

University of Idaho 2018-2019 International Research Report



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Summary

The research activities summarized below have occurred and continue to energize the University of Idaho (UI) and raise our international profile without a concerted effort by the University to promote and encourage such work. One of the goals of Vice President for Research and Economic Development Janet E. Nelson (2016-2020) during her time at UI has been to intentionally celebrate the “global reach” of UI’s research enterprise, and this was the impetus for conducting the survey described here. For this reason, the Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED) organized a Short and Sweet (SAS) research presentation event in December 2018 focused on ten examples of faculty research taking place in different parts of the world. ORED also supported the eventual roll-out of “regional research interest groups,” convenings of small groups of faculty researchers, organized on the basis of shared interest in particular countries (Canada, China, etc.) or regions (Latin America, Eastern Europe, etc.). A preliminary regional research interest group with a focus on research activities in (or relevant to) China gathered in April 2019, but the other regional groups have not yet met. At present, the University of Idaho Confucius Institute and the International Programs Office have assumed responsibility for organizing an East Asian Research Brown Bag lecture series, which may have replaced the China research interest group. Beginning in the fall of 2018, ORED also launched a more concerted effort to advertise and encourage faculty applications for Fulbright awards—this is an ongoing process.

The following information comes from the International Research Survey conducted by the Office of Research and Economic Development (ORED) between August 2018 and April 2019 via an electronic data submission portal. Information included here is for the years 2018 and 2019, although many of the international relationships described here are ongoing and represent continuing interests of faculty members in particular regions of the world. This report focuses on faculty *research activities*, not on other forms of academic work (teaching, consulting, service to international organizations, etc.). Information was collected from faculty members throughout the University of Idaho system, not only from the Moscow campus.

This is not a comprehensive report, but it offers a snapshot of the “global reach” of the university’s research efforts. At this time, 75 individual faculty members have responded to our survey out of a total of 725 faculty members at the university; we suspect that additional faculty researchers are conducting “international research” but have not yet provided information to us about this work. The current data suggest that 10.3% of current faculty members are engaged in international research, as defined by the categories of activity represented in the survey: 1) research actually conducted in countries outside of the United States; 2) research presentations in other countries; 3) books or articles published internationally; 4) research conducted in collaboration with international colleagues. The names of individual faculty members have been removed from the public version of the report.

The information below is divided into the following broad “regional” categories (presented alphabetically below): Africa, Canada, China, East Asia (excluding China), Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, the Pacific, and South Asia.

Recommendations

1. The survey results summarized here cover only 2018 and 2019. The electronic portal for gathering information about UI’s global reach through research remains open at protect.ibest.uidaho.edu. It should be possible to continue urging researchers to upload information about their research and to produce updated reports, using the information in the current report as a baseline.
2. Faculty members who participated in the preliminary China research interest group seemed very interested in continuing to meet. This suggests that researchers working in other regions of the world would also benefit from the chance to meet with each other and perhaps build collaborations or other support systems. ORED, or other units on campus, could facilitate such gatherings of researchers.
3. Continue encouraging ORED’s Office of Research and Faculty Development, the International Programs Office, and other Fulbright representatives at UI to publicize the Fulbright Program and mentor student and faculty applicants from the university.
4. Periodically organize events, such as the December 2018 SAS talks, to publicly recognize the important international research happening at UI.

Africa

(9 faculty respondents, broken down by country)

Botswana: 1 research

Ethiopia: 2 research

Gambia: 1 research

Ghana: 3 research

Kenya: 3 research

Morocco: 1 presentation

Mozambique: 1 research

South Africa: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation, 1 publication, 1 research

Canada

(13 faculty respondents)

1 collaboration

5 presentation

1 publication

6 research

China

(16 faculty respondents)

2 collaboration

6 presentation

2 publication

10 research

East Asia - not including China

(8 faculty respondents, broken down by country)

Japan: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation, 1 publication

Philippines: 1 presentation

South Korea: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation, 3 research

Taiwan: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation

Vietnam: Fulbright (teaching, research)

Europe

(54 faculty respondents, broken down by country)

Austria: 3 research

Denmark: 2 research

Finland: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation, 1 research

France: 4 presentation, 4 publication, 7 research

Germany: 1 collaboration, 7 presentation, 5 publication, 7 research

Greenland: 1 research
Iceland: 2 research
Italy: 6 research (1 Fulbright)
Netherlands: 1 presentation, 5 publication, 3 research
Norway: 2 research
Portugal: 2 presentation, 1 research
Russia: 1 research
Scotland: 1 research
Spain: 4 presentation, 8 research
Switzerland: 1 research, 1 publication
Turkey: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation, 1 research
UK/Wales: 4 presentation, 7 publication, 6 research

Latin America

(15 faculty respondents, broken down by country)

Belize: 1 research
Brazil: 2 presentation, 1 research
Chile: 2 research
Ecuador: 3 research
Mexico: 1 publication, 1 presentation, 1 research
Panama: 1 research
Peru: 2 research

The Middle East

(2 faculty respondents, broken down by country)

Egypt: 1 collaboration
Lebanon: 1 collaboration, 1 research
Morocco: 1 presentation

The Pacific

(9 faculty respondents, broken down by country)

Australia: 1 collaboration, 5 research
New Zealand: 1 presentation, 5 research

South Asia

(7 faculty respondents, broken down by country)

Bangladesh: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation
India: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation, 1 publication, 2 research
Nepal: 2 collaboration, 2 research
Pakistan: 1 collaboration, 1 presentation