



University of Minnesota — Twin Cities Campus

---

International Student and Scholar Services  
2013 Annual Statistical Report

13/14 Edition

**ISSS** | International  
Student & Scholar  
Services

---

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Fall 2013 Annual Statistical Report  
Source: IIE Open Doors

Contact Information:

Chiho Watanabe

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

Global Programs and Strategy Alliance

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

190 Hubert H. Humphrey School

301 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55455

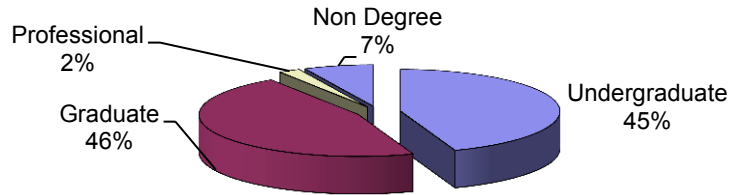
Phone: 612-626-7100

Fax: 612-626-7361

**Total International Student Enrollment**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**Fall 2013**

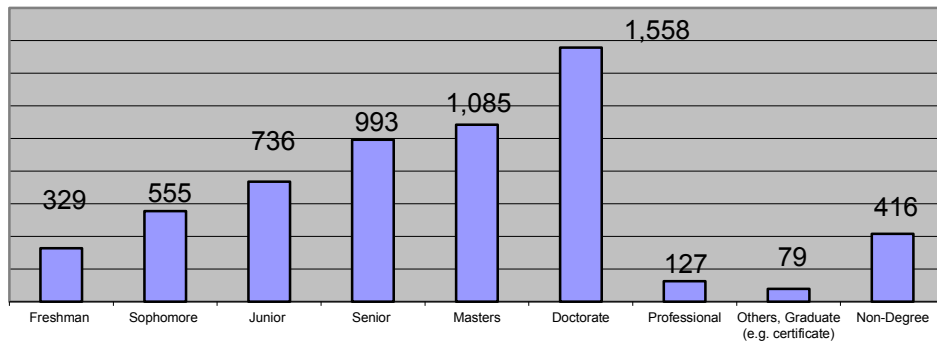
	<b>International Enrollment</b>	<b>Total UofM Enrollment</b>	<b>% Total</b>
Undergraduate	2,613	30,748	8.50%
Graduate	2,722	12,825	21.22%
Professional	127	3,847	3.30%
Non Degree	416	4,601	9.04%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,878</b>	<b>52,021</b>	<b>11.30%</b>

	<b>Fall 2012</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Undergraduate	2,449	2,613	6.70%
Graduate	2,555	2,722	6.54%
Professional	105	127	20.95%
Non Degree	428	416	-2.80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,537</b>	<b>5,878</b>	<b>6%</b>



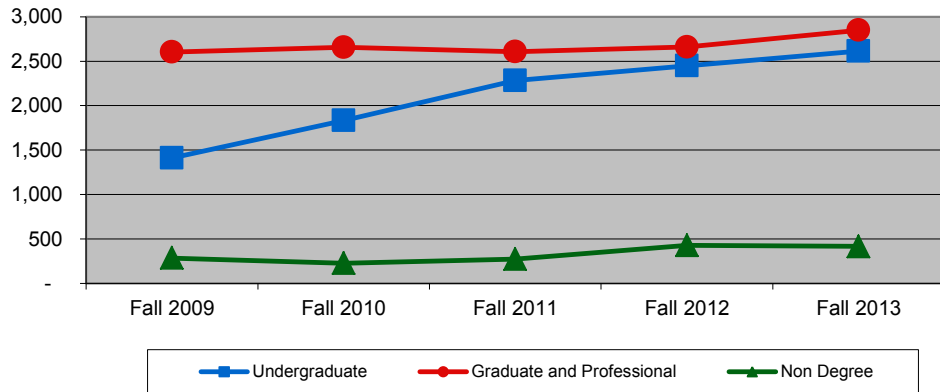
**Total International Student Enrollment by Academic Level**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**Fall 2013**

	<b>Fall 2012</b>	<b>Fall 2013</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Freshman	355	329	-7%
Sophomore	528	555	5%
Junior	649	736	13%
Senior	917	993	8%
Masters	948	1,085	14%
Doctorate	1,526	1,558	2%
Professional	105	127	21%
Others, Graduate (e.g. certificate)	81	79	-2%
Non-Degree	428	416	-3%



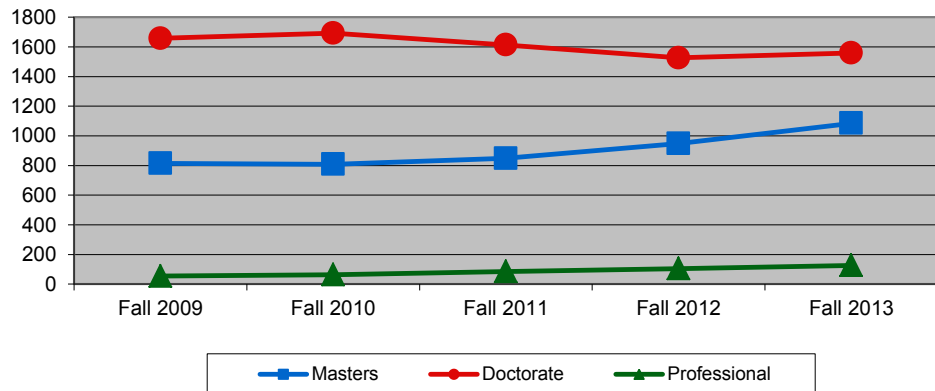
### International Student Enrollment Five Year Overview University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013
Undergraduate	1,411	1,834	2,282	2,449	2,613
Graduate and Professional	2,602	2,655	2,608	2,660	2,849
Non Degree	286	227	275	428	416
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,299</b>	<b>4,716</b>	<b>5,165</b>	<b>5,537</b>	<b>5,878</b>



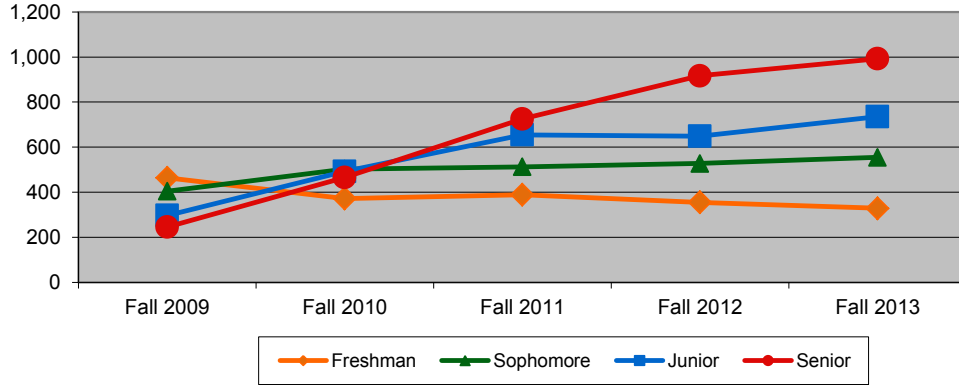
### International Graduate Student Enrollment Five Year Overview University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013
Masters	815	808	848	948	1085
Doctorate	1,657	1,692	1,613	1,526	1,558
Professional	54	64	86	105	127
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,526</b>	<b>2,564</b>	<b>2,547</b>	<b>2,579</b>	<b>2,770</b>



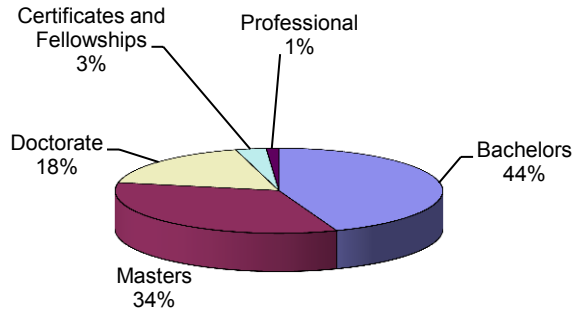
**International Undergraduate Student Enrollment  
Five Year Overview  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**

	Fall 2009	Fall 2010	Fall 2011	Fall 2012	Fall 2013
Freshman	464	372	389	355	329
Sophomore	404	503	513	528	555
Junior	297	493	655	649	736
Senior	246	466	725	917	993
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,411</b>	<b>1,834</b>	<b>2,282</b>	<b>2,449</b>	<b>2,613</b>

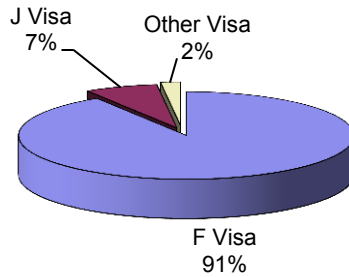


**Degrees Conferred to International Students**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
 FY 2012-13

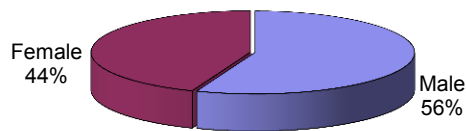
	<b>FY 2012-13</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Bachelors	707	44%
Masters	538	34%
Doctorate	283	18%
Certificates and Fellowships	48	3%
Professional	20	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,596</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Total International Student Enrollment by Visa Status**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
 Fall 2013

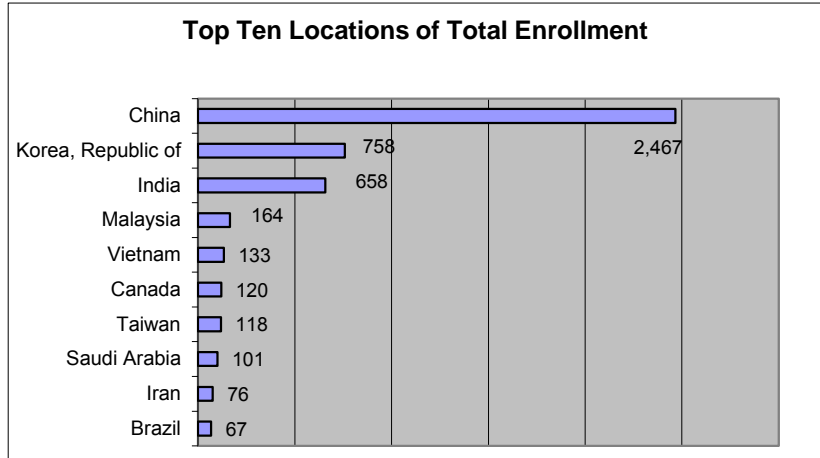


**Total International Student Enrollment by Gender**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
 Fall 2013

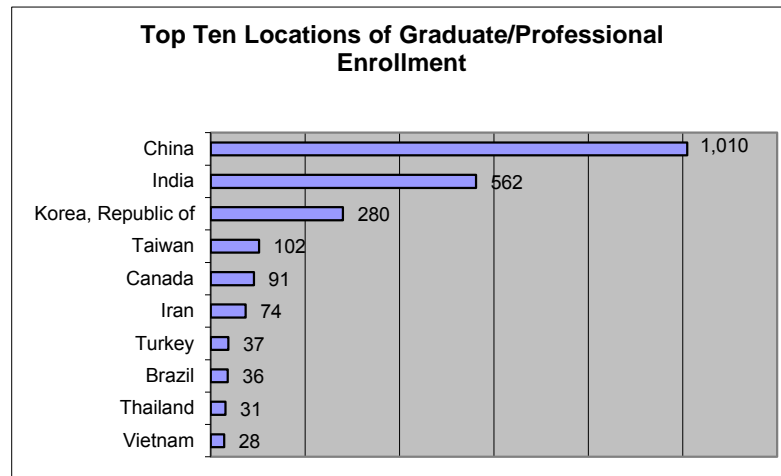


**Top Ten Locations for International Student Enrollment**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**Fall 2013**

Location	Total
China	2,467
Korea, Republic of	758
India	658
Malaysia	164
Vietnam	133
Canada	120
Taiwan	118
Saudi Arabia	101
Iran	76
Brazil	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,662</b>
<b>% Total Enrollment</b>	<b>79%</b>

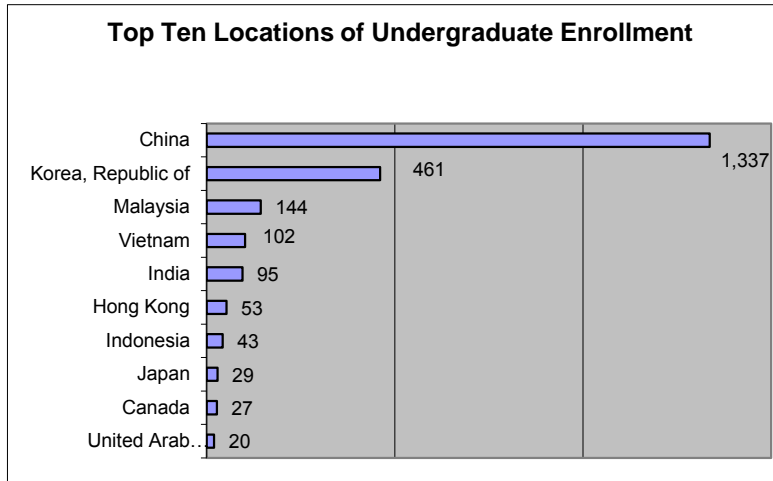


Location	Grad/Prof
China	1,010
India	562
Korea, Republic of	280
Taiwan	102
Canada	91
Iran	74
Turkey	37
Brazil	36
Thailand	31
Vietnam	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,251</b>
<b>% Grad Enrollment</b>	<b>79%</b>

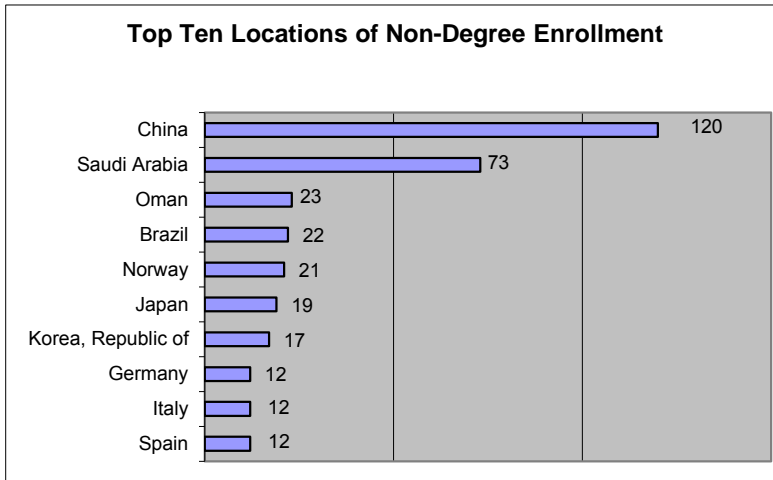


**Top Ten Locations for International Student Enrollment**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**Fall 2013**

Location	Undergraduate
China	1,337
Korea, Republic of	461
Malaysia	144
Vietnam	102
India	95
Hong Kong	53
Indonesia	43
Japan	29
Canada	27
United Arab Emirates	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,311</b>
<b>% Ugrad Enrollment</b>	<b>88%</b>



Location	Non-Degree
China	120
Saudi Arabia	73
Oman	23
Brazil	22
Norway	21
Japan	19
Korea, Republic of	17
Germany	12
Italy	12
Spain	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>331</b>
<b>% Non-Degree Enrollment</b>	<b>80%</b>

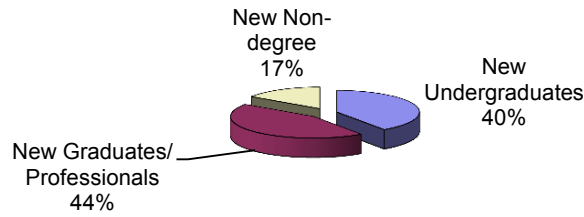




**New International Student Enrollment by Academic Level**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**Fall 2013**

Academic Level	2011	2012	2013	% Change from 2012
Continuing Graduates/Professionals	1,941	1,888	2,012	7%
New Graduates/Professionals	667	772	837	8%
Continuing Non-degree	60	105	123	17%
New Non-degree	215	323	293	-9%
Continuing Undergraduates	1,658	1,776	1,851	4%
New Undergraduates	624	673	762	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,165</b>	<b>5,537</b>	<b>5,878</b>	<b>6%</b>
Total Continuing	3,659	3,769	3,986	6%
<b>Total New</b>	<b>1,506</b>	<b>1,768</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>7%</b>

**New Students by Academic Level**  
**Fall 2013**

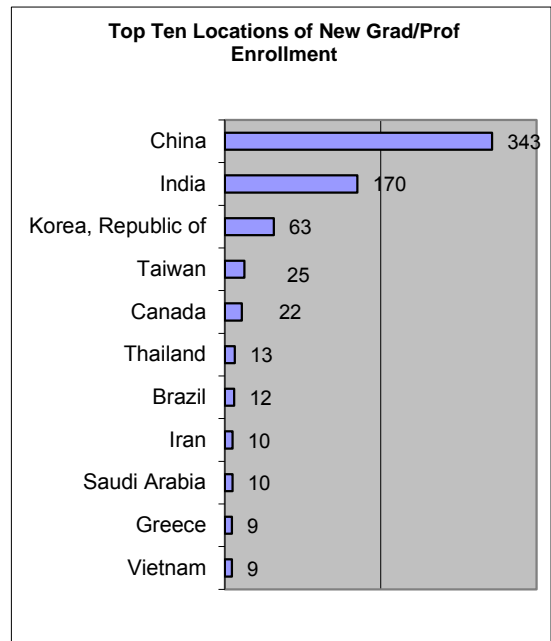


**Top Ten Locations for New International Student Enrollment**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**Fall 2013**

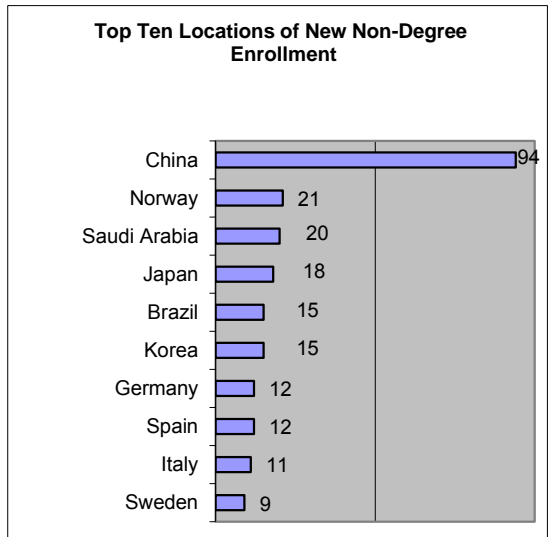
Location	2012 New Undergraduate	2013 New Undergraduate	% Change
China	339	365	8%
Korea, Republic of	109	142	30%
Malaysia	36	43	19%
Vietnam	38	33	-13%
India	26	29	12%
Hong Kong	15	20	33%
Oman	2	15	650%
Indonesia	8	14	75%
Canada	7	10	43%
Japan	8	7	600%
<b>Total</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>% Total New Undergrad Enrollment:</b>		<b>89%</b>	



Location	2012 New Grad/Prof	2013 New Grad/Prof	% Change
China	286	343	20%
India	169	170	1%
Korea, Republic of	78	63	-19%
Taiwan	23	25	9%
Canada	14	22	57%
Thailand	9	13	44%
Brazil	8	12	50%
Iran	15	10	-33%
Saudi Arabia	9	10	11%
Greece	7	9	29%
Vietnam	12	9	-25%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>686</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>% Total New Grad/Prof Enrollment:</b>		<b>82%</b>	



Location	2012 New Non-Degree	2013 New Non-Degree	% Change
China	111	94	-15%
Norway	19	21	11%
Saudi Arabia	13	20	54%
Japan	14	18	29%
Brazil	18	15	-17%
Korea	17	15	-12%
Germany	13	12	-8%
Spain	9	12	33%
Italy	17	11	-35%
Sweden	6	9	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>% Total New Non-Degree Enrollment:</b>		<b>77%</b>	



**International Student Enrollment by Location  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
Fall 2013**

	<b>Undergraduate</b>	<b>Graduate/ Professional</b>	<b>Non-Degree</b>	<b>Total</b>
Asia	2,350	2,146	168	<b>4,664</b>
Europe	74	213	95	<b>382</b>
Middle East	61	122	104	<b>287</b>
Latin America	47	156	32	<b>235</b>
Africa	49	114	9	<b>172</b>
North America	27	91	*	<b>120</b>
Oceania	*	7	6	<b>18</b>

*\* 5 or less students in this category*

	<b>2012 Undergraduate</b>	<b>2013 Undergraduate</b>
Asia	2,203	2,350
Europe	74	74
Middle East	55	61
Latin America	44	47
Africa	48	49
North America	21	27
Oceania	*	*

*\* 5 or less students in this category*

	<b>2012 Graduate/ Professional</b>	<b>2013 Graduate/ Professional</b>
Asia	1,996	2,146
Europe	213	213
Middle East	101	122
Latin America	137	156
Africa	119	114
North America	88	91
Oceania	6	7

*\* 5 or less students in this category*

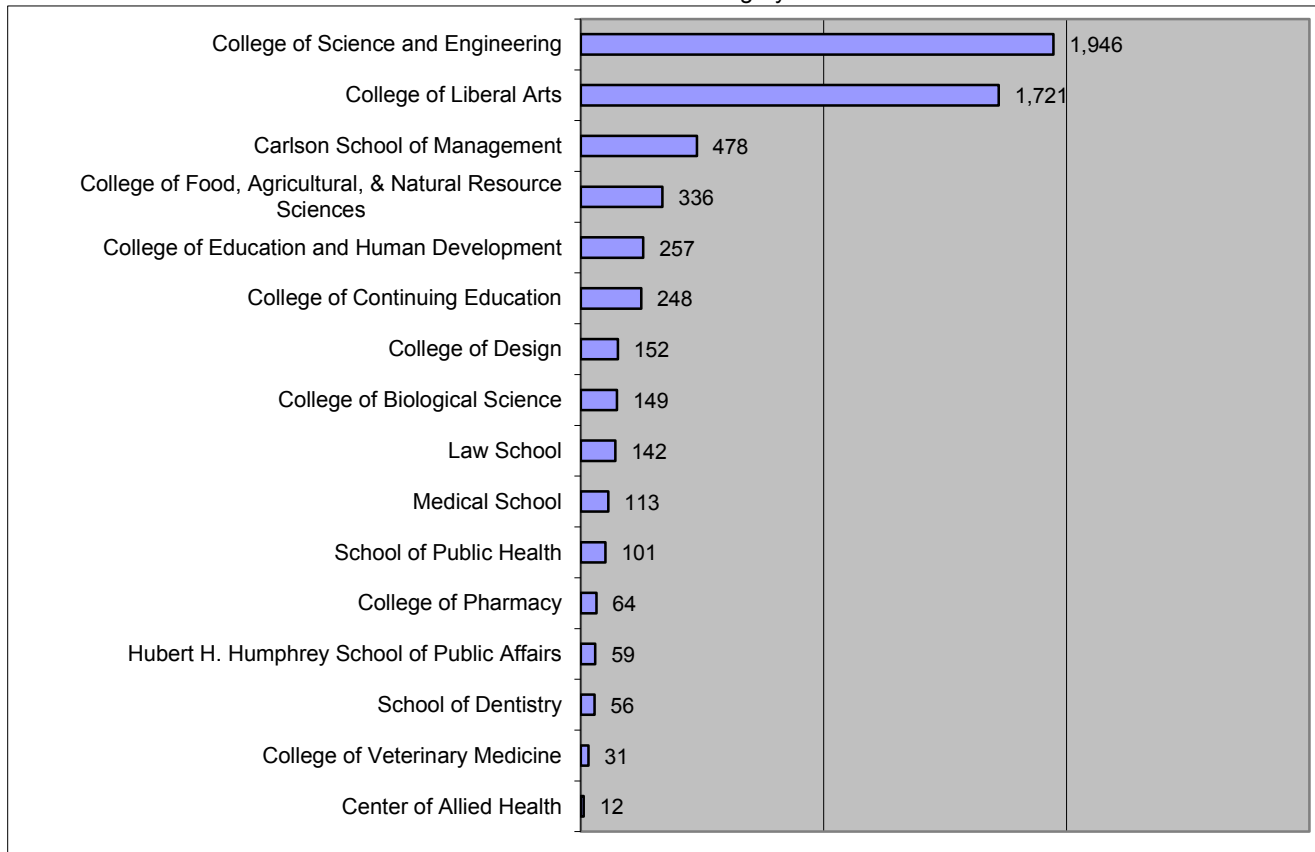
	<b>2012 Non- Degree</b>	<b>2013 Non-Degree</b>
Asia	208	168
Europe	104	95
Middle East	68	104
Latin America	33	32
Africa	6	9
North America	*	*
Oceania	7	6

*\* 5 or less students in this category*

**International Student Enrollment by College**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**Fall 2013**

	Graduate/			Total
	Undergraduate	Professional	Non-Degree	
College of Science and Engineering	734	1,156	56	1,946
College of Liberal Arts	1,283	397	41	1,721
Carlson School of Management	196	230	52	478
College of Food, Agricultural, & Natural Resource Sciences	147	185	*	336
College of Education and Human Development	65	188	*	257
College of Continuing Education	7	8	233	248
College of Design	85	67	0	152
College of Biological Science	89	53	7	149
Law School	0	128	14	142
Medical School	0	113	0	113
School of Public Health	0	100	*	101
College of Pharmacy	0	64	0	64
Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs	0	59	0	59
School of Dentistry	0	53	*	56
College of Veterinary Medicine	0	31	0	31
Center of Allied Health	*	9	0	12
School of Nursing	*	8	0	10
Rochester Academic Programs	*	0	*	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,449</b>	<b>2,660</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>5,878</b>

\* 5 or less students in this category



**Total Number of International Scholars**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**July 2012 - June 2013**

Function	2012-2013	% Total
Teaching	88	5.8%
Research	1,028	67.8%
Both	201	13.2%
Other	200	13.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>100%</b>

Visa Status	2012-2013	% Total
J-1	703	46.3%
H-1B	462	30.5%
O-1	17	0.4%
TN	36	2.4%
All Others	299	19.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>99%</b>

Sex	2012-2013	% Total
Female	556	36.7%
Male	961	63.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>100%</b>

Field of Specialization	2012-2013	% Total
Agriculture	100	6.6%
Architecture & Environmental Design	13	0.3%
Area & Ethnic Studies	11	0.7%
Biological & Biomedical Sciences	108	7.1%
Business & Management	41	2.7%
Communications	*	*
Computer & Information Sciences	16	1.1%
Education	67	4.4%
Engineering	226	14.9%
Foreign Languages & Literature	17	1.1%
Health Sciences	630	41.5%
History	*	*
Law & Legal Studies	8	0.5%
Letters	8	0.1%
Library Science	*	*
Mathematics	58	3.8%
Philosophy and Religion	*	*
Physical Sciences	136	9.0%
Psychology	14	0.9%
Public Administration & Social Services	*	*
Social Sciences	25	1.6%
Visual & Performing Arts	14	0.3%
Other	11	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

*\* 5 or less scholars in this category*

**International Scholars by Location**  
**University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**  
**July 2012 - June 2013**

Location	2012-2013	Total
Argentina	9	0.6%
Armenia	*	*
Australia	12	0.8%
Austria	6	0.4%
Azerbaijan	*	*
Bangladesh	8	0.5%
Belgium	*	*
Belize	*	*
Bolivia	*	*
Bosnia and Herzegovina	*	*
Brazil	32	2.1%
Bulgaria	*	*
Cameroon	*	*
Canada	101	6.7%
Chile	10	0.7%
China	368	24.3%
Colombia	9	0.6%
Costa Rica	7	0.5%
Croatia	*	*
Cyprus	*	*
Czech Republic	6	0.4%
Denmark	*	*
Ecuador	*	*
Egypt	8	0.5%
Ethiopia	*	*
Finland	*	*
France	32	2.1%
Georgia	*	*
Germany	30	2.0%
Ghana	*	*
Greece	24	1.6%
Guatemala	*	*
Honduras	*	*
Hong Kong	7	0.5%
Hungary	6	0.4%
Iceland	*	*
India	221	14.6%
Indonesia	*	*
Iran	17	1.1%
Ireland	*	*
Israel	*	*
Italy	39	2.6%
Jamaica	*	*
Japan	57	3.8%
Jordan	*	*
Kazakhstan	*	*
Kenya	9	0.6%

Location	2012-2013	Total
Korea, Republic of	102	6.7%
Lebanon	9	0.6%
Libya	*	*
Lithuania	*	*
Malaysia	7	0.5%
Mexico	16	1.1%
Mongolia	*	*
Myanmar	*	*
Nepal	6	0.4%
Netherlands	8	0.5%
New Zealand	*	*
Nigeria	12	0.8%
Norway	*	*
Pakistan	12	0.8%
Paraguay	*	*
Peru	8	0.5%
Philippines	7	0.5%
Poland	8	0.5%
Portugal	*	*
Republic of Serbia	*	*
Romania	*	*
Russia	14	0.9%
Senegal	*	*
Singapore	*	*
Slovakia	*	*
Slovenia	*	*
South Africa	7	0.5%
Spain	34	2.2%
Sri Lanka	*	*
Sudan	*	*
Sweden	*	*
Switzerland	*	*
Syria	*	*
Taiwan	39	2.6%
Tanzania	*	*
Thailand	17	1.1%
Trinidad and Tobago	*	*
Tunisia	*	*
Turkey	29	1.9%
Uganda	*	*
Ukraine	6	0.4%
United Kingdom	34	2.2%
Uruguay	*	*
Venezuela	6	0.4%
Vietnam	*	*
Zambia	*	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* 5 or less scholars in this category

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2013 PROGRAMS

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

February 2014 Edition

## Career Services

Many international students at the University of Minnesota seek career-focused employment in the U.S. during or after their studies. Obtaining practical work experience is an extremely important element of a U.S. education as it complements students' academic work. In the process of seeking work in the U.S., international students may face cultural, legal, and perceptual challenges. ISSS Career Services is designed to assist international students in preparing for and carrying out a successful job search in order to reach their career goals.



This program assists international students and scholars in three ways: career workshops, individual advising and counseling, and providing access to additional assistance at career events.

### Career Workshops

Career Services offer a wealth of interactive workshops uniquely designed for international students. Our staff teams up with experts in the field to discuss possible cross-cultural, legal, and re-entry challenges students might face. In 2013, these highly demanded workshops attracted over 1,100 students:

- Practical Training for F-1 Visa Holders (online)
- Employment-Based Visa Options
- H-1B Visa
- Permanent Residency
- Career Workshops co-sponsored by CDN Graduate and Professional Student Committee
  - Searching for Jobs in a Changing World (academic and non-academic)
  - CV/Resume Building and Formatting for Academia and Industry
  - Effective Interviewing for Academia and Industry

### Individual Advising and Counseling

Career Services offers individual career advising and counseling in a one-on-one setting to international students and scholars. Our most popular career-related sessions include resume writing and critiques, mock interviewing, and planning job search strategies.

### Assistance at Career Events

- Job and Internship Fair
- Career Networking Breakfast for Graduate Students, Postdoctoral Researchers, and Alumni

## Cross-cultural Discussion Groups

ISSS has organized cross-cultural discussion groups every academic year for more than 20 years. The groups consist of both domestic and international students. The goal of the program is to create an opportunity for University students to meet, socialize, and engage each other through discussion topics in a casual and relaxed environment. In 2012-13 academic year, twelve groups of about 130 participants from eighteen countries met weekly to discuss topics such as culture shock, education systems, friendship/relationships, music and dance, family, hunger and poverty, religion etc. In addition, they participated in social activities like eating out in ethnic restaurants, cultural themed movies, potlucks and outdoor sports.



## Cross Cultural Leadership Retreat

Initially designed to increase international students' participation in campus activities, the University of Minnesota's Cross-Cultural Leadership Retreat began

in 2004 with funds from a grant provided by the Association for International Educators (NAFSA). Since 2006, the Cross-Cultural Leadership Retreat has been helping both international and U.S. students from all across campus to cultivate cross-cultural friendships, grow in intercultural competence, and enhance their leadership skills in multicultural and international settings. The Cross-Cultural Leadership Retreat has become popular—and thus very selective—in recent years. The retreat is currently offered two times per year, once for graduate students in the spring and once for undergraduate students in the fall.

The Cross-Cultural Leadership Retreat, which encourages participants to think creatively and reflectively in the midst of the new and unfamiliar, draws heavily from the Personal Leadership model. Held over the course of two days on the University of Minnesota campus, the retreat offers students the opportunity to learn about various cultural communication styles, reflect on their intercultural experiences, and participate in scenarios to expand their understanding of different cultural values and practices. Ultimately, students are encouraged to use the knowledge and skills that they develop at the retreat to enhance their cross-cultural life in the U.S. and in their future leadership positions.

In Fall 2013, 18 undergraduate students completed the 2-day leadership retreat. That same cohort completed an individual and group follow up right after, reflecting on the outcomes of the retreat and discussing areas to become more engaged with the University of Minnesota community. In spring 2014, that same leadership cohort will complete a pre and post IDI assessment, an off campus follow-up session during Spring Break, and an opportunity to engage in personal leadership development throughout on-campus projects and activities.

## Culture Corps

The goal of Culture Corps is to promote internationalization at the University of Minnesota campus by utilizing the valuable knowledge and skills of our international students.



Through Culture Corps, international students work in conjunction with a faculty or staff member in forming a project that brings their unique international perspectives to the university community. Projects are either academic or co-curricular in nature, vary in scope, and can be initiated by a faculty or staff member or international students themselves.

International students who lead these Culture Corps projects benefit by obtaining practical leadership experience in project design and management in the U.S. setting. Additionally, in return for their commitment and implementation of a project, they receive a scholarship in the form of a partial tuition waiver or cash award.

Culture Corps has had significant impact from its beginning in 1998. An average of 20 to 25 projects each year are designed and implemented every academic year. Culture Corps projects exist all over the campus, including in the arts and sciences, campus life, and language learning.

In Spring 2013, a total of 50 projects were awarded Culture Corps awards. Awardees from South Korea, China and India accounted for over half of the awards.

In Fall 2013, Culture Corps awarded 90 projects. Awardees from South Korea, China and Vietnam accounted for over half of the awards.

## Customized and Short-term Programs

After several years of hosting specialized and customized programs in ISSS, 2013 witnessed the transition of these programs from ISSS to a new unit “Global Operations” or “GO Minnesota” for short. ISSS short term programs were dedicated to in-depth intercultural learning, achieved with a highly structured and contained program. Programs were designed to increase student development by focusing on the student experience. The last remaining program was “Education for a Global Citizen” which used service-learning, intercultural classes, ESL, and intimate discussion groups coupled with educational field trips, to increase student’s knowledge and competence in intercultural learning. The program



featured hands-on experience along with thoughtful reflection designed to engage the whole student.

Name	Participants	Countries
EFGC (Education for a Global Citizen) Spring	16	1 (China)
EFGC Fall	13	1 (China)

## Exchange Student Programs

ISSS manages University-wide student exchange programs in partnership with the Global Programs and Strategy Alliance. This includes the establishment and maintenance of exchange agreements with universities and colleges worldwide. Exchange programs also present a range of student programming and administrative support for the international exchange students who come to the University of Minnesota for non-degree exchange programs of study for either one or two semesters. Administrative support includes admission and housing assistance, customized orientation and communications, billing and scholarship management, academic and personal counseling, and ongoing liaison with the students' home institutions. Cultural programming for exchange students is designed to foster appreciation and integration in the Minnesota community and to recognize and encourage cross-cultural personal and professional development. Additionally, ISSS assists University academic departments and colleges to design and implement their individual college-based exchange agreements.

## Financial Aid Program

ISSS offers very limited financial assistance to non-immigrant visa holders in F-1 and J-1 student status. As funding is limited, international students must have studied at the University of Minnesota for at least one year and preference is given to students in the final 2 semesters of their degree program. This is a need-based program; students have to demonstrate unforeseen financial hardship in order to be considered for funding.

## Global Scholar Profiles

ISSS recognizes and highlights international scholars (researchers, faculty, staff, and administrators) who have made significant contributions to the University of Minnesota and/or to their academic discipline through Global Scholar Profiles. These profiles serve to shine the spotlight on our international scholars, our U of M departments, and the important research and service they offer to the university and global community. Global Scholar Profiles are shared through the ISSS website, social media, and other Global Programs and Strategy Alliance internal and external publications as appropriate.

Anyone in the University community may nominate a scholar for recognition through Global Scholar Profiles. We encourage nominations from Department Heads, Principal Investigators, Faculty Mentors, Human Resources representatives and other personnel who work most closely with the international scholar. Self-nominations are accepted with at least one supporting letter from the individual's supervisor. ISSS obtains permission from the hosting department and the scholar before publishing any profiles. Scholars who have been at the University of Minnesota on a non-immigrant visa (J-1, H, TN, E-3, O-1) within the past year are eligible for nomination.

<http://www.iss.umn.edu/Departments/scholars.html>

## Housing Workshops Global Scholar Profiles

Finding off-campus housing upon arrival in a foreign country is a stressful experience for many international students. ISSS partners with Student Legal Services and Housing & Residential Life to offer international students online housing workshops and one-on-one advising. During these workshops students explore how to assess housing options, what legal factors might be involved, how to choose safe neighborhoods, and how to navigate the numerous housing resources. If students need additional assistance, they can schedule an individual appointment with Student Legal Services or an ISSS adviser.

The online housing workshop is available at <http://www.issm.umn.edu/resources/housingshop.html>

## International Ambassador Program

Behind the glossy pages of a University brochure are the stories of real students on campus. The International Student Ambassadors (ISA) are the opportunity for prospective and incoming international students to ask the questions the brochures don't answer. What is it really like to live in the residence halls? Where do you buy groceries? Is there anything to do in Minneapolis?



The International Student Ambassadors commit to helping future international students by being available to answer questions from a real-life perspective, while also promoting the University of Minnesota. The ambassadors blog in their own voices what daily life is all about at the University, in the Twin Cities, and how they survive and thrive in a different culture. Stories highlight student cultural groups on campus, life in Minneapolis, and anything else ambassadors find interesting or thought-provoking as students operating in a second or third culture.

While the program is dedicated to helping prospective and incoming international students, it also develops the individual strengths of the ambassadors. Specifically, ambassadors gain important skills in leadership, writing, communication, networking and valuable interactions with students from other cultures.

The 2013-2014 team includes 14 undergraduate and graduate ambassadors from ten countries and six University of Minnesota colleges. Future students can get to know the ambassadors by reading blogs, viewing videos, or exchanging e-mail with the ambassadors. Learn more about the ambassadors at: [passport.umn.edu/ambassadors/about](http://passport.umn.edu/ambassadors/about)

## International Buddy Program

Adjusting to a new cultural environment can be exciting yet challenging. The International Buddy Program was created to ease their transition, with current U.S. and international undergraduate students helping new undergraduate students. We promote the student development outcomes of independence and interdependence, self-awareness, and appreciation of difference for all participants.



Buddies develop relationships through pre-arrival communications and post-arrival meetings. Large group events are also held through the semester to support this global-minded community. Monthly events include a welcome party, community engagement events, walking in the Homecoming Parade, Thanksgiving Feast, a Winter celebration, and an end of semester picnic.

In Fall 2013, 171 new international undergraduate students were buddies to 86 current student mentors.

In Spring 2014, 51 new international undergraduate students were buddies to 33 current student mentors.

## International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Program

ISSS provides support, counseling, and other services to GLBT international students and their allies. We constructed a webpage located on the ISSS website with links to University, local, state, and national resources. A gay identified contact person at ISSS gave a presentation on the program at ISOP. ISSS continues to partner with campus groups to provide programming and services. ISSS in partnership with the GLBTA Programs office has set up a message board and blog for use by interested students.

## International Scholar Orientation

All J visa-scholars and their family members who come to the University of Minnesota, including those who will work at coordinate campuses, should receive information that will facilitate their settlement in the new environment and should be provided with resources for a successful stay in the U.S. International scholars and their family members are required to learn and understand the immigration regulations and the steps they have to take during their stay at the University of Minnesota to maintain their immigration status. One way that ISSS provides this information is through the Scholar Orientation program available to scholars and their dependents after their arrival in the U.S. The content of the orientation sessions is generally adjusted to accommodate participants' specific needs and interests. Topics covered can include, but are not limited to: University of Minnesota campus resources, ESL opportunities at the University and in the Twin Cities, banking, ID cards, transportation, health insurance, housing, dependents' work permit and study in the U.S., immigration regulations, U.S. culture and norms, and community involvement.



- Practical advice on student life in the U.S., including housing and banking information

Through this interactive and highly informational program, students are given a solid base in which to optimize their academic and career success.

ISOP is a mandatory one-day program for all international students. It is offered on a weekly basis prior to the beginning of the fall semester and once again before spring semester. Approximately 1,600 new and transfer students attended ISOP in 2013.

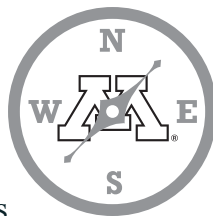
## ISSS Research Project

The ISSS Research Committee considers supporting research projects using international students as subjects if the Principal Investigators or Co-Principal Investigators are University of Minnesota students, staff or faculty. The projects must be approved by the Institutional Review Board. Researchers are encouraged to share their results with ISSS staff. Current on-going research projects ranges from satisfaction level of international students to impact of culture on health awareness public message. There are 8 different ongoing research projects.

Scholars and their family members arrive at different times throughout the year. As a result, the Scholar Orientation program is offered once a week for one hour. Approximately 40 scholars and family members attend the orientation program throughout the year.

## International Student Orientation Program

Transitioning into life in the U.S. and study at the University of Minnesota for international students can be an exciting yet uniquely challenging experience. The International Student Orientation Program (ISOP) facilitates students' transition by providing critical information about:



- Expectations in U.S. higher education
- Immigration regulations and their legal implications for students
- Resources available at ISSS and the University of Minnesota

## iSuccess

The International Student Success Program (iSuccess) is a customized pre-academic program designed to give new international students (graduate, undergraduate and exchange) an early start to their new life at the University of Minnesota. The program is designed to meet the needs of new incoming students, focusing on areas such pre-departure consultations, parent support during the program, academic preparation sessions, fun activities and mentorship throughout the program. This live-in, classroom simulated program seeks to prepare new students to the U of M higher education system. The program runs for a week, usually two weeks before Welcome Week.

A previous version of iSuccess was first implemented during the summer of 2012 as a new student transitional program designed to prepare new

international students for success, for both academic and social at the U of M (the program was previously under Customized and Short-Term Programs). The fee-based program ran for a week, in the middle of August. In the summer of 2012, 13 students completed iSuccess; and in summer of 2013, 18 students completed the program.

## **MATCH: Minnesota Ambassadors Taking College Home**

MATCH is a program designed to give current undergraduate and graduate international students at the University of Minnesota the opportunity to share their experiences at the U with students in their home country during school breaks (winter and summer). Following the philosophy of the ambassador program, MATCH creates a peer-to-peer feeling of comfort and familiarity for prospective international students to ask questions about “real life” at the U.



MATCH students select, contact, and visit two educational sites, including at least one high school and possibly one university or advising center during University breaks. MATCH participants receive an honorarium (payment) for their time. This provides students with the opportunity to make contacts and network in their home countries, while informing students about studying in the United States and the University of Minnesota.

Since its inception, the MATCH program has sent students around the world representing the University of Minnesota. Hundreds of students from countries including Korea, Malaysia, China, Burma, Cyprus, Jordan, and India have attended the events.

## **New International Student Seminar (NISS): Succeeding at the U**

The New International Student Seminar (NISS) takes place right before mid-terms in the Fall & Spring Semesters each academic year. New international

freshman & new international transfer students are required to attend. Transfer students include students from outside the U.S., from another U.S. institution, and from the University of Minnesota coordinate campuses.

The goals of the program are for the students to be able to self-assess their academics, mental health, and general adjustment to the US and the University of Minnesota. NISS helps to create discussion around academic success, help students learn about useful resources, and connect with ISSS staff, U of M resources and fellow students.

We hope to have students become aware early on in their career about their strengths, identify their challenges and utilize resources at the University so they can be successful long-term.

## **Small World Coffee Hour**

Small World Coffee Hour (SWCH) provides international and US students, staff, and faculty at the University of Minnesota a social way to engage world cultures.



This free program is offered every other Friday afternoon from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Each event features a different cultural theme, a variety of interactive activities, lively music, and food from around the world. SWCH partners with a new student organization each week to co-create an event. Our co-hosts bring new life into each event and cultivate specific cultural appreciation. SWCH had several events in 2013 including ones featuring Hmong, Japanese and Indian cultures. We formed a new partnership with the College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources to create a SWCH St. Paul event. The United Arab Emeritus Student Association helped to host our busiest event with over 366 participants.

SWCH has grown to be a tremendous success since its inception in 1990. At its beginning, there was an average of 30 participants per event, and today each event reaches an average of 240 participants.

## **Student Internship Programs**

### **Counseling Practicum**

ISSS offers a counseling practicum for graduate students in counseling degree programs. Each year, 1-6 counseling students participate in the year-long practicum. The majority of students are from the Counseling and Student Personnel Psychology (CSPP) program at the University of Minnesota. However, students from other programs have also participated.

Practicum students receive extensive training in counseling and advising. Once trained, they provide academic, career, and personal counseling and immigration advising to international students, scholars, and their families. They co-lead cross-cultural discussion groups, which include international and U.S. participants. The practicum students are also active team members in programs such as the New International Student Seminar.

In 2012-2013, there were 2 counseling practicum students.

### **CIDE Internships**

This internship is designed as a practical work experience within ISSS for graduate students in the Comparative and International Development Education (CIDE) program in the department of Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development (OLD) at the University of Minnesota. The interns have a choice to receive classroom credit hours for the internship.

Interns receive firsthand experience of the procedures and issues related to incoming students and scholars at a major research university. They participate in a variety of ISSS programs. In 2012-13, there were 2 interns from the CIDE program and another program in OLD. As part of their internships, the interns participated in Document Check, F-1 advising training, and New Orientation Programs, and Career Services.

## **Training for Global Understanding**

ISSS is committed to helping University staff, faculty and students develop skills in being more effective in communicating across cultural differences and in understanding the international population that is here on campus. Toward that end, Human Resources' Organizational Effectiveness sponsors University-wide "Training for Global Understanding Workshops." ISSS offered workshops on "Around the World," in which participants gained an understanding of the international community on campus, challenges faced by this population, and strategies for staff to implement in their own departments for creating a supportive climate and for bridging language barriers. We also offered series of "Communicating Across Cultures," in which participants learn key common cultural differences and ways to effectively communicate with students and scholars. Several departments also invite ISSS staff to present directly to their units on these topics and others related to serving the University of Minnesota's international population.



## **Reporting University of Minnesota International Students**

### **ISSS Annual Report**

The ISSS Annual Report is based on the reporting requirements of the Institute of International Education publication *Open Doors*.

For the *Open Doors* Foreign Student Report, international students must be 1) enrolled by the end of the second week of classes of the fall semester and 2) on a valid non-immigrant visa, which excludes permanent residents, refugees, asylees, undocumented immigrants, and students with an unknown immigration status.

In addition to the enrollment data, the *Open Doors* report requires institutions to include students who are on Optional Practical Training (OPT) and Academic Training (AT). The ISSS Annual Report does not include these students because they are not enrolled in classes. In Fall 2013, the University had 737 students on OPT and 6 students on AT.

For the *Open Doors* Foreign Scholar Report, international scholars must be 1) employed at the University of Minnesota – Twin Cities sometime during the fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>) and 2) on a valid non-immigrant visa during that time.

In addition to the statistics provided for the *Open Doors* report, the ISSS Annual Report breaks down international student data by colleges, departments, academic programs, and degrees received.

### **Additional Reports of International Students**

The Office of Institutional Research (OIR) at the University sends enrollment reports to the National Center for Education Statistics Integrated Post Secondary Education Data System (IPEDS). However, the focus of the IPEDS report is on a student's ethnic background rather than visa status. Therefore, in the IPEDS report "international students" include 1) non-immigrant visa holders and 2) refugees, asylees, and undocumented immigrants. Because the records that would identify this latter group of students are missing or incorrect, they are often undercounted in the IPEDS report. As ISSS and *Open Doors* report only non-immigrant visa holders, the figures for "international students" from IPEDS do not match those in the ISSS Annual Report and the *Open Doors* report.