



World Learning  
EDUCATION | DEVELOPMENT | EXCHANGE

**IDEAS**  
INCREASE & DIVERSIFY  
EDUCATION ABROAD  
FOR U.S. STUDENTS

# Preparing a Globally Competent STEM Workforce through Study Abroad

*September 14, 2023*

**#LaunchIDEASabroad**

The IDEAS (Increase and Diversify Education Abroad for U.S. Students) Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by World Learning.

# USA Study Abroad



**Heidi Manley, Branch Chief**  
*USA Study Abroad, Office of Global  
Educational Programs*  
Bureau of Educational and Cultural  
Affairs, U.S. Department of State



Bureau of Educational and Cultural  
Affairs, U.S. Department of State



## Mission:

The **Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)**'s mission is to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchange that assist in the development of peaceful relations. ECA is committed to fairness, equity and inclusion, and its programs strive to reflect the diversity of the United States and global society.



55,000 participants engage in exchange programs funded by ECA annually



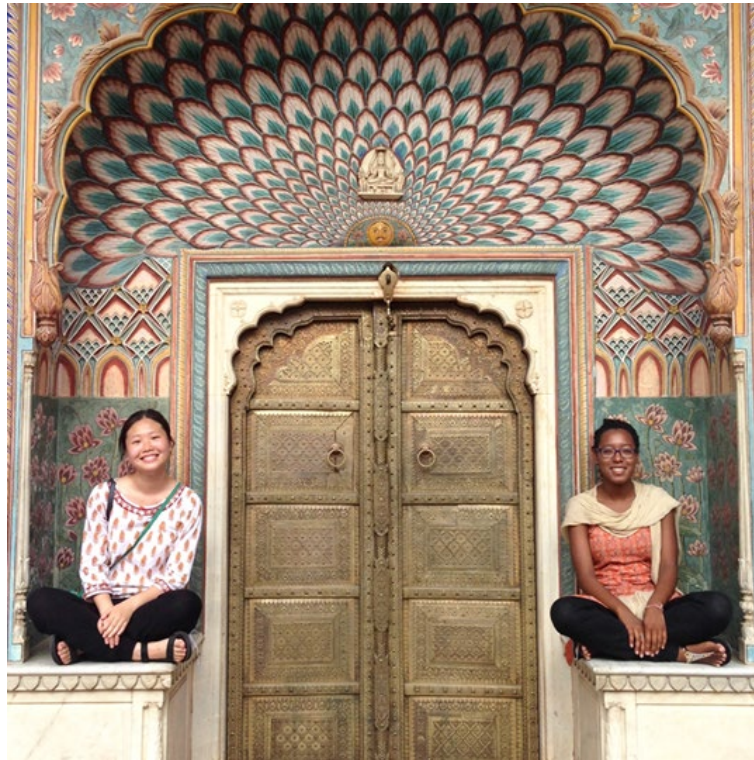
15,000 American participants travel abroad on exchanges each year



101 U.S. public and private non-profit institutions funded

[www.exchanges.state.gov](http://www.exchanges.state.gov)  
[#ExchangeOurWorld](https://twitter.com/ExchangeOurWorld)  
[www.eca.state.gov](http://www.eca.state.gov)

# CHIPS and Science Act



- Bipartisan [CHIPS and Science Act](#) of 2022
- [Gilman Scholar STEM Supplemental Award](#)
  - For Gilman Scholars conducting STEM-related research abroad
  - Up to \$1,000 each
  - Gilman Program and Gilman-McCain applications deadline October 5, 2023
  - Email [Gilmanadvisors@iie.org](mailto:Gilmanadvisors@iie.org) with any questions



# IDEAS Program

A program of the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, USA Study Abroad branch

**Seeking to expand higher education institutions' capacity to grow and diversify study abroad programs for U.S. students**

- Increase number of all students studying abroad, particularly those from historically underrepresented groups
- Increase the number of U.S. higher education institutions offering study abroad programs
- Expand study abroad to new overseas destinations, particularly those that are less common

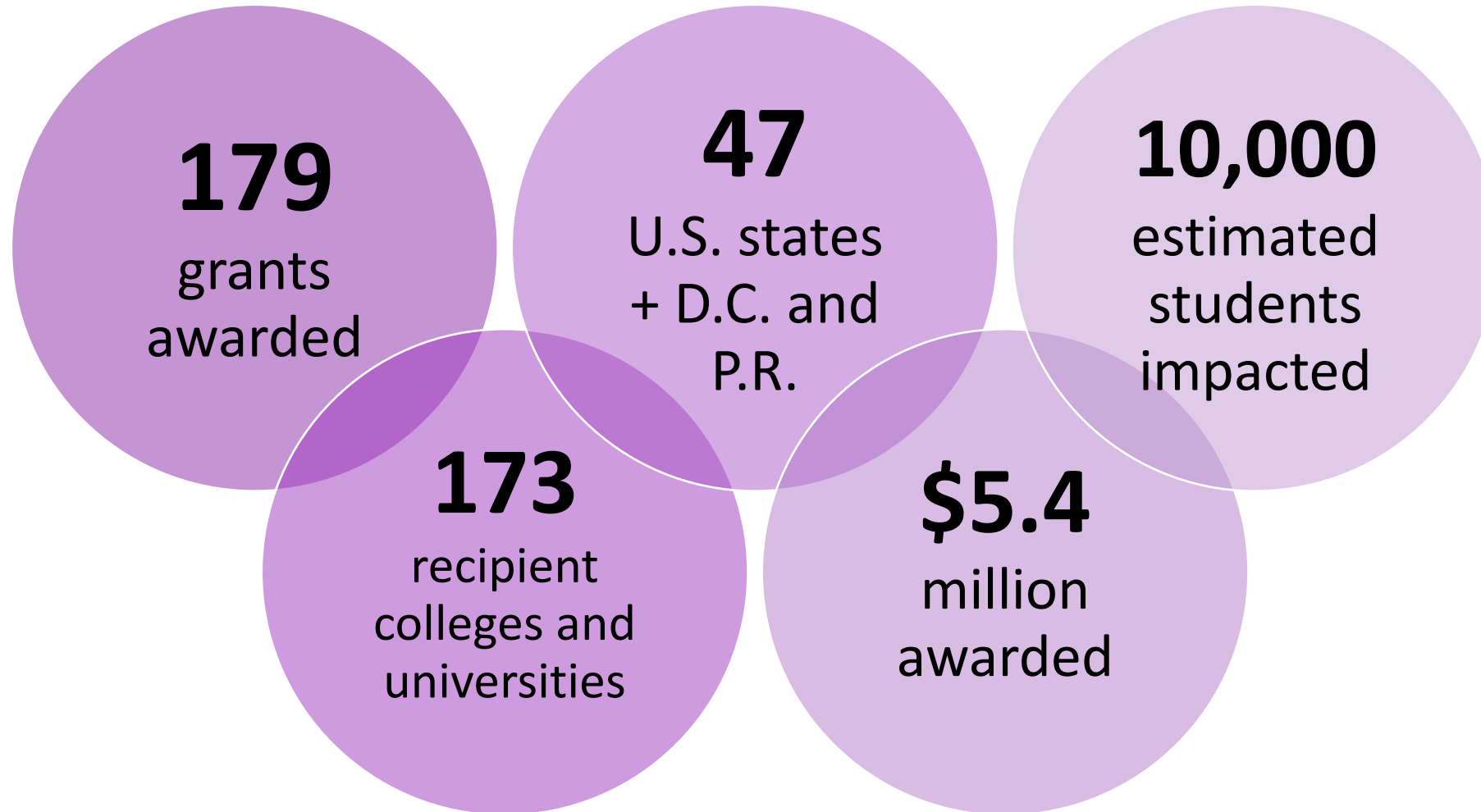
## **Grant Competition**

- Approximately 30 grants of up to \$35,000
- Approximately one consortium grant of up to \$50,000

## **Capacity Building Initiatives**

- Virtual and in-person, open to everyone





# IDEAS Grant Competition

# STEM and Study Abroad

OPEN DOORS U.S. STUDY ABROAD DATA

## SELECTED FIELDS OF STUDY FOR U.S. STUDY ABROAD, 2020/21



Business and  
management  
**17%**



Social  
sciences  
**17%**



Physical and  
life sciences  
**10%**



Engineering  
**9%**

**Source:** The *Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange* is a comprehensive information resource on international students and scholars at higher education institutions in the United States and U.S. students studying abroad. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and is published by IIE. For more information, visit [www.opendoorsdata.org](http://www.opendoorsdata.org).

opendoors®

<https://opendoorsdata.org/data/us-study-abroad/fields-of-study/>

## STEM Majors Abroad

(% of all U.S. Students  
Abroad)

2000/01: 16.6%  
2019/20: 24.5%

50%

# Speakers



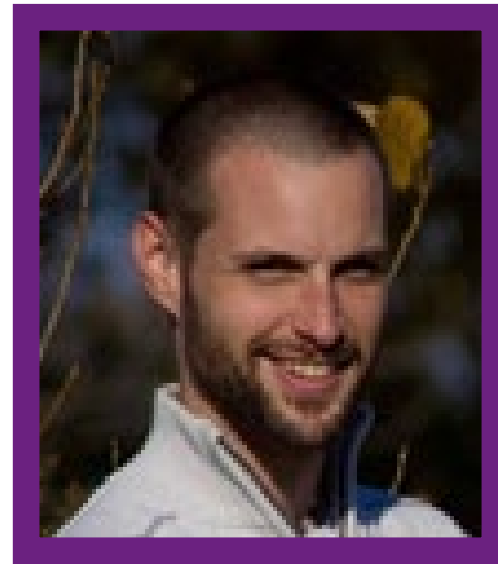
**Lauren Griggs**

*Director, Multicultural Engineering Program;  
Director, Clark Scholars Program;  
Assistant Teaching Professor  
Pennsylvania State University*



**Gloria Kim**

*Assistant Professor,  
Department of Engineering Education  
University of Florida*



**Zach Petrea**

*Professor of English;  
Study Abroad Coordinator  
Heartland Community College*



**Kanton Reynolds**

*Director of Undergraduate Programs, Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering  
North Carolina State University*



# A. James Clark Scholars Program



- 470+ Scholars
- 11 University Partners
- 46% Underrepresented
- 50% Women
- 51% Federal Pell Grant Eligible



*\*Penn State Clark Scholars Program*



# Cohort-Based Global Experience: Peru

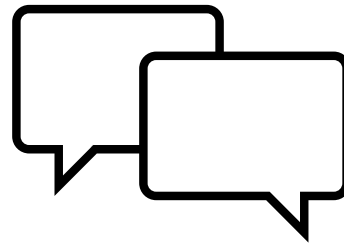


# “Waterfall” Chat

Finish this phrase:

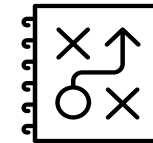
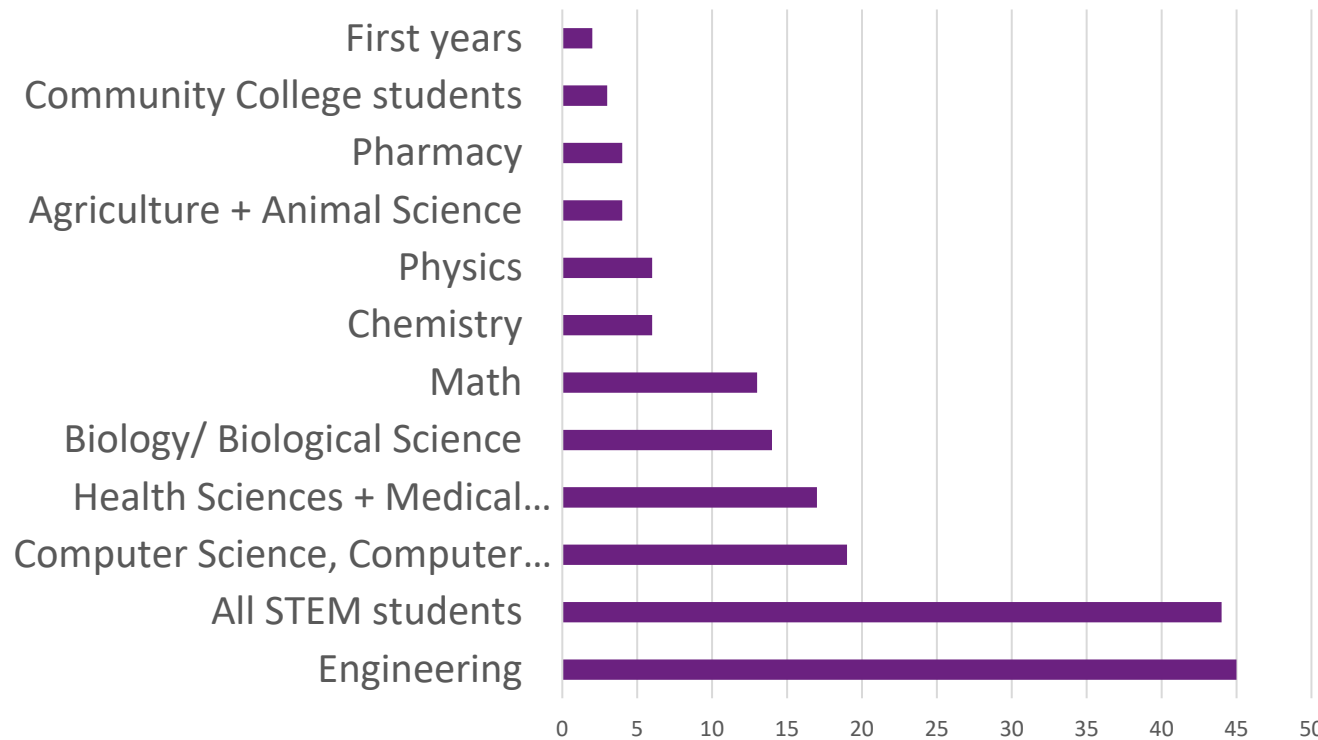
***“If only I had \_\_\_\_\_,” more STEM students at my institution would study abroad.”***

Type your answer into the chat box, but don't press enter yet.



# Registration Recap

What demographic of STEM students are you hoping to reach with your program(s)?



Creative program models



Faculty/administrative buy-in



Curricular integration



Funding





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# University of Florida

- Gainesville, FL
- ~35,000 undergraduates
- 70% Financial Aid
- 33% students of color

**UF** UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

\*This session is being recorded. The recording will be available in the [IDEAS Library of Resources](#).



# B.C. (Before COVID)

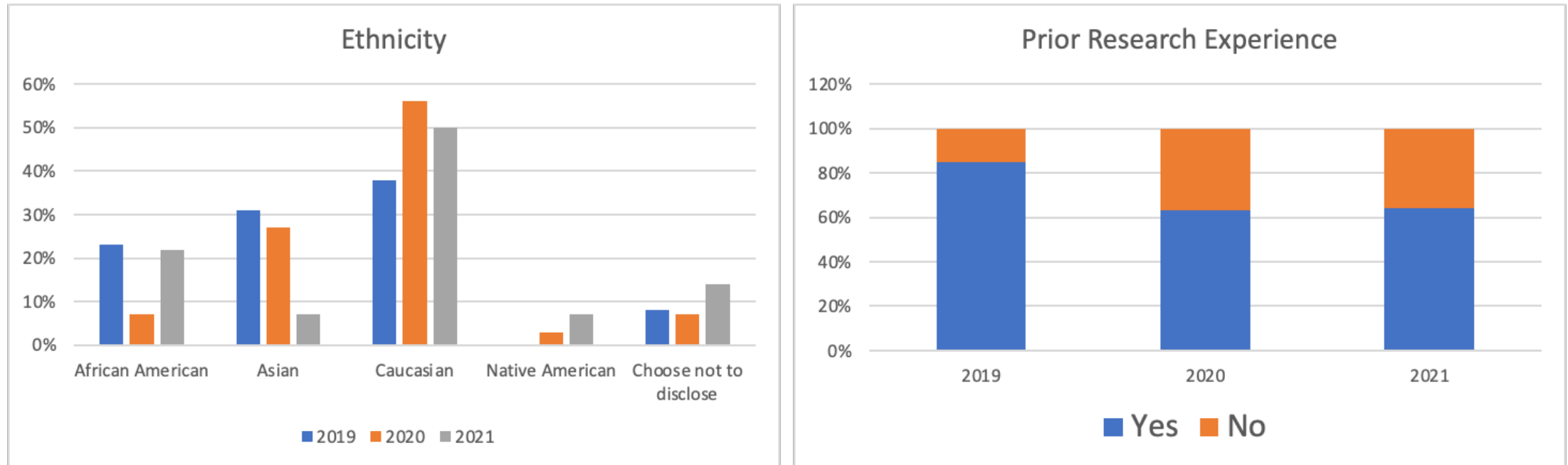


- National Science Foundation (NSF) International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) grantee
- Consultant for the shared curriculum development for future semiconductors

# Why IDEAS?

## Diversifying STEM Study Abroad @ UF

### NSF IRES IRiKA\* Program Applicants

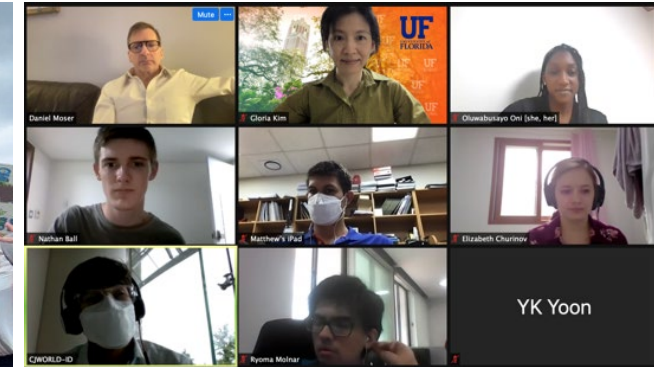


\* Interdisciplinary Research in Korea on Applied smart systems (IRiKA) for Undergraduate Students



# IDEAS Grant Impact

- **Summer 2024:** GatorEngineering @SF Faculty-led Program
  - Design-thinking
  - Science communication
  - Cultural immersion
- **Fall 2024:** Exchange Student Program
  - 5 POSTECH students : 5 UF students
- **Spring 2025:** Hybrid Exchange Program
  - POSTECH students @UF in February
  - Virtual exchange over Spring
  - UF students @POSTECH in May





# Heartland Community College

- Central Illinois
- ~5,000 students
- 72% Financial Aid
- 30% students of color
- 20% 1<sup>st</sup> Generation
- 43 languages



# Study Abroad Infrastructure

## Study Abroad Coordinator

- Student Engagement under [International Programs Office](#) (IPO)
- 6 programs provided by membership in [Illinois Consortium for International Programs and Studies](#) (ICISP)

## Committee for Global Education (2018)

- Co-chaired with IPO and academic representatives
- Study Abroad Scholarship (2019)
- Global Studies Curriculum Sequence Designation (2019)
- Faculty Academy (2021)
- Virtual Physical Therapy Assistance Service-Learning in Tanzania (2022)
- IDEAS Grant (2022)





# IDEAS Grant: Short-term, Faculty-led Programs

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- **Agriculture to South Africa**
  - Coincides with new agriculture building and degree programs
  - Leverage existing virtual provider
- **Electric Vehicle (EV) to Finland**
  - Coincides with new EV lab and degree programs
  - Rivian is a local EV manufacturer
  - Leverage existing relationship
- **Health Sciences to Tanzania**
  - High faculty interest
  - Leverage existing virtual provider



HEARTLAND  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE





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# NC State College of Engineering

- Raleigh, NC
- ~11,000 students
- 30% from rural NC counties
- 57% STEM majors

**NC STATE**  
Engineering

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# Rwanda Study Abroad Program

- Facilitated through [Women and Minority Engineering Program](#)
- Rwanda committed to goal of Middle-Income Country Status by 2035
- Shortage of STEM professionals in country
- Benefit to all stakeholders



**WOMEN &**  
**MINORITY**  
ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

**NC STATE**  
Engineering



# IDEAS Grant Activities

- **The Field Experiences in Engineering Education: Rwanda Program**
  - Workshops and coaching
  - Thematic Education (skill enhancement)
  - Research opportunities



# IDEAS Grant Activities

Jennie Mangala



Coordinating installation of solar panels at primary school in Rwanda

Catherine Reckard



Developed virtual reality environment focused on teaching engineering utilized by high school students in Rwanda

Meriem Laroussi



Received Fulbright Student Program Award to Rwanda after completing Alternative Service Break Program (Team Lead)

Amy Isvik



Received Fulbright Student Program Award to Rwanda after completing NC State Abroad Program

**NC STATE**  
Engineering

# Q&A





# Takeaways

- Think BIG and...
  - start small
  - start local
  - start with motivation
- Student outreach and support
  - Go where the students are
  - Information to students as early as possible
  - Elevate previous student experience
  - Give students agency in designing part of the experience
- Make it a win-win for your institution and your partner



# Connect with IDEAS in Person!

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- Diversity Abroad Global Inclusion 2023 – Chicago, IL
  - October 31 - November 3, 2023
  - Session: *IDEAS for Indigenous Inclusion in Education Abroad*
- NAFSA Region VI Conference 2023 – Lexington, KY
  - November 5-7, 2023
  - *Find us in the exhibitor hall!*
- NAFSA Region VIII Conference 2023 – Roanoke, VA
  - November 7-10, 2023
  - Grantee-led session: *Enhancing and Advancing Internationalization Efforts via IDEAS Grant – November 9*



# Upcoming IDEAS Webinar



Campus Engagement in Refugee Resettlement: Perspectives from the SHERR Program

**WEBINAR**

October 4, 2023 | 2:00 - 3:00pm EST | Register Now!

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Join us for our next free webinar on  
October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 – 3:00PM EST

*Campus Engagement in Refugee Resettlement: Perspectives from the SHERR Program*

Register Now!





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## Stay in touch with the IDEAS Program!

Email	<a href="mailto:IDEAS@worldlearning.org">IDEAS@worldlearning.org</a>
Website	<a href="http://StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org">StudyAbroadCapacityBuilding.org</a>
LinkedIn	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/ideas-program">https://www.linkedin.com/company/ideas-program</a>

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