The College of International Studies
at the University of Oklahoma

Preparing Students for the 21st Century
On the cover from left to right:
Fayth Jones (Forestville, MD), John Hildebrand (Edmond, OK), Weihao Zhang (Chengdu, China)
OU International Studies Enters Exciting New Era

A great public university in the heart of America that honors an international statesman from Oklahoma.

In May 2011, the University of Oklahoma (OU) Board of Regents declared that its newest college — International Studies — would be named after OU President David L. Boren — upon his future retirement.

David Boren is a pioneer in the field of International Studies who has called upon the next generation of Americans to prepare for the global 21st century. A Rhodes Scholar in Oxford, England, he travelled across Europe and the Middle East as a young man. As the governor of Oklahoma and later as a U.S. Senator, he became the longest serving Chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee and authored the National Security Education Program. The Boren scholarship program that bears his name allows young Americans to study abroad by emphasizing fluency in critical languages. The graduates of this program are already improving the U.S. diplomatic and intelligence corps.

One of President Boren’s most important goals for OU has been internationalization. The results have been dramatic:

- Significant growth in the number of OU students earning credit abroad to more than 800 a year.
- More than 1,700 international students from over 100 countries pursuing degrees at OU.
- International Studies is one of the fastest growing undergraduate degrees at the university.

The time is now to take the next step forward in the globalization of a great public university. In the pages that follow, the University outlines a $14 million private fundraising campaign to support students, faculty, programs and facilities of the new college.

We ask you to consider helping International Studies at the University of Oklahoma become one of the premier programs in the country.
Who We Are

Office of the Dean

Two academics with experience in the policy world as well as higher education, Dean Zach Messitte and Associate Dean Suzette Grillot, head up a team of a dozen staff members who coordinate outreach and programming, administration and budget and OU’s signature study abroad program in Arezzo, Italy.

Notable:

- Coordinated the 2010 OU Foreign Policy Conference: A New Kind of Leadership: America and the Rise of the Rest, featuring former National Security Advisers Brent Scowcroft and Zbigniew Brzezinski, Director of Central Intelligence Leon Panetta and New York Times correspondent David Sanger

- Led spring break study trips for OU students to Rome, Italy and Washington, DC

- Hosts of WorldViews, a regular international public affairs program on National Public Radio

Campus Home

The new College’s campus home is Hester Hall, which is being restored with University funding. Hester will be the hub for all things international at OU with classrooms, event spaces, faculty and administrative offices and the new location of Education Abroad and International Student Services. A wide range of special naming opportunities are available in the renovated facility to honor donors.

Dr. Zach Messitte

Dean and William J. Crowe Chair in Geopolitics

Dr. Messitte holds degrees from New York University, Johns Hopkins and Bowdoin College. Prior to joining OU, he was a faculty member and Director of the Center for the Study of Democracy at St. Mary’s College of Maryland. He also worked as a speechwriter for the United Nations in New York and Vienna, a producer at CNN’s Washington Bureau and as Spokesman of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence.

Born in São Paulo, Brazil, Dr. Messitte is fluent in Italian and grew up in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

He holds the William J. Crowe Chair in Geopolitics, created in the 1980s by donors seeking to honor the late Admiral Crowe.
Department of International and Area Studies (IAS):
The core academic unit of the new College, IAS offers students a multidisciplinary education with course work in politics, economics, history, culture and modern languages. A study abroad experience is required of all majors.

- 430 undergraduate majors; 25 graduate students
- 7 academic areas of focus: International Studies, International Security Studies, Asian Studies, European Studies, Latin American Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Russian and East European Studies
- 21 current faculty members, expanding to 25 by fall 2013
- Accelerated BA/MA and MA/JD programs that allow top students to receive two degrees in a shorter period of time

Education Abroad:
Charged with assisting and supporting students in studying abroad either for a year, a semester, or a summer experience.

- More than 800 OU students studying abroad in 2010-2011
- Specialized summer study abroad programs, led by OU faculty
- Active international exchange agreements that allow students to study in dozens of different countries
- OU in Arezzo, signature study abroad program

Office of International Student Services:
Charged with assisting and supporting international students who come to OU either to earn a degree or on a short-term exchange program.

- Over 1,700 International students and dependents at OU in 2010-2011 including degree-seeking and short-term exchange students at the graduate and undergraduate level

Dr. Suzette Grillot
Associate Dean
Max and Heidi Berry Chair

Dr. Grillot is dedicated to helping students achieve their personal ambitions through study abroad, whether it is through creating an independent study curriculum or leading spring break study trips.

In spring 2010 she took OU students to Italy to study illicit trafficking in Rome and Naples. In Fall 2011, Dr. Grillot will be the Faculty-in-Residence for the OU in Arezzo Program teaching two classes each semester to students from all disciplines studying in Arezzo, Italy.

She holds the Max and Heidi Berry Chair, created by College of International Studies Board member Max Berry and his late wife, Heidi.
The College of International Studies anticipates even more growth in the next five years.

**New Areas of Study:**

Four new faculty hires, beginning in the fall 2011, has allowed the College to develop in the following critical areas:

- **Iranian Studies.** Thanks to the generosity of the Farzaneh Family and the PARSA Foundation, the College will offer courses and programming related to Iran. The Farzaneh Family Chair in Iranian Studies is Afshin Marashi, who holds a Ph.D. in history from UCLA and is author of *Nationalizing Iran: Culture, Power and the State, 1870-1940* (University of Washington Press).

- **Brazilian Studies.** As Brazil continues to develop into a player on the world stage, the College has hired Dr. Erika Robb Larkins, who holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin. Her dissertation focused on the role of narcotraffickers in Brazil’s poorest neighborhoods.

- **South Asian Studies.** India and Pakistan’s economic and political importance make it a crucial area of study. The College welcomes Dr. Emily Rook-Koepsel, a recent Ph.D. in history from the University of Minnesota with an expertise in modern India and Dr. Mariam Mufﬁ, who received her doctorate in Political Science from Johns Hopkins University with a specialty in the politics of South Asia.
More Classes, More Students

New faculty members will double the number of International Studies classes offered at OU. The College’s goal is to increase the number of students to 600. This growth will continue the momentum for the internationalization of OU’s campus.

This growth also means the College will have a greater need for programs, scholarships and staff support that serve the larger student population. The fund-raising campaign is critical to providing the College with resources to address these needs.

Goals for the $14 million Campaign are outlined on the following pages.
Three proposed endowed positions will impact our students for years to come.

Chair in International Energy Policy Studies
$1 million

Building on OU’s and the State of Oklahoma’s competitive advantage, this endowment will allow the College of International Studies to hire a top scholar who specializes in international energy issues. OU has an international reputation in energy studies, but this position will add a needed policy dimension to round out the University’s strengths.

International Faculty-in-Residence
$1 million

Students tend to follow their favorite faculty members when they study abroad. This endowment will allow professors in the College of International Studies to spend a year abroad with their students in areas associated with their teaching and research. The rotating holder of the International Faculty-in-Residence position would host a group of about 20 OU students each semester at a different international site. These students would study with the OU professor and a local university.

Visiting International Scholar
$1 million

Bringing practical experience into the classroom is a critical part of the International Studies degree. This endowment will bring an international visiting professor to OU with professional experience in business, politics, journalism or culture. The scholar will contribute expertise in special classes, seminars, and public events. These faculty members will have terms typically of one to three years and will bring unique perspectives for students and faculty.
Scholarships for Top Students

$2.5 million goal

It is vital that the new College of International Studies increase the number of graduate students receiving scholarships in order to attract the best and brightest to Norman. Graduate students will assist in the College’s teaching and research mission while earning their M.A. degrees in International Studies.

The goal for the College of International Studies is to raise $2.5 million in graduate scholarship endowments.

Individual named endowments can be established with a private gift of $300,000, which would support one $15,000 graduate fellowship each year.

Lauren Ballinger
MAIS, 2011
College of International Studies

A native of Tulsa, OK, Lauren completed her M.A. in International Studies in 2011. She received her B.A. in International and Area Studies from OU in 2009 and did an internship with the U.S. Department of State in Morocco. She also studied abroad in Bordeaux, France.

Lauren recently passed the Foreign Service exam and is expected to take up her first posting with the U.S. Department of State in 2012.

2011 MAIS graduates Albert Schilthuis (Carrolton, Texas), Lauren Ballinger (Tulsa, OK), Shannon English (Cypress, TX), Holly Presnell (Wichita, KS) and Marjan Seirafi-Pour (Norman, OK)
President Boren set a goal of doubling the number of OU students earning credit abroad in the next five years. The obstacles to study abroad are often economic, with the cost of airfare a prohibitive expense for some of our students. The goal for the College of International Studies is to build a $2 million in study abroad scholarship endowment. This fund would generate approximately $100,000 in earnings each year and would support just under 70 awards of $1,500.

Donors wishing to endow and name individual travel abroad funds start at $30,000.

When coupled with existing international study scholarships, the University would be well positioned to help hundreds of students study abroad each year.
Our Home Under the Tuscan Sun

Santa Chiara Monastery Renovation
Goal: $4 million

OU purchased the Santa Chiara Monastery in the historic Tuscan city of Arezzo, Italy in the fall of 2010. Arezzo is already the University’s most popular study abroad location with one in five OU students who earn credit abroad going through the program.

Renovations are required to convert the monastery spaces into a living and learning community for OU students. Cost for this renovation is initially placed at approximately $6 million. The University seeks $4 million in private support for the renovation.

A wide variety of naming opportunities are available to honor donors to the facility, including:

1) the Library
2) the Student Lounge
3) the three Classrooms
4) the Interior Courtyard
5) the Exterior Garden
6) the Faculty Apartment
7) the Administrative Office Suite with a reception area and historic conference room

Endowment for the Arezzo Director
$1 million

The Arezzo-based director coordinates and assists OU’s programs in Italy. A $1 million endowment will provide funding to support the OU director in Arezzo.

Holly Berrigan
B.A., 2012 (expected)
College of International Studies

While working on her International and Area Studies degree and her Italian and art history minors in Arezzo during the fall 2010, Holly worked as an intern for the town of Arezzo. A native of Frisco, Texas, Holly helped finalize a sister city agreement between Arezzo and Norman.

Holly stayed in Italy for the spring 2011 semester so she could earn OU credit working as an intern for the U.S. Embassy in Rome.

During the summer of 2011, she worked as an intern at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C.
Making the Connections
Internships, Jobs and Networking

Connecting our students to internships and career paths is at the center of our program.

**Internships**
Goal: $800,000

Internships are a key to post-graduation employment, but most are unpaid. The establishment of endowments to support students will help them get a leg up in building their international careers.

Our goal is to establish four named internship endowments at $200,000 each.

**Networking Experiences**
Goal: $700,000

We have had great success with weeklong study/career trips created for OU students nearing graduation. Faculty-led spring break and summer trips for juniors and seniors to Washington, D.C., Rome and Brussels have led to jobs and internships. The trips are packed with meetings with OU alumni and professional contacts in government, NGOs, business, journalism and international organizations.

Named Networking Experience endowments can be established at $50,000 to $100,000, to offset expenses for trips within the United States and abroad. Donors whose funds underwrite these trips would be recognized in a number of special ways during the networking experience.

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**Weihao Zhang**
International Student, 2009
MAIS Candidate, 2012
College of International Studies

A 2009 OU graduate from Chengdu, Sichuan, China, Weihao participated in the first Washington, D.C. networking trip that helps students chart an international career path.

Following his senior trip to Washington, Weihao returned home to Chengdu to work with an NGO on earthquake recovery. He returned to OU to pursue a Master’s degree in International Studies. He also works for the College’s Institute for US-China Issues, which supports research and outreach activities in Oklahoma.
Summary

The $14 million campaign launches the College of International Studies at the University of Oklahoma on its path to becoming one of the premier programs in the country.

To recap, the goals of the campaign are as follows:

- New Faculty: $3,000,000
- Graduate Fellowships: $2,500,000
- Education Abroad Scholarships: $2,000,000
- OU in Arezzo: $5,000,000
- Internships: $800,000
- Networking Experiences: $700,000

The College of International Studies is grateful for the leadership of its Board of Visitors and the generosity of its donors.
“The next generation must function internationally as never before and more emphasis needs to be placed in international and interdisciplinary programs.”

David Boren
President, University of Oklahoma
Board of Visitors
College of International Studies

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