



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Office of the Provost  
International Affairs™

**2023**  
A Year In Review



## Dr. Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo

### Vice Provost for International Affairs

2023 was a memorable year for Texas Tech University as we celebrated our CENTENNIAL! At International Affairs (IA), we are proud to be part of an institution that continues to lead in sustaining transformative education with innovative and creative scholarship to impact individuals and communities across diverse contexts.

For the third year in a row, Texas Tech was recognized as a Fulbright Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). The recognition highlights our university's commitment to global education and the advancement of mutual

understanding across cultures. In fact, the Fulbright program has had a constant presence at Texas Tech with 177 scholar alumni completing their projects across 68 countries over the last 100 years. In 2023 alone, six faculty and administrators received Fulbright awards to Morocco, Hungary, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom, and France. And in 2023, for the first time, Texas Tech was selected to host a Scholar-In-Residence (S-I-R), which is a unique initiative to enhance US University internationalization efforts through teaching and outreach and engagement activities.

Indeed, the international footprint of Texas Tech has continued to grow in 2023. We welcomed and served 2,882 international students from 113 countries along with over 300 international scholars, faculty, and staff through our International Students and Scholar Services (ISSS) as well as our International Student Life (ISL) units, activities, and resources. Over 1,100 students participated in Study Abroad (SA) programs around the globe, including but not limited to Italy, Costa Rica, Ireland, Japan, United Kingdom, Greece, Czech Republic, France, and Iceland. The top study abroad destination for students continued to be our TTU Center in Sevilla, Spain.

Our international research efforts this past year included the establishment of

new levels of seed grants to support one-way and two-way faculty exchanges with international partners, and the launching of the International Research Network (IRN). IRN offers several initiatives, such as expanded collaborations with international universities in the Americas and other world regions, international and national funding, opportunities for student exchanges, and faculty mentoring resources. The Center for Global Communication (CGC) and the International Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Land Studies (ICASALS) continued to support scholarship, learning, and internationalization opportunities for faculty and students through diverse initiatives (e.g., webinars, faculty workshops, guest speakers, and grant writing teams). In addition, 2023 marked the 5th year Texas Tech was selected to host the prestigious Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders (YALI) program, which is supported by the US Department of State. We worked with 24 participants from 19 countries; Texas Tech has now served over 100 Mandela Fellow alumni since the program started in 2017!

International Affairs broke attendance records with 27,670 participants in our K-12 Global Education Outreach (GEO) programs, engaging 65 school campuses in the region. Lubbock community and TTU members including faculty, staff, students, and their families attended and enjoyed

different initiatives carried out by International Relations (IR), including photo contests, art exhibits, lectures in partnership with other Texas Tech units, and our IA annual signature events like Culture Fest during International Week. IA partnered with Lubbock's Center for Global Understanding in several ways to aid in our shared missions of promoting cultural awareness in our community.

We have so much to celebrate and to be grateful for in 2023! Our accomplishments are the result of the unwavering dedication of our International Affairs staff members building on the continued support from campus leaders and administrators, the Lubbock community, and international collaborators. Our aim is to continue to serve and support our growing Red Raider international family and partners as we further expand TTU's mission to develop global citizens.



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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Office of the Provost

International Affairs™

[international.ttu.edu](http://international.ttu.edu)

## Our Mission

International Affairs advances the global vision of Texas Tech University by promoting international leadership, awareness, education, scholarship, and outreach for the university and the greater community.

## Our Vision

International Affairs will broaden the global reputation of the university by integrating international education, scholarship, and engagement with global issues, and by strengthening intercultural understanding for students, faculty, staff, and the greater community.

## Administration & Finance (A&F)

The Administration and Finance unit provides support to all units and divisions of International Affairs, and interacts with other campus entities for administrative and financial issues as they relate to IA. The Passport Office is part of this unit, and offers full passport services to the campus and surrounding community. The Passport office accepts applications Monday-Friday. Appointments are required and can be made by contacting our office at 806-742-3667.

**Rachel Jarnagin, Director**

*rachel.jarnagin@ttu.edu*

## Center for Global Communication (CGC)

The Center for Global Communication (CGC) develops educational programming and resources to enhance communication as well as multicultural skills for students to effectively converse in a global context. CGC provides resources for students interested in learning about global challenges, speaker programs for faculty to raise awareness of global issues, and global challenge teaching modules for faculty.

**Dr. Rich Rice, Director**

*rich.rice@ttu.edu*

## International Center for Arid & Semi-Arid Land Studies (ICASALS)

ICASALS promotes the university's special mission of the interdisciplinary study of arid and semiarid environments and the human relationship to these environments from an international perspective. The purpose of ICASALS is to stimulate, coordinate, and implement teaching, research, and public service activities concerning all aspects of the world's arid and semiarid regions, their people, and their problems.

**Dr. Mario Beruvides, Interim Director & Associate Vice Provost for International Affairs**

*mario.beruvides@ttu.edu*

## International Grants Administration & Partnerships (IGAP)

IGAP works with faculty to identify and disseminate international research and development grant opportunities and to help develop and submit multidisciplinary proposals to funding agencies. Additionally, they work with faculty to develop partnerships with international institutions to further enhance the international reputation of Texas Tech University.

**Reagan Ribordy, Senior Director & Assistant Vice Provost for International Affairs**

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**Michael Johnson, Associate Director**

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## International Relations (IR)

Comprised of International Alumni Relations, International Arts and Culture (art exhibits, speakers, etc.), International Scholars Engagement, and International Fundraising, IR engages and connects TTU alumni, scholars, and donors and brings cultural programming to the multiple and diverse South Plains and TTU communities.

**Carolina Arellanos, Assistant Director**

*carolina.arellanos@ttu.edu*

## International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS)

ISSS operates the university's international student and exchange visitor immigration programs and provides employment-based immigration services to the university. It also oversees International Student Life (ISL). Counselors advise and assist international students and scholars concerning immigration rules, financial concerns, and cross-cultural issues. International Student Life plans activities for international students and coordinates with other offices on campus to provide services and programmatic support to all international students.

**Dr. Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo, Vice Provost for International Affairs**

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**Beth Mora, Assistant Director, International Student Life**

*beth.mora@ttu.edu*

## K-12 Global Education Outreach (K-12 GEO)

The award-winning K-12 GEO unit serves as a liaison for the university to provide cultural enrichment opportunities by offering cultural programming to K-12 students from public, private, and home schools throughout the South Plains. In November of 2016, Texas Tech University's K-12 Global Education Outreach was honored with the Senator Paul Simon Spotlight award. The award recognizes the ongoing efforts of the unit to provide excellence in international education.

**Charles Olivier, Assistant Director**

*charles.olivier@ttu.edu*

## Study Abroad (SA)

SA coordinates all study abroad programs for Texas Tech University. Many academic departments offer faculty-led programs, usually in the summer, with a wide variety of course offerings and locations to include the TTU Center in Sevilla, Spain and TTU Costa Rica. Students can earn TTU credit while taking a catalog course in an international location with Texas Tech faculty. Study abroad programs range in length from three weeks to a full academic year. Study Abroad Counselors assist students in choosing a program that best fits their individual needs and goals, while also providing guidance during the application and orientation process.

**Whitney Longnecker, Director**

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**Bethany Kuwitzky, Assistant Director**

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**Adrianna Ward, Assistant Director**

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## TTU Center in Sevilla, Spain

The Texas Tech University Center in Sevilla offers learning opportunities for the Texas Tech community in Spain and is committed to ensuring a welcoming, safe, and collaborative community. We are dedicated to providing cross-cultural learning experiences and unique opportunities for participants to excel in their academic and personal goals as part of their preparation to become leaders in a globally competitive world.

**Dr. Sara Pink, Director**

*sara.pink@ttu.edu*

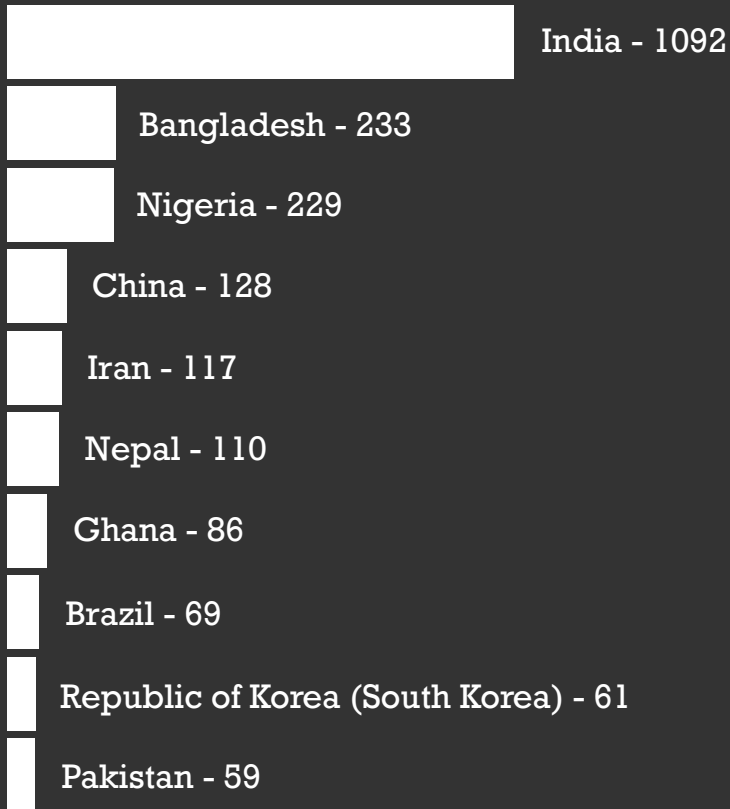
**Dr. Jonathan Deen, Assistant Director**

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# TOP 10

Countries for International Enrollment for FY2023



# 2,878

Total F-1 Students Enrolled in Fall 2023

2,265  
Graduate

613  
Undergraduate



Texas Tech University's international student community is made up of nearly 4,000 students from 245 countries. Its global footprint continues to expand from year to year, truly making it an international university.

# Integrated Global Teaching and Scholarship Institute

The CGC develops global citizens through internationalizing thinking and communication. We're about connections. We partner resources at TTU International Affairs for students, faculty, staff, and community members in local, national, and international contexts to enhance intercultural communication skills.

Specifically, the CGC helps:

- Students find resources to learn more about intercultural communication and prepare for international and multicultural career opportunities;
- Faculty internationalize courses and become integrated global scholars;
- Administrators connect study abroad, and other programs and curriculum;
- Staff expand global thinking and communication skills; and
- Community members plan cultural events and projects.







ICASALS

# International Center for Arid and Semi-Arid Land Studies

Established in 1966, the **International Center for Arid and Semiarid Land Studies (ICASALS)** at Texas Tech University plays a vital role in the interdisciplinary exploration of arid and semiarid environments globally. ICASALS is dedicated to promoting research, technology development, knowledge transfer, and education, contributing to sustainable solutions for the challenges faced by these regions and their inhabitants.

As part of its ongoing initiatives, ICASALS actively participated in "**High and Dry XXIII: A Photographic Exhibition of Peoples and Places of the World's Dry Lands.**" This engagement aligns with ICASALS' broader mission to promote awareness and understanding of the unique challenges faced by communities in arid and semiarid areas, fostering a global perspective on these critical issues.



Other ICASALS efforts included research meetings, workshops, external funding applications, international partnerships, and coordinated efforts with the International Research Network (IRN).

*Above Photo: Steve Sucsy: Catching the Morning Light - Shiprock, New Mexico, First Place, High & Dry XXIII*

## K-12 Global Education Outreach

# Global Education Programs Here, There, and Everywhere

The K-12 Global Education Outreach (GEO) program is here for teachers and their students with three different programming formats to meet the need of all types of classrooms, International Cultural Center, On the Road, and virtual. All of these programming types bring an unforgettable cultural experience to the participants.



# 27,670

Total Attendance for All K-12 GEO Activities, including Internal Programs, and Sponsored Events

43.93% increase from 19,220 in FY2022

*"The K-12 Global Education Outreach has given our students an opportunity to do things that they are not able to do in the classroom. At the Cultural Center our students are able to meet people from other world cultures and learn about their way of life and have an experience that will stay with them for a life time."*

**Joni Rodela**

K-12 Social Studies and World Languages Coordinator  
Lubbock ISD



# 20,563

Total Attendance for K-12 GEO Internal Programs

### Total Attendance by Location

6,853 ICC	17,310 On The Road	4,174 Virtual
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# 42.41%

Total LISD Population Participants | 10,713 Total

### Total Attendance by LISD Participants

7,781 Elementary	1,786 Middle School	886 High School
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260  
Teacher (Professional Development)

**21**  
Total  
Partnerships

**93**  
Partnership Programs  
Presented

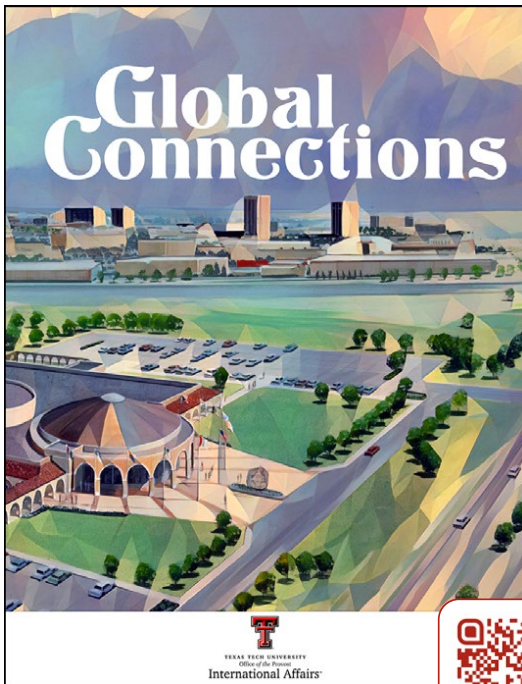
### Area Campuses for FY2023 | 65 Total

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Abernathy Elem.              | North Ridge Elem.     |
| Akin Elem.                   | Oak Ridge Elem.       |
| All Saints HS/Mid/Elem.      | Lockney HS            |
| Amarillo HS                  | Parsons Elem.         |
| Bayless Elem.                | Ramirez Elem.         |
| Bean Elem.                   | LISD Reach            |
| Coronado HS                  | Roberts Elem.         |
| Dimmitt HS                   | Roscoe Elem.          |
| Kingdom Prep Mid.            | Roosevelt MS          |
| Lubbock High                 | Smith Elem.           |
| Lubbock Christian MS         | Stanton HS            |
| Lubbock Cooper MS            | Wilson Elem.          |
| Lubbock Cooper HS            | Post Elem.            |
| Lubbock Cooper East Elem.    | Hardwick Elem.        |
| Lubbock Cooper South Elem.   | Harwell Elem.         |
| Lubbock Cooper North Elem.   | Hutch MS              |
| Lubbock Cooper West Elem.    | Ropes Elem.           |
| Lubbock Cooper Central Elem. | Stewart Elem.         |
| Talkington High              | Christ the King E/M/H |
| Floydada Elem.               | Harwell Elem.         |
| Monterey HS                  | Dunbar MS             |
| Sharp Academy E/M/H          | Estacado HS           |
| Shallowater Intermediate     | Slaton HS             |
| Laura Bush MS                | Harmony MS            |
| Irons MS                     | Upland Heights        |
| Terra Vista MS               | Waters Elem.          |
| Maedgen Elem.                | Wolfforth Elem.       |
| Meadow Elem.                 | Wheelock Elem.        |
| Miller Elem.                 | Whiteside Elem.       |
| New Deal Elem.               |                       |

# Global Connections

## Global Connections Magazine

In 2023, International Affairs established the **Global Connections** magazine. The first issue of the biannual publication shares a brief history of International Affairs and the International Cultural Center. The magazine highlights many of the current programs, accolades, and initiatives made possible through the unwavering support and global vision of the Texas Tech community, international students, faculty, staff, and the dedicated efforts of our International Affairs team.



Scan the QR code  
to download Issue #1, or visit:  
[bit.ly/ia-globalconnections](https://bit.ly/ia-globalconnections)

## American Academy of Diplomacy: Ambassador's Forum

### "The Global Citizen & Diplomacy"

The concept of a "global citizen" is much talked about but what does it mean when applied to action on major transnational issues. Does a global citizen make policy? Force a state to make it? Cause a negative reaction by insisting that everyone accept certain global norms? Where is the line between global citizenship and national sovereignty and is the former necessarily at war with the latter?

On March 2, 2023 our distinguished guest Ambassadors were featured at a series of panel discussions placing emphasis on the issues of **Nationalism vs. Globalism**, **Climate Change**, and **Media and the State**, and their impacts on diplomacy.

*Our guest Ambassador Panel for 2023 included:*

**Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann**

**Ambassador Pamela Spratlen**

**Ambassador Robert O. Blake, Jr.**

**Ambassador Tibor Nagy**





# GVA23

## Global Vision Awards

### Global Vision Awards 2023

Individuals and groups dedicated to the globalization and international reach of Texas Tech University and higher education were recognized for their efforts during the 2023 Global Vision Awards at the International Cultural Center.

Established in 2003 by International Affairs, the Global Vision Awards recognize the extraordinary efforts of colleagues who promote global engagement and provide important opportunities to enrich the experiences of both domestic and international students, faculty, staff, and Lubbock community members.



**Dr. Joseph Aranha**  
Huckabee College of  
Architecture

**Global Vision Lifetime  
Achievement Award**



**Dr. Jeff Hanson**  
Department of Mechanical  
Engineering

**Donald R. Haragan**  
Study Abroad Award



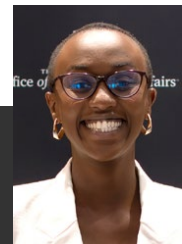
**Dr. Klementina Fon  
Tacer, D.V.M., Ph.D.**  
School of Veterinary  
Medicine

**Faculty International  
Scholarship Award**



**Rula Al-Hmoud**  
Classical & Modern  
Languages & Literatures

**Global Engagement  
Community Award**



**Elyvine  
Ingabire-Gasana**  
Ph.D. Student & Research  
Assistant

*Nutritional Sciences*  
**Student International  
Research Award**

# International Grants Administration & Partnerships

## Key Accomplishments

- Assisted in the submission of almost \$18 million in sponsored project grant proposals from 5 colleges.
- Selected to host TTU's fifth cohort of Mandela Washington Fellows from 18 countries within Sub-Saharan Africa awarded through the U.S. Department of State.
- Established two new International Affairs seed grants to facilitate faculty's research goals. The Global Exchange Research Seed Grant offers two levels of seed grants, One-Way and Faculty Exchange, depending on faculty members' needs. In addition, in 2023 we launched a pilot reciprocal exchange program with Costa Rica CATIE (Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center) to develop a larger research project and proposal with CATIE-TTU partners.
- Celebrated the TTU-São Paulo Research Foundation's (FAPESP) nine-year partnership.
- Coordinated the development and launch of the International Affairs International Research Network (IRN) which is designed to promote international research efforts at Texas Tech University. The IRN consolidates resources and offers faculty the ability to quickly identify potential collaborators at TTU based on research interest or geographic expertise.





**MANDELA  
WASHINGTON  
FELLOWSHIP**  
FOR YOUNG AFRICAN LEADERS

## Mandela Washington Fellowship

A cohort of 24 young African leaders participated in the Public Management track of the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders (YALI) Leadership Institute at Texas Tech University.

This was Texas Tech's fifth year as host institution, one of 28 institutes selected across the U.S. The six-week fellowship focused on leadership and advocacy modules and provided opportunities for networking between fellows and university and municipal community leaders. Activities included leadership training, academic sessions with subsequent discussion sessions, community service events, and cultural connections, all designed to help Fellows gain a better understanding of life and leadership in West Texas.

The United States Department of State funds the Mandela Washington Fellowship, a flagship program of the Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) that empowers young people through academic coursework, leadership training, and networking. Since 2014, the Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders (YALI) has provided leadership opportunities for nearly 6,500 participants from Sub-Saharan Africa.

The Fellows, who are between the ages of 25 and 35, have established records of accomplishment in promoting innovation and positive impact in their organizations, institutions, and countries.

Visit: [yali.state.gov/mwf/](http://yali.state.gov/mwf/)

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## International Week, October 2–7, 2023

Originating as a collaborative effort between the US Department of Education and the US Department of State, International Week boasts a 20-year legacy and is presently observed in over 100 nations worldwide. This commemorative week serves as an avenue for our community to honor the diverse array of cultures shaping our campus and to delve deeper into the prospects for enhancing global awareness.

In 2023, International Affairs at Texas Tech University was excited to organize numerous events in honor of International Week including Open House, Study Abroad Fair, the Annual Fulbright Alumni Reception, Study Abroad Alumni Medal Ceremony, a Tropical Dance Class hosted by TTU Costa Rica, and our much anticipated Culture Fest finale.



## Culture Fest

In conjunction with International Week 2023, International Affairs organized Culture Fest at the International Cultural Center. Students presented their countries' and cultures' traditional foods, dances, crafts, and games, sharing them with both the campus and the wider communities of West Texas.





## Open House

International Affairs invited Texas Tech faculty, staff and administration to its annual Open House event featuring international foods from numerous local restaurants. Our annual Open House allows the campus community to interact and learn more about the operations of International Affairs.





## **"Adventures in Study Abroad & My Hometown"**

The "Adventures in Study Abroad & My Hometown" Photography Exhibit features the best photographs from Texas Tech students' study abroad experiences and Texas Tech international students' hometowns.

For 2023, we were honored to have Melinda Green Harvey, photographer and member of the board of directors for the Texas Photographic Society, serve as our juror.

TTU Fulbright

# Committed to Global Scholarship, and Knowledge and Cultural Exchange



## Key Accomplishments

- For the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, TTU was recognized as a **Fulbright Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)** among 25 doctoral universities in the country receiving this prestigious distinction. This recognition represents Texas Tech's commitment to global education and the Fulbright program's mission to advance mutual understanding across cultures, facilitate knowledge development and exchange across countries, and build a worldwide community while contributing to the lives of diverse populations.
- For the first time ever, Texas Tech was selected to host a **Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence (S-I-R)** awardee. The Scholar in Residence program is a unique initiative to enhance US Universities' internationalization efforts through teaching and outreach and engagement activities. Dr. Mario Solís, a Philosophy professor and Director of the Graduate Program in Philosophy at the University of Costa Rica (UCR) was the Fulbright S-I-R hosted by the Honors College during the fall semester.
- In 2023, six faculty and administrators were selected for Fulbright awards in Morocco, Hungary, Poland, Romania, United Kingdom, and France. Additionally, three faculty members completed Fulbright Specialists programs in Costa Rica, Malta, and Indonesia.

International Affairs  
Fulbright Liaisons Team

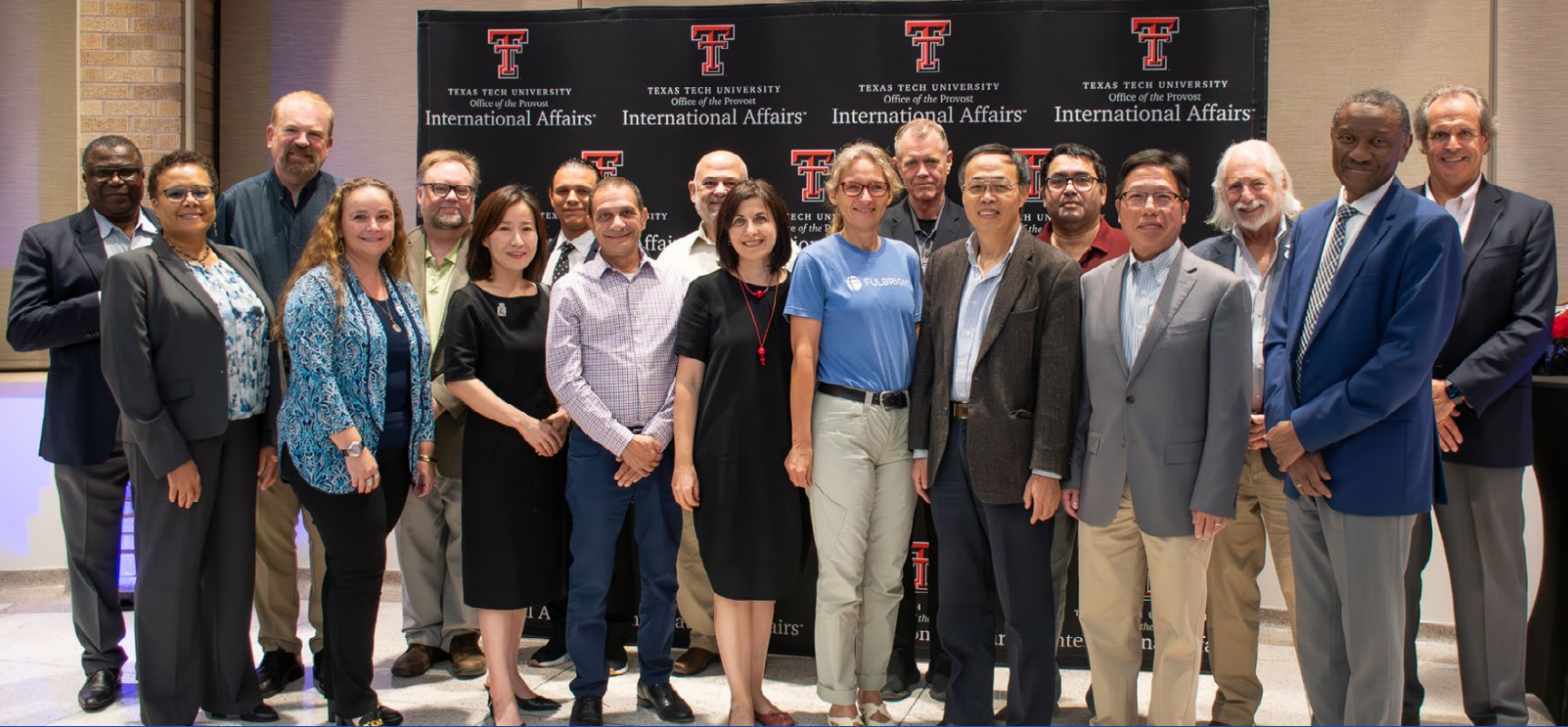
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## TTU Annual Fulbright Alumni Reception

As TTU Fulbright activities continue to expand, we held the second annual Fulbright Alumni Reception during International Week. Our distinguished guest speaker for the evening was **Dr. Mario Solís**. Solís, a philosophy professor from the University of Costa Rica was the award recipient of the Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Program, and will teach at the Honors College for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Speakers also included Provost Dr. Ronald Hendrick; Vice Provost for International Affairs, Dr. Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo; and Dr. Joseph Heppert, Vice President of the Office of Research & Innovation.

# ISSS by the Numbers

# 3,754

Total F-1 Population with OPT

404  
CPT

577  
OPT

299  
STEM OPT

CPT - Curriculum Practical Training  
OPT - Optional Practical Training

# 157

Total J-1 Population

5  
Professor

73  
Research Scholar

5  
Short-Term Scholar

13  
Student Doctorate

26  
Student Intern

35  
Student Non-Degree

# 151

Total H-1B Employee Population



# Supporting International Student Life

## Key Accomplishments

- Established two new day trips for students to go horseback riding at Palo Duro Canyon and to experience the ABC Pro Rodeo in Levelland.
- Grew the trajectory and impact of our Global Guide mentorship program to reach the graduate school population, reaching more than 600 additional students in spring 2023 so that all incoming international students receive support from international peers in their first year at Texas Tech.
- Reinforced commitment to volunteerism through the Lions Club Pancake Festival and the Cultural Ambassadors Program, where students can go out to Lubbock schools to teach area youth about their home cultures, tripling international students' hours of service compared to the year prior.
- Created and executed interim term programming with the University Recreation Center to support students in Lubbock during school breaks when little is happening on campus.



Study Abroad

# Travel, Learn, Discover

# 1,158

Students Participated in Study Abroad Programs in 2023

599	558	1
Male	Female	Unknown

When are they attending?



Fall  
72



Intersession  
16



Summer  
986



Spring  
& Spring Break  
85

## Study Abroad by College

- Whitacre College of Engineering - 442
- College of Arts & Sciences - 208
- Rawls College of Business Administration - 153
- College of Media & Communication - 80
- College of Human Sciences - 60
- Graduate School - 55
- Huckabee College of Architecture - 47
- Davis College of Ag. Sciences & Nat. Resources - 42
- Undeclared / Unknown - 25
- College of Education - 22
- School of Law - 13
- Honors College - 7
- Talkington College of Visual & Performing Arts - 4

## Top 10 Study Abroad Destinations

- Spain - 383
- Italy - 174
- Costa Rica - 108
- Ireland - 62
- Japan - 57
- United Kingdom - 53
- Greece - 50
- Czech Republic - 26
- France - 21
- Iceland - 21

## Key Accomplishments

- Received a \$5,000 Rejuvenation Grant from CIS Abroad. CIS Abroad partners presented four workshops to help shape TTU study abroad goals and initiatives.
- 16 students utilized nearly \$60,000 in Benjamin A. Gilman scholarship awards received during 2023.
- Expanded support for faculty-led study abroad programs. In 2023, 76% of all students participated on a faculty-led program, an 8-point increase over pre-COVID participation rates.
- Organized the first alumni reception which awarded medals to study abroad students. Medals were worn by students for the first time during the May 2023 commencement ceremonies.
- Awarded nearly \$400,000 to deserving study abroad students from the Study Abroad Competitive Scholarship.
- Continued campus-wide promotional and recruitment activities, including sponsorship of Red Raider Orientation, and organization of the annual Study Abroad Fair which drew in over 800 students.



Texas Tech University Center in Sevilla

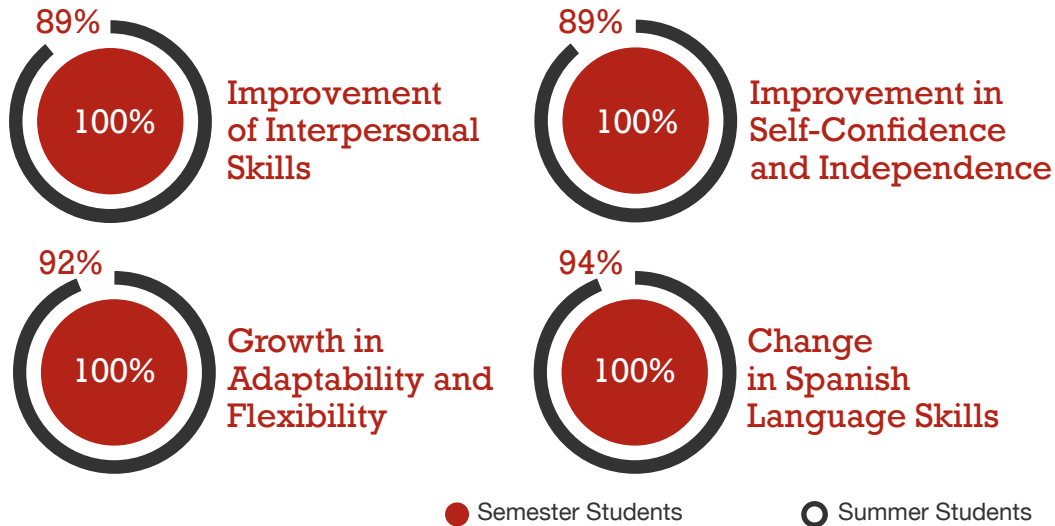
# Set Yourself Apart

386  
Students

33  
Faculty

26  
Programs

## Percentage of Students Reporting Positive Changes



**Dr. Jeff Hanson**  
Lecturer, Mechanical Engineering

*"The best way to truly appreciate another culture is to immerse yourself in it, and study abroad allows faculty and students to do just that. And beyond that, knowing and appreciating other cultures makes me a better professor, makes my students better engineers, and makes us all better global citizens."*

## Bear Our Banners Far and Wide

Colleges Represented:

Davis College of Agricultural  
Sciences and Natural Resources

Huckabee College of  
Architecture

College of Arts & Sciences

College of Education

Edward E. Whitacre College of  
Engineering

Honors College

College of Media &  
Communication

J.T. & Margaret Talkington  
College of Visual & Performing  
Arts

School of Law



# International Affairs Leadership Council



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HERE,  
IT'S  
POSSIBLE.™



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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Office of the Provost

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