INTERNATIONALISM AT GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

The Zakheim Center for Global Engagement in the John J. Hemmingson Center is the hub of internationalism on campus. It believes that a stellar international experience should encompass and epitomize all the strengths of an excellent university education.

This year, Gonzaga is hosting two visiting scholars, who are an important aspect of its intellectual climate and academic community, bringing a variety of perspectives and experiences to classrooms and collaborative research/teaching projects.

The American Council for International Education - Faculty Enrichment Program, Uzbekistan - Visiting Scholar
Khurshid Botirov researches Constitutional Law. His campus sponsor/mentor is Dr. Upendra Acharya, School of Law.

The Fulbright US Department of State, Philippines - Visiting Scholar
Dr. Maico Demi Aperocho’s research focuses on linguistics. He teaches Filipino language classes, an initiative that was launched with the crucial support of the Gonzaga Filipino-American Student Union. His campus sponsor/mentor is Dr. Christina Isabelli, College of Arts and Sciences.

GLOBAL GRATITUDE
You make it possible for Gonzaga University to have an international impact for students and communities worldwide. Special thanks to benefactors Irv Zakheim and Dan Harbaugh for their dedication to international engagement.

Food for thought: Difference between internationalization and globalization

Globalization is ‘a process that focuses on the worldwide flow of ideas, resources, people, economy, values, culture, knowledge, goods, services, and technology’, while internationalization of higher education is described as ‘the process of integrating an international, intercultural and global dimension into the goals, teaching/learning, research and service functions of a university or higher education system. Debate continues whether internationalization of higher education is a catalyst, reactor or agent of globalization’ [Knight, J. (2014). Internationalization of education. El Butlletí, 75. https://www.aqu.cat/elButlleti/butlleti75/articles1_en.html#ZBnJJoXKiRs].

What are your thoughts?

From the desk of the
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The level of quality and rigor of Gonzaga’s academic programs, in the context of campus internationalism, is maintained by ensuring that internationalization efforts align with the university’s mission, goals, and standards, and that all international initiatives, partnerships, and collaborations are reviewed and evaluated regularly to ensure that they are delivering meaningful and high-quality academic experiences for students. It also involves creating opportunities for faculty and students to engage in international activities that enhance their academic experiences and contribute to their intellectual and personal growth. It also requires a committed adherence to high standards of quality and thoroughness in academic research and education, regardless of geographic location or cultural differences.

Newly established international partnerships (and GU faculty sponsors)

- European Commission ERASMUS+ Program with West University of Timisoara, Romania (Dr. Adrian Popa)
- Mukogawa Women’s University/Gonzaga University faculty exchange (Dr. Christina Isabelli)

THE GONZAGA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL (IEC) strives to build upon and support initiatives that promote the University’s mission to develop a comprehensive international ethos throughout Gonzaga.

The IEC awards (up to $3500) Global Engagement faculty development funding to develop global engagement components for a course(s), pursue research/scholarly and creative endeavors, or create opportunities for collaboration with international faculty and students.

26 were awarded in 22-23, all of which underscore the scholarly vitality and intellectual engagement in disciplinary areas that intersect with internationalization. Awardees are listed on the IEC website: gonzaga.edu/academics/global-engagement.

GET INVOLVED: The International Education Council sponsors an Academic Research Lecture series once a semester where panelists share how they have used the Global Engagement Faculty Development grants. The next panel will be held during International Education Week in November, 2023.

ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT

Triple Zag, Gena Hoxha, came to Gonzaga from Shkoder, Albania to study Business Administration (BA and MBA) and recently received a PhD in Leadership Studies, she is now the Organizational Development Director at Ignitium, a marketing tech agency in Spokane, where she enhances their organizational effectiveness by attending to both human and organizational needs. Her experience with internationalism at Gonzaga made a tremendous difference on her life’s journey.

“Classes are often the backbone of an international student’s experience, so my relationship with faculty shaped my years as a student at GU. The class environments made me feel empowered to share new perspectives, ideas, and contexts from my home country. Faculty were active listeners, thoughtful conversationalists, and curious and open-minded individuals.”