

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
2014 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
& SCHOLAR REPORT**



CAPSTONE INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

International Student & Scholar Report 2014

*The University of Alabama
Capstone International Center
Capstone International Services*

**Capstone International Services
The University of Alabama
105 B.B. Comer Hall
Box 870254
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0254**

**Office: (205) 348-5402
Fax: (205) 348-5406
Email: international@ua.edu
Web: <http://is.ua.edu>**

**Acknowledgements and thanks to the following:
LaDonna Foshee, Assistant Director
Sheila Malone, SEVIS Specialist
Stephanie Freeman, International Student and Scholar Advisor
Capstone International Academic Programs
English Language Institute
UA Human Resources
UA Office of Institutional Research & Assessment**

**Prepared by:
Charter Morris, Director of Capstone International Services**

I. Overview of Capstone International Services

Capstone International Services serves many roles, but its primary role is as the immigration advising office for all international students and scholars at the University of Alabama.

CIS is staffed by 6 full-time staff members, including a Director, Assistant Director, two International Student and Scholar Advisors, an Immigration Technician who maintains our records and SEVIS reporting duties, and an Immigration Assistant who manages the front office.

In our role as international student visa sponsor, CIS coordinates with Undergraduate Admissions' international admission unit and with Graduate International Admissions to process F-1 I-20s and J-1 DS-2019s (the two student visa-types used by UA) for all incoming international students and provide each admitted student with advice and guidance on how to process a student visa and make preparations to enter the U.S. Once international students arrive to UA, CIS's role switches to that of a compliance office, gathering copies of documents and contact information from each student, providing an extensive orientation with a primary focus on immigration regulatory issues and acculturation, and finally, monitoring all student course registration and on-campus employment to ensure students' compliance with student visa regulations as well as UA's compliance with our reporting duties to the Department of Homeland Security's US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

II. CIS Enrollment Highlights for Fall 2014

As of fall 2014, CIS served **1680 active, enrolled international students**, of whom **449 were new, first time students (96 new freshmen, 17 new transfer undergraduates, 32 new conditional undergrad and grad students, 123 new ELI students, 69 new doctoral students, 52 new master's students, 4 new law students, 1 new medical student, and 55 new visiting/non-degree students)**.

In addition to the 1680 active, enrolled international students served by CIS, there are an additional 137 recent graduates who remain on The University of Alabama's visa sponsorship while working on Optional Practical Training (OPT). Counting these two populations together, the total number of international students served by CIS is **1817**. The 1680 active, enrolled students match the reported figures from the census data provided by the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment.

The 1680 active, enrolled international students come from 77 countries and regions of the world and represent **4.64% of the 36,155 students enrolled at The University of Alabama for fall 2014¹**.

Please note that for reporting purposes, "international" is understood as a non-U.S. citizen, holding any visa status other than Legal Permanent Residency, Resident Alien, Asylee, or Refugee.

Continued Growth – 8.8% increase in international students compared to previous year

- **104% increase in international student numbers over 6-Year Period (09–14)**
- **270% increase in undergraduate international enrollment over 6-Year Period (09–14)**

At a total of 1817 (including OPT holders), The University of Alabama hosted 147 more international students in fall 2014 as compared to the 1670 international students and recent graduates on OPT in fall 2013. This accounts for an 8.8% increase in the total number of non-immigrant international students served by UA's Capstone International Services.

Looking closer at the increase in overall international student numbers, one can see that there has been a significant shift in the representation of the numbers. Since 2009, there has been a steady increase in undergraduate students enrolled. Between fall 2009 and fall 2014, there has been a 270% increase in undergraduate numbers. An explanation for the explosion in undergraduate numbers is that Chinese enrollment has grown significantly (*see student spotlight on page 9*), especially due to the conditional admission process, which allows students to meet their English proficiency requirement through enrollment in the ELI Program. Additionally, in the last year, there has been a significant increase in non-degree/visiting students at UA, primarily from the Brazil Science Mobility Program. UA's non-degree/visiting numbers grew from 28 to 98 in one year - a 250% increase.

¹ <http://ua.edu/quickfacts/demographics.html> & <http://oira.ua.edu/d/content/reports/enrollment-census>

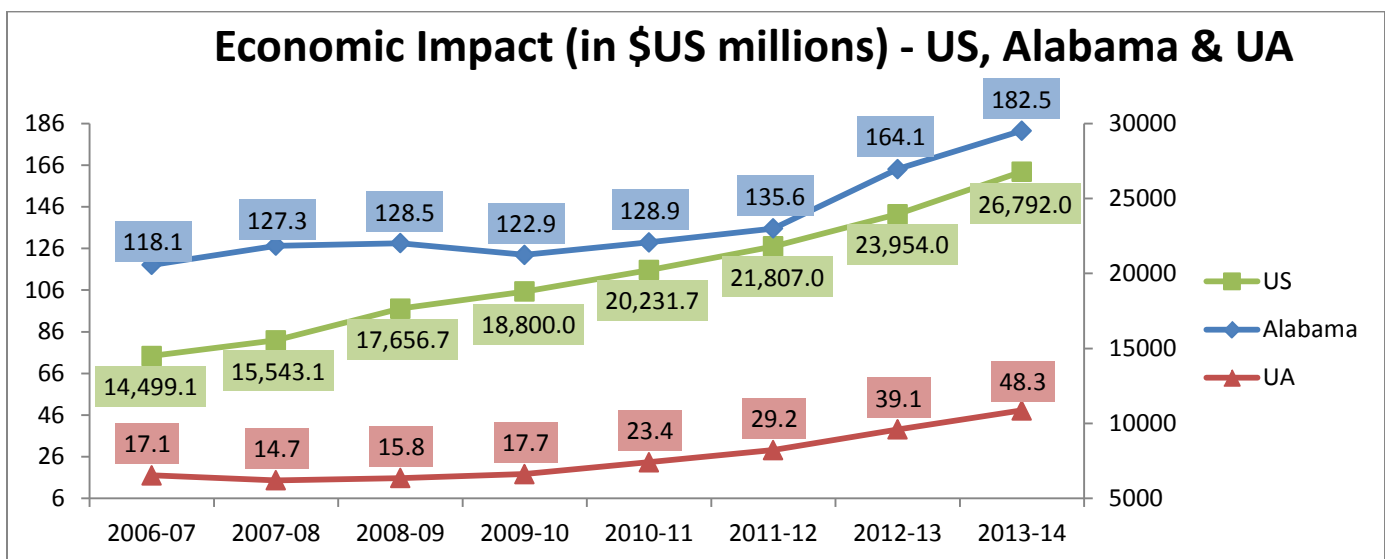
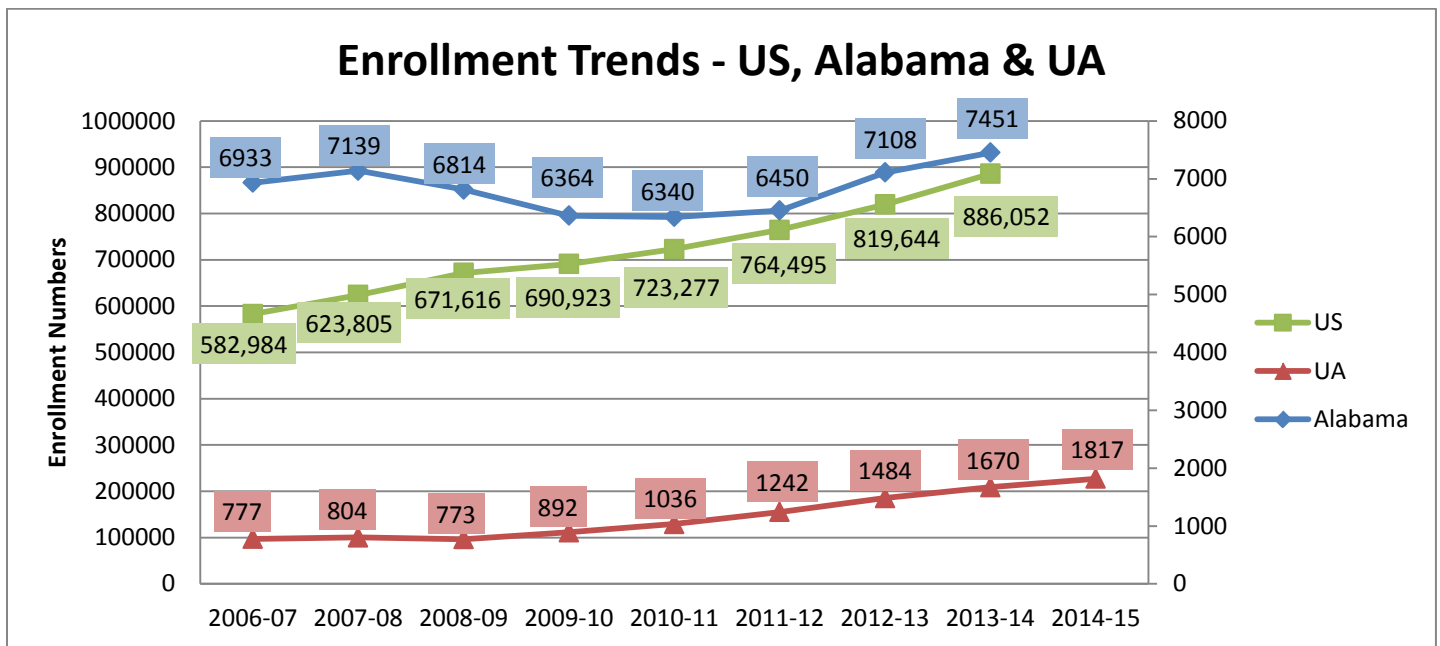
III. National and Local Trends - Enrollment and Financial Impact of International Students

In 2013/14, the **United States hosted 886,052 international students**; in the same year, **Alabama institutions of higher education enrolled 7451 international students**.²

The economic impact of the **886,052 international students** enrolled in 2013/14 was nearly **\$27 billion in contribution to the U.S. economy**, factoring in living expenses for students and their dependents, as well as tuition, books, fees and other education-related expenses.

In Alabama, the **7451 international students** enrolled in 2013/14 **contributed \$182,523,000 to the state economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and other related expenses.

Locally, the **1670 international students** enrolled at The University of Alabama in 2013/14 **contributed \$48,304,300 to the local economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and other related expenses.³



² IIE's Open Doors Report 2014 - <http://www.iie.org/Research-and-Publications/Open-Doors>

³ NAFSA's International Student Economic Value Tool:

[http://www.nafsa.org/Explore International Education/Impact/Data And Statistics/The International Student Economic Value Tool/](http://www.nafsa.org/Explore_International_Education/Impact/Data_And_Statistics/The_International_Student_Economic_Value_Tool/)

IV. UA International Student Statistics

A. Breakdown of Fall Semester 2014 Student Numbers by Degree Level and Year
(Includes Recent Graduates on OPT):

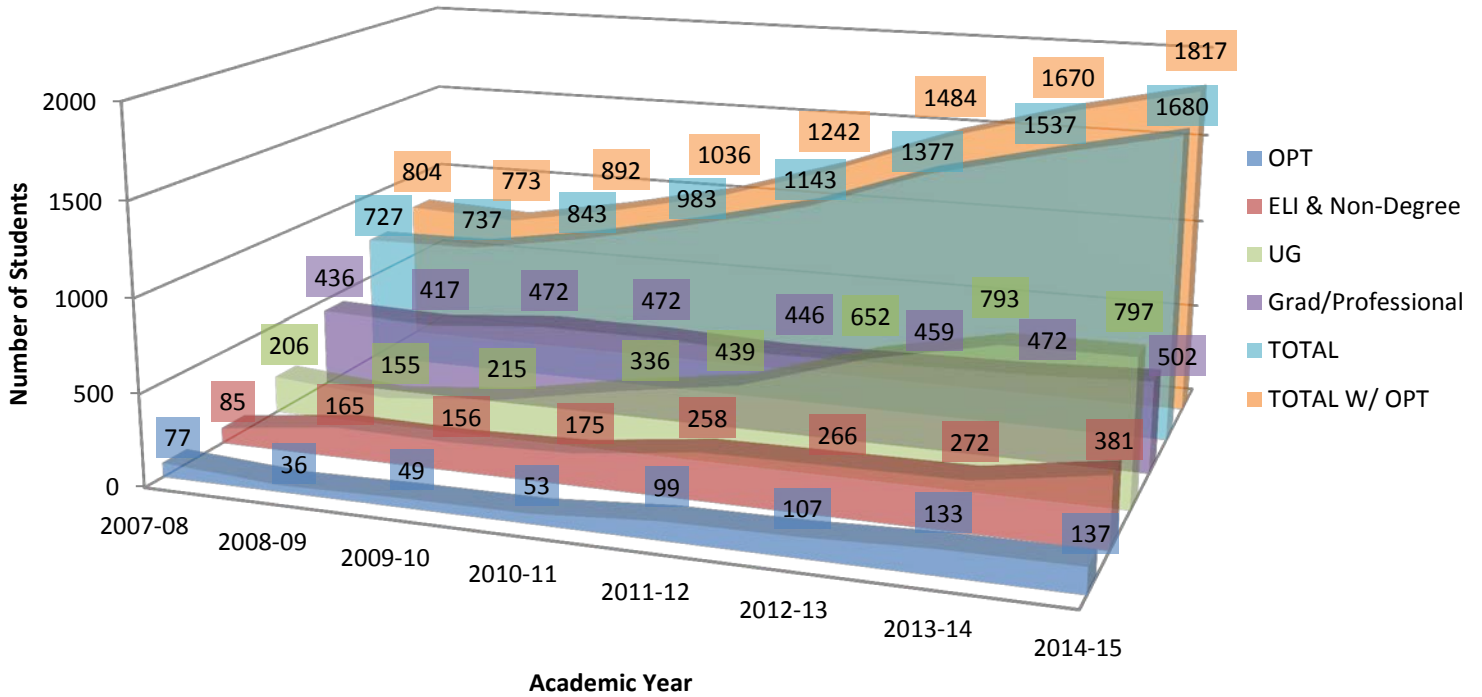
DEGREE & LEVEL	Total
Undergraduate Students	797
<i>Freshman</i>	214
<i>Sophomore</i>	253
<i>Junior</i>	168
<i>Senior</i>	162
Graduate Students	502
<i>Master's</i>	155
<i>Doctoral</i>	344
<i>Professional</i>	3
English Language Institute	259
<i>ELI Only</i>	193
<i>Conditional Admits</i>	66
Non-Degree & Capstone Int'l Academic Programs	122
<i>Non-Degree/Visiting Students</i>	98
<i>Capstone International Academic Programs (Study Abroad)</i>	24
SUBTOTAL OF ACTIVE, ENROLLED STUDENTS	1680
OPT – Graduates on Optional Practical Training	137
TOTAL	1817

B. UA International Student Numbers 2004 - 2014

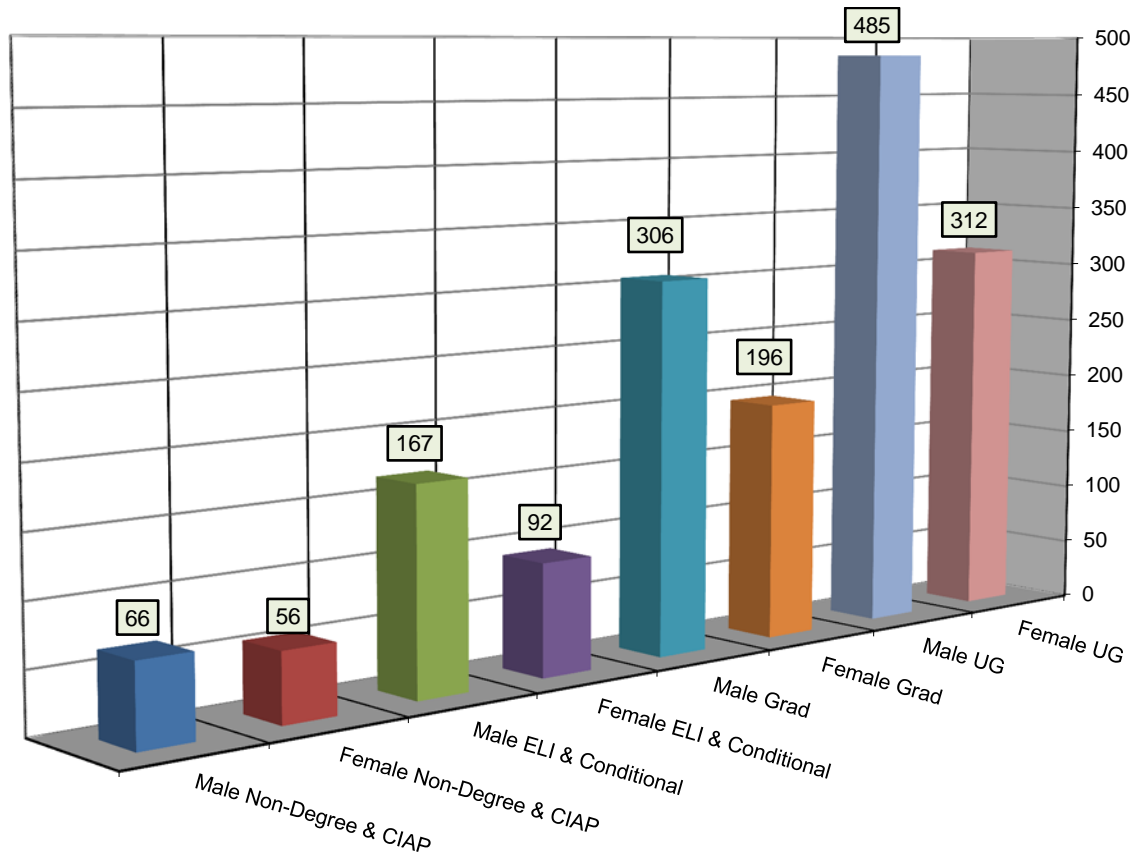
YEAR	UG	GRAD	ELI & NON-DEGREE	SUBTOTAL: ACTIVE STUDENTS	OPT	TOTAL W/ OPT	% TOTAL CHANGE
2004-05	220	539	102	861	n/a	861	+ 2.6%
2005-06	282	492	98	872	n/a	872	+ 1.3%
2006-07	196	433	124	753	24	777	- 10.9%
2007-08	206	436	85	727	77	804	+ 3.5%
2008-09	155	417	165	737	36	773	- 3.9%
2009-10	215	472	156	843	49	892	+ 15.4%
2010-11	336	472	175	983	53	1036	+ 16.1%
2011-12*	439	446	258	1143	99	1242	+ 19.9%
2012-13	652	459	266	1377	107	1484	+ 19.6%
2013-14	793	472	272	1537	133	1670	+ 12.5%
2014-15	797	502	381	1680	137	1817	+ 8.8%

*Prior to 2011/2012, conditionally admitted students were included with the undergraduate and graduate students rather than included with the ELI numbers.

C. Eight-Year Comparison of UA International Student Numbers



V. International Student Numbers by Gender



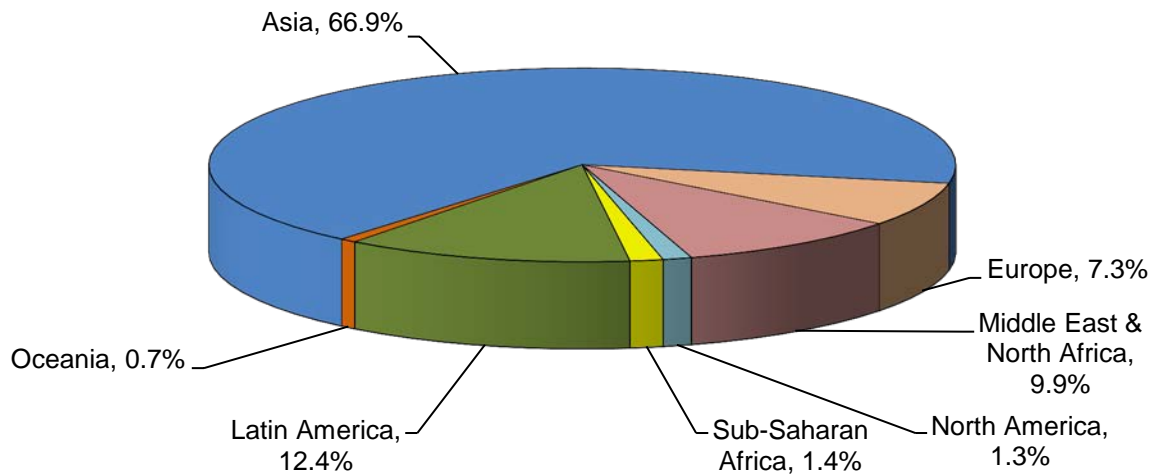
VI. Region & Places of Origin – For All Students Except Graduates on OPT

The 1680 enrolled international students at The University of Alabama for 2014/15 originated from **77 countries**. Table III subdivides the world into seven major regions. The total number of students from each region has been recorded. Chart III graphically depicts student percentages from the major regions.

A. International Students by Region

REGION	Total
Asia	1125
Latin America	209
Middle East & North Africa	166
Europe	123
Sub-Saharan Africa	24
North America (Canada)	21
Oceania	12
TOTAL	1680

B. Percentage of Students by Regions of the World



C. Top Ten Places of Origin: This table lists the ten countries/territories that send the highest number of students to The University of Alabama.

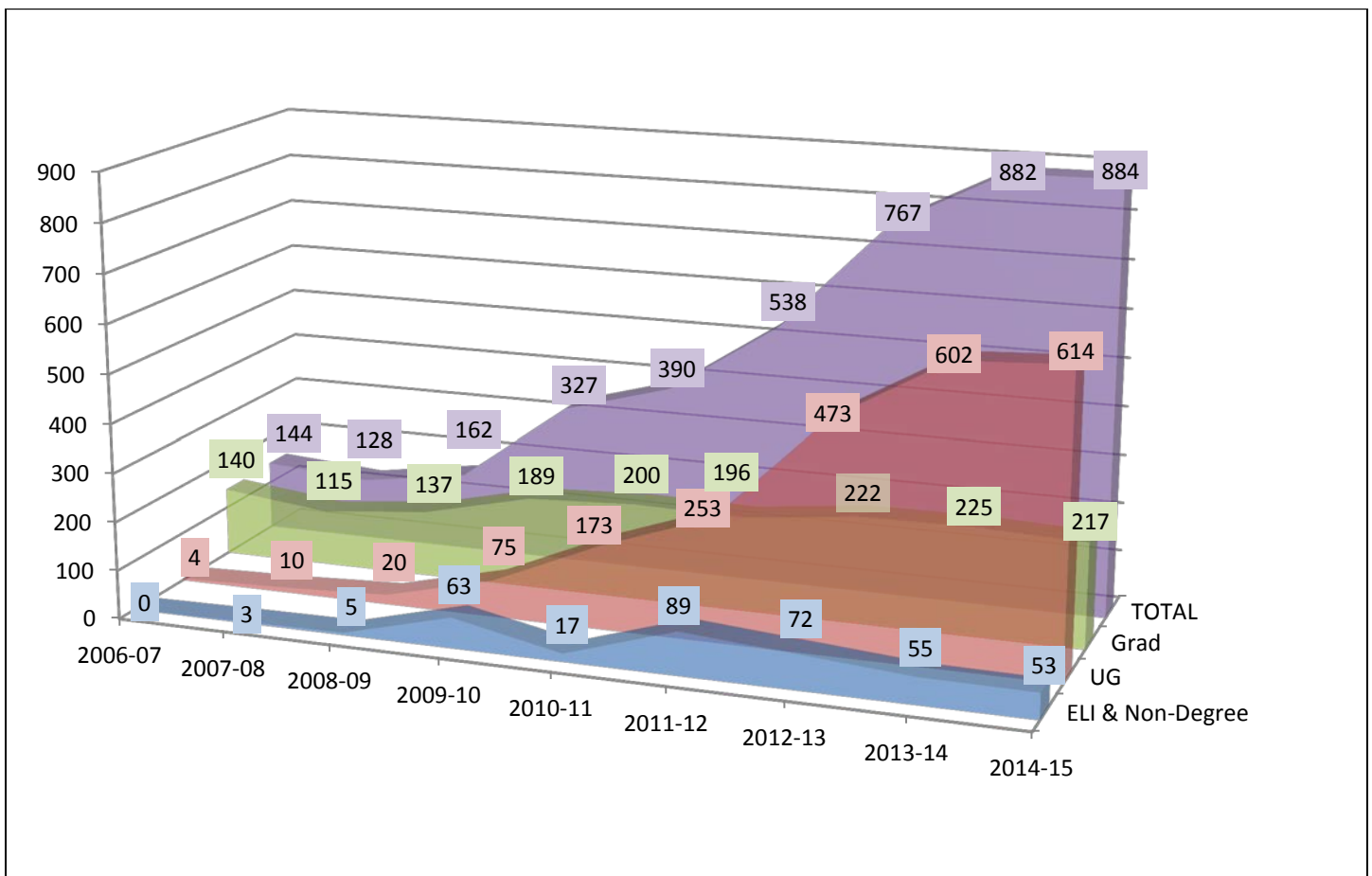
COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UG	GRAD	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & STUDY ABROAD	TOTAL
1. China, PR	614	217	53		884
2. Brazil	5	4	39	80	128
3. Saudi Arabia	26	2	88		116
4. Korea, South	35	29	7		71
5. India	3	49		1	53
6. Japan	1	2	31	17	51
7. Colombia		19	18	1	38
8. Iran		25			25
9. United Kingdom	7	11		6	24
10. Turkey	1	19	2		22

D. International Student Places of Origin – For All Active Students (Not OPT)

COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UG	GRAD & PROFESSIONAL	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & CIAP/STUDY ABROAD	TOTAL
Algeria		1			1
Argentina		2			2
Australia	8	1		3	12
Austria				2	2
Azerbaijan	1	1			2
Bahamas	1	1			2
Bangladesh		9			9
Belgium	1			3	4
Bolivia	2				2
Brazil	5	4	39	80	128
Cameroon		2	1		3
Canada	8	13			21
Chile	2				2
China, P.R.	614	217	53		884
Colombia		19	18	1	38
Costa Rica		1			1
Cyprus	2				2
Dominica		1			1
Ecuador			1		1
Egypt		3			3
Eritrea		1			1
Estonia	2				2
France	1	1		1	3
Germany	10	6		4	20
Ghana		8			8
Greece	2	1			3
Grenada	1	1			2
Honduras	1	1			2
Hong Kong	1				1
Iceland	1				1
India	3	49		1	53
Indonesia		1			1
Iran		25			25
Iraq		1			1
Ireland	3	1			4
Italy	1	1		3	5
Jamaica	3	1			4
Japan	1	2	31	17	51
Jordan		1			1
Kazakhstan	1				1
Korea, South	35	29	7		71
Kuwait	11		2		13
Lithuania		1			1
Malaysia		1			1
Mexico	6			1	7
Nepal		14			14
Netherlands	2	3			5
Nigeria	1	4	1		6
Norway	3				3
Pakistan	1	3			4
Panama		1			1
Paraguay		3			3
Peru		1			1
Philippines	2				2
Poland	2				2
Portugal			1		1

COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UG	GRAD	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & CIAP/STUDY ABROAD	TOTAL
Republic of the Congo			1		1
Romania	1	1			2
Russia	2	4			6
Rwanda		2			2
Saint Lucia		1			1
Saudi Arabia	26	2	88		116
Singapore		1			1
South Africa	1	1			2
Spain	1	3	1		5
Sri Lanka		2			2
Sudan	1				1
Sweden	1				1
Switzerland	2	1			3
Taiwan	5	5	3		13
Thailand	1	2	1		4
Turkey	1	19	2		22
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	1				1
United Kingdom (UK)	7	11		6	24
Venezuela	5	3	3		11
Vietnam	4	8	1		13
Yemen			5		5
TOTAL	797	502	259	122	1680

E. Student Number Spotlight – Chinese Student Enrollment 2006 – 2014



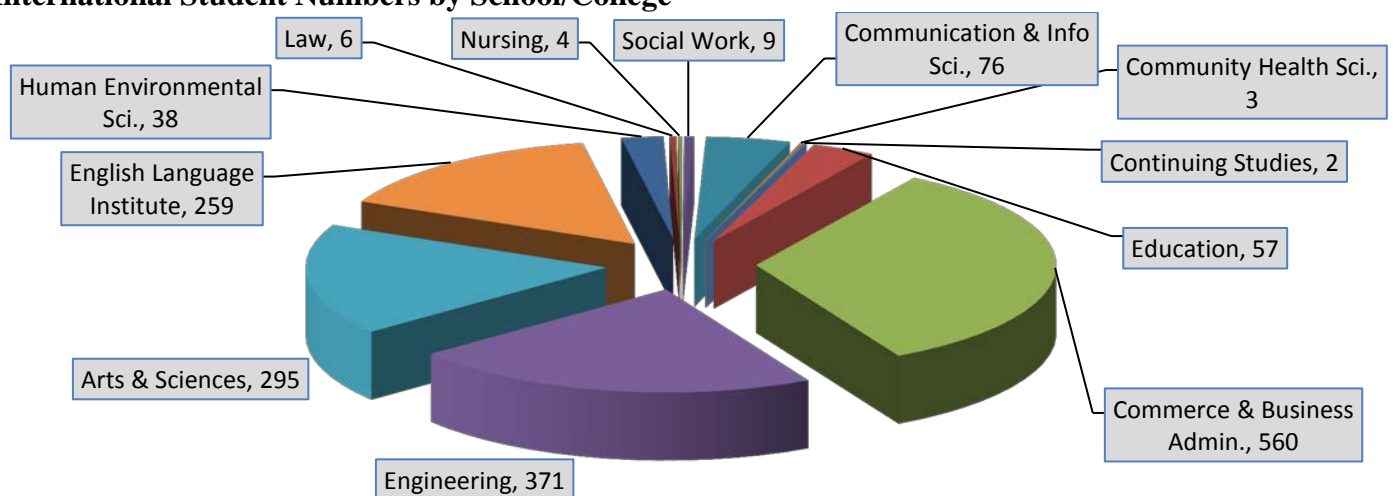
VII. International Student Numbers by Major

(NOTE: ELI & Conditional Students are broken down by intended degree. Those students who are only studying English as a Second Language are listed under ELI for their major)

Department	UG	Grad	ELI & Conditional	Non-Degree & CIAP/Study Abroad	Total
Accounting	171	2	2		175
Advertising	16	2			18
Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics	4	14			18
Anthropology	2	1			3
Apparel and Textiles	5				5
Applied Mathematics		1			1
Applied Statistics		12			12
Art	1				1
Art History		1			1
Arts & Sciences, General/Undeclared	30		14	21	65
Biology	10	20	1		31
Business, General	18		5	1	24
Chemical Engineering	26	11	2		39
Chemistry	5	30			35
Civil Engineering	16	22			38
Clothing, Textiles & Interior Design		1			1
Communication, General	3		1	2	6
Communication & Information Sciences		19			19
Communication Studies	8	3			11
Computer Science	17	21	1		39
Construction Engineering	7				7
Continuing Education				2	2
Creative Writing		4			4
Criminal Justice	1	1			2
Economics	28	10	3		41
Education, General			1	3	4
Education, EDSG		1			1
Education, Elementary	1	12			13
Education, Secondary		13			13
Education Leadership/ Education Admin		2			2
Education Psychology		7			7
Education Research		3			3
Electrical Engineering	43	37	5		85
ELI – English Language Institute			159		159
Engineering, General	7		34	81	122
English as a Second Language – TESL		1			1
English Literature	2	1			3
Environmental Science	2				2
Finance	142	13	7		162
Food and Nutrition	11				11
Foreign Languages and Literatures	1				1
General Health Studies	3				3
Geography	1	4			5
Geology		17			17
German		5			5
Higher Education Administration		1			1
History	2	3			5
Human Development Family Studies	1	1			2
Human Environmental Science, General	4	1	1	4	10
Human Nutrition		1			1
Human Performance (Kinesiology)	4	5	1		10

Department	UG	Grad	ELI & Conditional	Non-Degree & CIAP/Study Abroad	Total
Instructional Leadership		2			2
Interdisciplinary	1				1
International Studies	2				2
Interior Design	1				1
Journalism	6	1			7
Law (JD and LLM)		6			6
Library & Information Studies		1			1
Management	50	1	3		54
Management Information Systems	8				8
Marketing	33	9	3		45
Materials Science		16			16
Mathematics	16	24	5		45
MBA		12			12
Mechanical Engineering	33	26	9		68
Medicine		3			3
Metallurgical & Materials Engineering	5	8			13
Microbiology	2				2
Music		12			12
Music Education	1				1
Non-Degree				7	7
Nursing	3	1			4
Operations Management	12	13			25
Performance	1		1		2
Physics	4	29	1		34
Political Science	2	2			4
Psychology	5	9			14
Public Relations	11				11
Restaurant & Hospitality Management	5				5
Romance Languages (French & Spanish)		10			10
Social Work		8		1	9
Speech Language Pathology		1			1
Telecommunication & Film	4	3			7
Theater		1			1
Women's Studies		1			1
TOTAL	797	502	259	122	1680

VIII. International Student Numbers by School/College



IX. UA International Faculty, Staff, & Scholars Report

International scholar and faculty numbers at The University of Alabama for the 2013/14 year (the period between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014) totaled **226** non-immigrants, representing **43 countries and territories**. This is a slight decrease by 2.6% from the 232 scholars hosted by UA the previous year.

PLEASE NOTE: For reporting purposes, the faculty, staff, and scholar figures presented in this report will differ greatly from the official numbers of faculty and staff reported by The University of Alabama's Office of Institutional Research & Assessment. Capstone International Services capture the data contained within this report from internal files, which include a large number of unpaid, visiting researchers who are not counted in official employment numbers.

International Scholars, Faculty and Staff Excluded from Reported Data: Permanent Residents and Guest Lecturers

This figure of 226 international scholars and faculty present in 2013/14 does not include the faculty and staff who hold Permanent Residency Status (Green Card-holders); nor does the total include the numerous international guest lecturers and contractors who visited and performed services for The University of Alabama between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.

The reason that Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders) are not included in CIS's international faculty and staff statistics in this report is because it is not within the purview of Capstone International Services to track or advise Permanent Residents who work for The University of Alabama. New employees who hold Permanent Residency status do not report to Capstone International Services. Permanent Residents do not normally require the office's services nor do they have to have their visa-status maintained by the Capstone International Services.

International guest lecturers and contractors who came for brief visits to perform a service for UA are not counted because they are not employees of the University. Like any other guest lecturer or contractor, their visit is brief and is for a specific purpose.

X. What the Visa Categories Mean

J-1 Research Scholar/Professor

The J-1 Exchange Visitor category is for persons who are coming to the U.S. for a temporary stay in a variety of different areas. As it concerns faculty and staff, The University of Alabama authorizes J-1 documents only for professors, research scholars, short-term scholars, specialists, and student interns.

The J-1 program is a temporary program. J-1 researcher scholars/professors are limited to just 5 years for their research or teaching; specialists and student interns are limited to 1 year, and short-term scholars are limited to 6 months of research or other activity in their field. The J-1 Visa is considered a non-immigrant visa, meaning that J-Visa holders should have no intent to immigrate to the United States or become Permanent Residents. J-1 Professors and Scholars cannot be candidates for tenure or hold tenure-track positions.

The overall objective of the J-1 Exchange Visitor classification as written in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act (Fulbright-Hayes Act) of 1961 is "to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchanges."

TN Trade NAFTA

The TN Visa is another common category, and like the H-1B, it is a sponsored visa-type. The TN Visa is issued to Citizens of Mexico or Canada who are eligible to work in the U.S. because of the North American Free Trade Agreement. TNs are sponsored by the University in some sense because their visa is dependent upon their employment with the University. The TN Visa can be issued for up to 3 years for paid work in a limited number of areas, such as teaching and research.

H-1B

The H-1B category is another employment visa category which is sponsored by The University of Alabama. It is for persons who are coming to the U.S. to be temporary workers in a specialty occupation. To be considered eligible for H-1B, the position must require at least a Bachelor's degree.

Employment approval is granted through the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and is job-specific as well as employer- and department-specific. The H-1B has a maximum total stay of six years. Workers in this category can fill permanent positions, including tenure-track positions, but they must leave the country at the end of their authorized period of stay unless they have filed for a change to Permanent Residency or another valid visa category. H-1B is often the category used while in the process of applying for Permanent Residency.

O-1 Extraordinary Ability

The O-1 Visa is a rarely used visa category, and like the H-1B and TN, it is a sponsored visa-type. The O-1 is used in cases where the faculty member or researcher is someone of extraordinary renown and for whom the H-1B is not an option.

Other Common Visa Categories: F-1 OPT, F-1 CPT, J-1 Academic Training, B-1/B-2

There are several employees whose visas are not sponsored by The University of Alabama. Those with Employment Authorization Cards are the most common non-sponsored employee. F-1 international students who are on Optional Practical Training (OPT) and J-2 Spouses with Employment Authorization hold Employment Authorization Cards issued by US Citizenship and Immigration Services. Additionally, there are two other authorizations for students which do not require Employment Authorization Cards – F-1 students with Curricular Practical Training (CPT) authorization and J-1 students with Academic Training (AT) authorization. CPT and AT are authorized by the students' international advising offices.

Another common, non-sponsored visa types is the B-1/B-2 Visa. B-1/B-2 Visas are tourist visas. While tourists cannot be employees, it is possible for someone on a tourist visa to conduct research with the University with strictly external-support (e.g. a professor on sabbatical or researcher on personal funds).

XI. International Faculty and Scholar Statistics*

A. Visa Status:

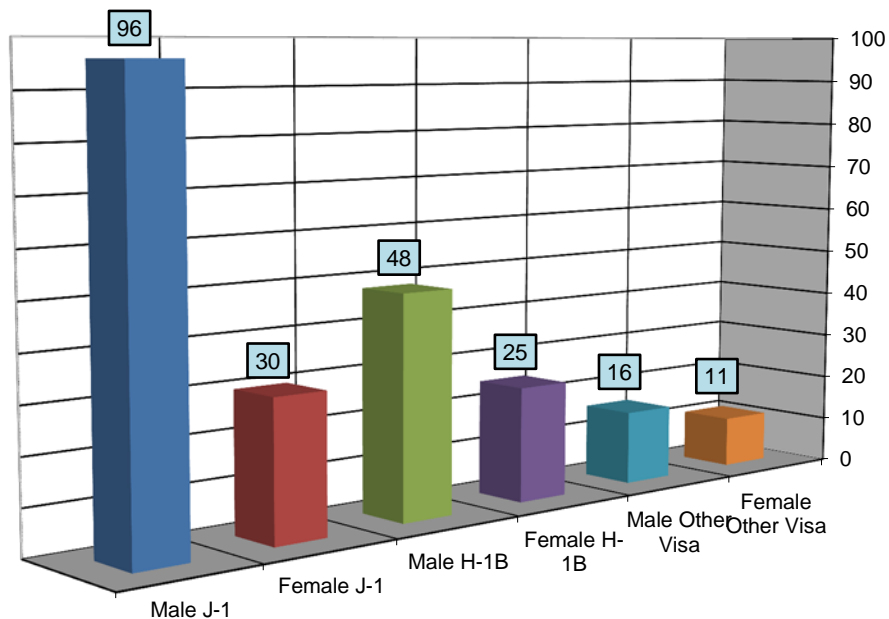
The visa-status of all international faculty and staff on a temporary visa is shown in the following Table.

VISA-STATUS	Total
J-1 Scholars	123
J-1 Physicians (sponsored by ECFMG)	3
H-1B Workers	73
TN Trade NAFTA Workers	2
F-1 OPT	15
F-1 CPT	1
O-1	3
B-1/B-2	6
TOTAL	226

* Information covers July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

YEAR	J-1	H-1B	OTHER	TOTALS	% TOTAL CHANGE
2011-12	79	77	16	172	-
2012-13	149	67	16	232	+ 34.8%
2013-14	126	73	27	226	- 2.6%

XII. International Faculty and Scholar Numbers by Gender



Total International Male: 160
Total International Female: 66

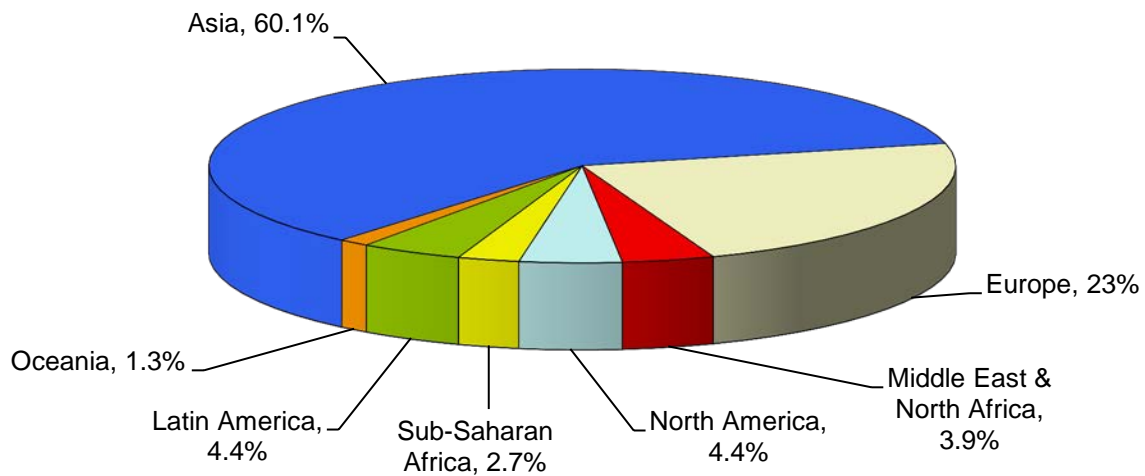
XIII. Region & Places of Origin

International Scholars and Faculty at The University of Alabama for 2013/14 originated from **43 countries and territories**. The first table subdivides the world into seven major regions. The total number of scholars and faculty from each region has been recorded. And the chart in B graphically depicts faculty and staff percentages from the major regions.

A. International Scholars and Faculty by Region

REGION	Total
Asia	136
Europe	52
North America (Canada)	10
Latin America	10
Middle East & North Africa	9
Sub-Saharan Africa	6
Oceania	3
TOTAL	226

B. Percentage of Scholars and Faculty by Regions of the World



C. Top Ten Places of Origin: The following table lists the ten countries/territories that have the highest number of scholars and faculty at The University of Alabama.

1. China, PR	76
2. India	24
3. South Korea	15
4. Canada, Germany*	10
6. United Kingdom	9
7. Japan	8
8. Spain	7
9. Portugal	5
10. Iran	4

*Tie

D. International Scholar and Faculty Places of Origin

Country	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Argentina		1		1
Australia	1	2		3
Bahamas			1	1
Bangladesh			1	1
Belgium	1		1	2
Brazil	3	1		4
Canada	3	5	2	10
China, P.R.	52	19	5	76
Colombia			1	1
Comoros	1			1
Czech Republic		1		1
Egypt	1	1		2
France	2			2
Germany	8	2		10
Ghana	1			1
Greece		1		1
Guyana		1		1
Hong Kong		1	2	3
India	8	15	1	24
Iran	2	1	1	4
Israel	2	1		3
Italy	2	1		3
Japan	7		1	8
Kazakhstan	1			1
Kenya		2		2
Korea, South	9	4	2	15
Mexico	1		1	2
Netherlands		1		1
Nigeria			1	1
Pakistan	1			1
Poland	1	1		2
Portugal	1		4	5
Romania		2		2
Russia	3			3
Singapore			1	1
South Africa			1	1
Spain	4	2	1	7
Sri Lanka		1		1
Taiwan		1		1
Thailand	1			1
Turkey	4			4
United Kingdom	5	4		9
Vietnam	1	2		3
TOTAL	126	73	27	226

XIV. International Scholars and Faculty by Department

Department	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Accounting		1		1
Advertising and Public Relations	1			1
Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics	2	1	1	4
Art		1		1
Athletics		2		2
Biology	3	1	3	7
Brewer's Porch	1			1
CBA – Commerce & Business Administration	2	1		3
CCHS – School of Medicine	3	5		8
Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS)		4		4
Center for Advanced Vehicle Technology		1		1
Center for Green Manufacturing/Chemistry	4	1		5
Center for Instructional Technology	1			1
Center of Business and Economics		1		1
Chemical & Biological Engineering	2	2	2	6
Chemistry	11	3	3	17
CIS - Communication and Information Science	2	1		3
Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering	1	4	1	6
Clothing, Textiles, and Interior Design		1		1
COE – Education	1	2		3
Computer Science	4	2	3	9
Consumer Science/ CHES		1		1
Continuing Studies		2	1	3
Economics, Finance & Legal Studies	7	1		8
Electrical & Computer Engineering	6	3	1	10
Engineering – General	1	1		2
English Language Institute	1			1
English Literature	7			7
Geography	1	1		2
Geology	3	1	1	5
History		1	1	2
Institutional Research Assessment		3		3
Institute of Social Science Research		1		1
Kinesiology		1		1
Law, School	4		3	7
Management and Marketing	2	1		3
Management Information Systems		2		2
Mathematics	4	3	2	9
Mechanical Engineering	8	1		9
Metallurgical and Materials Engineering	11	2	2	15
MINT Center (Materials for Information Technology)	21	2	1	24
Modern Languages and Classics	2	2		4
Music	1			1
Physics & Astronomy	7	6	1	14
Psychology		1		1
Research Park			1	1
Social Work	1	1		2
Teaching Learning Center		1		1
Telecommunication and Film		1		1
University Libraries	1			1
TOTAL	126	73	27	226