Our Mission and Purpose
The Office of International Programs (OIP) facilitates the expansion of cooperative international collaborations and networks at UT Tyler, with the aim to ensure quality, safety, and compliance with local, state and federal requirements. The OIP works with departments across campus to increase international enrollment and retention, and to promote globally-focused programs and services.

Congratulations to UT Tyler’s new Fulbright Scholars!

Drs. Azghani and Sorensen will begin their research projects very soon!

UT Tyler’s Fulbright Scholars:
- **Dr. Ali Azghani**, Azerbaijan, 2018-22 (Antimicrobial Resistance, Research)
- **Dr. Tom Guderjan**, Belize, 1990 (Archaeology, Research)
- **Dr. Teresa Kennedy**, Hungary, 2017 (Capacity Building Abroad); Argentina, 2014-15 (STEM/Engineering Education, Teaching/Research); Ecuador 1993 (Education/Research)
- **Dr. Bill Sorensen**, Brazil, 2017-18 (Epidemiology, Teaching/Research)
- **Dr. Robert Sterken**, Myanmar/Burma, 2015-16 (Government and Religion, Teaching/Research)
- **Dr. Edward Tabri**, Belgium, 1993-94 (Political Culture in the Early Northern Renaissance, Research)

The **Core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program** is accepting applications from American academics and professionals until **Tuesday, 1 August 2017**. There are numerous teaching and/or research awards available in more than 125 countries to be completed in the 2018-2019 academic year.

Second Annual International Fest
The 2nd Annual International Fest took place Thursday, 10 November 2016 as a kick-off event for International Education Week. Over 560 people were in attendance, with 34 countries represented through poster presentation and 8 cultural performances providing international song and dance. We were honored to have 13 local vendors provide food, snacks, drinks, and giveaways. This event was made possible by the hard work of our 159 volunteers and many members of the Global Patriots working together with the OIP. Join us again next fall, on Thursday, 16 November 2017!

http://www.uttler.edu/oip/international-education-week.php
International Collaborations

The University of Texas at Tyler develops strategic partnerships that are institutionally-based, long-standing, and mutually-beneficial to both UT Tyler and our partner institutions. These partnerships advance UT Tyler’s mission and increase opportunities for global studies, faculty and student exchange, and international academic and research collaborations. See the list of 17 established partnerships at universities in Argentina, Armenia, China, Colombia, England, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Philippines, Spain and Taiwan at http://www.uttyler.edu/oip/collaborating_universities.php.

2016-17 Academic Year Visits to UT Tyler from our Collaborating Universities

Universidad de Quintana Roo - Chetumal, México

Luis González Pacheco Rodríguez from the Universidad de Quintana Roo Biblioteca Santiago Pacheco Cruz visited UT Tyler on 31 October 2016. Working with Ms. Rebecca Fernandez, Head of Electronic Resources and Collection Development in the University of Texas at Tyler Robert R. Muntz Library, Mr. González gathered information and data for a large scale benchmarking project. The final report was shared with UT Tyler, and a Video documenting the results of these efforts was shared at: https://www.facebook.com/100008092968314/videos/1890162914596789/.

University of Hertfordshire - Hertfordshire, England

UT Tyler’s partnership with The University of Hertfordshire is currently focusing on an Exchange Program for students at both institutions through their respective Colleges of Business for periods of one semester or the entire academic year. For the 2016-17 academic year, two UT Tyler students have been studying in England. On Friday, 7 April 2017, we welcomed visiting Professor Ron Wells from Hertfordshire Business School, Hatfield, UK, to the UT Tyler campus to meet with University of Hertfordshire exchange student Ms. Rahavi Gnanachandra, and with Dean James Lumpkin and Dr. Krist Swimberghe from the College of Business and Technology.

From left to right:
Dr. Krist Swimberghe, Chair and Associate Professor of Marketing.
Ms. Rahavi Gnanachandra, Study Abroad student from University of Hertfordshire.
Mr. Ron Wells, Lecturer of Hertfordshire Business School, Hatfield, England.
Dr. James Lumpkin, Dean, College of Business and Technology.

Yerevan State Armenian-American Medical College - Yerevan, Armenia

Dr. Alina Kushkyan from Yerevan State Armenian-American Medical College visited the UT Tyler campus on Monday, 17 April 2017 to work with the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Yerevan State Armenian-American Medical College and UT Tyler signed an Agreement of Cooperation on 26 September 2015. During the visit, an updated agreement was signed and detailed plans for future collaborations were created (pictured below with Dr. Yong Tai Wang, Dean of the College of Nursing and Health Sciences and Associate Dean Dr. Barbara Haas).
Visiting Scholars on Campus

The following J-1 Scholars visited the UT Tyler campus as Exchange Visitors during the Spring 2017 term:

- Professor Huijun ‘Golden’, Director of Student Affairs at Lixin University of Commerce, is currently working with his sponsor Dr. Hui Wu, on a research related to Moral Education of College Students.
- Professor Chunxia ‘Amanda’ Yin is currently working with her sponsor Dr. Hui Wu, on a research paper covering Pedagogy of TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language).
- Professor Lun Li has worked with his mentor and sponsor Dr. Yong Tai Wang on research related to outdoor sports and its effects on college students. Professor Li’s work has resulted in a research paper titled ‘Effects of rock climbing exercise on physical fitness in college students: A meta-analysis’, and another paper under the guidance and mentorship of Dr. Wycliffe Njororai, titled ‘Selected demographic characteristics of male basketball players the case of China and USA’.
- Professor An Ru has worked with his sponsor Dr. Yong Tai Wang, and his colleague Professor Lun Li to contribute to the research on the effects of rock climbing and physical fitness in college students and has worked with Dr. Wang on research related to Chinese Qigong, an ancient martial arts system of physical exercises and breathing control related to Tai Chi.
- Professor Ting ‘Judy’ Liao has been working with her sponsor Dr. Yong Tai Wang on the topic of Tai Chi and its positive effects on rehabilitation from back injury and recovery from other physical injuries.
- Professor Lulu Gao is working with her sponsor Dr. Yong Tai Wang and her research interests are in theories and methods related to Sport Sciences and Physical Education.
- Professor Qi ‘Echo’ Zhang has worked with her sponsor Dr. X. Neil Dong and her main research topics are rehabilitation biomechanics and osteoporosis. During her time as a J-1 scholar on the UT Tyler campus, Professor Zhang has published a paper in the International Journal of Exercise Science: Conference Proceedings, entitled: Effects of Valsalva Maneuver on Myoelectrical Activities of Trunk Muscles during the Transferring of Patients between Hospital Bed and Wheelchair. Professor Zhang also presented at the 2017 TACSM (Texas American College of Sports Medicine) Annual Meeting in Waco, TX.

Qujing University Delegation

UT Tyler established a collaboration with Qujing Normal University (QJNU) in Yunnan Province, China on 16 April 2014. For the last four years, we have hosted a delegation from QJNU for one month during the Spring semester. Each year, the delegation consists of six students and their professor. While on our campus, the delegation attends classes in the Intensive English Institute and also audits one class in the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, the OIP organizes opportunities for the delegation to participate in cultural discussions with GATE and Honors students as well as present to the students of UT Tyler’s Innovation Academy. Green Acres Baptist Church organizes host families and a tour of Texas including visits to Dallas, San Antonio and Corpus Christi, among other locations. The delegation returns to their university and shares their experiences in Texas!

Mexico Recruitment and Partnership

Last month, OIP student assistant Daniel Pineda traveled to his home country Mexico and visited his high school ‘Instituto Mexico de Toluca A.C.’ to share his experiences at The University of Texas at Tyler with Jorge Luis Guiterrez Urias (IMT Principal), Guadalupe Godinez (Director of International Programs) and Elvia Cardenas (University Transfer Advisor). In their meeting, they discussed the possibility of other Mexican students attending UT Tyler.

Instituto Mexico de Toluca A.C. is a prestigious private High School located in Toluca, Estado de Mexico. It is one of the few institutions in the state that has International Programs available for their high school students. They are truly interested in sending their students to UT Tyler because of the high level of education that the university has to offer, as well as all the facilities available for international students.
University of Texas at Tyler Represented at ‘Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol’

Pedro Zavagna of Brazil, a senior civil engineering student at The University of Texas at Tyler, represented the university at “Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol.” The event showcased experiences of undergraduate students engaged in research for Texas legislators and the public through poster displays. The program highlighted how research conducted by undergraduate students positively impacts both Texas and Texans with the theme, “Transforming Texas.”

Zavagna presented a research project titled, “East Texas Hub-and-Spoke Bike Lane Map.” He is part of The University of Texas at Tyler traffic engineering research team, led by Dr. Mena Souliman, that is assisting the City of Tyler in developing a “hub-and-spoke” bike lane map for the city to be implemented in Texas.

Zavagna was one of 63 undergraduate students representing 51 undergraduate programs across Texas from public and private/independent institutions. Souliman, an assistant professor of civil engineering at The University of Texas at Tyler, received extramural funding for the project by the Retail Merchants Association of Tyler Charitable Fund from the East Texas Communities Foundation.

For more information about the bike lane map project, contact Souliman, 903.565.5892 or msouliman@uttyler.edu. “Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol” is held each biennium. The event is coordinated by the Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors and the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, Inc. It is conducted with the support of the Honorable Kel Seliger, chairman of the Texas Senate Higher Education Committee and the Honorable J.M. Lozano, chairman of the Texas House Higher Education Committee. The first “Research Day” was conducted during the 82nd Texas Legislative Session in 2011.

Intensive English Language Institute (IELI) Accomplishments and Highlights

The Intensive English Language Institute (IELI) offered its first classes during the Spring 2014 semester. Since that time, 214 students have attended IELI classes to improve their academic English language and American culture skills in preparation to enter the university of their choice or to improve their overall proficiency in English. Organized into two 8-week sessions each semester, and one 8-week summer session, the program includes Listening and Speaking; Grammar and Idioms; Reading and Discussion; Writing, Editing and Research; as well as strands focusing on entry level American Classroom Culture and advanced level University Preparation, including training in IELI Levels 5-7 for the Texas Success Initiative (TSI), a state-legislated program designed to improve student success in college. The IELI offers optional seminars including test preparation seminars for the TOEFL IBT (Test of English as a Foreign Language, Internet Based Test) and IELTS (International English Language Testing System) designed for students who wish to become familiar with the testing formats and develop English skills and test-taking strategies as well as general English language development workshops which aim to fine-tune students’ skills in all domains. In addition, specialty seminars such as English for Business, English for Engineering, English for Health Care Professionals, and English for Tourism and Hospitality are available.

To date, 12 IELI students representing 7 countries—Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Japan, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine and Vietnam—have enrolled in UT Tyler programs (6 undergraduate and 6 graduate). See the International Student newsletter for more details! www.uttyler.edu/oip/oip-newsletters.php

International Career Day

Career Services, The Graduate School and the OIP held an event specifically tailored to International students on 24 February 2017. Students discussed marketing their international experiences, learned about work visas, participated in a Business Etiquette Luncheon and gained new perspectives from the Alumni and Employer Panel presentation. In preparation for the event, an interview skills lab and a resume writing lab were held at the OIP. Students attended enthusiastically and thanked Career Services for the guidance they received.

Are you traveling abroad this summer? Take UT Tyler Brochures with you!

Lightweight brochures, translated into 5 languages — Arabic, Chinese, English, Japanese and Spanish — are available on the OIP website. Information in the brochures includes applying for Undergraduate and Graduate programs, as well as studying in the Intensive English Language Institute. Download at www.uttyler.edu/oip
Study Abroad 2017

Each year, the Office of International Programs assists faculty with the logistics of creating short term faculty-led travel study programs aimed at moving classroom lessons into real-life situations. During the 2017 spring and summer semesters, the OIP is assisting approximately 115 students and faculty/staff to experience the world! Highlights include:

- In March, Dr. David Scott, Prof. Susan Doty, and Ms. Misty Holmes led a group of 20 to Israel over Spring Break. Students in Political Science, Economics, or Criminal Justice courses participated. One student commented, "It was an amazing opportunity and every student should take advantage of the Study/Tour Program. It is so worth it!"

- Two students are currently in England as part of the Hertfordshire Exchange program, with several others planning to attend next Spring!

- One USAC student is currently in Japan, and 4 others who will be leaving for summer or fall programs to Spain, Ireland, and the Czech Republic. USAC has options in 26 countries with countless programs that can be adjusted to fit the individual academic needs.

- Summer Faculty-Led trips taking place from May—July include locations such as: Belize, Costa Rica, France, German, Italy, Monaco, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

If you would like to create a trip, please see: www.uttyler.edu/oip/facultyresources/createtravelstudy.php

Encourage your students to attend the monthly study abroad fairs held in the UC.

UPCOMING DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING TRAVEL STUDY PROPOSALS:

- Fall 2017 trips: Friday, 9 June 2017
- Fall 2017 Renewals: Friday, 7 July 2017
- Spring 2018 Travel Study trips: Friday, 29 September 2017
- Spring 2018 Renewals: Friday, 27 October 2017

IELI GATE Presentation: Vietnam

Intensive English Language Institute student, Phat Le, recently provided a forty-minute PowerPoint presentation on Vietnam to fifteen GATE students and their instructor. The presentation covered topics such as shopping, places to visit, food, currency, transportation, and safety tips.

Phat also taught the students several useful phrases in Vietnamese in preparation for their upcoming summer trip for five weeks.

Passport Acceptance Facility

If you need a first-time passport, help getting a renewal, or have any passport related questions, please visit our website at www.uttyler.edu/oip/passport or email us at passport@uttyler.edu

Open 12:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday

Helping the East Texas Community to Experience the World!
OIP fosters a welcoming and inclusive environment for our international students, scholars and visiting faculty from around the world who enrich the diversity of our campus and engage in interactive learning opportunities with our entire community.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

Phone: 903.565.6155
Email: oip@uttyler.edu
www.uttyler.edu/oip

Spring 2017 New International Student Orientation

The Spring 2017 International Student Orientation was held in the University Center Ballroom on Thursday, 12 January, 2017. **34 new international students** learned about the helpful services provided by UT Tyler support offices across campus, while mingled and enjoyed some trivia games that encouraged communication. Attendees also enjoyed a delicious lunch from Marco’s Pizza located right here in Tyler! New International Orientation provides valuable information to ease the transition to UT Tyler. For Fall 2017, the New International Orientation will be held Thursday, 24 August from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM in the University Center Ballroom.

Spring 2017 Welcome Back Event

At the end of the first week back every semester, the OIP holds a special Welcome Back celebration to ensure that all new international students are able to connect and network with existing international students on our campus. This helps to ease the transition to their new home and jumpstarts networking and support within UT Tyler’s international community. On Friday, 20 January, from 3 pm to 5pm, over 70 international students gathered in the Patriot Zone and enjoyed snacks, hot and cold beverages, music, games and won door prizes. We thank Swoop and the Spirit Squad for joining in the festivities, and the Patriot Zone and Student Life and Leadership staff for helping us to make the event a success! Our next Welcome Back event will be held 1 September 2017. We hope to see you there!

SPRING 2017 INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

THE OIP INTERNATIONAL STUDENT, SCHOLAR AND FACULTY SERVICES (ISSFS) CENTER WORKS WITH APPROXIMATELY 500 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS EACH SEMESTER—PROVIDING INTERNATIONAL IMMIGRATION ADVISING TO ENROLLED STUDENTS (136 UNDERGRADUATE AND 146 GRADUATE) AND 218 STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT) EXPERIENCES.

Services provided include: Post-admission advising, institutional reporting to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and immigration information and support to UT Tyler’s international students through workshops, individual student advising and outreach. International Advisors at the ISSFS Center assist all international students, scholars and faculty who come to UT Tyler for academic study or research purposes, providing services related to F-1 students who wish to study at UT Tyler, as well as information on the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program (J-visa) and H-1B petition for international faculty at UT Tyler. OIP ISSFS staff work closely with the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP), a part of the National Security Investigations Division in the Department of Homeland Security, to advise, monitor and report on all nonimmigrant students attending UT Tyler in the F visa classifications and their dependents, as well as work closely with the Department of State (DoS) Exchange Visitor Programs to advise, monitor and report on nonimmigrant exchange visitors in the J visa classification and their dependents. In addition, OIP ISSFS Center staff provide assistance with international health insurance requirements and organize cultural and social programming for UT Tyler international students and visiting scholars, faculty and their family members.

Please donate fun items for our orientation bags distributed at the New International Student Orientations held each semester!
Contact oip@uttyler.edu for more information.

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PROVIDING SERVICES THAT BENEFIT OUR STUDENTS, SCHOLARS, AND FACULTY, AS WELL AS TYLER AND EAST TEXAS COMMUNITIES.

OIP fosters a welcoming and inclusive environment for our international students, scholars and visiting faculty from around the world who enrich the diversity of our campus and engage in interactive learning opportunities with our entire community.

View the OIP Calendar of Events at www.uttyler.edu/oip/calendar.php
Read about more UT Tyler international student activities in the OIP student newsletter! www.uttyler.edu/oip/student_newsletter_archive.php