty and researchers from around the world, as they pursue collaborations and exchanges with our world-class faculty and other members of our teaching and research community.

These positive developments, of course, have not come without challenges. In particular, the rapid expansion of the UO international student population over the last decade has given us the opportunity to reaffirm our mission while seeking avenues for programmatic growth and development. Over the past year, and with the support of Vice Provost for International Affairs Dr. Dennis Galvan, ISSS has embarked on an ambitious agenda to strengthen the UO's already strong portfolio of services and programs in order to keep true to our aim of providing an extraordinary academic and learning environment for our international students and scholars.

In early 2013, we initiated a series of campus conversations and dialogues with international students and student leaders, faculty, and colleagues and partners to identify programs and services critical to international students' academic, cultural, and professional integration into the UO community. ISSS and other UO offices have begun a much needed-expansion of advising services and staff that will support international students' academic and English-language preparedness for academic excellence and success. We have also started work on pre-arrival orientation, and we are also expanding our social and cultural programs that help to foster intercultural exchange and campus community. Through these new initiatives as well as our existing services, ISSS demonstrates its ongoing commitment to internationalizing the UO campus by offering our international students and scholars meaningful, enriching, and rewarding academic, professional, and cultural experiences.

We hope that you will read this report with interest. Please continue to provide us with feedback as we work together to fulfill the UO's promise as a center of international education.

With warm regards,

the REST

TALK TO US



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This report brought to you by the Office of International Affairs and its International Student and Scholar Services staff: John Ahlen, Paolo Daniele, Mariska Dover, Andy Shiotani, Becky Megerssa, Abe Schafermeyer, and Megan Sullivan.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FAST FACTS

Two Thousand Nine Hundred And Twenty Five

Total international students 2013-14.



Enrollment over time.

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- The ser							
			%			%	
	China	1,852	63	Canada	71	3	
	Korea	155	5	Germany	35	1	
	Japan	119	4	India	30	1	
	Saudi Arabia	115	4	Vietnam	27	1	
	Taiwan	91	3	Iran	27	1	
and the				Other	403	14	

This coming year ISSS will be implementing a new **Peer Mentoring Program** that will connect seasoned domestic and international students with incoming or transfer international students to facilitate their academic integration and help them become familiar with the UO. The new Peer Mentoring Program may also assist academic units with initial and continuing advising on program and department requirements.



Enrollment increase since 2003.

Enrollment increase from 2012-13 to 2013-14.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TRENDS

		%*	
Business Administration	891	30	
Economics	375	13	
Undeclared	275	9	
 Accounting 	100	3	
Computer Science	94	3	
Journalism	84	3	
Psychology	80	3	
Mathematics	56	2	
Educational Foundations	54	2	
Biology	54	-2	
Other ¹	<54	30	
	 Economics Undeclared Accounting Computer Science Journalism Psychology Mathematics Educational Foundations Biology 	 Economics 375 Undeclared 275 Accounting 100 Computer Science 94 Journalism 84 Psychology 80 Mathematics 56 Educational Foundations 54 Biology 54 	 Business Administration Economics 13 Undeclared 275 4 Accounting 100 3 Computer Science 4 3 Psychology 80 3 Psychology 80 4 4 Educational Foundations 54 2 Biology 54 2

Top 10 most popular majors among international undergraduate students. ¹Less than 54 students per major. *Percentage of total international students enrolled.

Hong Kong	College of Arts & Sciences	1,373
Total 26 students (10 new).	-Humanities	129
	-Natural Sciences	473
Kunnoit	-Social Sciences	522
Kuwait	-Undeclared	249
Total 23 students.		
	Lundquist College of Business	1,007
Thailand	School Architecture & Allied Arts	99
Total 21 students.	School Journalism & Communication	131
United Kingdom	College of Education	114
Total 20 students.	School of Music & Dance	38
Singapore	School of Law	11
	- 1	0 775
Total 22 students.	Total	2,775

Countries with consistent recent enrollment.

Degree seeking students by college.



Enrollment of Chinese students increased 94% from 2011 and >1,870% since 2003.

ISSS is creating a new **Writing Laboratory** that would offer weekly writing support and tutoring to international students needing additional out-of-classroom assistance with writing mechanics and fundamentals.



Countries to watch.

VISITING FACULTY





Total international scholars 2013-14.

Total countries represented.

AEI/Linguistics		35	China	61
CAPS		31	Korea	32
Psychology		18	Canada	14
Chemistry		12	Ganada	
Math		10	Japan	8
Human Physiology		7	Pakistan	8
Neuroscience		7		-
Molecular Biology		6	India	· ·
East Asian Languag	ges and Literature	5	Germany	7
Law School		5	UK	6
Lundquist College of	of Business	5	Delevel	
Optics		5	Poland	4
Architecture		4	Mexico	4

Top department homes for visiting faculty.

Top countries of citizenship



Total international scholars over time.

Life balance, peers and cycling were key for Canadian mathematician to choose UO

By Chakris Kussalanant

Mathematics Professor Ben Young left his native town of Victoria, BC Canada not just to pursue his education, but also his love of numbers.

"I've always loved math and I've always known I wanted to study it," says Young. "It was more a matter of sticking with that dream and not choosing to leave mathematics. It took 16 years from the start of my undergrad to the start of my job here."

Young started his undergraduate education in math and computer science at the University of Victoria, and then transferred to pure mathematics and earned a Bachelor's in Math (2001) and Master's of Science in Mathematics (2002) at Carleton University, Canada.

In 2008, Young earned a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of British Columbia. Two years later, Young was awarded a Doctoral Prize from the Canadian Mathematical Society.

After his Ph.D., Young achieved several postdoctoral fellowships at McGill University, Montreal, the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute at UC Berkeley, and the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden.

During his career, Professor Young has been offered many other career options, like work as a software engineer, professional musician, machinist, and to become a quantitative analyst. However, he has remained true to his one and only passion—numbers.

"I applied to the UO primarily because it has a very strong Math Department, and because I'm a good fit with the other researchers here," says Young. "But also, Eugene is a wonderful town, and that really did play into my decision. Eugene reminds me very much of my home town of Victoria, BC Canada."

Professor Young is an expert in the field of enumerative and algebraic combinatorics.

"This largely means I study and solve counting problems, sometimes using tools from abstract algebra," explains Young. "If you find yourself saying:



'this is an interesting mathematical object... I wonder how many of them there are?,' then you are asking a combinatorics question."

His research interests include algebraic geometry, representation theory, statistical mechanics, and random matrix theory. Young is very interested in using computers in every aspect of his research from numerical experiment to automatic generation of mathematical proof.

At the moment, Professor Young is working on a "boxcounting" problem from algebraic geometry and a variety of problems involving counting reduced words in the symmetric group. When he is not teaching or in his office, Professor Young can bee seen around town with his family—since as a "cycling-only family," they do not own a car.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

One Million Four Hundred Thirty Four Thousand and Eighty Nine

Financial aid and scholarships for international students 2013-14.



Total scholarship funds through International Cultural Service Program (ICSP).

\$137k

Total disbursement through Endowed Scholarships.



Total Sponsored scholarships awarded.



Estimated International Student Fee Remission.





Total in Emergency Student Financial Aid.

Total International Dean's Excellence Award (IDEA).



French native, ICSP leader Claire Weil calls Eugene her new home

By Lindsay Kelchner

Claire Weil is an international student double majoring in International Studies and Economics at the University of Oregon. It was always her dream to leave her hometown of Saint Germain en Laye, a suburb of Paris, to study in the United States.

Claire earned a prestigious scholarship with the International Cultural Service Program (ICSP). This program offers students with financial need and exceptional merit a tuition-waiver scholarship. It is a great opportunity for exceptional students like Claire to achieve their dreams to study abroad.

With an open mind Claire came to Eugene to go to school, form new friendships, and have an adventure. Her international friends have been her biggest support group as they have all been adjusting to life in the U.S.

"Moving to Eugene is something that I enjoyed because I learned so much throughout this process," she said.

By conversing with locals and involving herself in the

community, Claire has managed to make adapting to life in a new country easier. As an ICSP student she has become involved with community service and other local groups. She is a part of the Student Labor Action Project and the Carnegie Global Oregon Group, which has given her the opportunity to interact with American students daily.

When asked the difference between the United States and France, Claire explained why culture shock and adjustment were a big part of her first year at UO.

She was surprised by her culture shock because it was assumed the difference between these two Western societies wouldn't be quite so drastic.

"The food is different. The way people dress is different. Relationships between friends, families and genders are different," Weil said. "The attitude and lifestyle of Eugene are refreshing after living in Paris. Eugene is a unique town with an outdoorsy feel and an environmentally conscious campus."

UO COMPARISON TO U.S.

Comparisons in this section of our report are based on national information and data drawn from the **2012-2013 Institute of International Education, Open Doors report**, the most recent year for which U.S. data was available. These figures include Optional Practical Training (OPT) students and English as a Second Language (ESL) students for the UO and the U.S.

In the 2012-13 academic year, the number of international students in the U.S. increased 7.2% to a record high of 819,644 students. The UO has increased international enrollment by 16% to a record high of 2,925 international students, ranking 51 in the country.



Ratio of international students studying at the UO compared to the national average 2012.



Comparison of percentage changes in international undergraduate enrollment at UO to the national average.

OUR SERVICES International Student & Scholar Services

How we serve the international UO community:

U.S. Immigration

ISSS is responsible for tracking the visa status of international students, scholars and their dependents and ensuring compliance with U.S. federal immigration regulations. ISSS provides federal immigration advising support and advocacy for international students, scholars and their dependents, including the creation of documents for nonimmigrant visas and the processing of H1B petitions.

Advising

ISSS advises international students, scholars and their dependents on U.S. federal immigration regulations as it pertains to their academic program and personal adjustment to the U.S. educational system. International student advisors advise students and scholars on enrollment issues, temporary leave of absence, travel, complete withdrawals, medical leave, academic changes, financial changes, national & international disasters and emergencies, change of visa status, change in academic status, and more. Drop-in hours are Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 2-4pm. Individual appointments outside of drop-in hours can be made by calling 541-346-3206.

Orientation

At the beginning of each academic term, ISSS offers a comprehensive orientation program for all international students. International Student Orientation (ISO) is intended to assist new international students with their transition to the UO and the Eugene/Springfield community. Individual orientations are given to visiting scholars.

Friendship Programs

Through the Friendship Foundation for International Students (FFIS), ISSS matches international students, scholars and their dependents with volunteer host families for a short-term homestay experience at the beginning of fall, winter and spring terms. Students and scholars can also be matched with an FFIS volunteer (which includes UO domestic students as well as community members) for conversation exchange and friendship during the academic year.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

ISSS awards over one million dollars in scholarships and financial aid each year, and offers work-study awards to international students. International students experiencing financial crisis may apply to ISSS for short-term emergency loans or financial aid.

International Cultural Service Program (ICSP)

The ICSP scholarship program is designed to bring a diverse representation of international students to the UO and our community to share their cultural traditions, and to help develop greater cross-cultural understanding. These scholarship recipients receive full or partial tuition remission in exchange for 80 hours of volunteer service during the academic year where they share their culture through presentations, panel discussions, demonstrations of regional dance, music, food and many other forms of cultural expression.

Exchange Student Programs

Every year the UO takes part in international exchange programs with foreign universities, greatly enhancing the intellectual and programmatic value to many faculty, departments, schools, colleges and students. UO students study abroad at our partner universities and, through ISSS, partner university students are able to participate in UO classes and integrate with international student programming and campus-wide activities.

Sponsored Student Programs

ISSS awards scholarships to bring the brightest and most innovative students selected by Fulbright, USAID, AMIDEAST and LASPAU. ISSS coordinates the recruitment, admission and award process for these students, and serves as a main point of reference.



No matter where you come from, we will speak your language.



Office of International Affairs

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