

## From the Vice Provost

Over the last several months, Stony Brook University, led by President Stanley, has [reaffirmed](#) its dedication to diversity, access, and inclusiveness. The Office of Global Affairs (OGA) embodies this commitment through our daily support of international students, faculty, and staff, and we are taking on programming and initiatives to ensure our campus remains an open and welcoming environment for our international populations.

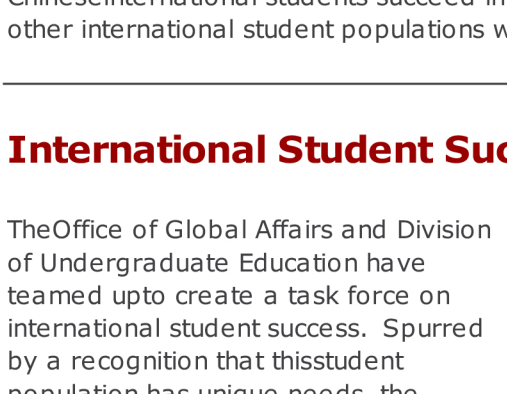


This semester, one of our focuses is on international student support and success. OGA has partnered with Undergraduate Education to create the International Student Success Task Force (ISSTF). The ISSTF is charged with assessing graduate and undergraduate international student success across various indicators and proposing support mechanisms. Additionally, Visa and Immigration Services is [proactively monitoring](#) fast-changing government regulations to ensure our international students, faculty, and scholars are compliant and informed.

Our Global Forum events this semester also focus on international student success. On March 1, a cross-disciplinary faculty panel discussed the importance of intercultural communication to academic and personal achievement. This April 12, we will host a thematic forum with the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) targeting student success for our largest international student sub-group: China. The forum, [Far Beyond Recruitment: Understanding Chinese International Students and Helping Them Succeed](#), is free for Stony Brook participants, and I encourage all to attend and learn about common characteristics, cutting-edge research, and innovative ideas and interventions.

OGA is working hard with academic and administrative units campus-wide to maintain Stony Brook's status as a leading global university. We look forward to continued dialogue with the campus community through our ongoing initiatives and events.

## Upcoming Global Forum Events



Don't miss our upcoming Global Forum events!

### Transform Your Life Through Study Abroad!

**Date & Time:** Wed., March 29 1:00 - 2:30 pm  
**Location:** Wang Center Lecture Hall 2

Faculty-led study abroad program directors and students returning from study abroad programs will share their experiences and advice with the campus community. Issues and challenges will be presented and discussed with possible solutions.

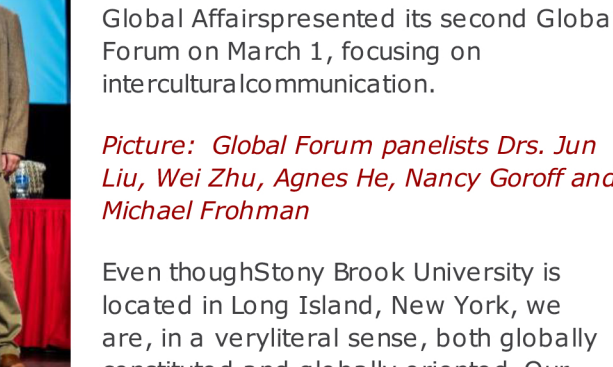
### Far Beyond Recruitment: Understanding Chinese International Students and Helping Them Succeed

**Date:** Wed., April 12  
**Location:** Wang Center

National Thematic Forum in conjunction with the Association of International Education Administrators (AIEA) to discuss innovative ideas and best practices for helping Chinese international students succeed in US higher education. Replication of interventions to other international student populations will be addressed.

## International Student Success Task Force

The Office of Global Affairs and Division of Undergraduate Education have teamed up to create a task force on international student success. Spurred by a recognition that this student population has unique needs, the International Student Success Task Force (ISSTF) is looking at ways to help international students transition to the U.S. educational system and better understand the social and academic culture at Stony Brook.



*Picture: ISSTF subcommittee meeting on international student services*

Consisting of representatives from key University administrative and academic units, the ISSTF is capturing and analyzing data on international students, as well as cataloging the current landscape of services and support mechanisms. With this data, the ISSTF plans to identify the major challenges international students face, assess the effectiveness of programs and services offered, and propose recommendations and innovative ideas to boost international student success.

## Global Forum Explores Intercultural Communication



In collaboration with the [Center for Multilingual and Intercultural Communication \(MIC\)](#), the Office of Global Affairs presented its second Global Forum on March 1, focusing on intercultural communication.

*Picture: Global Forum panelists Drs. Jun Liu, Wei Zhu, Agnes He, Nancy Goroff and Michael Frohman*

Even though Stony Brook University is located in Long Island, New York, we are, in a very literal sense, both globally constituted and globally oriented. Our mission and our reach truly extend "far beyond". Intercultural communication embodies a set of practices and skills which enable us to develop multicultural awareness and global civics. Each day and in every corner of the campus, many Stony Brook stories of globalization and intercultural communication are taking place. By nature the university setting tends to focus on academics, however extracurricular engagement is equally important in developing these skills.

Keynote speaker Dr. Agnes He (Prof. and Chair, Asian & Asian American Studies) along with panelists Dr. Nancy Goroff (Prof. and Chair, Chemistry), Dr. Michael Frohman (Distinguished Prof. and Chair, Pharmacological Sciences), Dr. Wei Zhu (Prof. and Deputy Chair, Applied Math & Statistics), and Dr. Georges Fouron (Prof., Africana Studies), and moderator Dr. Jun Liu (Vice Provost, Global Affairs) explored this theme, offering personal anecdotes and advice to the audience to help enhance their intercultural communication skills.

[Read more](#)

## Gearing Up For Global Summer Institute 2017

The Office of Global Affairs (OGA) is gearing up for the inaugural year of our Global Summer Institute (GSI) program. GSI encompasses new and existing summer programs to meet the needs of international students from partner universities, visiting students, and for the first time, newly matriculated students.



OGA staff from all units (Intensive English Center, Global Initiatives, International Academic Programs, and Visa & Immigration Services) are working around the clock to develop GSI. To prepare, OGA is collaborating with academic and administrative offices across the campus to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for our students.

This year international students have a choice of four different options for their summer educational experience in New York:

- 3-week, non-credit Certificate Program
- 6-credit Academic Session
- 3-credit Hybrid Session plus English Language
- Intensive English Program (IEC)

To enhance the experience, GSI is offering planned field trips and social events to showcase Stony Brook University, the natural beauty of Long Island, and the excitement of New York City. Please visit the [GSI website](#) for more details.

## Update from the Office of Global Medical Education

By Mark J. Sedler, MD, MPH, Associate Dean, School of Medicine



International opportunities for student and faculty exchanges, research abroad, and select clinical missions are at record levels of participation at Stony Brook Medicine. This year, we will host medical students for clinical rotations at University Hospital from the U. de Chile (Santiago, Chile), ICESI U. (Cali, Colombia), Fundación Barceló (Buenos Aires, Argentina), Tongji U. (Shanghai, China), Mahidol U. (Bangkok, Thailand), and Kyorin U. (Tokyo, Japan).

*Picture: Stony Brook plastic surgery mission to Blanca's House in Honduras*

Twenty first-year students from the School of Medicine were recently awarded International Research Fellowships allowing them to carry out two months of research this summer at a variety of locations including Haiti, Chile, Argentina, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Thailand, China (Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong), Ireland, the U.K., and Italy. At the same time, senior medical students are planning electives in Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Argentina, Bangladesh, Japan, and Switzerland (WHO), among other sites.

In January, residents from the Department of Medicine visited Kyorin Univ. Hospital in Tokyo, Japan, and assisted at a *Blanca's House* clinical mission in plastic surgery in San Pedro de Sula, Honduras. In March, a mission to Nicaragua on women's health was carried out by residents from Medicine, Anesthesia, and Ob-Gyn together with medical students and students from the Physician's Assistant program. Faculty and students from the School of Dental Medicine recently returned from an annual clinical mission in Chile, and pediatric faculty and residents will travel to Uganda in April. In May, residents from Emergency Medicine will rotate at Clínica Las Condes in Santiago de Chile, and in June, a *Promise to Peru* will carry out a cataract surgery mission in Cuzco attended by students from the School of Medicine and Nursing and the P.A. program, along with faculty and residents from the Department of Ophthalmology.

For further information, visit the [Global Medical Education](#) website.

## Global Affairs Highlights



Winter in Rome 2017

### Reflections on Rome

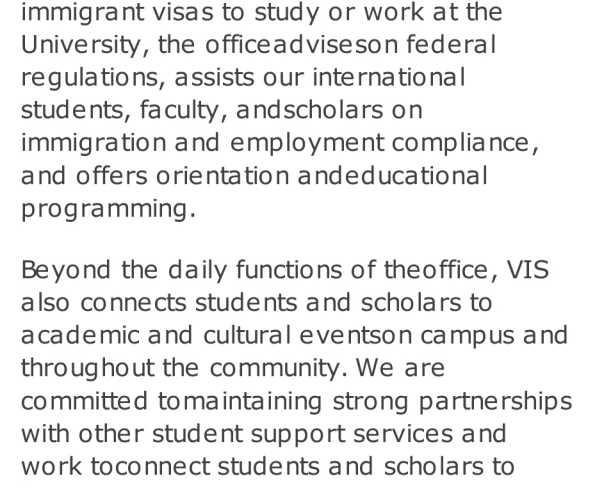
By Christian McLean, Director of Summer & Special Programs, Southampton Graduate Arts

To create a community in eighteen days is no simple feat. Thirty-three students. Three faculty. For it to succeed everyone needs to arrive open to the possibilities of a new place and new people. It was exciting as students grew, shared ideas, and explored Italy together.

Eighteen days away from the comforts and support of home changes a person. For many it was the first time being away. It was a financial risk, which meant working extra hours to save up, but all thirty-three students returned to the United States bettered by the investment. For some it was based on what they learned in the classroom. For others, the outings to Borghese Gallery, The Spanish Steps, The Forum and the Papal Audience shaped their experience. Others

still found the weekend in Florence and the snow-topped mountain town of Assisi formative.

[Read more](#)



Summer in Greece 2016

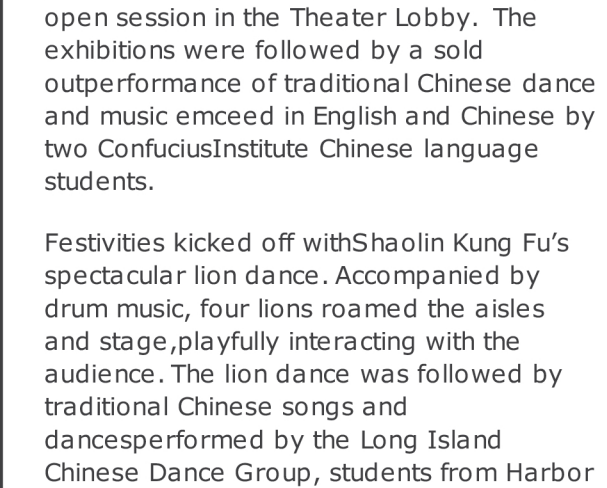
### Greece

The College of Business is proud to offer the Summer in Greece Program led by Drs. Aristotle Lekacos and Richard Laskowski. A visit to the birthplace of western civilization allows students a wonderful experience of cultural immersion. The program integrates the history and location of Greece with an educational program on international business, entrepreneurship, ethics, and innovation. Students experience business concepts from a physical perspective and are immersed in the environment.

As a past program participant explains, "When I first decided to do the Study Abroad Program in Greece, I was most excited about the hot weather, beautiful people, and great beaches. As soon as I actually got to Greece, the experience gave me so much more than just that. I can honestly say that I gained a new

perspective on Greek culture and even my own way of life."

Interested students can still apply! Check out the [Study Abroad website](#) for program details.



Confucius Institute Chinese New Year 2017

### Spring Confucius Institute Events

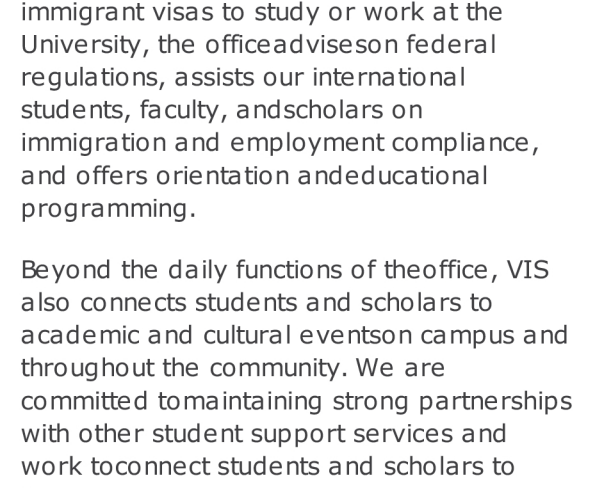
On February 4, the Wang Center Theater and Lobby were transformed by displays of Chinese and Asian culture, with traditional Lunar New Year decorations and tables full of arts and crafts from China, Korea, Japan, and more. This annual celebration hosted by Stony Brook's Confucius Institute offers a glimpse of Chinese culture to the Stony Brook community, and actively engages them in learning more about China's cultural heritage and history.

Community members of all ages were invited to watch and learn Chinese calligraphy, papercutting, painting, and more during an open session in the Theater Lobby. The exhibitions were followed by a sold out performance of traditional Chinese dance and music emceed in English and Chinese by two Confucius Institute Chinese language students.

Festivities kicked off with Shaolin Kung Fu's spectacular lion dance. Accompanied by drum music, four lions roamed the aisles and stage, playfully interacting with the audience. The lion dance was followed by traditional Chinese songs and dances performed by the Long Island Chinese Dance Group, students from Harbor Country Day School, and professional Sichuan Opera Face-Change performer, Peng Li, among others. The evening concluded with a traditional Chinese reunion dinner, the most important family meal of

the year, where guests were treated to a Chinese buffet.

[Read more](#)



Visa and Immigration Services (VIS) Staff

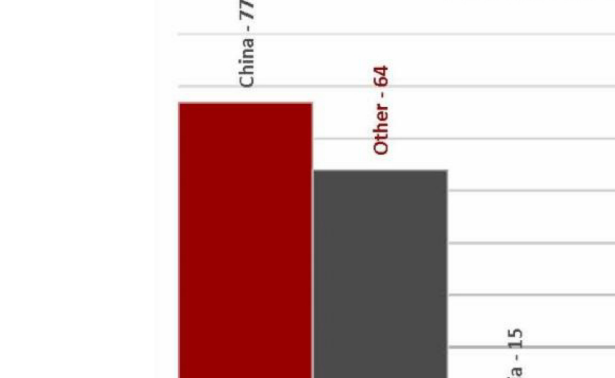
### Spotlight on VIS

Stony Brook University is comprised of a diverse population that includes more than 5,700 international students, faculty and scholars from more than 100 countries. Visa and Immigration Services (VIS) serves this population by facilitating admittance to the U.S., assisting in the transition to a new country and culture, and imparting guidance on how to maintain status.

VIS is an integral information resource for Stony Brook's international students, faculty, scholars, as well as host departments. In addition to issuing documents for faculty, scholars, and students to obtain non-immigrant visas to study or work at the University, the office advises on federal regulations, assists our international students, faculty, and scholars on immigration and employment compliance, and offers orientation and educational programming.

Beyond the daily functions of the office, VIS also connects students and scholars to academic and cultural events on campus and throughout the community. We are committed to maintaining strong partnerships with other student support services and work to connect students and scholars to these resources.

International Student and Scholar Advisors are available to meet by appointment and during designated walk-in hours. Visit the [VIS website](#) for more information.



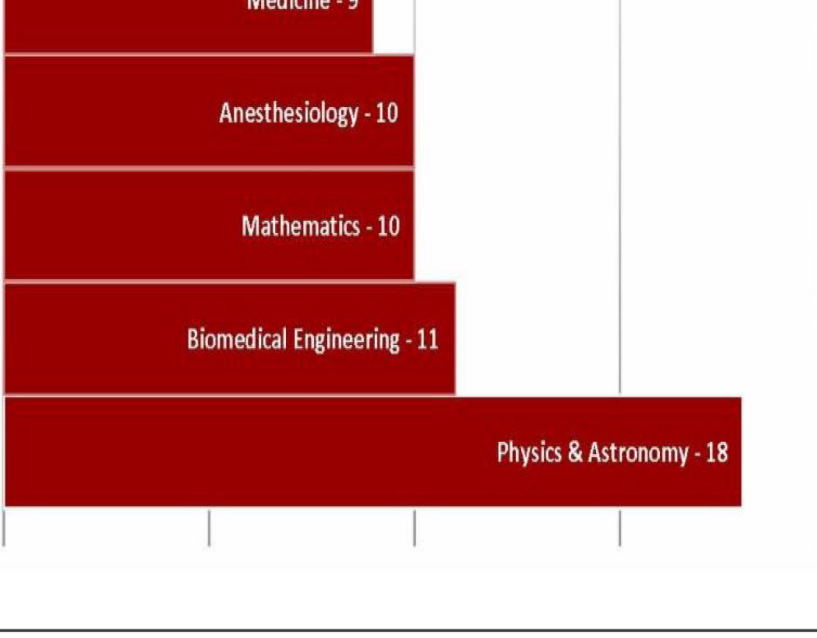
International Scholars

This Spring 2017 semester, Stony Brook University is hosting 186 international scholars from over 30 countries.

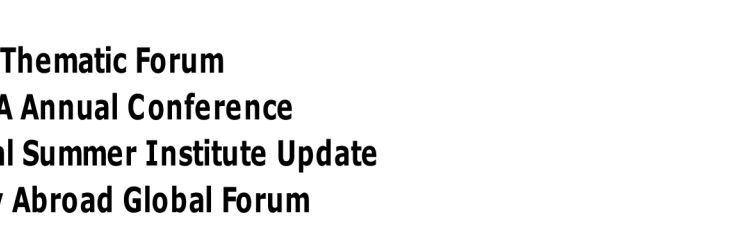
Learn more about our scholars below!

*Picture: International Scholar Ming Yang Lee from Malaysia at VIS Orientation. Ming Yang is hosted by the Dept. of Physiology and Biophysics*

## Places of Origin



## Top Host Departments



## Next Issue

- AIEA Thematic Forum
- NAFAA Annual Conference
- Global Summer Institute Update
- Study Abroad Global Forum