



UNIVERSITY OF  
**OREGON**

Office of  
International Affairs



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
ISSS**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
AND SCHOLAR SERVICES

**2014-15**

# MEETING CHALLENGES AND CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FUTURE

“Our international students, faculty, and staff have been crucial to the general growth, diversity, and enrichment of our university. We are a better and stronger community thanks to their presence at the UO. As more and more people from around the world come to Oregon, our university and state gain global recognition. Our international students, and their experience, are part of a Global Oregon.”

— **Vice Provost for International Affairs, Dennis Galvan**

Over the past three years, OIA has spearheaded a number of campus conversations and town hall meetings with faculty, administrators, international students, and other campus partners to discuss the rapid growth since 2008 in our international student population. While this growth shows that the University of Oregon continues to emerge as a global destination in higher education, it has also created new challenges as we attempt to provide international students with the extraordinary UO education that they deserve. During these conversations and meetings, we identified three overlapping areas in need of particular attention and development—international students’ cultural adjustment, academic support and integration, and English-language skills.

In order to address these concerns, the UO implemented, beginning with the 2013-2014 academic year, an international student fee aimed at generating critical resources for programs and services designed to enhance international students’ academic, cultural, and social integration. The fee, now in its second year, has started to bear fruit in a number of concrete and tangible ways. In particular, International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)—in cooperation with its campus partners—has undertaken a number of initiatives aimed at supporting international students in their efforts at academic and personal success at the UO.

For the first time, our report includes a series of updates on our new international student programs: ISAB, ExplOregon, Peer Mentor Program, and Academic Success Program.

These initiatives do not represent the end, but rather the beginning of long-term efforts to improve the UO international student experience.

We hope that you will find this report informative, and welcome your ideas, suggestions, and comments. Please feel free to drop me a line at [abe@uoregon.edu](mailto:abe@uoregon.edu) with your thoughts and observations.

With warm regards,



**Abe Schafermeyer**

Director International Student  
and Scholar Services



**INSIDE:**

LETTER FROM ISSS DIRECTOR  
ABE SCHAFERMEYER

STUDENT FAST FACTS AND TOP COUNTRIES OF  
CITIZENSHIP

INTERSECTING TRENDS DEFINING THE FUTURE  
OF UO

THE MOST POPULAR MAJORS AMONG  
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

VISITING FACULTY BY THE NUMBERS AND THEIR  
TOP DEPARTMENT HOMES

OUR FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP  
ACHIEVEMENTS

UO COMPARISON TO U.S. INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENTS

UPDATES AND IMPACTS OF NEW INTERNATIONAL  
STUDENT PROGRAMS

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROFILE:  
YINA FROM TIBET

INTERNATIONAL FACULTY PROFILE:  
TÉWODROS W. WORKNEH FROM ETHIOPIA

**Office of International Affairs**  
5209 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-5209  
[international.uoregon.edu](http://international.uoregon.edu)

This report brought to you by the Office of International Affairs and its International Student and Scholar Services staff: John Ahlen, Robyn Carter, Zhaohui Chen, Kate Comiskey, Paolo Daniele, Mariska Dover, Andy Shiotani, Ethan Mapes, Becky Megerssa, Abe Schafermeyer, Megan Sullivan, and Shao-Wei Wang.



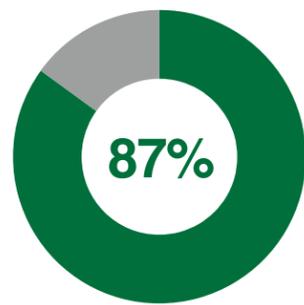
# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FAST FACTS & MILESTONES

# 2014/15

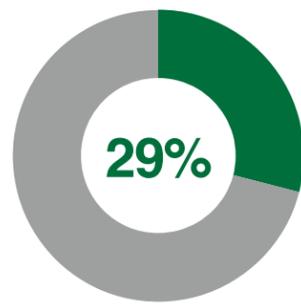
# 3,132 166%

Total international students 2014-15.

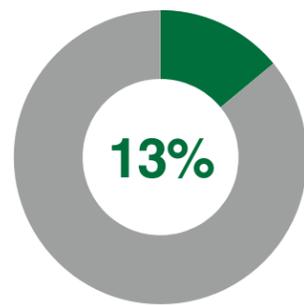
Enrollment increase since 2004-05.



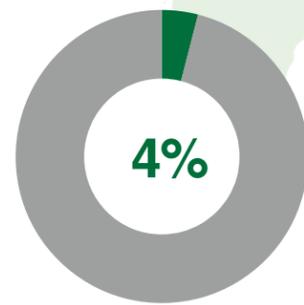
Undergraduate students.



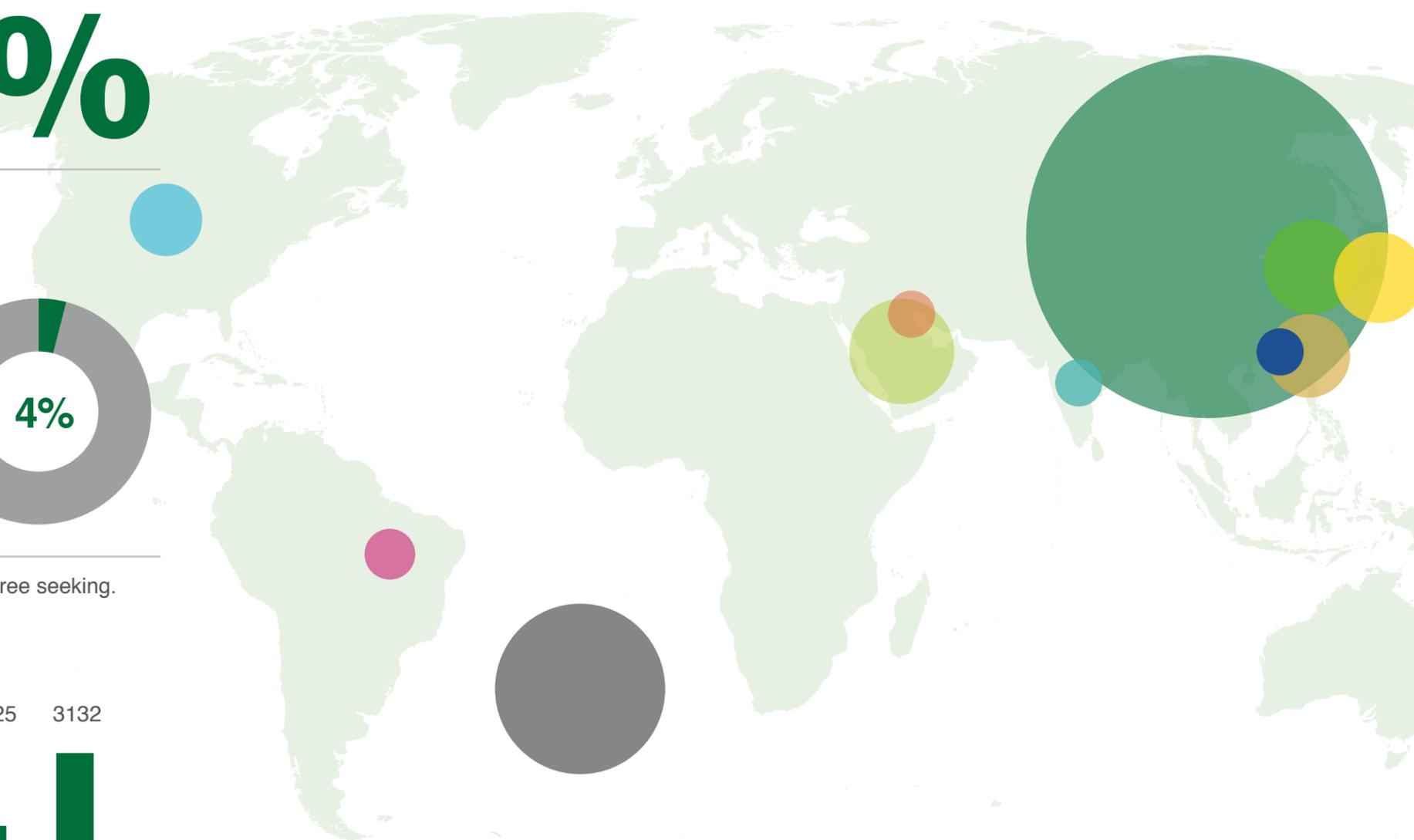
Business adm. majors.



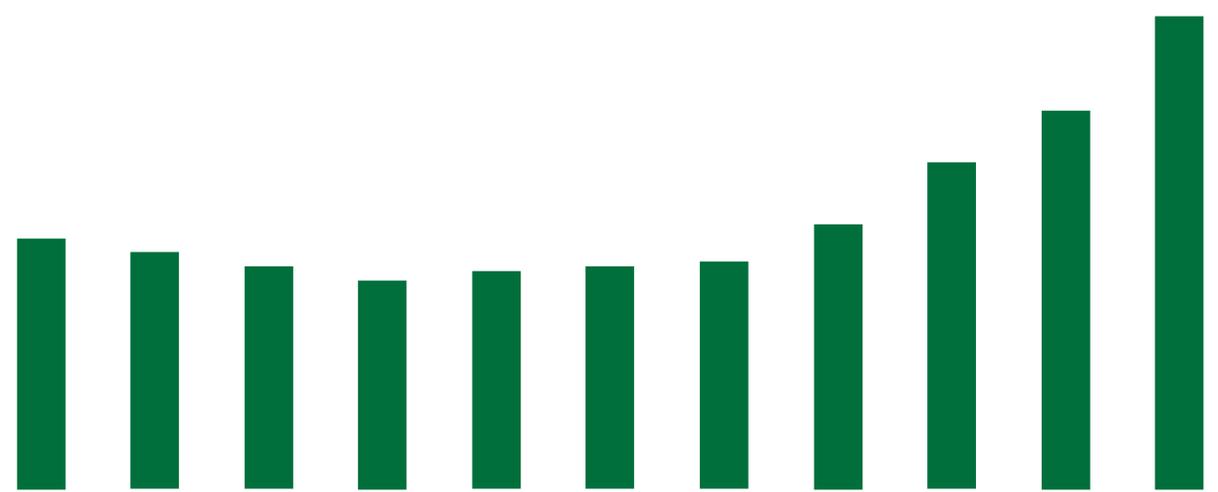
Graduate students.



Non-degree seeking.



1176 1119 1173 1187 1222 1422 1746 2016 2524 2925 3132



2004-05 2005-06 2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 2012-13 2013-14 2014-15

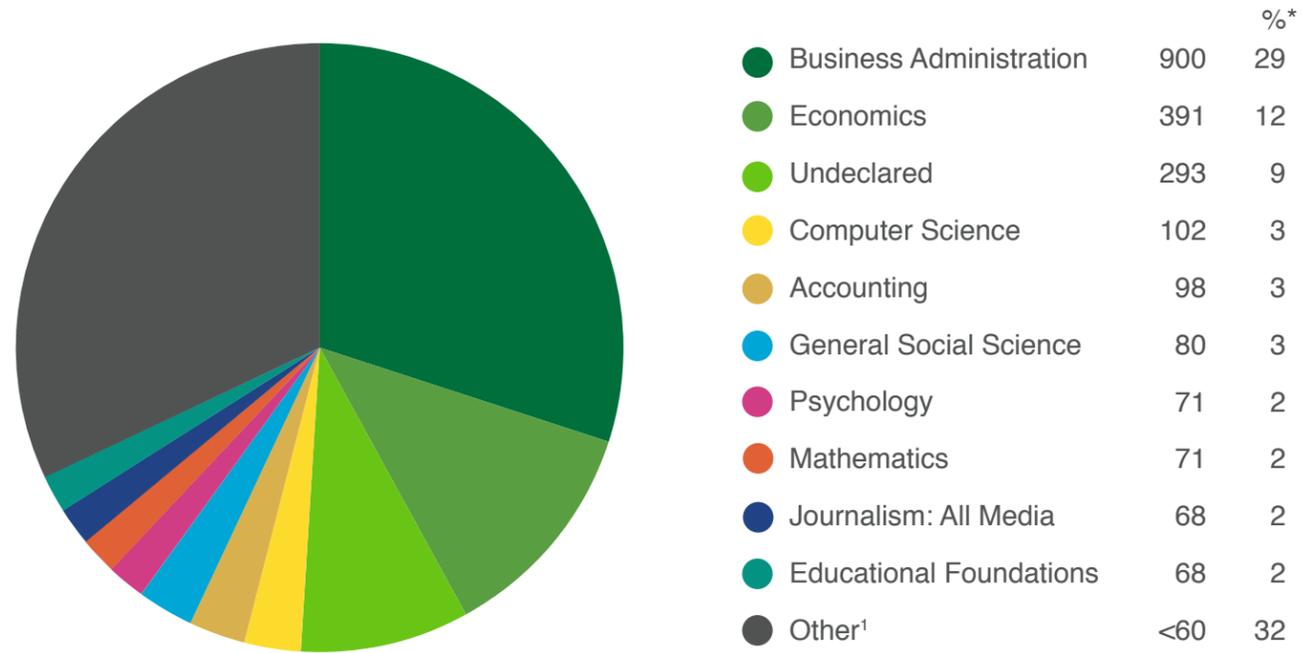
Enrollment over time.

		%*			%*
● China	2,083	67	● Canada	64	2
● Saudi Arabia	127	4	● Brazil	38	1
● Korea	109	3	● Kuwait	32	1
● Japan	97	3	● India	29	1
● Taiwan	84	3	● Hong Kong	27	1
			● Other	442	14

Top 10 countries of citizenship.

\*Percentage of total international students enrolled.

# INTERSECTING TRENDS DEFINING THE FUTURE OF UO



Top 10 most popular majors among international undergraduate students.

<sup>1</sup>Less than 54 students per major. \*Percentage of total international students enrolled.

## Brazil

Total 23 new students.

## Canada

Total 19 new students.

## Saudi Arabia

Total 15 new students.

## India

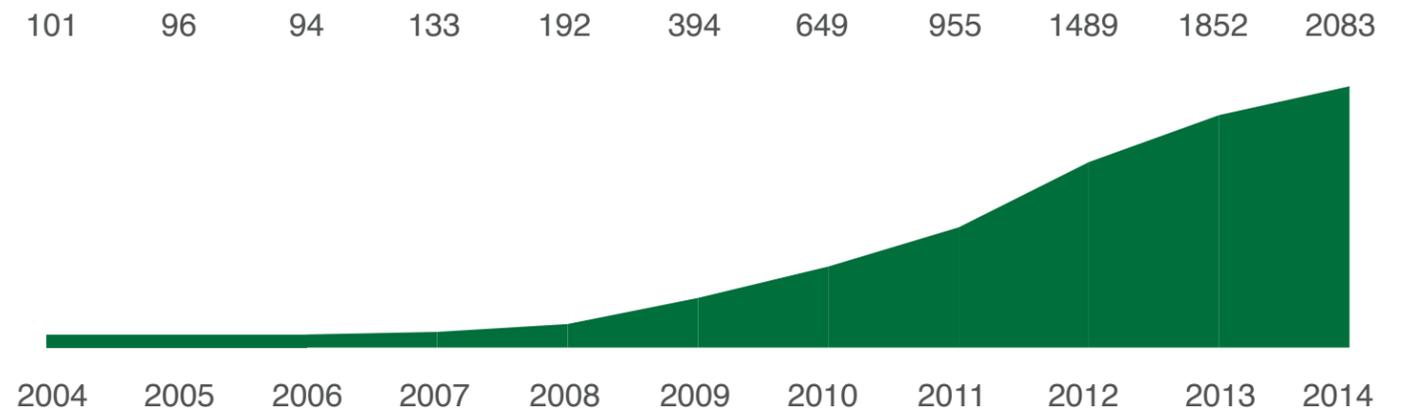
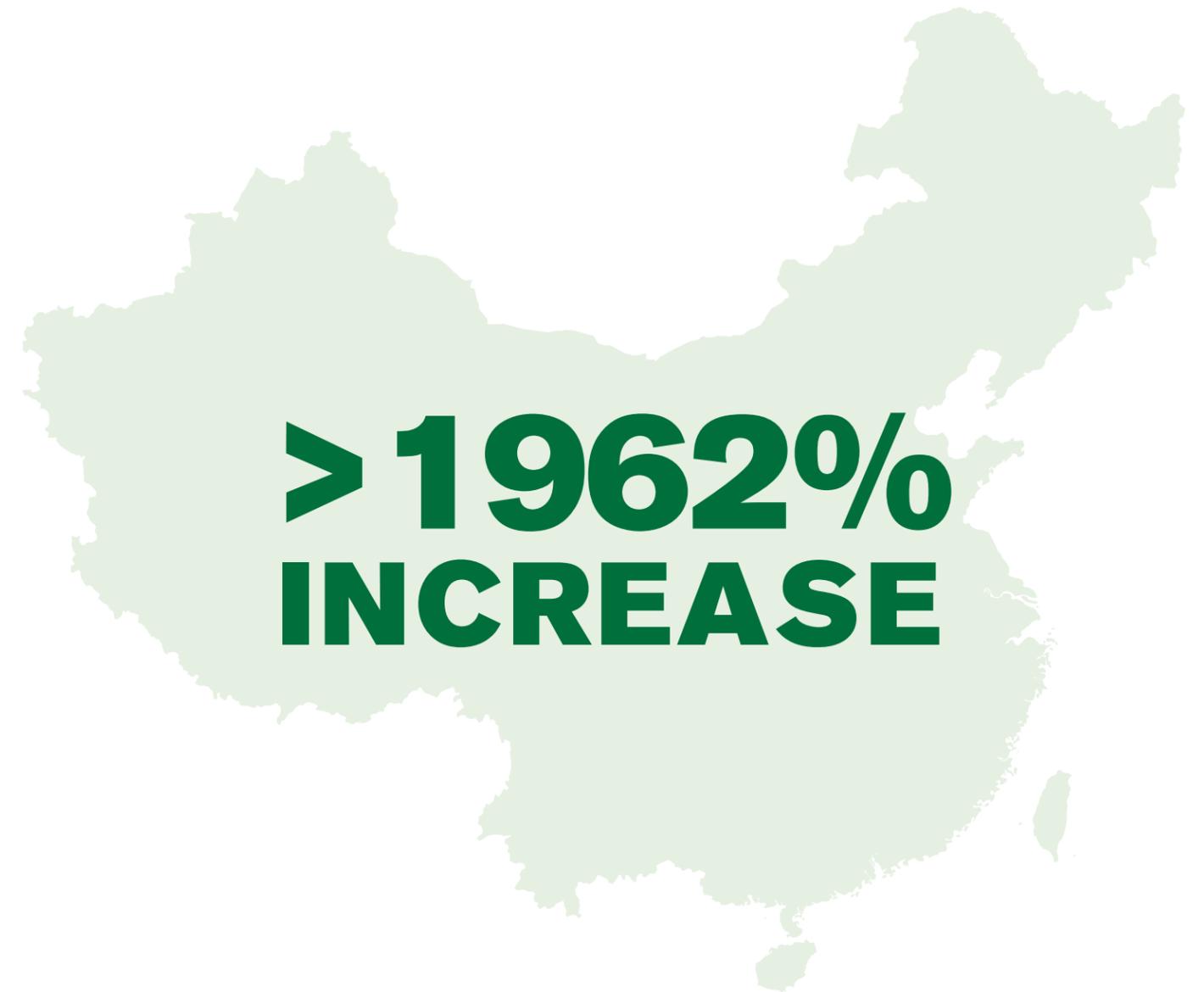
Total 13 new students.

## Indonesia

Total 11 new students.

College of Arts & Sciences	1,533
-Humanities	133
-Natural Sciences	515
-Social Sciences	592
-Undeclared	293
Lundquist College of Business	1,040
School Architecture & Allied Arts	128
School Journalism & Communication	131
College of Education	123
School of Music & Dance	39
School of Law	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,007</b>

Degree seeking students (UG & GR) by college.



Enrollment of Chinese students increased 221% from 2010 and >1,962% since 2004.

Countries with new and increased enrollment.

# VISITING FACULTY BY THE NUMBERS AND TOP DEPARTMENT HOMES

**252**

Total international scholars 2013-14.

Center for Asian & Pacific Studies	40
American English Institute / Linguistics	27
Chemistry	16
Linguistics	13
Institute of Neuroscience	8
Human Physiology	8
Computer Science	8
Business	7
Romance Languages	7
East Asian Languages and Literature	7

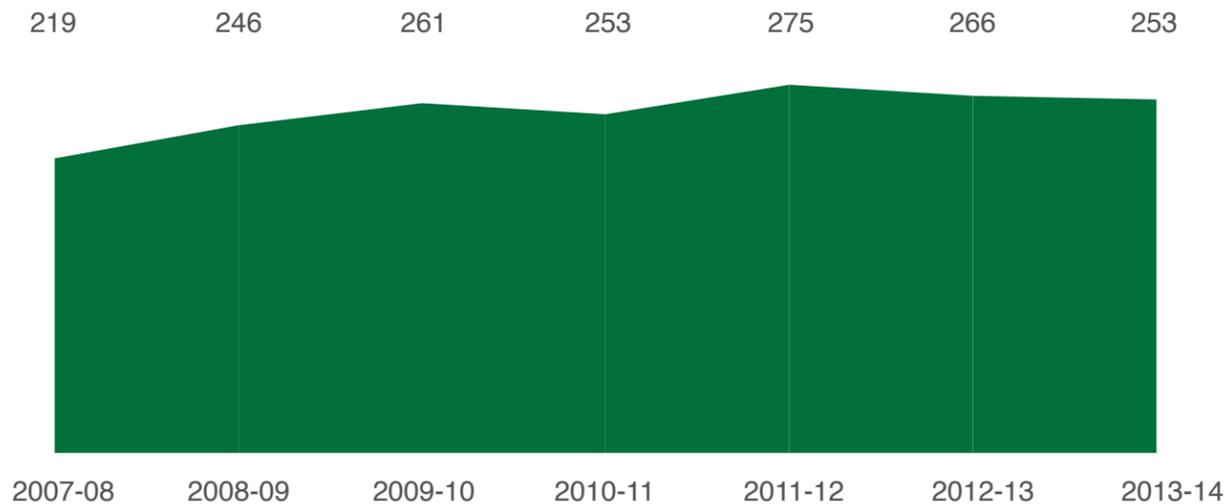
Top department homes for visiting faculty.

**54**

Total countries represented.

<b>China</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Korea</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Pakistan</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>India</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Mexico</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Brazil</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Iran</b>	<b>4</b>

Top countries of citizenship for visiting faculty.



Total international scholars over time.

# INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

**\$1,468,328**

Financial aid and scholarships for international students 2013-14. Estimated total for 2014-15 is ~\$1,225,671.

**\$750k**

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

**\$145k**

Total disbursement through Endowed Scholarships.

**\$150k**

Total Sponsored Scholarships awarded.

**\$98k**

Global Corners Recruitment and Retention Scholarships awarded.

**\$75k**

International Student Fee Remission.

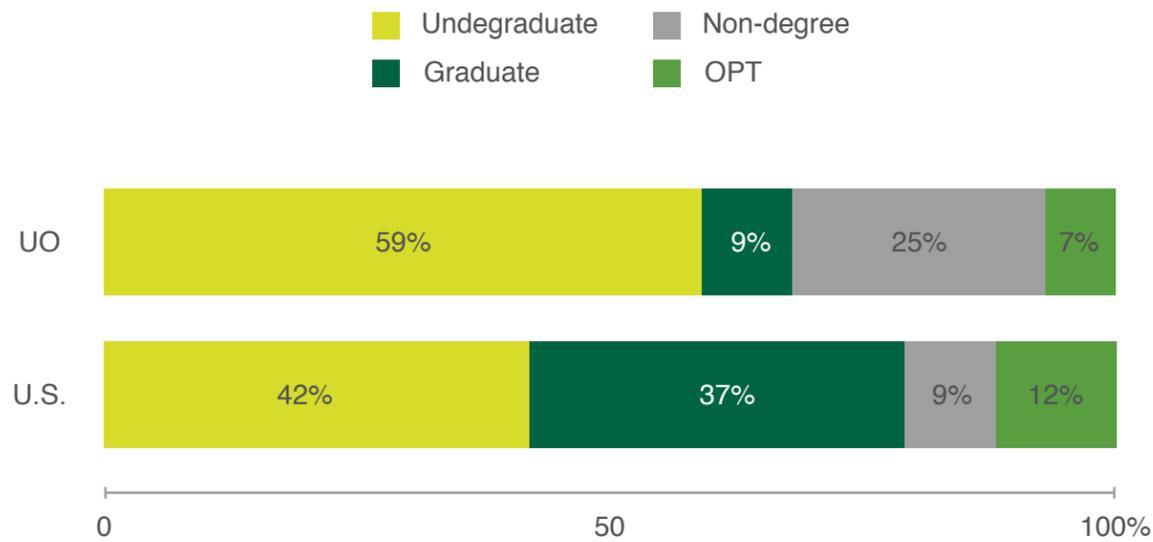
**\$430k**

Total International Dean's Excellence Award (IDEA).

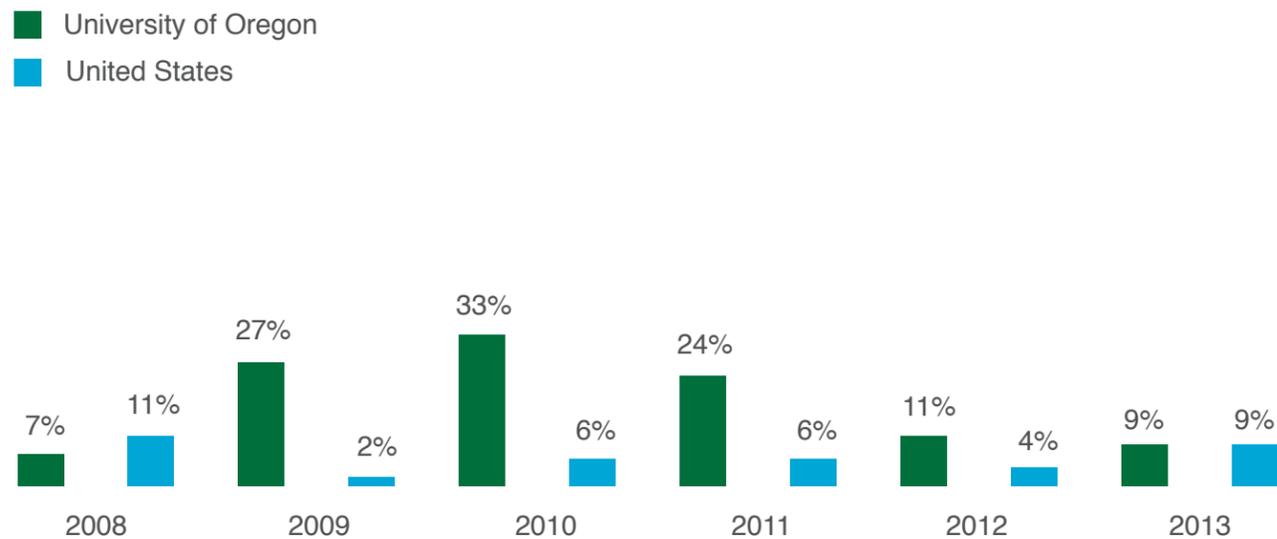
# UO COMPARISON TO U.S.

Comparisons in this section of our report are based on national information and data drawn from the **2013-2014 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.

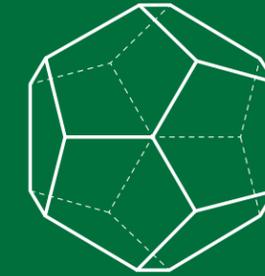
In the 2013-14 academic year, the number of international students in the U.S. increased **8.1%** to a record high of 886,052 students. The UO has increased international enrollment by 29% to a record high of 4,083 international students, ranking 50 in the country.



Composition of UO international student population by academic level versus national average, 2013-14.



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



WHAT IF WE  
**CONNECT**  
 TO THE WORLD?

# NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAMS

The new international student fee has generated critical resources for programs and services designed to enhance international students' academic, cultural, and social integration. Here is a snapshot of the services and impacts our new programs have been able to achieve in their first year of activity.



## ExpLOregon

<http://blogs.uoregon.edu/exploreregon/>

- Social and cultural activities for international and domestic students.
- Fosters social and cultural exchange through events such as trips, volunteer work, and entertainment.
- International student success promoted by opportunities to interact across cultural divides
- Outings every week: hiking, river rafting, skiing trips, volunteer opportunities visits to recreational facilities, festivals, state parks, and sporting events.
- Events included:
  - Halloween visit to a pumpkin patch
  - Day trip to Portland
  - Meetup at the 5th Street Market
  - Day hike to Skinner Butte
  - Volunteer activities helping out at Food for Lane County
- For 2014-15, over 50 events with more than 1,500 international and domestic student participants.

## International Student Peer Mentor Program

<http://blogs.uoregon.edu/intipeers/>

- Guidance and mentorship for first year at the UO.
- Mentors meet with students in small-group and 1:1 throughout the quarter to assist students in their transition to the UO academic and social environment.
- 23 international and domestic student mentors serve new international students.
- Peer mentors meet with the program coordinator every month for ongoing training and development.
- Mentors receive stipend.
- Program will expand to include all new international students.

## Academic Support for International Students

<http://tlc.uoregon.edu/services/>

- Weekly one-hour workshops to improve international student writing skills.
- Developed along with Teaching and Learning Center (TLC) and Academic English for International Students (AEIS).
- Workshops cover subject-verb agreement, tense, passive voice, run-on sentences, using outside sources appropriately, and more.
- Workshops attract more than 300 international students each term.
- Program extends Writing Lab tutoring to 18 hours per week, providing academic support per term to an additional 215 international students.
- Responds to many requests from students, faculty, and departments for increased tutoring and academic support especially in writing.

## International Student Advisory Board

<http://blogs.uoregon.edu/isab/>

- Membership includes graduate, undergraduate, exchange students; ASUO and International Student Association (ISA) leadership.
- ISAB holds monthly meetings with ISSS Director.
- Topics:
  - Academic English for international student requirements.
  - Support for international student groups.
  - Sexual assault and victim support.
  - Employment opportunities.
  - Tuition increases.





WHAT IF WE HELP OTHERS

# DREAM

TO BE GREAT?

## Q/A: YINA, TIBET

### **What is your name?**

My official name is Yi Na, and since we do not have first name and last name distinction in my culture. I had to split my name—I prefer Yina together.

### **Where are you from?**

I am from a rural pastoralist family in Siyuewu Village in eastern Tibet.

### **Tell us about your family.**

I have a big family. My mother, two little brothers, three uncles (mother's siblings), my grandmother, and me in our family.

### **What do you remember most growing-up in Tibet?**

I grew up as the sheep herder of our family and I really enjoyed tricking the sheep to come back home from the mountains by scattering snow as salt. The sheep loved salt. I cannot continue tricking the sheep because we already sold them. I miss them sometimes.

### **How did you come to the UO?**

I came to know someone who studies at UO and she suggested for me to apply here. I was not that surprised when I landed in Eugene in fall 2013. The trees, the small houses (instead of giant buildings I pictured about US), and friendly people on the street who always greet you with a smile, are very similar to the small village where I am from.

### **What are you studying?**

I am studying linguistics at the university. My mother tongue is a tribal language called Khroskyabs which is an endangered language. I am interested in preserving cultures, specifically languages. My future goal is to document languages including my mother tongue.



# FREEDOM ADVOCATE

Professor Téwodros 'Teddy' W. Workneh, visiting scholar from Ethiopia, hosted by the School of Journalism and Communication (SOJC).

Téwodros W. Workneh considers himself an informed citizen, not a journalist. However, the postdoctoral fellow at the School of Journalism and Communication (SOJC) is one of few championing freedom of speech, privacy, and government accountability in his native Ethiopia.

"Ethiopia is one of the most repressive countries when it comes to freedom of expression," explains Workneh. "Although freedoms of expression, assembly, and organization are constitutionally protected, the Ethiopian government continues to intimidate, persecute and imprison critical and dissenting journalists, bloggers and other citizens."

In recent years, the Ethiopian government conducted a widespread crackdown on online communities that resulted in the imprisonment of many young bloggers and journalists.

For Workneh, his research isn't just an intellectual exercise, but an opportunity to raise serious questions in nation building.

"My research interest lies in the intersection of state-sponsored surveillance and how it conditions the behavior of networked communities," says Workneh.

Workneh investigates how the Ethiopian state intelligence apparatus acquires online surveillance technologies and infrastructure. More importantly, he is really concerned about how digitally assisted surveillance is integrated into the rational-legal system of Ethiopia.

"I know an informed citizenry can be made possible by a vibrant, responsible journalistic ecosystem, both institutional and alternative, are pillars to an equitable, educated, and tolerant democracy," says Workneh.

Despite acknowledging many "cultural and culinary" differences, the Ethiopian professor considers himself a proud member of the Duck family. Workneh, his wife (who also attended graduate school at the UO) and daughter, have found a new home in Eugene.



We are your International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) staff.  
Front row, left to right: Shao-Wei Wang, Megan Sullivan, Mariska Dover.  
Second row, left to right: Paolo Daniele, Kate Comiskey, Robyn Carter, Andy Shiotani  
Third row, left to right: Abe Schafermeyer, Ethan Mapes, John Ahlen, Becky Megerssa, Zhaohui Chen

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR SERVICES

### How we serve the international UO community:

#### International Student Advising

Our international student advisors are experienced advisors and will help with visa, travel, cultural transition, employment, personal matters, academic support, and more.  
<http://international.uoregon.edu/iss/welcome>

#### Check-in & Resource Table

An early check-in and resource table for new international students – Fall term only.

#### International Student Orientation

Required orientation for new international students.  
<http://international.uoregon.edu/iss/orientation>

#### Welcome Homestay Program

Free, short-term homestay for new international students before on-campus housing opens.  
<http://international.uoregon.edu/iss/friendship-foundation>

#### Academic Support Services

<http://tlc.uoregon.edu/subjects/writing>

#### Scholarships & Financial Aid

<http://international.uoregon.edu/iss/scholarships>

#### Peer Mentor Program

Required program for new freshmen.  
<https://international.uoregon.edu/peer-mentor>

#### English Language & Conversation Friend Program

Friendship program with a local community member or an American student.  
<http://international.uoregon.edu/iss/friendship-foundation>

#### ExpLOregon Field Trips

<http://international.uoregon.edu/iss/exploreogon>

#### International Student Advisory Board

International student platform for improving the UO international student experience.  
<http://blogs.uoregon.edu/isab>

**TALK TO US:**  email: [intl@uoregon.edu](mailto:intl@uoregon.edu)

 call: (541) 346-3206

 chat: Oregon Hall, 333

 follow us: @UOISSS

 like us: [facebook.com/UOISSS](https://facebook.com/UOISSS)

