AT A GLANCE
2020 • Action and Innovation
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABOUT IIE</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OUR GLOBAL REACH</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT A GLANCE</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE POWER OF GIVING</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FINANCIAL STATEMENT</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVERNANCE</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We acknowledge our team members around the world and extend a special thanks to our partners, donors, and members who worked side by side with us throughout this past year and who remain critical allies in the years of rebuilding ahead.
The year 2020 has left an indelible mark on history as an unprecedented time of crisis, challenge, and isolation. The COVID-19 pandemic upended entire industries, global mobility, and many of the norms we take for granted. In international education, where cross-border exchange is at the heart of our collective work, we witnessed steep declines in mobility and an overall shrinking of our world. While many aspects of life did slow down or come to a halt, 2020 demonstrated just how much action, innovation, and progress can be made during times of crisis. When students were stranded abroad or needed to return home from the United States, our team members and partners at the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Defense, corporations, and foundations worked tirelessly to make that happen.

When it became clear that in-person orientations, enrichment seminars, and outreach visits would not be viable, programs pivoted to virtual means—and, in doing so, reached a wider, more diverse audience than ever before. When a surge of devastating events brought systemic racism to the fore, IIE spoke up and reaffirmed our commitment to making our world more equitable, peaceful, and just. We were able to take swift action and develop innovative solutions throughout the COVID-19 crisis because we have always done this. When students were caught in the crossfire of the Bolshevik Revolution in 1920, IIE created the Russian Student and Scholar Fund to provide emergency assistance. When students and scholars were displaced after each of the major wars of the 20th century, IIE acted, assisted, and saved lives. The ongoing war in Syria catalyzed the need for a one-stop source for displaced students to find opportunities to continue their education, which resulted in the creation of the IIE Platform for Education in Emergencies Response (IIE PEER).

IIE has been responding to crisis since its founding, with 2020 marking a century of student and scholar rescue. Finally, this past year highlighted the importance of teamwork. We have always been a global organization—connected by our shared mission—but 2020 provided all of us with the opportunity to re-commit to our teams, and to each other. IIE was certified as a Great Place to Work in 2020, reflecting a century of fostering an inclusive, supportive working culture and a diverse, global workforce that strives each day to advance IIE’s mission. This extraordinary global team is guided by our dedicated Board of Trustees, and we are pleased to announce that Mark Angelson was nominated for the role of Board Chair and unanimously selected at the January 2021 Board meeting.

We are grateful for the IIE community around the world and extend a special thanks to our partners, donors, and members who worked side by side with us throughout this past year and who remain critical allies in the years of rebuilding ahead.

Thomas S. Johnson
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Allan E. Goodman
President and CEO
We Believe in the Power of International Education

We live in an age of astonishing opportunities for people to interact and learn across thousands of miles. The solutions to the global challenges we face come from the sharing of ideas and research that international education promotes and encourages. At IIE, we believe that when education transcends borders and opens minds, it enables people to go beyond building connections to solving problems together. As a world leader in international education and exchange, IIE advances scholarship, builds economies, and promotes access to opportunity for all people. We do this to build more peaceful and equitable societies. From creating and delivering innovative scholarship and exchange programs to providing a lifeline to scholars and students impacted by global crises, we help people and organizations thrive in today’s interconnected world.

Our Mission

IIE helps people and organizations leverage the power of international education to thrive in today’s interconnected world by:

Advancing Scholarship
IIE implements many of the world’s most effective and prestigious scholarship and training programs.

Building Economies
IIE helps governments and corporations develop an educated workforce and prepares students and professionals to succeed in the global economy.

Promoting Access to Opportunity
IIE provides opportunities to underserved populations, protects scholars and students in danger, and encourages teaching and learning across cultures.
IIE 2020 By the Numbers

Number of U.S. and non-U.S. individuals supported by IIE’s programs:

23,369

1,403 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Placed at Universities in the United States

4,670 U.S. Students Studied Abroad
THROUGH IIE ADMINISTERED PROGRAMS

17 OFFICES WORLDWIDE

180+ COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE

IIENetwork

10,000+ INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS

1,500 MEMBER INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

200 Programs and Initiatives

108 NOBEL PRIZE LAUREATES
Associated with IIE since 1919

16 IIE-AUTHORED Papers and Publications
Our Global Reach

Our programs reach more than 180 countries around the globe. As a not-for-profit with more than 650 employees in our network of 17 offices and affiliates worldwide, we have helped more than 29,000 people leverage the power of international education in the past year alone.

Through the IIENetwork, our global membership network, we provide resources and knowledge sharing, connecting and engaging with more than 10,000 professionals from 1,500 institutions and organizations.

NEW GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS
In order to better serve our sponsors, partners, and employees, we moved our global headquarters to a new location at One World Trade Center in New York City.

Our Global Reach encompasses 200 global programs connecting individuals, institutions, and governments. As our world struggles to address global challenges and faces a new wave of displaced scholars and students, IIE is needed more than ever.
AT A GLANCE

The global realities of 2020 served as a catalyst for innovation and collaboration. We remained steadfast in our mission to help people and organizations leverage the power of international education with tremendous gratitude to the trustees and the many partners and supporters who share our commitment to building a more peaceful and equitable world.
Responding to COVID-19

From the moment the COVID-19 pandemic began, IIE jumped into action, working with sponsors, participants, and partners to respond to the crisis at hand. Understanding the need for efficiency, knowledge sharing, and transparency, IIE quickly convened an Emergency Task Force in February 2020.

The Task Force met regularly throughout 2020 and, where necessary, organized subgroups to tackle specific issues such as alternative methods of program delivery; social media response; how programs are dealing with impacted participants, suspensions, and deferments; what to do when your grantee has symptoms of coronavirus; best practices for supporting team members; travel and visas; virtual events, live events, and the decision rubric; and virtual events best practices.

Along with providing resources to support our programs during this time, IIE also worked to ensure our team members had the help they needed as the organization rapidly moved to universal teleworking. Team members were provided with regular updates on policies, processes, and wellness offerings during this time. To ensure this information was easily accessible, we offered a COVID-19 hub on our intranet to serve as a one-stop-shop for all COVID-19-related information and resources. This includes a forum area where team members can share knowledge, support one another, and stay connected.

In addition to internal coordination and crisis management, IIE provided key leadership for the international education field in the form of direct financial assistance to international students, timely data, informational webinars, and virtual discussion platforms.

Along with providing resources to support our programs during this time, IIE also worked to ensure our team members had the help they needed as the organization rapidly moved to universal teleworking.
Emergency Student Fund (ESF) COVID-19 Response

In 2020, IIE awarded more than 870 grants to international students impacted by the global pandemic, allowing them to remain on campus and continue their studies. The ESF model is specifically designed to respond quickly to global crises and provide temporary financial relief to international students in the United States. The COVID-19 Response was IIE's largest ESF to date.

A LIFELINE FOR STUDENTS

ABOVE: “I believe that if it wasn’t for the IIE-ESF grant, I would have withdrawn from university and not returned for my senior year.” Isabelle Barbosa Cunha, IIE-ESF COVID-19 Grantee.

COVID-19 Snapshot Series

IIE’s Research, Evaluation, and Learning (REL) Unit provided timely data trends on the effects of COVID-19 on the U.S. higher education community, administering three snapshot surveys throughout 2020. The first survey, from early 2020, focused on the effects of COVID-19 on academic student mobility to and from China. The second survey, from the spring, focused on the current and anticipated effects of COVID-19 on the 2020/21 academic year. The third survey focused on the summer and fall 2020 outlook. Each of these surveys was disseminated widely to the higher education community and discussed in more depth via webinars.

IIENetwork Engagement Series

The IIENetwork, our global membership network of more than 10,000 professionals from 1,500 institutions and organizations, responded to the pandemic by launching a virtual engagement series to connect IIENetwork members with each other and to share updates on critical topics and best practices. The series included informal, small group discussions between peers on specific topics that are of relevance during the COVID-19 crisis and a webinar series for larger audiences on timely topics, featuring expertise and perspectives from across the international education community.
Our Mission-Guided Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

In many ways, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) has always been a part of IIE’s organizational approach. It is embedded in the global perspective we bring to all we do, in our mission-guided commitment to providing access to opportunity, and in the rigorous, transparent processes that guide each of the programs we manage. In 2020, we made a concerted effort to codify these practices and develop a comprehensive DEI strategy that drives us to be even more intentional and accountable, both internally and externally. This strategy includes three elements – Action & Accountability, Culture Competency & Awareness, and Education & Engagement — to ensure we focus our efforts and make measurable progress with our DEI initiatives. Within that strategy are specific focus areas that encompass the five domains of Talent, Work, Governance, Opportunity, and Training. In 2020, we made important strides enacting our strategy while establishing a strong DEI foundation from which we will continue to grow.

“IIE’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, now and throughout our history, is a critical part of our effort to engage thoughtfully with all of our internal and external constituents around the world and reaffirms our deep commitment to these principles. We believe that racism and inequality are and have been inherently contradictory to our mission. And while IIE has worked for over a century to build a more peaceful, equitable world, we recognize that there is much work yet to do. We support programs with a universal commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, multiculturalism, and international understanding and cooperation.”

2020 ACTIONS

- Launched Affinity Groups
- Hosted Virtual Roundtables and Internal Forums on Race, Racism, Bias, and Understanding Triggers
- Formalized training to educate team members on creating an inclusive organization (“Creating an Inclusive Organization: Part I” Building a Like-Minded Vocabulary)
- Created a DEI Recruitment Video – Hiring Education for Managers
- Expanded our External and Internal Diversity statement
Employee Affinity Groups
For over 100 years, IIE has been promoting interconnections around the world. Within our own IIE community, the DEI Affinity Groups are intended to gather colleagues with similar identities, interests, and goals to foster professional and personal development, while providing a platform to connect with each other. With these groups, we hope to provide team members with an opportunity to strengthen their networks, access resources for personal/professional growth, and provide IIE with feedback to help drive positive change within the organization.

Our first Affinity Groups were launched in August 2020. Below is a list of the groups that are currently available.

- Asian & Pacific Islander Heritage
- Black Heritage
- Hispanic/Latinx Heritage
- LGBTQIA+
- Mental Health & Well-Being

HBCU Taskforce
A cross-departmental task force examined IIE’s engagement with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and found that we actively worked with 81% of HBCUs in the U.S. over the past year, but that there are numerous opportunities to increase engagement with HBCUs and other Minority Serving Institutions. Findings from the task force include the following priority areas:

- Supporting Institutionalization
- Deeper Engagement & Growing Partnerships
- Campus Representatives and Partnerships
- Attracting and Supporting Applicants
- Alumni and Diaspora
- Alumni Pathways to IIE and ways forward

Moving from Inclusivity Talk to Equity in Action
In December 2020, IIE partnered with Dickinson College to launch a workshop on Moving From Inclusivity Talk to Equity in Action in International Education Leadership, a timely training that focused on the under-explored intersection between intercultural and global learning and diversity, equity, and inclusion—work that has been traditionally siloed. Based on overwhelming interest and positive feedback, additional workshops were offered in 2021 and have, so far, attracted nearly 230 participants from 83 institutions located in 5 countries.

“This perspective of unifying DEI with global education was new and refreshing. It was a paradigm shift.”
WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT

Looking Ahead: DEI as an Organizational Strategic Pillar
In 2021, we will further advance our DEI strategy by including DEI as one of the five strategic pillars guiding the organization for the next five years. Upcoming actions include: increasing our U.S. workforce minority population, implementing the DEI recruitment video series and training for hiring managers and candidates, coordinating the National Academy for International Education, introducing a DEI custom training for the IIE Board, delivering the IIE Leadership Academy module on DEI and implementing the Phase 1 Training: “Creating an Inclusive Organization: Part I” Building a Like-Minded Vocabulary.
IIE Centennial Fellowships

The IIE Centennial Fellowship is an annual fellowship program that was launched in 2019 in honor of IIE’s Centennial and our association with the Fulbright Program. The IIE Centennial Fellowship seeks to help enhance Fulbright as a life-long experience and recognize Fulbright alumni whose work embodies the underlining Fulbright values of mutual understanding, leadership, global problem solving, and global impact.

For the 2020-2021 cycle, applicants were asked to focus their projects on tackling challenges related to the global COVID-19 crisis. In only its second year, the Fellowship received an astounding 600+ applications for the four Fellowships. Such a surge in proposed solutions in the midst of such unprecedented global crisis shows the enduring commitment of Fulbright alumni to making a more equitable world.

2020 IIE Centennial Fellows

DR. MOUMINI NIAONE
IIE Rodman C. Rockefeller Centennial Fellow

Moumini was a 2016-2017 Foreign Fulbright Student from Burkina Faso. His project, “Radio Health Information Network (RHINO) – Burkina Faso” will train local journalists to cover the pandemic safely, to provide factual and relevant information on the disease, to help stations produce weekly radio programs using storytelling techniques like radio drama, and to teach them how to produce impactful public service announcements. RHINO-Burkina Faso builds upon existing community health clubs that Moumini helped establish in the Boulgou Province.

JEAN MAX CHARLES
IIE Centennial Fellow

Jean Max was a 2019-2020 U.S. Fulbright Scholar to Haiti. His project “Non-Governmental Organizations in Haiti: Towards a New Perspective for Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Public Health System Resilience Amid COVID-19”, focuses on the extraordinary role that NGOs play in almost every aspect of the Haiti’s functioning. His research seeks to determine how NGOs should deliver aid to increase the resilience of the public health system in times of pandemics, especially during COVID-19. His goal is to help Haiti prepare for possible future large-scale health crises and reduce vulnerability.

MOLLY MCDONOUGH
IIE Rodman C. Rockefeller Centennial Fellow

Molly is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Chicago State University and a U.S. Fulbright Scholar to Kenya in 2017-2018. For the Fellowship, Molly is training Team CoV Hunter, mentoring underprivileged young scientists and training them to rapidly screen existing museum specimens of bats and other mammals to provide baseline data to help mitigate a future pandemic.
Anthonia was a U.S. Fulbright Student to the United Kingdom in 2017-2018. She is a Ph.D. candidate in Information Science at Cornell University. Her project EGK aims to increase access to opportunities, funds, and wealth for Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) startup founders in Birmingham, Alabama. Anthonia is focusing on design-led interventions to identify unique challenges that BIPOC founders face due to COVID-19 and to address the opportunity gap between BIPOC-led startups and venture capital funding.

“I want to live in a world where there’s an abundance of billion-dollar unicorn businesses founded by Black and brown entrepreneurs. Sadly, this isn’t the reality of the world we live in today, but I’m working to close the opportunity gap between BIPOC-led startups and venture capital funding.”

— ANTHONIA CARTER
2020 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

With a range of government- and corporate-sponsored programs, IIE promotes educational exchange around the world. In addition, IIE partners with major philanthropic foundations, private and public corporations, foreign governments, and individuals to provide scholarship and fellowship administration, testing and advising services, and research and information on opportunities for international study, and to measure the long-term impact of international scholarship and capacity-building programs focused on education and development.
The Fulbright Program

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) in partnership with more than 160 countries worldwide, the Fulbright Program offers international educational and cultural exchange programs for passionate and accomplished students, scholars, artists, teachers, and professionals of all backgrounds to study, teach, or pursue important research and professional projects. IIE is privileged to administer Fulbright Programs on behalf of ECA.

As the COVID-19 pandemic swept across the world in 2020, Fulbright pivoted and adapted to the ever-changing global travel and health guidelines to keep the program moving forward. While many Fulbright Program participants had their in-person experiences cut short or delayed, others served as trailblazers engaging in fully virtual programming for the first time in Fulbright’s 75-year history.

2020 FULBRIGHT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- 2,868 Fulbright U.S. Student and Scholar Program Grantees
- 2,331 Fulbright Foreign Student and Scholar Program Grantees
- 12,864 U.S. Students Taught Nationally by Fulbright FLTA
- 1,600+ Engaged in IIE led virtual orientations
- 4,400+ Participated in virtual Fulbright Scholar
- 13,000+ Participated in virtual Fulbright Scholar

ENGAGED IN IIE LED VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS
WERE REPATRIATED TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY
OUTREACH EVENTS
Fulbright U.S. Student and Fulbright U.S. Scholar Programs

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, IIE helped to evacuate more than 2,500 U.S. Fulbright Students and Scholars around the globe. Pressing forward and planning for new U.S. Student and Scholar participants to start their in-person exchanges in fall 2020, IIE successfully launched a fully virtual pre-departure orientation on our newly procured Learning Management System platform.

For the first time, IIE conducted the Fulbright review and selection processes virtually to recommend the 2021 cohort of Fulbright Students and Scholars. More than 315 committees with almost 1,000 reviewers representing the full range of the U.S. higher education community came together to keep the program moving forward.

FULBRIGHT U.S. SCHOLAR IN MOROCCO

ABOVE: Wendy Perry, a Fulbright U.S. Scholar to Morocco, interviews village residents in the Atlas Mountains to assess the empowering impact of state-subsidized argan oil cooperatives on women workers.

Foreign Student and Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Programs

Similar to their American counterparts, participants in the Foreign Student and FLTA programs adapted to a fully virtual experience in the spring of 2020. Ensuring these programs continued to move forward, IIE pivoted to fully virtual orientation and pre-academic programming for the newly selected incoming cohort of close to 1,600 participants. IIE also facilitated a virtual program-start for these participants if they were unable to arrive in the U.S. in fall 2020.

MAINTAINING CONNECTIONS

ABOVE: Hloni Bookholane, a Fulbright Foreign Student from South Africa, finding ways to stay connected with fellow Fulbrighters during the pandemic while he was at Johns Hopkins pursuing a Master’s in Public Health.

LEFT: Eram Shaheen Ansari, a Fulbright FLTA from India, organized a Diwali celebration on Zoom to help share her culture with fellow FLTAs. The event included a virtual tour of India, a narration of the mythical story behind the festival, and traditional songs.
Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program

IIE supported more than 600 Visiting Scholars to return to their home countries safely during 2020 after successfully completing their Fulbright grant in the United States.

FULBRIGHT VISITING SCHOLAR FROM EGYPT

RIGHT: Alaa Emara, a Fulbright Visiting Scholar from Egypt, working on porcine bone specimens in a tissue engineering lab for her research project on 3D Printed Scaffolds for Craniofacial Tissue Regeneration.

IIE conducted the Fulbright review and selection processes virtually to recommend the 2021 cohort of Fulbright Students and Scholars. More than 315 committees with almost 1,000 reviewers representing the full range of the U.S. higher education community came together to keep the program moving forward.

VIRTUAL ORIENTATION
Wayne State University held a Fulbright Virtual Gateway Orientation in August 2020.
U.S. Department of State Programs

The U.S. Department of State leads America’s foreign policy through diplomacy, advocacy, and assistance by advancing the interests, safety, and economic prosperity of the American people. The mission of the Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange programs that assist in the development of peaceful relations. In addition to Fulbright Programs, IIE is privileged to administer several key programs on behalf of ECA.

EducationUSA

EducationUSA is the U.S. Department of State’s global network of more than 430 international student advising centers located in more than 175 countries. The network promotes U.S. higher education to students around the world and provides services to the U.S. higher education community to help institutions meet their recruitment and campus internationalization goals.

In 2020, EducationUSA’s flagship Washington, D.C., Forum was held virtually for the first time, attracting more than 2,500 registrants – approximately four times the average attendance than the in-person forum. In addition to the three-day main event, participants attended small group follow-on meetings with EducationUSA Regional Educational Advising Coordinators and advisers and accessed event recordings and materials post-event. Additionally, EducationUSA executed three pilot campaigns in India, Germany, and Colombia for a global marketing campaign to promote study in the United States.

GUIDANCE FROM EDUCATIONUSA

Alexánder graduated with his Bachelor’s in Materials Engineering from the Costa Rican Institute of Technology this past year, and sought advice and guidance from EducationUSA Costa Rica in the application process as he applied to graduate programs in the U.S. He was recently admitted to the Master’s of Science in Materials Science and Engineering at Lehigh University with funding via an assistantship.
Gilman International Scholarship Program

The Gilman International Scholarship Program supports high-achieving and diverse students to study abroad or participate in international internships. While the pandemic cut some students’ programs short, IIE continued implementing activities virtually. The program hosted myriad virtual events, including career advancement symposiums for alumni, topical seminars on public health and cybersecurity for alumni, and a multitude of workshops and training opportunities for university advisers. More than 7,000 students, advisers, and alumni attended these virtual events.

Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program enhances leadership among international professionals who collaborate to address local and global challenges and foster change for the collective good. During this tumultuous time, IIE prioritized the health and safety of its Fellows, while still doing its utmost to bring them to U.S. universities for a dynamic, hybrid program. As a result, the class of 2020/21 is more than 85 percent of the usual cohort size, with Fellows from 79 countries taking part in academic study and professional development with U.S. counterparts at our partner campuses.

TechWomen

TechWomen is an ECA initiative that empowers emerging women leaders in STEM from Africa, Central and South Asia, and the Middle East. In its tenth year, TechWomen successfully pivoted to virtual programming while maintaining its core mission to build networks, strengthen professional capacity, and equip leaders with skills to create global impact. This year, TechWomen further increased the participation of mentors and alumnae in the program through new virtual collaborations, expanding our network to more than 1,000 mentors and 826 Fellows.

Sharing and Learning
TechWomen allows country teams and mentors to showcase and share about their countries, cultures, and customs.
**International Visitor Leadership Program**

The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) is the U.S. Department of State’s premier professional exchange program. Through short-term visits, current and emerging foreign leaders experience the U.S. firsthand and cultivate lasting relationships. As IVLP programming shifted from in-person to virtual due to the pandemic, the IIE IVLP team designed and implemented 15 experimental virtual projects for 330 visitors. These projects included Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Workforce Development (Canada); Strengthening Independent Voices (Kazakhstan); Improved Water Management, Distribution, and Pricing in Water-Scarce Environments (Pakistan); and #Hidden No More Alumni – Empowering Women Leaders in STEAM, which engaged 147 former participants of this special initiative.

**USAID**

USAID is the world’s premier international development agency and a catalytic actor driving development results. USAID works to help lift lives, build communities, and advance democracy. IIE completed the USAID Sustainable Higher Education Research Alliances (SHERA) Program, which established five Centers for Collaborative Research to strengthen the research capacity of Indonesia’s higher education institutions. Through its model of local ownership, collaboration and engagement, and learning and oversight, SHERA produced 534 Scopus-indexed publications, created 531 knowledge products, and established 83 international partnerships between higher education institutions, private companies, and government entities.

Through these scholarship programs, USAID equipped a cadre of Egyptian women and Indonesian professionals with academic credentials, a holistic education, professional experience and networks, and cultural competence to be effective leaders in their professional fields and communities in Egypt and Indonesia.

**USAID IMPACT STUDY**

In 2020, IIE undertook an independent study to assess the long-term impact of USAID-funded scholarship programs. The study focused on Indonesian and Egyptian scholars who studied in the United States. Findings include increased skills in:

- English language (89 percent)
- Critical thinking (81 percent)
- Leadership (71 percent)
- Greater confidence in the workplace (76 percent)
- Remaining in close contact with U.S. colleagues and counterparts (91 percent)
- Community service/volunteering (50 percent)

**PRESENTING SCHOLAR**

Samsu Alam presents approaches to gender equality and inclusion in the Indonesian workforce at the 2019 PRESTASI Leadership workshop.
Open Doors 2019/20

According to Open Doors®, in the 2019/20 academic year, there were more than one million international students in the U.S. for the fifth year in a row. International students in the U.S. came from more than 200 places of origin, including top senders China, India, and South Korea. U.S. study abroad doubled over the past two decades – growing from 130,000 in 1998/99 to more than 347,000 students in 2018/19. Among students studying abroad, over half traveled to Europe. Open Doors® continues to be the premiere source for international educational exchange, and we will report on the effects of COVID-19 on inbound and outbound mobility in the U.S. in our 2021 report.

Number of U.S. Students who studied abroad for academic credit in 2018/19:

347,099

TOP 10 PLACES OF ORIGIN OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

53% of International Students Came from China and India

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS studied in the U.S. in 2019/20, including those in academic programs and on Optional Practical Training (OPT)
Boren Awards

As the U.S. government’s premier opportunity to develop advanced language and area studies skills, the Boren Awards attract applicants interested in highly competitive federal careers in national security. In 2020, panelists selected 119 Boren Fellows studying 35 languages in 38 countries, representing 58 institutions. Panelists also selected 219 Boren Scholars studying 29 languages in 33 countries and representing 104 colleges and universities. The Boren Awards continued the Regional Flagship Language Initiatives by partnering with domestic and overseas providers of intensive language courses to better meet demand from U.S. federal agencies for speakers of additional critical languages, including Swahili, French, Wolof, Akan (Twi), Zulu, Hindi, Urdu, Indonesian, and Turkish.

IIE also supported the launch of the new Chinese Flagship Domestic Immersion Capstone Program for Boren-Flagship Scholars, hosted by the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California.

The Language Training Center

The LTC Program leverages the expertise and resources of U.S. higher education to provide critical language, culture, and regional training to diverse DoD partners, including military linguists, intelligence analysts, special operations forces, foreign area officers, and general-purpose forces. Central to the program’s success, LTCs are adaptive, innovative, and flexible to meet DoD partners’ ever-evolving needs and priorities. The highly adaptive and versatile capabilities of the LTC institutions played a major role in their success at adapting their programs to the online environment to continue to fulfill the diverse needs of their DoD partner despite the challenges of a global pandemic. Through funding provided by the DoD’s Defense Language and National Security Education Office (DLNSEO), the LTC Program awarded grants to eight U.S. higher education institutions in 2020. These institutions provided more than 180 courses, trained more than 1,100 DoD personnel, and provided more than 20,500 instructional hours in regional studies and 16 languages.
Project GO

Sponsored by the DLNSEO, Project GO supports ROTC students nationwide in improving the language skills, regional expertise, and intercultural communication skills of future military officers. In 2020, the program provided 24 institutional grants to 22 U.S. higher education institutions, including all six senior military colleges, to deliver language and culture training to ROTC students nationwide. In 2020, despite the impact of a global pandemic halting overseas travel and in-person learning, Project GO institutions successfully transitioned to online programming and awarded scholarships to 421 ROTC cadets and midshipmen in 12 critical languages, with awardees representing universities and colleges across 47 states and the District of Columbia. Project GO programming and study abroad remained in high demand in 2020, with 67 percent of program awardees participating in online programs that were originally planned to take place outside the United States. Programmatic success in 2020 was exceptional, and 88 percent of Project GO awardees with four or more semesters of language study met or exceeded the program’s minimum oral proficiency score.

The Language Flagship

The Language Flagship is creating the next generation of global professionals for government, education, and business. In 2020, more than 1,500 undergraduate students participated in 31 Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Portuguese, and Russian Language Flagship programs at 23 U.S. institutions. More than 100 students participated in the overseas Flagship Capstone year, reaching superior proficiency through advanced language study, direct enrollment courses, and in-language internships. Students learned about cultures alongside their studies, living with host families and engaging with the local community. Following the onset of the pandemic, more than 80 students participated in the new virtual Flagship Capstone year, thanks to dedicated overseas partners who adapted seamlessly to the online environment. The Language Flagship also continued funding to advance the integration of technology into language learning and teaching, the development of culture preparation materials, and K-12 foreign language initiatives. In 2020, IIE hosted an open competition for overseas Flagship Capstone programs in Arabic, Chinese, and Russian on behalf of the National Security Education Program. New four-year awards to U.S. higher education institutions will begin in 2021.
International Governmental and Higher Education Programs

IIE is privileged to administer a number of programs sponsored by governments and universities in the Middle East.

ADAPTING OUTREACH AND SUPPORT STRATEGIES

The NYU Abu Dhabi Latin America and Caribbean team adjusted all regional student outreach for the 2020-2021 academic cycle to be virtual in order to expand outreach and support students from Latin America and the Caribbean interested in applying to NYUAD.

2020 OUTCOMES

- 700 Admission Applications Submitted for Students by the MENA team
- 1,000 Recruitment Events Hosted by NYU Abu Dhabi
- 90% Satisfaction Rate for the Kuwait Graduate Program
**King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) Gifted Student Program (KGSP)**

Despite the pandemic, KGSP successfully pivoted programming to a virtual environment and leveraged partnerships that enabled 95 percent of undergraduates to pursue summer enrichment experiences online. The Program developed a Crisis Management Task Force that strengthened the academic and well-being supports offered to students to mitigate any impacts to program starts or degree completion. KGSP also celebrated three past or current participants named as part of the 2021 Rhodes Scholar cohort.

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**Kuwait Graduate Program**

The Kuwait Graduate Program’s goal for 2020 was to provide job readiness development, coaching, and Optional Practical Training opportunities for 20 Kuwaiti graduates. Hundreds of co-ops, internships, and full-time positions were recommended; 590 applications were submitted; and 79 interviews were conducted. By fall, 17 students received at least one full-time offer and started working for companies and organizations across the United States. Despite the many challenges of 2020, the overall program satisfaction rate at the end of the year was 90 percent.

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**New York University Abu Dhabi**

Throughout the course of 2020, the NYU Abu Dhabi team challenged itself to reinvent its approach to student outreach. The team hosted more than 1,000 in-person and virtual recruitment events in Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Russia and Central Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Meeting with more than 7,700 students and more than 850 educators, these events contributed to a 15 percent increase in inquiries and a 25 percent increase in applications submitted for the fall 2021 entry term.

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**Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI)**

In January 2020, IIE launched its partnership with MBZUAI, a university offering graduate degrees in artificial intelligence fields, based in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. A team of experienced program outreach and recruitment professionals collaborated across seven IIE offices to recruit qualified candidates for the inaugural spring 2021 class. The IIE team was instrumental in promoting the scholarship globally and guiding prospective applicants through the application and selection process, with 101 highly qualified students receiving offers for the inaugural class.

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**NEOM Scholarship Program**

IIE managed the inaugural cohort of the NEOM Scholarship Program, assisting the 15 selected students to gain admission into an ESL program and facilitating their visa, arrival, and settling process. We oversaw the academic advising of the students and helped them adjust into a virtual learning environment soon after they arrived in the United States. By the fall semester, all 15 students had received full and conditional admission offers for bachelor’s degree programs at universities across the United States.

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**Saudi Arabia Ministry of Culture**

In the fall, we embarked on our newest partnership in the Middle East and North Africa region with the Ministry of Culture in Saudi Arabia. The program’s goal is to place 1,000 students from the Kingdom into film, performance arts, fine arts, music, culinary arts, and architecture programs in competitive global universities.

The team worked with hundreds of students in individual and group advising sessions to identify programs that fit their future plans and submitted more than 700 admission applications on the students’ behalf.
Corporate Social Responsibility and Corporate Foundation–Sponsored Initiatives

We are proud to be grantees of many foundations on signature scholarship, fellowship, and learning programs, including evaluation of those programs.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Cargill Global Scholars Program

The Cargill Global Scholars Program invites undergraduate students from Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russia, and the U.S. to participate in a two-year program focused on enhancing leadership skills, intercultural connections, and professional development through enrichment seminars and mentorship. In 2020, IIE selected 60 scholars for the eighth cohort and successfully worked with Cargill to host its annual five-day Global Leadership Seminar in a completely virtual setting for nearly 70 participants from six countries across a 14-hour time span.

Ford Foundation Global Fellowship

The Ford Foundation Global Fellowship launched in spring 2020 with its first cohort of emerging leaders working to advance equality around the world. IIE partners with Ford to design and implement leadership development, networking, and experiential learning opportunities. In 2020, IIE launched the individual coaching component and co-designed two week-long virtual convenings and monthly cohort learning touchpoints.
Centroamérica Adelante

Centroamérica Adelante, a leadership development initiative funded by Seattle International Foundation, worked to develop high-impact social change actors from the Northern Triangle. The program has supported 208 change makers over three cohorts, with a gender mix of 57 percent female and 43 percent male. While focusing on personal growth and leadership skills, they increased their national and regional connections, laying the groundwork for increased future collaboration.

IIE began co-designing and facilitating the formation of an alumni network of Fellows and Scholars of the Porticus Talents for Good Program, as well as building a monitoring and evaluation system. The more than 1,000 alumni include Scholars and Fellows who will become thought leaders and agents of change and whose collective actions will help address challenges facing society.

Porticus Talents for Good Program

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BUILDING A NETWORK OF FUTURE THOUGHT LEADERS
Porticus aims to create a sustainable future where justice and human dignity flourish.
Western Union Foundation Global Scholarship Program

Western Union Foundation (WUF) responded to the challenges of 2020 by launching two new funds: the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund and the Project Finish Line scholarship for students who identify as Black, Indigenous, or persons of color (BIPOC).

IIE worked with WUF to identify students at tertiary institutions in six countries who were impacted by COVID-19 and critically needed help to cover expenses for the fall 2020 semester. IIE disbursed awards of up to $10,000 each to 26 students in need through the COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund.

Project Finish Line is a new scholarship program established by Western Union’s Black Advisory Council in collaboration with WUF to address barriers that may prevent Black, Indigenous, and minority students from completing their degree program. The scholarship supports college-level juniors and seniors experiencing financial hardship. Fifteen scholars were awarded up to $10,000 USD for the spring 2021 semester.

Adobe Design Circle Scholarships

IIE worked with Adobe to launch the Design Circle Scholarships in 2020 to help reach untapped youth communities and foster more diversity in the design industry. The program awards 10 annual college scholarships and provides mentorship opportunities such as shadowing, internships, workshops, and networking. Fully funded by Adobe, these scholarships are intended to help youth continue their education, pursue careers in a design-related field, and find innovative ways to improve their communities.
DIASPORA PROGRAMS

Greek Diaspora Foundation Program

The Greek Diaspora Fellowship Program, funded by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, is a scholar exchange program for Greek universities to host Greek scholars from the diaspora for collaborative, mutually beneficial engagements. In 2020, IIE selected 36 Fellows for projects at 17 host institutions in Greece.

Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program

The Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program is a fellowship program for African institutions to host an African-born scholar to work in educational projects. In 2020, IIE selected 134 Fellows for projects at 83 host institutions in Africa.

MEASURING AIR POLLUTION’S IMPACT

Dr. Richard Damoah (right) of Morgan State University shares his knowledge on monitoring air pollution with scientists in Ghana.

2020 INITIATIVE OUTCOMES

$10,000
Amount of Awards for Project Finish Line Students

10
Annual Adobe Design Circle Scholarships

36
Greek Diaspora Fellows Selected

134
Carnegie African Diaspora Fellows Selected

MUTUALLY-BENEFICIAL COLLABORATIONS

ABOVE: Dr. Alexandra Touroutoglou from Harvard Medical School was among the first Greek Diaspora Fellows selected to collaborate with peers at Greek higher education institutions.
IIE Initiatives

It is by working together and sharing crucial knowledge across borders that we can solve global issues and crises. Our impactful, mission-driven work educates future leaders, rescues threatened scholars and artists, aids international students during emergencies, and sends underprivileged U.S. college students abroad. IIE initiatives are sustained by the generosity of donors who share the conviction that international education can lead to greater peace and understanding in an interconnected world.

IIE Scholar Rescue Fund

Across the globe, many scholars are persecuted for their research, their activism, and their identities. Others face danger or displacement amid the world’s most devastating conflicts. Protecting the lives and scholarship of threatened professors and researchers has always been at the core of IIE’s mission. This legacy dates to 1920, when the leaders of a newly founded IIE created the Russian Student and Scholar Fund to provide emergency assistance to hundreds of students and scholars caught in the crossfire of the Bolshevik Revolution and Stalinism. Since then, IIE has led special efforts to support academics in need during every decade, including:

- **RESCUE OF SCHOLARS FROM FASCIST ITALY**
  IIE found positions for many displaced scholars in the United States, where they were afforded grants, and several were named chairs at leading universities.

- **IIE’S EMERGENCY COMMITTEE IN AID OF DISPLACED FOREIGN SCHOLARS**
  This effort supported more than 330 scholars facing Nazi persecution to safely resume their work in the U.S.

- **EMERGENCY PROGRAM TO AID HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS**
  A joint committee arranged university placements for approximately 1,000 students and scholars displaced by the violent suppression of a popular uprising in Hungary.

- **THE SOUTH AFRICA EDUCATION PROGRAM**
  This enabled more than 1,600 Black South African students living under apartheid to obtain access to higher education at nearly 200 institutions in the U.S.
In 2002, IIE established the Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF) to ensure that emergency support and academic opportunities are always available to academics whenever and wherever they may be in danger. Nearly 20 years later, IIE-SRF remains the only global program that arranges and funds fellowships for threatened and displaced scholars. It has assisted more than 900 scholars from 60 countries in partnership with more than 425 host institutions in 50 countries around the world. In 2020 alone, IIE-SRF supported nearly 200 scholars from 31 countries, working with more than 100 higher education institutions and other partners in 21 countries. Sadly, the need for this work is greater than ever before. Applications to IIE-SRF have continued to rise in recent years, and in 2020, the program received more requests for support than in any year in our history.

As IIE marked a century of scholar rescue this past year, we launched the IIE-SRF Alliance to strengthen the shared efforts of IIE-SRF and our partners to save the lives and work of threatened and displaced academics. The Alliance builds on IIE-SRF’s global network of partners, who offer practical support to scholars in need, including temporary academic positions, professional development and career advancement opportunities, and other critical assistance.

2020 was also a year marked by enormous shared challenges, as well as individual anxiety and loss, brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises. Despite this adversity, IIE-SRF scholars exhibited remarkable resilience as they continued to share their expertise, advance scientific knowledge, and struggle for more just societies. And our partners demonstrated their ongoing commitment to providing critical practical support to academics across the globe. IIE-SRF fellows undertook more than 130 fellowship appointments in 2020, sharing their expertise in the humanities, social sciences, and STEM.

All our communities rely on scientists and other experts to help us navigate and find solutions to the extraordinary challenges of our world. As IIE commences our second century of scholar rescue, we remain committed to supporting threatened and displaced scholars to pursue their teaching and research in safe conditions, ensuring that they can continue to fight physical and societal ailments, from disease to social injustice.

IRENE SUMBELE
Far left: IIE-SRF Fellow Dr. Irene Sumbele of Cameroon is pursuing medical parasitology research at Cornell University. She was named the 2020 IIE-SRF Beau Biden Scholar.

HASAN MARIDI
Left: Theoretical physicist Dr. Hasan Maridi undertook IIE-SRF Fellowship appointments at Philadelphia University in Jordan from 2018 to 2020. He is presently a researcher at the University of Warsaw in Poland.
Student Emergency Initiatives

Through IIE’s Student Emergency Initiatives, we provide displaced and refugee students with an opportunity to start or carry on their higher education to foster economic development, improve public health, and build safer communities.

IIE EMERGENCY STUDENT FUND

IIE’s Emergency Student Fund (ESF) continues to provide financial support to international students in the U.S. when emergencies in their home countries threaten to jeopardize the completion of their studies. In 2020, ESF awarded more than $2.2 million in grants to 980 students. The ESF COVID-19 response provided $1.9 million and supported 872 students from all over the world, and the ESF-Global Award provided $314,000 to support 108 students in China (Wuhan), Australia (New South Wales and Victoria), the Philippines (Luzon), and Turkey (Sivrice).

IIE PLATFORM FOR EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES RESPONSE

IIE’s Platform for Education in Emergencies Response (PEER) is an online clearinghouse enabling displaced and refugee students to connect with educational opportunities. Made possible by the Catalyst Foundation, the PEER database includes information on scholarships, online courses, and language learning. As of 2020, the database had more than 530 active educational opportunities, 72,000 active users, and 374,664 page views.

PEER BRIDGE

PEER Bridge supports displaced students from Myanmar to earn a bachelor’s degree by providing academic placement services and small grants to cover initial application and enrollment costs. To date, PEER Bridge has provided scholarships to 25 students, who began their studies in fall 2019 and fall 2020. Many of the grantees’ host universities committed to awarding these students tuition waivers and living stipends annually through the duration of their undergraduate studies. The aggregate total of in-kind contributions from host institutions to date is $654,650.

JULIA STASCH-IIE SCHOLARSHIP FOR REFUGEES

The Julia Stasch-IIE Scholarship for Refugees provided scholarships to help resettled refugees complete an associate degree at one of the City Colleges of Chicago or a community college in Chicagoland. Awardees also participated in a one-week leadership program designed to give them a strong footing for their pathway forward. IIE supported 39 students.
The Artist Protection Fund

IIE-APF entered its sixth year of filling a critical unmet need by protecting threatened artists and placing them at welcoming host institutions in safe countries where they can continue their work and plan for their futures. In 2020, IIE-APF called on academic, cultural, and arts organizations to join a growing community of esteemed host institutions worldwide that have collaborated with the U.S. to make the protection of threatened artists a priority.

IIE-APF continues to work to ensure that Fellows have the support they need to continue their work in safe and welcoming environments. Currently, IIE-APF is represented by 52 Fellows and Alumni, including 20 women, 30 men, and 2 nonbinary artists from across 5 continents and 20 countries. Seven new Fellows were recently awarded in visual arts, literary arts, and music.

Blaise Baneh Mbu, Cameroon, Filmmaker, 2019 APF Fellow

In 2019, Blaise was hosted by Theater X and filmArche in Berlin, Germany. Blaise fled the threats he faced in Cameroon in a condition of uncertainty—but with the support of IIE-APF, his fellowship year became a time of creativity and renewal.

2020 IIE INITIATIVES OUTCOME

- 39 Students Supported by the Julia Stasch-IIE Scholarship for Refugees
- 25 Students Have Been Awarded PEER Bridge Scholarships
- 52 APF Fellows and Alumni

$2.2 MILLION in Grants Were Awarded to 980 Students

872 Students Worldwide Were Assisted by the ESF COVID-19 RESPONSE
Higher Education Initiatives (HEI)

The Higher Education Initiatives (HEI) department sprang into action at the onset of the pandemic, offering tools, information, and assistance to the IIENetwork. Responding to the needs of the 1,500-member network, the HEI team launched the IIENetwork Engagement Series, which included webinars and small group discussions on timely topics. The series had more than 5,700 participants from 106 countries. The fall 2020 IIENetworker magazine issue, More Essential Than Ever, featured articles about innovation during the crisis, as well as data-driven arguments for international education. The Center for International Partnerships (CIP) developed new models for fostering partnerships through the International Academic Partnership Program with Greece. Although Program staff were unable to travel to Greece on a delegation, the CIP team, with the Greek Ministry of Higher Education and Religious Affairs, continued to offer strategic guidance, webinars, and matchmaking assistance, which has already resulted in several new bilateral partnerships.

IIE Victor J. Goldberg Prize for Peace in the Middle East

In 2020, IIE awarded the 16th annual IIE Victor J. Goldberg Prize for Peace in the Middle East to Mohammed Khatib and Emily Schaeffer Omer-Man, two Palestinian and Israeli lawyer-activists who have joined together to create and lead the first Palestinian-Israeli joint legal project dedicated to challenging systematic violations of human rights in courts worldwide.

GOLDBERG PRIZE
ABOVE: The 2020 Goldberg Prize winners were Mohammed Khatib and Emily Schaeffer Omer-Man, Leaders of Letters from Bil’in: Joint Palestinian-Israeli Legal Advocacy Project.
At IIE, we believe that educational exchange has the power to transform lives and strengthen communities. Thanks to our donors, in a year filled with unexpected difficulties and widespread hardship, IIE was able to continue assisting students and scholars around the world.

IIE has faced many emergencies in our 101-year history, from natural disasters and wars to pandemics. International education is key to solving the world’s most pressing problems. With generous aid from our donors, we can rise to each challenge and continue to run programs that provide opportunities for exchange worldwide. Our programs increase the number of Americans who study abroad, support international students in crisis, rescue scholars in danger, and work to build a more peaceful and equitable world.

Increasing access to education around the world creates a better future for us all. By supporting our work, you give a voice to students and scholars in need.

Your support is needed now more than ever. Learn more at www.iie.org/donate
Organizational Efficiency

IIE is committed to the highest standards and best practices in not-for-profit management and in managing our growth. 88% of IIE’s resources are directly allocated to implementing programs and services.
GOVERNANCE

IIE is governed by a dedicated Board of Trustees that brings a diverse set of skills from leadership positions in the public and private sectors, including colleges, universities, business, and philanthropy.

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*As of June 2021*
Select IIE Program Partners*

IIE partners with U.S. and foreign government agencies, private foundations, and others to develop programs that build the capacity of citizens to address critical global issues. Creating a nexus between business and higher education, IIE also works with corporations and their foundations to advance education, develop a talented global workforce, and engage with the communities they serve.

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*As of December 9, 2020
For additional program partners, visit www.iie.org.