

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
2015 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
& SCHOLAR REPORT**



CAPSTONE INTERNATIONAL SERVICES

International Student & Scholar Report 2015

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

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English Language Institute
UA Human Resources
UA Office of Institutional Research & Assessment**

**Prepared by:
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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 7 full-time staff members, including a Director, Assistant Director, 2 International Student and Scholar Advisors, an Immigration Technician who maintains CIS records and SEVIS reporting duties, a Sponsored Student and Services Assistant, 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 2015

As of fall 2015, **CIS served 1503 active, enrolled international students**, of whom **332 were new students for Fall 2015 (101 new freshmen, 19 new transfer undergraduates, 21 new conditional undergrad and grad students, 29 new ELI students, 58 new doctoral students, 50 new master's students, 2 new law students, and 52 new visiting/non-degree students)**.

In addition to the 1503 active, enrolled international students served by CIS, there are an additional 155 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 **1658**. The 1503 active, enrolled students match the reported figures from the census data provided by the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment.

The 1503 active, enrolled international students come from 77 countries and regions of the world and **represent 4.05% of the 37,100 students enrolled at The University of Alabama for fall 2015¹.**

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.

At a total of 1658 (including OPT holders), UA hosted 159 less international students in Fall 2015 compared to Fall 2014. The University of Alabama saw the first decrease in overall international numbers in seven years, returning UA's enrollment to its Fall 2013 numbers.

The majority of the loss in enrollment was in the English Language Institute. However, the reality is that the majority of growth in Fall 2014 was due to major growth in the ELI and Non-degree students. In fall 2014, there was a significant increase in non-degree/visiting students at UA, primarily from the Brazil Science Mobility Program. In Fall 2015, the Brazil Science Mobility Program ceased sending new cohorts of students to study English in the U.S., leading to a sudden drop-off in enrollment in the ELI program.

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

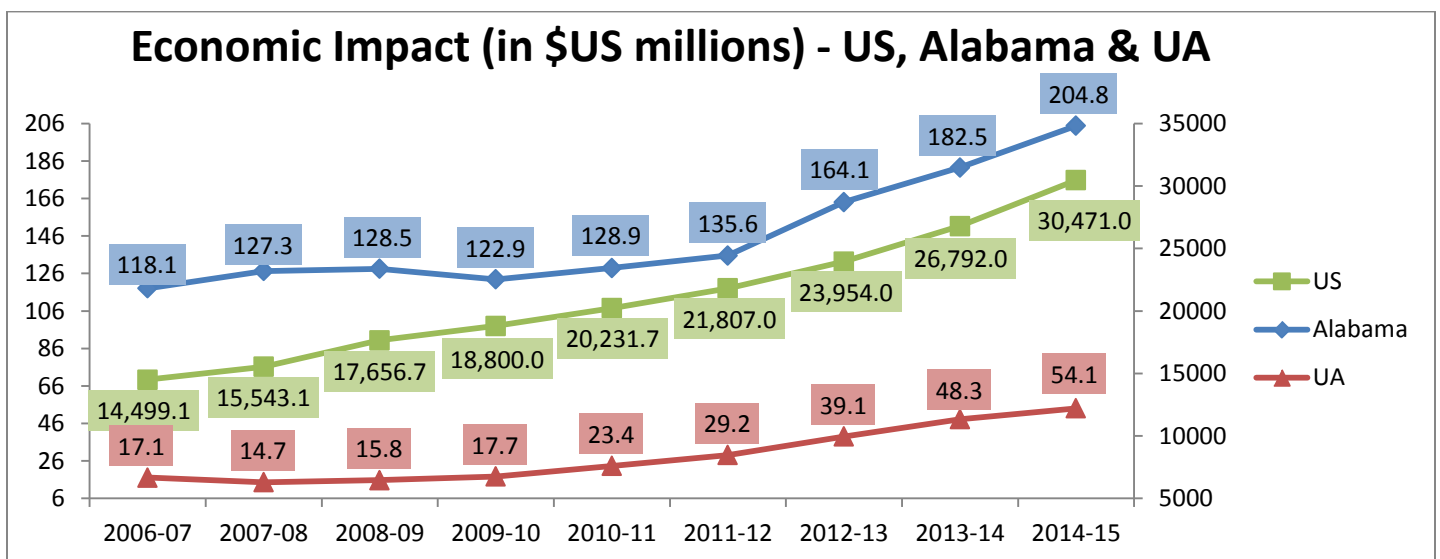
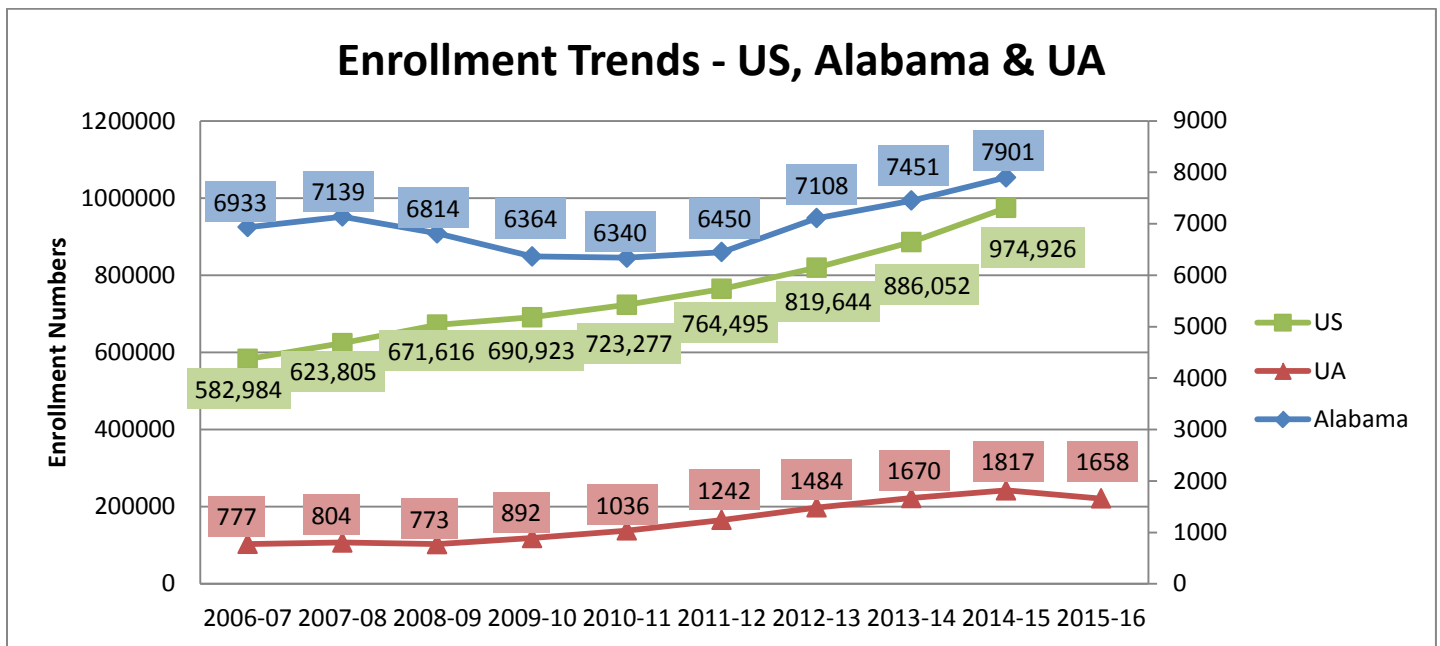
III. National and Local Trends - Enrollment and Financial Impact of International Students

In 2014/15, the **United States hosted 974,926 international students**; in the same year, **Alabama institutions of higher education enrolled 7901 international students**.²

The economic impact of the **974,926 international students** enrolled in 2014/15 was nearly **\$30.5 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 **7901 international students** enrolled in 2014/15 **contributed \$204,810,660 to the state economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and other related expenses.

Locally, the **1817 international students** at The University of Alabama in 2014/15 **contributed \$54.1 million to the local economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and other related expenses.³



² IIE's Open Doors Report 2015 - <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/NAFSA_International_Student_Economic_Value_Tool/#distData

IV. UA International Student Statistics

A. Breakdown of Fall Semester 2015 Student Numbers by Degree Level and Year
(Includes Recent Graduates on OPT):

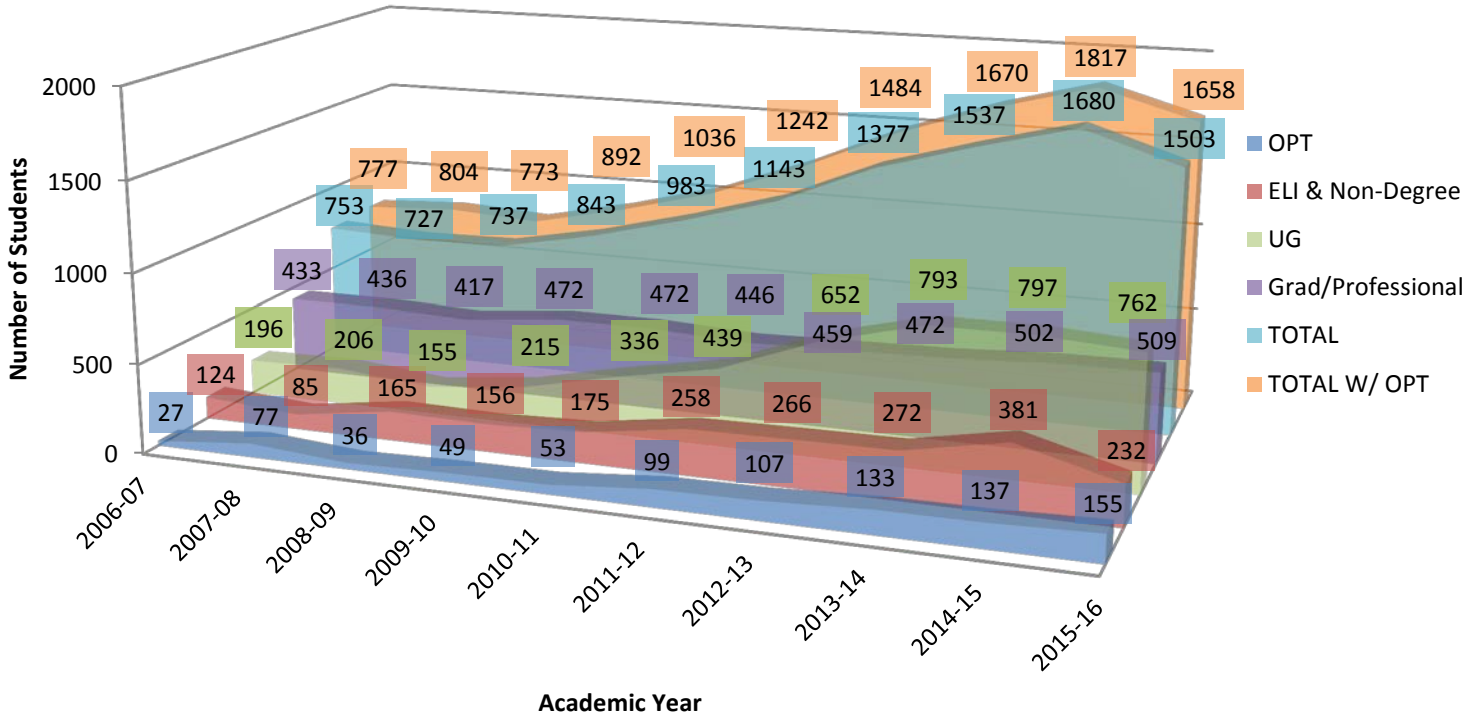
DEGREE & LEVEL	Total
Undergraduate Students	762
<i>Freshman</i>	182
<i>Sophomore</i>	157
<i>Junior</i>	224
<i>Senior</i>	199
Graduate Students	509
<i>Master's</i>	152
<i>Doctoral</i>	351
<i>Professional</i>	6
English Language Institute	129
<i>ELI Only</i>	84
<i>Conditional Admits</i>	45
Non-Degree & Education Abroad Exchanges	103
SUBTOTAL OF ACTIVE, ENROLLED STUDENTS	1503
OPT – Graduates on Optional Practical Training	155
TOTAL	1658

B. UA International Student Numbers 2005 - 2015

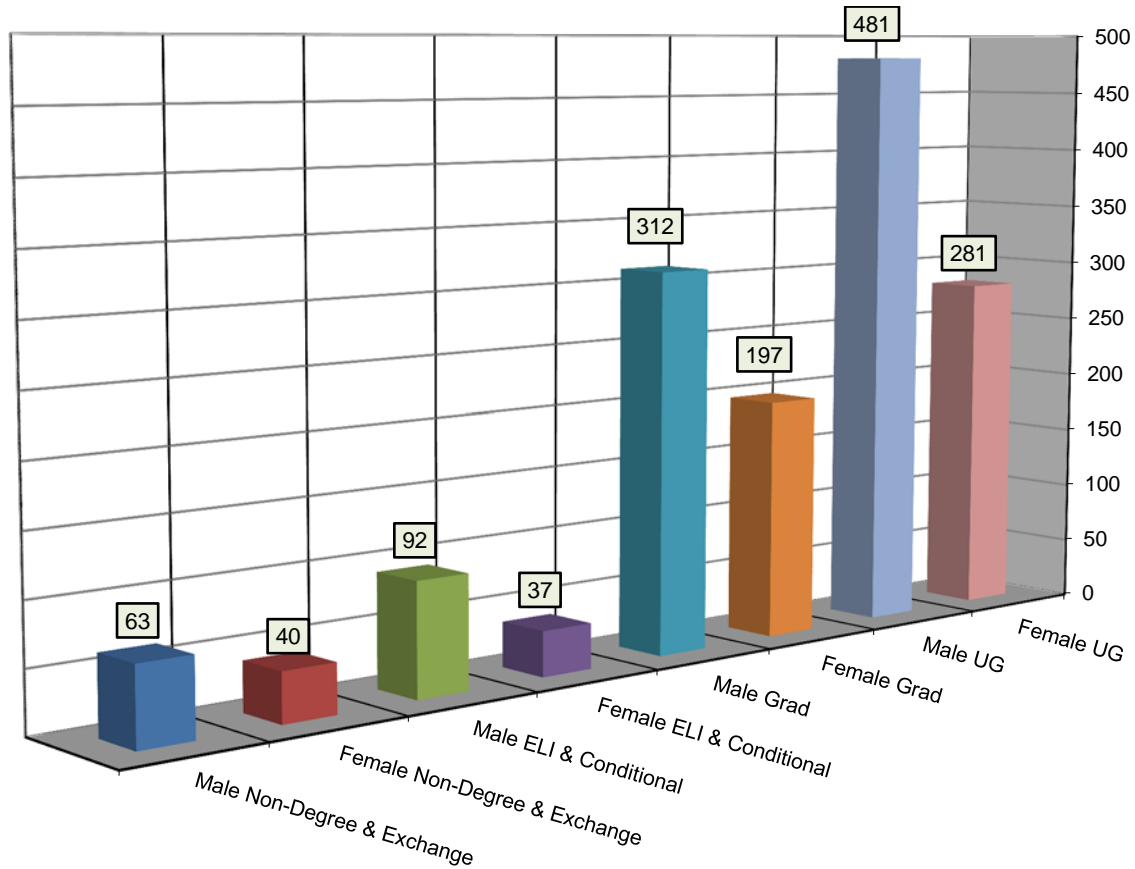
YEAR	UG	GRAD	ELI & NON-DEGREE	SUBTOTAL: ACTIVE STUDENTS	OPT	TOTAL W/ OPT	% TOTAL CHANGE
2005-06	282	492	98	872	n/a	872	+ 1.3%
2006-07	196	433	124	753	24	777	- 10.9%
2007-08	206	436	85	727	77	804	+ 3.5%
2008-09	155	417	165	737	36	773	- 3.9%
2009-10	215	472	156	843	49	892	+ 15.4%
2010-11	336	472	175	983	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%
2015-16	762	509	232	1503	155	1658	- 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. Ten-Year Comparison of UA International Student Numbers



V. International Student Numbers by Gender



Male Total: 948
Female Total: 555

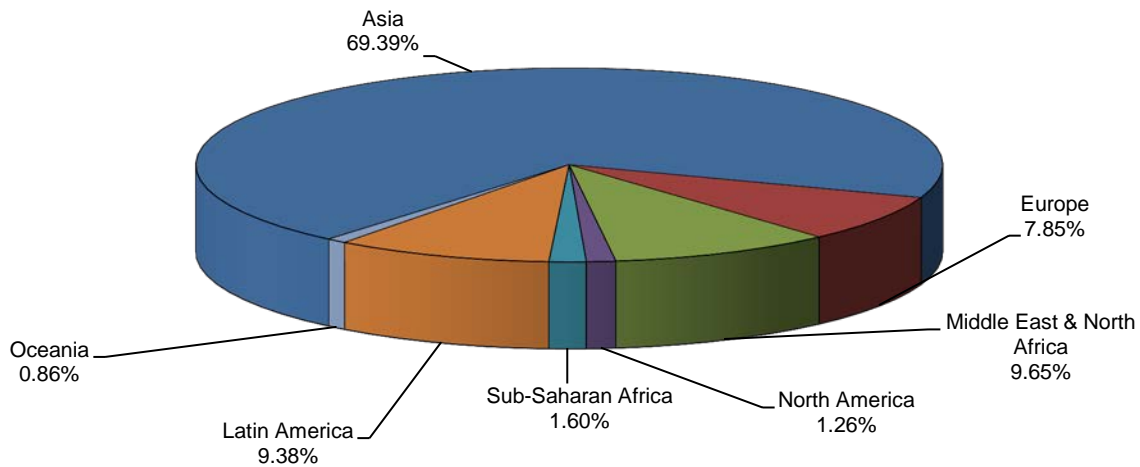
VI. Region & Places of Origin – For All Students Except Graduates on OPT

The 1503 enrolled international students at The University of Alabama for 2015/16 originated from **77 countries**. Table A. subdivides the world into seven major regions. The total number of students from each region has been recorded. Chart B. graphically depicts student percentages from the major regions.

A. International Students by Region

REGION	Total
Asia	1043
Middle East & North Africa	145
Latin America	141
Europe	118
Sub-Saharan Africa	24
North America (Canada)	19
Oceania	13
TOTAL	1503

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	UNDERGRAD	GRAD	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & EDUCATION ABROAD	TOTAL
1. China, PR	577	208	32	3	820
2. Saudi Arabia	32	5	55		92
3. Brazil	6	3	1	68	78
4. Korea, South	26	32	5	2	65
5. India	1	54		2	57
6. Germany	10	11		5	26
7. Colombia*		11	12		23
7. Iran*		23			23
9. Turkey		21	1		22
10. Japan	3	2	5	10	20

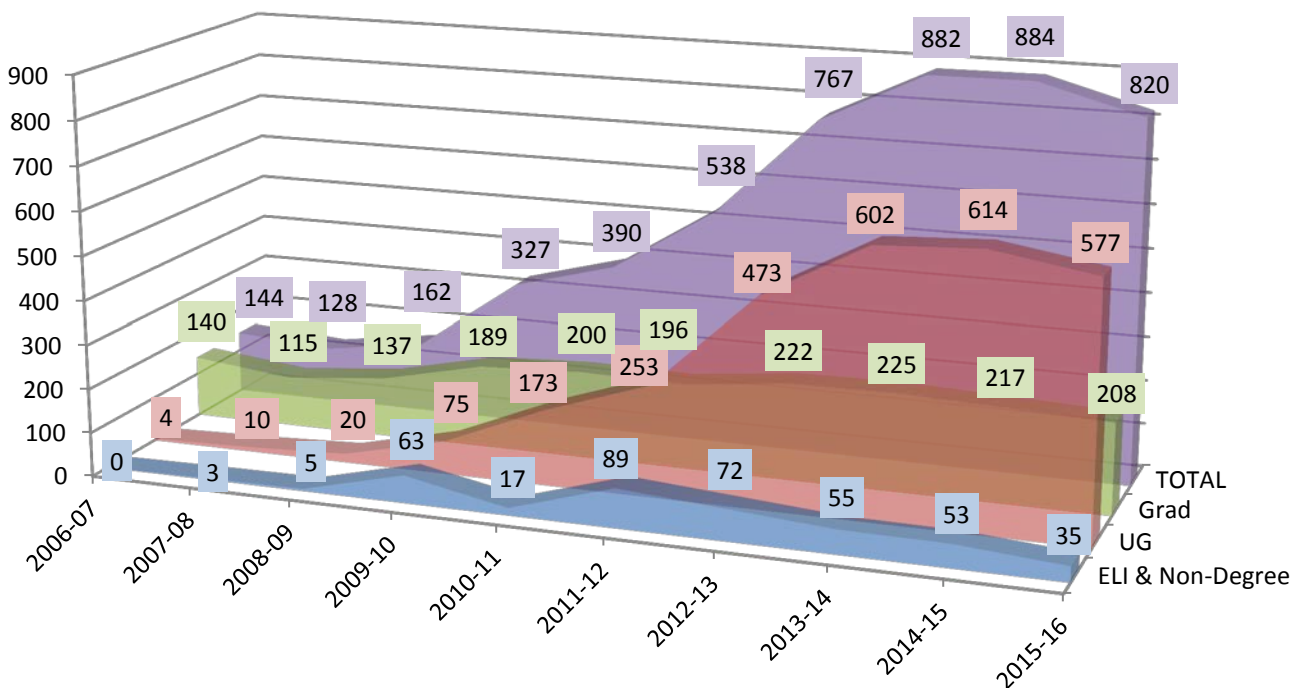
*Tied

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

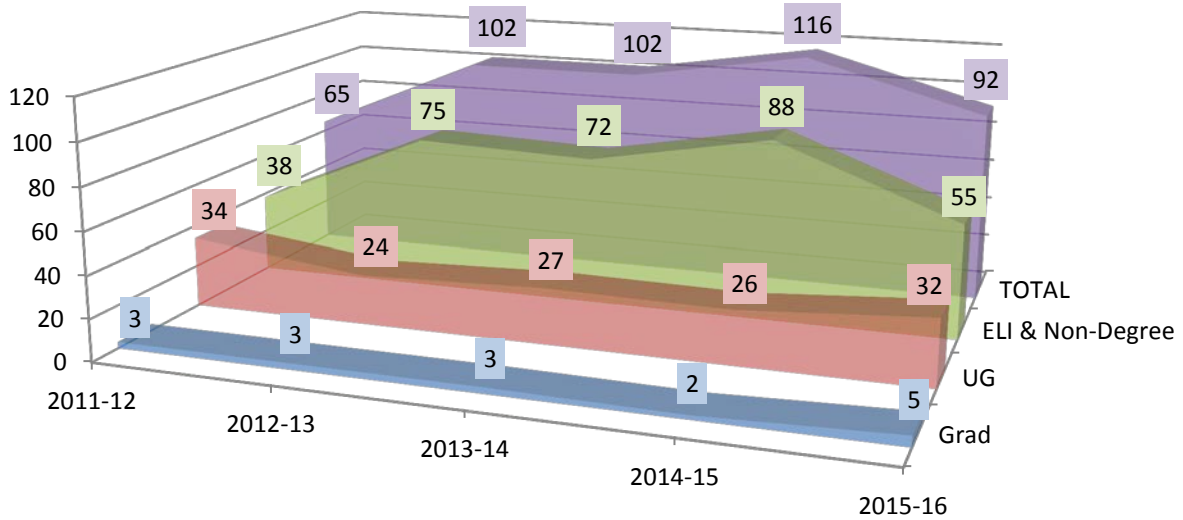
COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UNDERGRAD	GRAD & PROFESSIONAL	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & EDUCATION ABROAD	TOTAL
Australia	7	3		3	13
Austria				2	2
Azerbaijan	1				1
Bahamas	2	1			3
Bangladesh		18			18
Belgium	2	2		1	5
Bolivia	2				2
Brazil	6	3	1	68	78
Cameroon		1			1
Canada	8	11			19
Chile	1	2	1		4
China, P.R.	577	208	32	3	820
Colombia		11	12		23
Costa Rica		1			1
Cyprus	5				5
Denmark				1	1
Dominica		1			1
Ecuador	1				1
Egypt	1	2			3
France	1			1	2
Germany	10	11		5	26
Ghana		6			6
Greece	2				2
Grenada		1			1
Haiti	1				1
Honduras	1	2			3
Hong Kong	1				1
Iceland	1				1
India	1	54		2	57
Indonesia		1			1
Iran		23			23
Iraq		1			1
Ireland	2				2
Israel		1			1
Italy	1	1		1	3
Jamaica	1	4			5
Japan	3	2	5	10	20
Jordan		1			1
Kazakhstan	1				1
Kenya	1				1
Korea, South	26	32	5	2	65
Kuwait	11	2	1		14
Lithuania		1			1
Malaysia	1	1			2
Mauritania			1		1
Mexico	7				7
Nepal		18			18
Netherlands	2	1			3
Nigeria	2	5			7
Norway	2				2
Pakistan	1	3			4
Paraguay		1			1
Peru	1	1			2
Philippines	1				1
Poland	1	1			2
Romania	1	1			2

COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UNDERGRAD	GRAD	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & EDUCATION ABROAD	TOTAL
Russia	2	3			5
Rwanda		2			2
Saint Lucia		1			1
Saudi Arabia	32	5	55		92
Singapore		1			1
South Africa	4	1		1	6
Spain	2	4			6
Sri Lanka		3			3
Sweden	3				3
Switzerland	2	1	1		4
Taiwan	4	3	1		8
Thailand		1	7		8
Trinidad & Tobago	1				1
Turkey		21	1		22
Ukraine	1				1
United Kingdom (UK)	4	10		3	17
Uzbekistan		1			1
Venezuela	4	2			6
Vietnam	3	10	1		14
West Bank		1			1
Yemen	4		5		9
TOTAL	762	509	129	103	1503

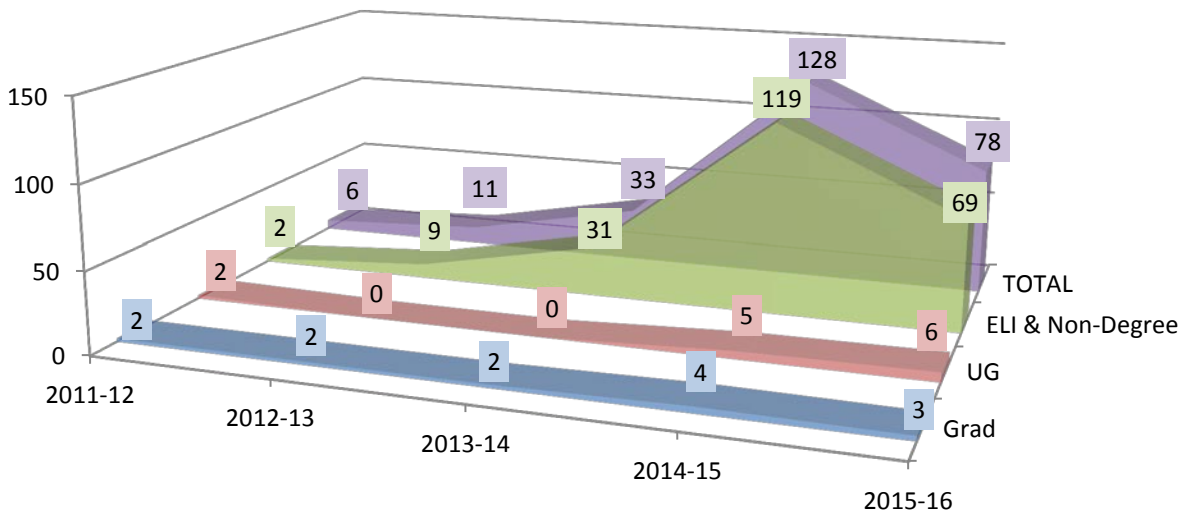
E. Chinese Student Enrollment 10-Year Comparison: 2006–15



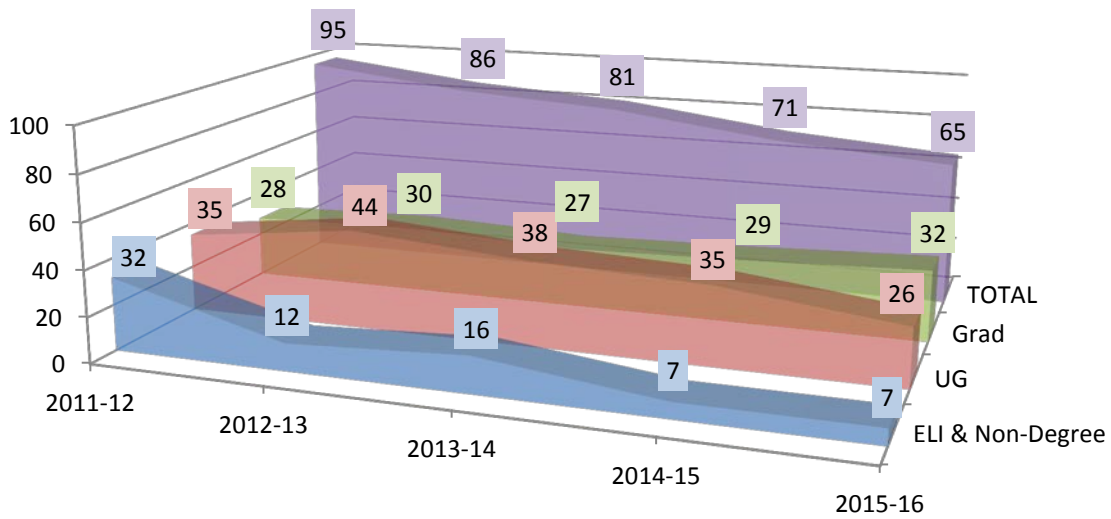
F. Saudi Arabian Enrollment 5-Year Comparison: 2011–15



G. Brazilian Enrollment 5-Year Comparison: 2011–15



H. South Korean Enrollment 5-Year Comparison: 2011–15



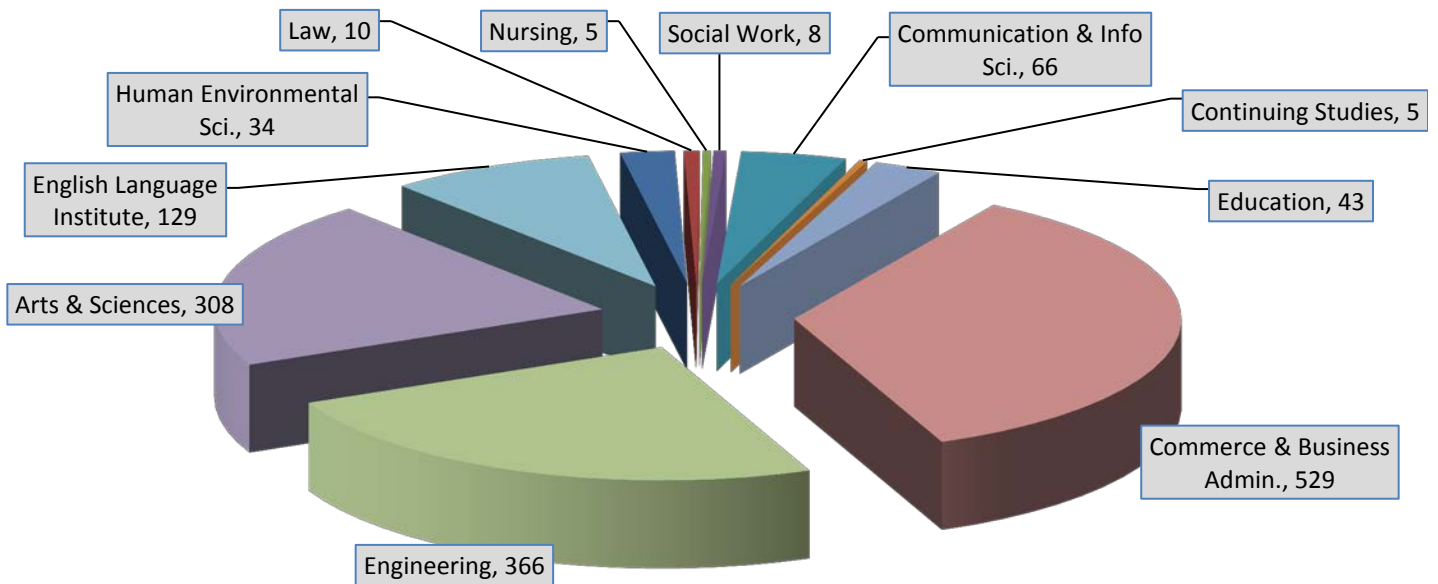
VII. International Student Numbers by Major

(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	Undergrad	Grad	ELI & Conditional	Non-Degree & Education Abroad	Total
Accounting	146	6	3		155
Advertising	11		1		12
Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics	7	17	1		25
American Studies		2			2
Anthropology		2			2
Apparel and Textiles	4	2			6
Applied Mathematics		1			1
Applied Statistics		10			10
Art	2				2
Art History		1			1
Arts & Sciences, General/Undeclared	18		3	23	44
Biology	14	23			37
Business, General	43		3	1	47
Chemical Engineering	24	11	1		36
Chemistry	1	29			30
Civil Engineering	12	21	6		39
Clothing, Textiles & Interior Design		1			1
Communication & Information Sciences		18			18
Communication Studies	4	3			7
Computer Science	16	21	3		40
Construction Engineering	9				9
Continuing Education				5	5
Creative Writing		2			2
Criminal Justice	1	1			2
Economics	26	16	2		44
Education, General				1	1
Education, Secondary		8			8
Education Leadership/ Education Admin		6			6
Education Psychology		5			5
Education Research		3			3
Electrical Engineering	22	39	4		65
ELI – English Language Institute			84		84
Engineering, General	3		1	70	74
English Literature	5	1			6
Environmental Science	2	2			4
Finance	143	14	6		163
Food and Nutrition	9				9
General Health Studies	2	1			3
Geography	1	6			7
Geology	1	20			21
German		7			7
History	3	2			5
Human Environmental Science, General	8	1		2	11
Human Performance (Kinesiology)	5	5	1		11
Instructional Leadership		4			4
Interdisciplinary	1				1
International Studies	1				1
Interior Design	2				2
Journalism	6	1			7
Law (JD and LLM)		10			10
Library & Information Studies		2			2

Department	Undergrad	Grad	ELI & Conditional	Non-Degree & Education Abroad	Total
Management	41	2	3		46
Management Information Systems	8				8
Marketing	31	12	2		45
Materials Science		13			13
Mathematics	20	20			40
MBA		14			14
Mechanical Engineering	43	26	4		73
Metallurgical & Materials Engineering	3	8			11
Music		7			7
Music Education	3				3
Non-Degree		5			5
Nursing	3	2			5
Operations Management	17	12			29
Performance	1				1
Physics	2	30			32
Political Science	4	3	1		8
Psychology	15	7			22
Public Relations	10				10
Restaurant & Hospitality Management	3				3
Romance Languages (French & Spanish)		12			12
Social Work		7		1	8
Taxation and Accounting		1			1
Telecommunication & Film	6	3			9
Theater		1			1
TOTAL	762	509	129	103	1503

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, 2014 and June 30, 2015) totaled **326** non-immigrants, representing **41 countries and territories**. This is a **44.2% increase** from the 226 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 326 international scholars and faculty present in 2014/15 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, 2014 and June 30, 2015.

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."

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.

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.

Other Visa Categories:

F-1 OPT, F-1 CPT, J-1 Academic Training, J-2 with EAD, B-1/B-2 or WB/WT

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 Visitor Visa or WB/WT Visa Waiver Visitor. B-1/B-2 Visas and WB/WT status are visitor visa statuses for business trips and tourism. While those with a visitor visa status cannot be employees, it is possible for someone on a visitor 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:

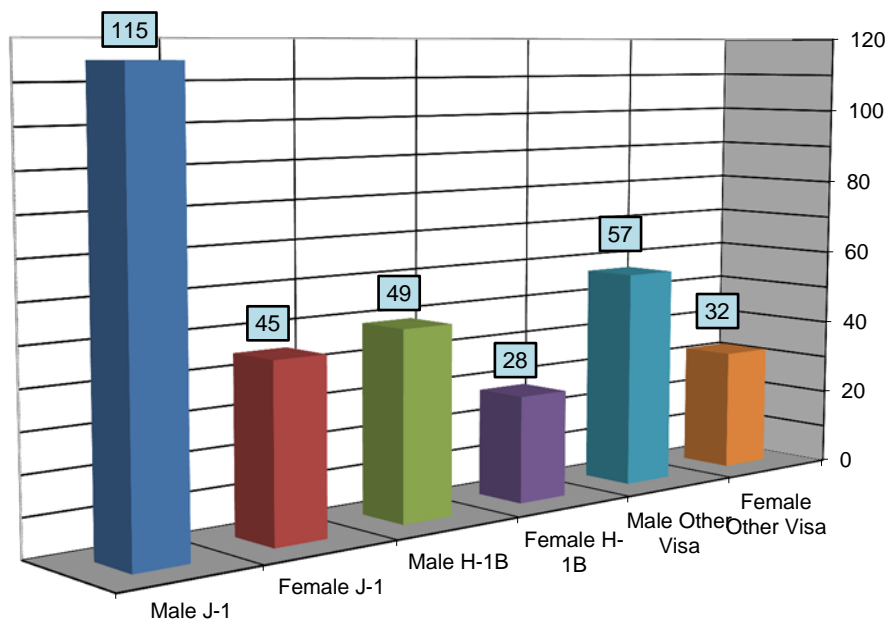
The visa-status of all international faculty and staff on a temporary visa is shown in the following Table.

VISA-STATUS	Total
J-1 Scholars	151
J-1 Physicians (sponsored by ECFMG)	9
H-1B Workers	77
O-1	1
F-1 OPT	17
J-1 Academic Training (counted as "OTHER")	69
J-2 with Employment Authorization	1
B-1/B-2 – WB/WT	1
TOTAL	326

* Information covers July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

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%
2014-15	160	77	89	326	+ 44.2%

XII. International Faculty and Scholar Numbers by Gender



Total International Male: 221
Total International Female: 105

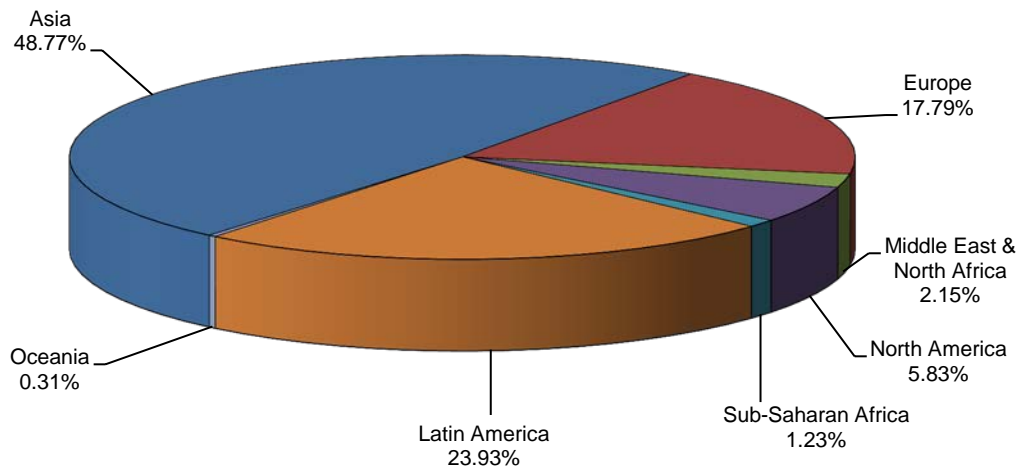
XIII. Region & Places of Origin

International Scholars and Faculty at The University of Alabama for 2014/15 originated from **41 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	159
Latin America	78
Europe	58
North America (Canada)	19
Middle East & North Africa	7
Sub-Saharan Africa	4
Oceania	1
TOTAL	326

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	94
2. Brazil	75
3. Germany	29
4. India	25
5/6. Canada, South Korea*	19
7. Japan	6
8. Spain	5
9/10. Turkey, United Kingdom*	4

*Tie

D. International Scholar and Faculty Places of Origin

Country	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Argentina	1			1
Australia		1		1
Bahamas			1	1
Belgium	2			2
Brazil	4	2	69	75
Canada	9	9	1	19
China, P.R.	61	23	10	94
Comoros	1			1
Egypt	1	1		2
France	3			3
Germany	24	5		29
Ghana	1			1
Greece		1		1
Hong Kong		1	2	3
India	7	15	3	25
Iran	1			1
Israel		1		1
Italy		1		1
Japan	4		2	6
Jordan	1			1
Kazakhstan	2			2
Kenya		1		1
Korea, South	15	4		19
Libya	1	1		2
Malaysia	1			1
Mexico	1			1
Netherlands		1		1
Nigeria	1			1
Norway	1			1
Philippines	1			1
Poland	1	1		2
Portugal	1			1
Romania		2		2
Russia	2			2
Spain	3	1	1	5
Sri Lanka		2		2
Taiwan	1	1		2
Thailand	1			1
Turkey	3	1		4
United Kingdom	4			4
Vietnam	1	2		3
TOTAL	160	77	89	326

XIV. International Scholars and Faculty by Department

Department	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Accounting		1		1
Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics	12	1	7	20
Alabama Innovation & Mentoring of Entrepreneurs (AIME)			2	2
Anthropology	1			1
Art		1		1
Athletics		1		1
Biology	6	2	3	11
CBA – Commerce & Business Administration		1		1
CCHS – School of Medicine	9	3		12
Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS)		5	1	6
Center for Advanced Vehicle Technology		1		1
Center for Green Manufacturing/Chemistry	5	1		6
Center for Instructional Technology		1		1
Chemical & Biological Engineering	4	2	5	11
Chemistry	17	2	3	22
CIS - Communication and Information Science	4			4
Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering	3	5	16	24
Clothing, Textiles, and Interior Design		1		1
Computer Science	4	2	5	11
Consumer Science/ CHES		2		2
Curriculum and Instruction		1		1
Economics, Finance & Legal Studies	12	2		14
Education Leadership, Policy, & Technology Studies	3			3
Ed Studies in Psych, Research Methods & Counseling		2		2
Electrical & Computer Engineering	10	3	19	32
Engineering – General	1	1		2
English Language Institute	1			1
English Literature	6		1	7
Geography		1		1
Geology	5	1		6
History		1	1	2
Human Nutrition & Hospitality Management		1		1
Institutional Research Assessment (OIRA)		3		3
Institute of Social Science Research		1		1
Kinesiology	1	1		2
Law, School	1			1
Management and Marketing		1		1
Management Information Systems		3		3
Mathematics	4	5		9
Mechanical Engineering	7	1	9	17
Metallurgical & Materials Engineering	10	1	12	23
MINT Center (Materials for Information Technology)	20	2		22
Modern Languages and Classics	1	4	1	6
Philosophy	1			1
Physics & Astronomy	6	5	2	13
Psychology		3		3
Research Park			1	1
School of Library & Information Studies	1			1
Social Work	4	1		5
Telecommunication and Film		1		1
University Libraries	1			1
WVUA Television			1	1
TOTAL	160	77	89	326