



2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Center for Global
Engagement

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



One of the highlights during the past academic year was the large number of sponsored students and scholars hosted by UNG and facilitated through the Center for Global Engagement. UNG was awarded through American Councils Faculty Enrichment Program the placement of two visiting scholars from Uzbekistan for fall semester, 2022. Dr. Timothy May hosted one of the scholars in History and the other was hosted by Dr. Bill Black in Accounting. UNG was also awarded through the Eurasia Foundation's Year of Exchange in American for Russians program the ability to host five Russian undergraduate students during the past academic year. The five students studied US history and culture, took courses in their majors, and participated in service learning while at UNG. These unique opportunities, and the visiting students and scholars very intentional interaction with UNG students, assists UNG in developing a global learning environment.

The first inaugural UNG Study Away program occurred in May, 2022. The program was led by Dr. Alvaro Torres-Calderón from the Spanish Department and you can learn more about the program on page 2 of this report. CGE is excited to have more Study Away opportunities facilitated by UNG faculty for Summer, 2023.

CGE certainly looks forward to being able to send more students abroad in the next academic cycle. One of the great lessons for the field of international education during the COVID-19 pandemic was a renewed emphasis on how to review and mitigate risks for education abroad participants. UNG implemented the use of a global security firm that can provide detailed information regarding health, crime and other risk factors for locations around the world. This information is shared with the UNG Education Abroad Travel Committee for review of locations where there were concerns due to the high level of COVID or other security concerns. The committee is facilitated by the CGE and includes UNG's Risk Manager, General Counsel, Vice Provost, Dean of Students and academic Deans for specific faculty-led programming. This type of committee is common on most US campuses even prior to the pandemic and will serve UNG well moving forward.

We look forward to continuing our collaboration with UNG faculty, staff and students. Please feel free to reach out with your ideas and feedback and please know that we deeply appreciate your efforts to help our students develop into global citizens.

Sheila Schulte
AVP International Programs, Center for Global Engagement



NEW INITIATIVES

STUDY AWAY

During the 2021-2022 CGE supported the development of two faculty-led study away programs:

- Community Development with the Northern Arapaho Tribe, led by Dr. Carly Redding.
- Spanish and Hispanic Heritage in St. Augustine, Florida, led by Dr. Alvaro Torres-Calderón

The Spanish and Hispanic Heritage program was able to successfully take place in St. Augustine, Florida in May 2022. Dr. Torres-Calderón led the group of 8 students on this 3-week intensive program. You can get a glimpse of their experience by visiting their instagram account [@UNGStudyAwaySt.Augustine](#).

COVID19 continued to be a challenge during the recruitment and planning stages of these programs which ultimately led to the cancelation of the Community Development program.

NEW FOR 2023

Dr. Jamie Mitchem from the Institute for Environmental & Spatial Analysis completed the 2022 Study Away Academy and developed a program for summer 2023: Geography & Geology of National Parks (South West & Rocky Mountains). This program will allow students to experience United States National Parks, Monuments, State Parks, and other places of significance based on their geography and geology.

FACULTY TRAINING

CGE will continue the Education Abroad and Study Away Academies to support faculty throughout the development of faculty-led programs. Experienced study abroad faculty directors along with CGE staff shared their knowledge with Academy participants in a series of workshops. The Academy is offered every spring. Interested faculty can apply by visiting the [CGE website](#).

EDUCATION ABROAD

79

MILITARY, STUDY,
INTERN,
VIRTUAL,
NON-CREDIT

**STUDENTS
ABROAD**

7

STUDY ABROAD
& STUDY AWAY

**NEW
PROGRAMS
LAUNCHED**

16

VIRTUAL &
IN-PERSON

**COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED**

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & SCHOLARS

158

DAHLONEGA,
GAINESVILLE,
CUMMING,
OCONEE

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS

2

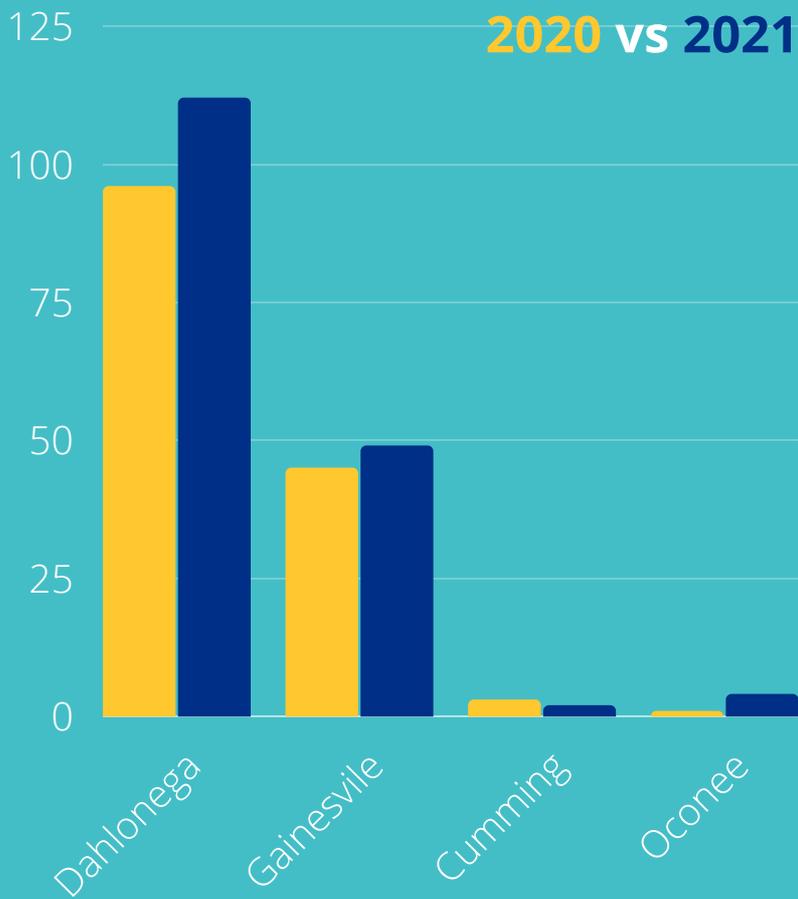
TEACHING /
RESEARCH

VISITING
SCHOLARS

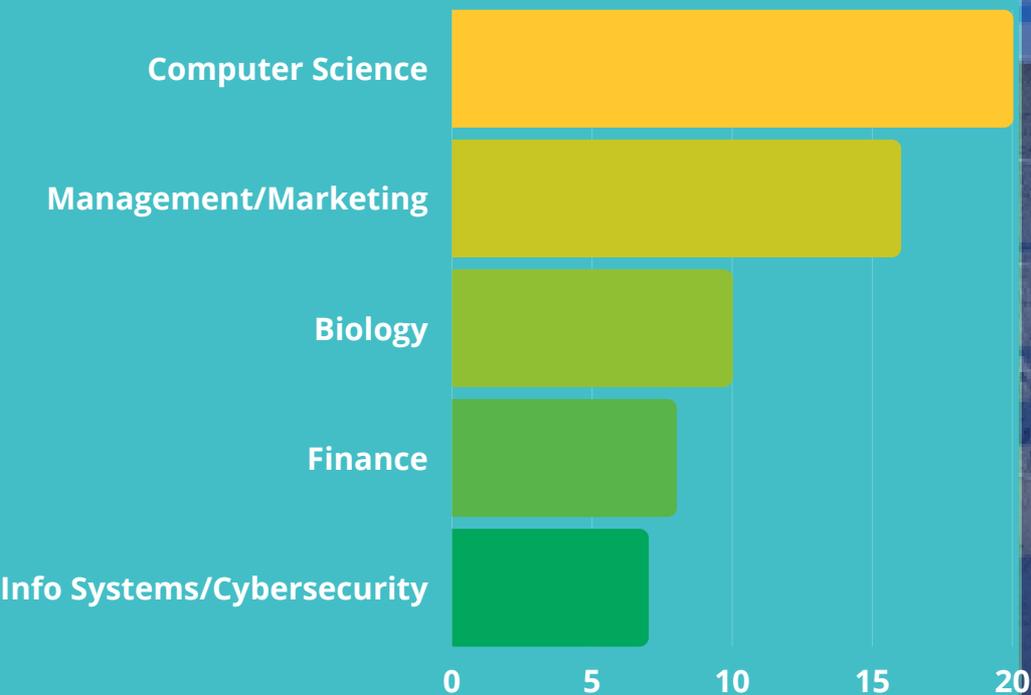
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COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY CAMPUS



TOP 5 MAJORS FOR 2021



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



LOOKING FORWARD

In 2021 representatives from each College as well as the division of Leadership and Global Engagement met to review and prioritize the full list of recommendations from the ACE Internationalization Lab. Their work resulted in ranking the recommendations over a three year period and UNG is entering its second year of goals that will provide the foundation for CGE's 2022-23 operational goals.

YEAR 2

- Review and amend the Study Abroad Compensation Policy to ensure parity in workload credit and compensation across departments, colleges, and institutes for development and teaching of study abroad programs.
- Revise the compensation structure for faculty-led programs.
- Expand opportunities for students to develop global competencies through local and regional experiences with diverse communities.
- Provide UNG faculty and staff interested in growing relationships with international entities appropriate training and guidance.
- Identify ways to better engage students from Oconee, Cumming, Blue Ridge, and Gainesville with education abroad opportunities.
- Create departmental liaisons to help educate faculty and students on education abroad opportunities and processes.
- Increase global learning opportunities for students, faculty, and staff by initiating partnerships with regional and state contacts. These may include Georgia-based non-profits with an international presence.
- Establish a program with the office of grants and contracts to foster the development of new partnerships or potential opportunities to engage internationally.
- Find ways to better assess the cultural and global competencies that students attained while abroad.



YEAR 2 GOALS CONT.

- Create a central repository of data related to internationalization efforts that is available to internal and external audiences.
- Establish collaborative model practices and resources for the development of global engagement activities, which capitalize on faculty expertise in curriculum and CGE expertise in recruitment and logistics.
- Facilitate professional development opportunities for faculty and staff on the broad array of global learning opportunities including internationalizing the curriculum, cross-cultural competencies, and the mechanics of education abroad.
- Create faculty professional development opportunities focused on issues of global learning.
- Collaborate with the Center for Teaching, Learning, and Leadership to expand faculty development on best practices for incorporating global learning both in and outside the classroom.
- Use assessment data to create an institutional professional development program supporting the integration of global competencies into the educational experience of students.
- Capitalize on existing programs (e.g., UNG's intensive English Program, The Center for Language Education) to provide examples of best practices for working with international students and for advice and expertise on these topics.
- Assess departmental efforts toward the development of student global learning competencies
- Identify opportunities for the Center for Global Engagement to provide funding to promote international opportunities and global engagement for faculty.
- Increase opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to participate in international experiences that occur on campus and in the surrounding, local communities.
- Leverage alumni relationships, especially former international students and those working abroad.

INTERNATIONAL PLAN

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a white turtleneck and a dark cap, is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is standing in front of a city skyline at night, with many buildings lit up. The image is partially obscured by the large, vertical text 'INTERNATIONAL PLAN' on the right side.

OUR MISSION

The Center for Global Engagement (CGE) facilitates international and cross-cultural experiences for students, faculty, staff and the greater community in order to better integrate the University of North Georgia into the globalized world.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Education Abroad Fairs

11:00am - 1:00 pm

- Gainesville: Monday, September 26
- Dahlonega: Tuesday, September 27
- Cumming/Oconee: Wednesday, September 28

International Education Week

November 14 - 18, 2022

- Events will be updated in fall 2022. Please check the website for up updates.



CONTACT US

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